CDT Language regarding starting new churches and ministries.

**Full Time New Church Start Definition:**
A new church start is expected to be making disciples for Christ and transforming their community reaching a critical mass in five years with a minimum of 120 adults participating regularly in worship, small groups, and missions. (This number may fluctuate based on the giving units needed to reach self-sustainability). It is created to be “self-sustainable” by the fifth year and at that time will be chartered. From the beginning, the new church start will have a budgeted line item for connectional ministry. This figure will be determined by the founding pastor and DS.

**Part-Time New Church Start Definition:**
A new church start created to make disciples for Christ and transforming their community with the realization that they may never be a full time appointment. More than likely, the founding pastor will be a non-elder—thus a local pastor or lay person. This church can be “self-sustainable” but will never be chartered unless the Holy Spirit blesses it and it grows to a full-time church. From the beginning, this church will have a budgeted line item for connectional ministry. This figure will be determined by the founding pastor and DS.

**Mission Church Start Definition:** a new ministry created to make disciples for Christ and transform their community knowing they will never be “self-sustainable” thus needing a major revenue source to survive. This source should be a local church in the area having the same vision as the mission church start. In fact, before beginning, this should be a ministry of a local church. Like a part-time new church start, if the Holy Spirit blesses this church and it grows to be a full-time church that is ‘self-sustainable” this too may be chartered but the rule of thumb is not to be chartered. From the beginning, this church will have a budgeted line item for connectional ministry. This figure will be determined by the founding pastor and DS.

**Hybrid Church Start Definition:** a new church start who has not reached critical mass of 120 adults and is not “self-sustainable” by the fifth year of existence. At this time, the CDT and cabinet will have to determine the viability of this church and take the necessary steps to address its future.

**Restart Church Definition:** an existing church which has voted to close the church. The cabinet will appoint a new pastor to start a new congregation. The property is transferred to the Conference Board of trustees and then is reissued to the new church start.

**Vital Church Mergers:** when several churches within a geographic area gather together to ascertain where God’s vision and mission is for this geographic community. These churches will agree to close their churches and sell their properties to begin a new church start. Of course, each situation will be unique and need to be evaluated for both property needs and pastoral leadership.
**Redevelopment/Revitalized Church Definition:** an existing congregation dying and unwilling to close but the cabinet wants to create a parallel congregation to reach out to the community. The pastor will serve both congregations. Eventually, the new congregation will become the dominant congregation.

**Satellite Church Definition:** an existing congregation which votes to merge or close and reopen as a campus of an existing large church. Each situation will be unique but the major purpose is to create a new DNA.