

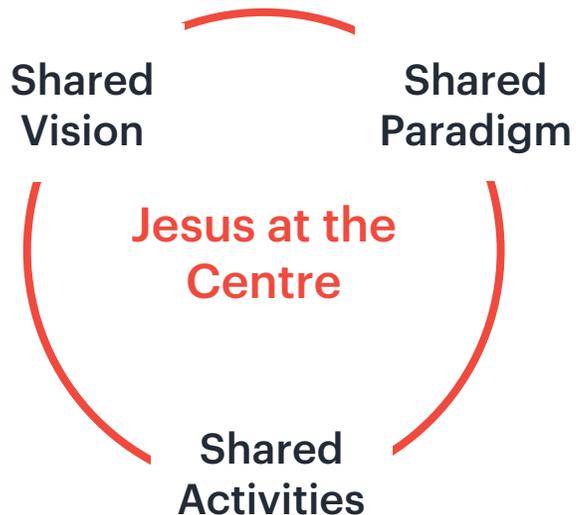


Partnership Covenant Summary

What is the Jesus Collective **Partnership Covenant**?

Partners are the churches, leaders and ministries that are most relationally connected to the Jesus Collective community, and invested in the vision and ongoing mission of the network.

Partners choose to express this commitment through a relational covenant that affirms the shared vision, paradigm, and activities of the network, and our desire to place Jesus at the centre of our lives and ministries.



Shared Vision

To unite, equip and amplify a Jesus-centred movement.

Shared Paradigm

We are a relational, centred-set network, offering a Jesus-centred 'third way'.

Shared Activities

Together we practice belonging, servanthood, generosity, transformation, and collaboration.

Jesus at the Centre

We move towards a common understanding of Jesus as the centre of our faith, life, churches and ministries.

What is our **shared vision**?

Shared Vision | Shared Paradigm
Shared Activities | Jesus at the Centre

Jesus Collective aspires to:

UNITE,

We bear our most effective witness by uniting together. We want to counter the fragmentation and isolation that exists in this global movement by offering like-minded relational leadership community. We create safe spaces of belonging, formation, and collaboration that enable churches and leaders to be their best selves.

EQUIP,

We help prepare churches and leaders for transformational leadership and mission in a post-Christian world. We get practical -- we develop, curate, and share high quality Jesus-centred leadership formation and training experiences, and ministry tools and resources contributed by our Partners. We equip churches and leaders to more effectively share the Good News of Jesus, and make and send more disciples.

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AMPLIFY

We offer a 'loud, quiet voice' for the Jesus-centred Way. We want to make this movement more cohesive, identifiable and accessible around the world. We gently but clearly proclaim first and foremost what we stand for, rather than what we stand against.

A JESUS CENTRED MOVEMENT.

We are rooted in the Anabaptist radical reformation, but not hung up on labels. We welcome churches and leaders from a diversity of backgrounds and contexts who share a desire to put Jesus at the centre of our faith, life, and ministries. We want to help shape and share a solid, well-rooted, Jesus-centred theology and set of practices for this movement.

What is our **shared paradigm**?

Shared Vision | **Shared Paradigm**
Shared Activities | Jesus at the Centre

We are a **centred set community**...

While we take our shared theological core seriously, our goal is to go beyond simply 'believing the right things'. We are a relational church network that equips leaders and churches in the Jesus Way. The orientation of our hearts – and our ongoing movement – towards Jesus as the focal point of our faith and lives is what unites us as a network.

... offering a **third way**.

We are clear in our convictions while creating space for belonging and open discussion. We choose to encourage, listen to, learn from, and unite with each other, and with all Christians, including those with whom we disagree.

WE ARE RELATIONAL. We are communal and collective by design. We bring our real selves to the table and strive to nurture healthy relationships with each other. We move at the speed of relationship.

WE ARE ON MISSION. We desire to equip our churches and each other to turn outward and introduce more people to the Jesus Way, especially those who have not heard the Good News before.

WE PURSUE PEACE. With friends and enemies, and fellow believers from all contexts. We seek to live actively peaceful, hospitable, generous, and reconciled lives. We live simply and focus on the essential. We communicate and behave transparently.

WE EMBRACE GROWTH. Healthy things grow. We seek to grow leaders and expand the Kingdom's visibility, accessibility, and impact.

WE VALUE DIVERSITY. The Kingdom is most fully represented -- and the best ideas are created -- when a diversity of people and voices are included; especially men and women from different ethnicities, traditions, and denominational contexts.

What are our **shared activities**?

We go beyond beliefs to share core activities of belonging, servanthood, generosity, transformation and collaboration as a relational network. What these activities look like may evolve over time, but the principles endure.

