

1 **OVERTURE 11** from Presbytery of the Blue Ridge (to CCB, OC)
2 “Amend *BCO* 5-3 to Allow Latitude in Oversight of Mission Churches”
3

4 **Whereas**, the Lord has called the church to “Go and make disciples” (Matt 28:18-20); and
5

6 **Whereas**, from its inception, the PCA has been committed to planting consciously
7 Reformed and Presbyterian Christ-centered churches; and
8

9 **Whereas**, as a denomination we are committed to the plurality of elders in the shepherding
10 of local congregations; and
11

12 **Whereas**, as a denomination we have sought to encourage local presbyteries to actively
13 engage in establishing new PCA congregations within their bounds; and
14

15 **Whereas**, the present language of *BCO* 5-3 may be understood to limit a Presbytery to using
16 one of three ways to plant a church without any latitude; and
17

18 **Whereas**, the practice of using a hybrid of several of the three ways provides better
19 oversight and ultimately can produce healthier church plants;
20

21 **Therefore**, Blue Ridge Presbytery hereby overtures the 38th General Assembly to:
22

23 Amend *BCO* 5-3 by deleting the words “of several” and adding “or more of the
24 following” as shown below:
25

26 **5-3.** The mission church, because of its transitional condition, requires a
27 temporary system of government. Depending on the circumstances and at
28 its own discretion, Presbytery may provide for such government in one of
29 ~~several~~ **or more of the following** ways:

- 30 1. Appoint an evangelist as prescribed in *BCO* 8-6.
- 31 2. Cooperate with the Session of a particular church in arranging a
32 mother-daughter relationship with a mission church. The Session
33 may then serve as the temporary governing body of the mission
34 church.
- 35 3. Appoint a commission to serve as a temporary Session of the
36 mission church.
37

38 *Adopted by Presbytery of the Blue Ridge at its stated meeting on April 10, 2010*

39 *Attested by /s/ TE Don K. Clements, stated clerk*