

1 **OVERTURE 19** from the Eastern Carolina Presbytery (to CCB, OC)  
2 “Amend *BCO 57-5* to Revise the Membership Vows”  
3

4 **Whereas** our current five membership vows have been unchanged for many years without  
5 review;  
6

7 **Whereas** our current five membership vows have some antiquated language that must be  
8 explained;  
9

10 **Whereas** our current five membership vows are inherited from other Reformed  
11 denominations, and we are an "*ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda*"  
12 denomination;  
13

14 **Whereas** our current five membership vows mention nothing of the love of God for sinners;  
15

16 **Whereas** our current five membership vows give no indication of what human beings are  
17 saved unto, just what we are saved from;  
18

19 **Therefore, be it resolved** that the General Assembly amend *BCO 57-5* to revise our  
20 membership vows to include 2 addenda and one language update (underlining for  
21 additions; ~~striketrough~~ for deletions):  
22

23 Add an entire new first vow for membership and renumber the existing vows.  
24

- 25 1. **Do you agree that you are made in the image of God, designed by God to**  
26 **glorify God and enjoy Him forever?**  
27

28 Insert the words “both beloved and” into the former vow #1.

- 29 **2.** **Do you acknowledge yourselves to be both beloved and sinners in the**  
30 **sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in**  
31 **His sovereign mercy?**  
32

33 Change the word “study” to “promote” in the final vow.

- 34 **56.** **Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the**  
35 **Church, and promise to ~~study~~ promote its purity and peace?**  
36

37 So that the amended vows would read as follows:  
38

- 39 1. **Do you agree that you are made in the image of God, designed by God to**  
40 **glorify God and enjoy Him forever?**  
41 2. **Do you acknowledge yourselves to be both beloved and sinners in the**  
42 **sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in**  
43 **His sovereign mercy?**

- 1           **3. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of**
- 2           **sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He**
- 3           **is offered in the Gospel?**
- 4           **4. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of**
- 5           **the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers**
- 6           **of Christ?**
- 7           **5. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the**
- 8           **best of your ability?**
- 9           **6. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the**
- 10           **Church, and promise to promote its purity and peace?**
- 11
- 12

13   *Adopted by the Eastern Carolina Presbytery at its stated meeting, January 25, 2025*

14   *Attested by TE Wes Martin, stated clerk*