
GA38-14
From the Committee on
Church Planting and Revitalization

Recommendation

That the 38th General Assembly approve its request to be disbanded as a permanent committee.

Rationale:

The Church Planting and Revitalization Committee (CP&R) is the permanent committee charged with the following duties:

- a. To coordinate, encourage and provide resources for church planting, evangelism, and church development efforts of presbyteries and churches.
- b. To coordinate, encourage, develop and provide resources for church revitalization efforts of presbyteries and churches.” (*Rules for Assembly*, 10-1C)

Responding to a request by presbytery church development chairs for help with church planting in 2012, the National Outreach Committee was instrumental in launching the Church Planting Team, led by Tom Ricks. Responding to a request for help with church revitalization in 2013, the CP&R launched the Church Revitalization Team (now known as the Go Center), led by Ken Priddy.

The Church Planting Team and Church Revitalization Team (Go Center) grew in its impact in their respective areas in the EPC. One result of this “Team approach” has been the creation of networks that have improved the effectiveness of our presbyteries in their church planting and church revitalization work. With seven percent of our churches church plants, we are a church planting movement. Over 200 churches have been exposed to church revitalization seminars, with more than 70 pursuing church revitalization.

The 37th General Assembly (2017) signaled its support for the ongoing work of this team approach to church planting and church revitalization by inserting these ministries into its annual budget. With the success of these Teams and their tie to the Office of the General Assembly through the EPC budget, the Church Planting and Revitalization Committee believes a permanent committee to oversee these network ministries is superfluous and no longer necessary. If our recommendation is approved, we would propose that at our annual General Assembly, separate Church Planting and Church Revitalization standing committees would receive the reports of these Teams.

www.epc.org/files/ga2018report-churchplantingandrevitalizationcommittee

Referred to CHURCH PLANTING and REVITALIZATION