

Manual Appendix 2

Church Planting

August 2015

Vision for church planting and cooperation on locations of new church plants

1. **Daughter Churches.**

- a. Every church proposing a new church plant should inform the Missions Committee at least six months before the planned start in order to seek approval of the Presbytery.
- b. The initiating church will report on the disposition of the sessions of any neighboring PCA church within five miles or the closest PCA church if greater than five miles. This disposition must be in writing from the session of the neighboring church or churches.
- c. When the Missions Committee seeks the approval of the Presbytery for this new work it will report to Presbytery the disposition of the neighboring sessions.
- d. Presbytery will consider the disposition of those neighboring churches and may decide either to proceed over any objections or to sustain the objections and disallow the proposed new work.

2. **Multi-Sites.**

- a. Inasmuch as the PCA Committee on Constitutional Business suggests that a multisite has some of the characteristics of a second worship service and some of the characteristics of a mission church, two facts will inform our treatment of multisites in CCP. 1) A multisite church can be defined as a particular church (BCO 4-1) with worship services at multiple locations under the oversight of a single session. 2) While a presbytery ordinarily should exhibit great deference to sessions of local churches in regard to times and places of worship services, the authority of a local session over the place of worship is not absolute, but subject to the oversight of presbytery. Hence in CCP multisites will be treated as follows:
- b. As regards the spiritual oversight of the new site, it will be treated as though it were merely a second service of the “mother church” such that membership, sacraments, preaching of the Word, etc., will be regulated by the session of the church, with normal oversight by the presbytery (e.g., ordination and licensing of regular preachers). Hence no temporary governing body is needed.
- c. As regards the location of the new multisite, inasmuch as it is a distinct new location for worship and the Presbytery has responsibility for the expansion of the church within its bounds (BCO 13-9g) the selection of the location will be subject to the same oversight as a new mission church. Hence rules 1a-d for daughter churches would apply.
- d. Multisite works of Central Carolina Presbytery shall not incorporate video preaching but shall use ordained teaching elders and licentiates for regular preaching. They shall also maintain ruling elder oversight at a site for the purpose of proper shepherding and government.
- e. Recognizing the validity of the temporary form of government that multi-sites use, Central Carolina Presbytery does, however, recommend that the session overseeing the multi-site eventually particularize the site and will review that question with the session and the site pastor after no more than five years through the Missions Committee.

3. **NAPARC Churches.**

NAPARC's own rules state:

1. We will be sensitive to the presence of existing churches and mission ministries of other NAPARC churches and will refrain from enlisting members and take great care in receiving members of those existing ministries.
 2. We will communicate with the equivalent or appropriate agency (denominational missions committee or board, presbytery missions or church extension committee, or session) before initiating church planting activities in a community where NAPARC churches or missions ministries exist.
 3. We will provide information on at least an annual basis describing progress in our ministries and future plans.
 4. We will encourage our regional home missions leadership to develop good working relationships.
- a. The Missions Committee of Presbytery will determine when a NAPARC church or mission exists in a community where we intend to plant or establish a multisite and the chairman of that committee will be responsible to communicate with them regarding our intentions.

4. Developing Church Planters.

- a. Focus on raising up church planters, keep going with RTS readiness seminar.
- b. At the request of MNA National we will develop our own assessment center for Central Carolina to offer the region.
- c. Continue the church planter fellowship, invite prospective church planters to attend as well as current planters.
- d. Continue to require assessment of church planters and carefully consider their recommendations.
- e. Strongly consider requiring the assessment center for transfers from other denominations.
- f. Fund the development of church planters, particularly multi-ethnic and cross cultural ones.
- g. When sending out pioneer planters make sure they are VERY strong in evangelism, and strong at gathering people.
- h. Where ever we can, send out a pastoral team of two leaders, as Jesus did. Though it cost more on the front end, they tend to be self-supporting more quickly. Also less burn out for the solo pastor.

5. Funding.

- a. Daughter churches should be funded for 3 years with most of the funding coming in year one.
- b. Scratch Plants should be funded for 5 years with the funding evenly distributed over all five years.
- c. Cross Cultural plants should be funded for 7 years with the funding evenly distributed over all seven years and may work best as a church within a church or a second site (though funding becomes an issue here)
- d. Sites will not be funded by Presbytery