

NEW CHURCH PLAN

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

The New Church Plan gives classes, regional synods, churches, and church planters the opportunity to strategically think through the steps needed to take a new church start from conception to launch. The New Church Plan is part of the RCA Church Multiplication system and allows new churches access to grants, new construction loans, and inclusion as part of the church multiplication movement.

The completion of the New Church Plan is a prayerful process of seeking and confirming God's direction for the starting of a new church.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Date: _____, 20____

Name of Congregation: _____

Location of Congregation: _____

Classis: _____

Regional Synod: _____

New Church Plan Prepared By: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

PRAYER/SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT

1. What prayer strategies have been used to discern the selection of location and/or church planter in the starting of this new church?

2. What prayer strategies will be used to ensure a foundation of spiritual empowerment and intercession in the launching of this new church?

3. Have the church planter, regional synod and classis worked together to identify at least 25 personal intercessors for this new church?

EVALUATION

1. What assessment processes (Gallup, Ridley, Other) were used to evaluate the gifting, skills, and competencies of the church planter?

The church planter is:

_____ Recommended

_____ Conditionally Recommended

_____ Not Recommended

2. What evaluation tools were used to determine the feasibility of starting a new church in the location chosen?
3. What are the compelling reasons for the starting of a new church in this location?

EQUIPPING

1. What learning and growth experiences will be provided for the church planter and spouse prior to the starting of this new church?
2. How will a personal growth plan be developed for the church planter that will encourage lifelong learning and continued equipping for ministry effectiveness?
3. How will performance reviews and annual evaluations of the church planter and the new church be achieved?

EMPOWERING

1. Who will be the coach of the church planter?

What training has been provided for the coach?

2. What is the plan to include the church planter in a network with other church planters?

3. What will be the accountability structure for this new church start?

EXPANDING

1. What is the vision for reproduction for this new church start?

2. To what supporting agency will the new church start commit 10% of it's offerings?

FUNDING

1. What is the proposed funding plan for the new church start? (*Please list all sources.*)

2. If all sources of funding are not fulfilled, what contingency plan will be instituted?

3. Is the compensation package of the church planter fair and mutually agreeable to all parties?

4. How will the church become self-sustaining? What is the timeframe?

The classis and regional synod in approving this plan commit themselves to insure that the following paragraph is included in the church's organizational documents:

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this [insert description of organizational document], this [corporation/organization] is a member church in the Reformed Church in America, is (and at all times shall be) subject to and governed in accordance with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in America, and agrees that the provisions of this [article/chapter/paragraph] shall not be amended or modified in any manner without the prior written consent of the classis of which this [corporation/organization] is a member;

APPROVALS:

This New Church Plan was approved by the classis of _____
in session on _____.

President

Stated Clerk

This New Church Plan was approved by the Regional Synod of _____
on _____.

Regional Synod Staff Person