BELONGING

- We actively seek out and maintain relationships with others in the network. A primary means for this is participating in relational Hubs with a group of other Partners on an ongoing basis.
- We participate in online and in person gatherings, coming together in person for at least one broader partnership gathering each year.
- We create and participate in safe, trusted spaces for mentoring, collaboration, challenging conversations and innovation that help us and our churches grow.
- We are an ecumenical network that extends a welcome to churches and leaders from a variety of contexts and backgrounds.

SERVANTHOOD

- In the spirit of a collective, we partner with God and one another to create Kingdom impact together through sacrificial, peer-to-peer, other-centred contributions and service.
- We each actively seek ways to practically serve in the network according to our gifts, interests, resources, and capacity, and in response to the needs of the Collective.
- We discern the Spirit's leading together, and speak into the direction and priorities of Jesus Collective as we are able and as is helpful. This includes providing observations, feedback, insight and input in a respectful and constructive way.

What are our **shared activities**?

Shared Vision | Shared Paradigm
Shared Activities | Jesus at the Centre

GENEROSITY

- We bring a posture of generosity to the table, reflecting God's generosity to us.
- We believe the best way to fund the work of Jesus Collective, create a sense of shared ownership, and avoid potentially unhealthy power dynamics, is for all Partners to contribute to a pool of financial resources that funds the network on an ongoing basis.

COLLABORATION

- We broker the sharing of knowledge and experiences among partners that helps strengthen our churches and our leadership.
- We curate and share access to high quality ministry tools and resources available to all Jesus Collective partners.
- We organize developmental and innovative conversations that address key issues, opportunities and challenges facing our churches and the Kingdom today.

TRANSFORMATION

- We grow together in our relationship with Jesus, by spending time pursuing Jesus-centred theology and developing healthy life and leadership practices.
- We create leadership formation learning experiences that practically and spiritually equip leaders and churches for mission in a post-Christian world.
- We invite Jesus to fully transform us and our communities. We commit to prioritizing our own self-care and discipleship, and the care and discipleship of others.
- We prioritize spiritual practices in our own lives, the lives of our churches and ministries, and as a network. Studying scripture, sharing communion, and praying are things we enjoy doing when we are together.

Jesus at the Centre

We are all in different places on our journey, but Jesus is the lighthouse we share in common. Below are the core faith expressions that we are moving toward together as a Jesus-centred community.

CORE FAITH EXPRESSIONS

Jesus is Lord.

God is Love.

The Holy Spirit empowers.

We are valuable. | Something is wrong.

Saved by grace. | Faith is following.

Scripture is inspired. | Peace is the way.

We are Kingdom citizens and ambassadors.

* See Shared Centre document for longer version *

LIVED IMPLICATIONS

Free will. Human will is freed by God to trust or reject him. Baptism is a symbol of our freely chosen faith.

New covenant atonement. The cross seals a new covenant, offering forgiveness and freedom to everyone.

Evangelism & eternity. We learn, live, and give the good news to anyone with ears to hear. God is the final judge; we are not.

Equality in ministry. We encourage all mature and gifted believers towards all expressions of leadership in the Church.

Third way. We bring an understanding of sexuality and marriage that aligns with the historic church and Anabaptist movement, while welcoming and learning from leaders and churches with diverse biblical interpretations of this issue. Regardless of where we each land theologically, we are clear about our convictions while seeking unity and peace within our network and with all Christians.

Partner Resourcing

We pool the giftings and contributions of Jesus Collective Partners to provide the following services and resources to the Collective:

- Staff and operate a core leadership team, within The Meeting House structure initially, with a vision of evolving to be a separately governed and staffed entity in time.
- Gather, respond to and incorporate partner feedback and input on a continuous basis
- Steward overall administration of the network; establish and maintain appropriate legal governance, strategic leadership, and agreed upon levels of support and connectivity between Partners
- Create and maintain an online platform to facilitate network activity, administer the shared ministry resource pool, and support communication and collaboration among Partners
- Steward the Partner application, onboarding and covenant process
- Source leaders from within Jesus Collective to facilitate network activity, including leading relational Partner Hubs, providing coaching and mentoring, and curating shared resources
- Organize/host official Partner gatherings and events or other online and in-person events sponsored by Jesus Collective
- Administer financial contributions from Partners and produce transparent financial and operating reports on a regular basis for the partnership base

Legalities

An appropriate legal structure and framework is important for Jesus Collective to operate well, and guard against unwanted risk and confusion that is counterproductive for our network and the Kingdom. The full form Partnership Covenant provides further detail in the following areas:

- Fiduciary / governance framework for Jesus Collective
- Partners' responsibility for our own actions
- Guidance for appropriate use of the Jesus Collective brand/identity, including a trademark license agreement
- Clarity on the management of intellectual property that is created by or shared within Jesus Collective
- Any applicable insurance requirements for church Partners
- Other general legal terms of the covenant that increase safety and set clear expectations for all stakeholders