

AN OVERVIEW OF THE PCA STRATEGIC PLAN

THEME #1: SAFE PLACES – *How to provide safe places to talk about new ideas to advance the PCA’s faithfulness to biblical belief, ministry and mission*

Goal: Establish safe places to talk about ways to advance Biblical Belief, Ministry & Mission

Means #1: Public forums at GA to test ideas without vote or risk

Means #2: Encourage similar forums in the presbyteries (possibly continuing discussion from each year’s GA)

Means #3: Encourage gatherings of non-agreeing enclaves to discuss major denomination-changing or culture-changing ideas, and how to live together with differences

THEME #2: MORE SEATS – *How to provide “more seats at the table” (especially for younger leaders, women and ethnic leaders) for PCA ministry direction and development*

Goal: More seats at the table, especially the younger generation, women, ethnic leaders, and global church representatives

Means (General): Representatives from constituencies vital to the church’s future involved with denominational leadership (e.g. advisory voice on committees, sessions, boards, speaking at gatherings, consulted by presbyteries, employed in non-ordained ministries)

Means (Specific) #1: Invite younger generational leaders onto GA boards and committees (especially for specific initiatives)

Means (Specific) #2: Encourage multi-generational gatherings with mentors

Means (Specific) #3: Invite ethnic and global leaders to address GA, presbytery and local church gatherings

Means (Specific) #4: Establish standards for voluntary certification of men and women for specific non-ordained vocational ministries

Means (Specific) #5: Formalize CEP Women’s Ministries organization for women in vocational ministries

Means (Specific) #6: Credible and rigorous alternative ordination credentialing of men for disadvantaged constituencies

THEME #3: IN GOD’S GLOBAL MISSION – *How to do mission corporately and globally (includes learning from the global church, as well as unifying ourselves to minister to and with the global church)*

Goal: Participate in God’s Global Mission with exemplary unity, humility and effectiveness

Means (General): Provide internal means and will to make the PCA a significant contributor to God’s Global Mission

Means (Specific) #1a: Identify and support national and international efforts that develop Gospel eco-systems (e.g. church-mercy-evangelism, church-school-community mission, church-arts/media-outreach, church-university ministry-discipleship)

Means (Specific) #1b: Fund joint research of Covenant College and Covenant Seminary, CEP, MTW and MNA re: the most effective Gospel eco-systems and how to multiply them beyond the PCA

Means (Specific) #2: Develop a “unifying” (not unified) funding means to support PCA ministries and mission culture; features to include: (a) ability for all churches, presbyteries, delegated REs and TEs to participate (e.g. annual registration fees to support AC, erase GA fees); (b) necessity of all who are PCA to participate at a meaningful level; (c) non-participants with voice but without vote at GA; (d) all other Committees and Agencies, other than AC, would continue to be funded by Partnership Shares and Ministry Asks

Means (Specific) #3: Provide mechanism to identify and support only GA ministries most critical to our calling; the mechanism for evaluation is to be worked out in proposal form by the Coordinators, referred to the CMC and presented to the GA within 3 years

Means (Specific) #4: Partner with national and international ministries with whom we can most effectively participate in God’s Global Mission by: (a) seek union or appropriate levels of cooperation with Reformed movements making Gospel progress and in harmony with our ethos and goals; (b) withdraw from organizations with whom we share doctrinal history, but not ministry priorities, currently draining our ministry energies (e.g. NAPARC); (c) find new ways to give away our knowledge and resources to bodies of believers being spiritually blessed