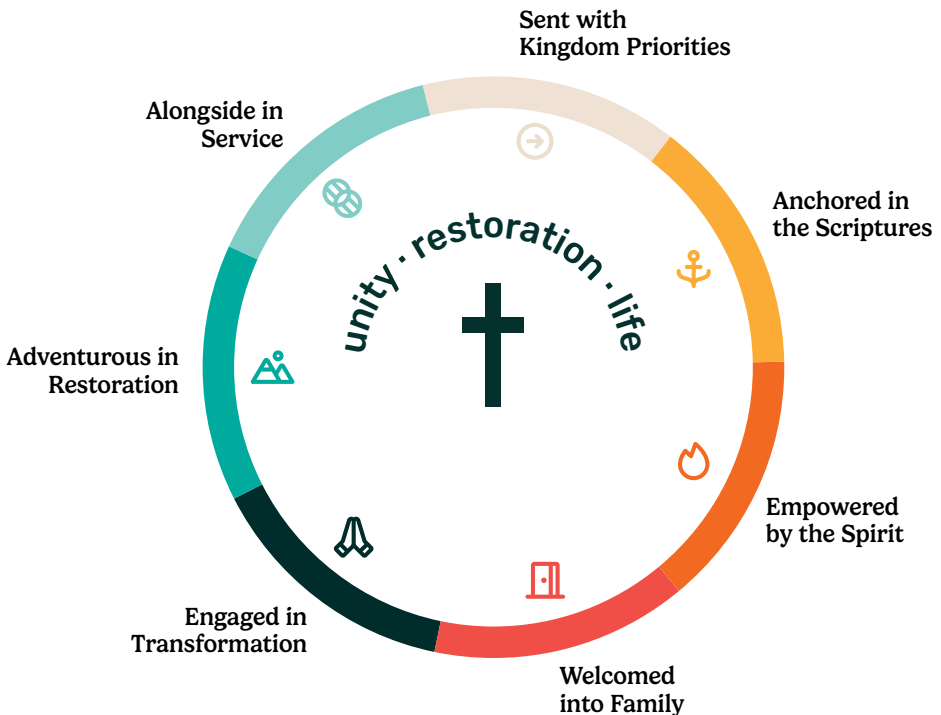


# Our Ethos

In 2020, our churches began a process of re-engaging with our original DNA and in 2022 we affirmed together seven statements that re-express our commonality. These statements are not unique to churches of Christ, and none of them is more important than the others. It's their combination that is powerful, that shapes our presence, purpose and horizon.

This is our ethos, and it stands alongside our shared history and distinctive principles. It exists to give us a common language to name our culture, who we are, what we are for and how we will be together as a network of churches in this time and place. The seven statements, and the scriptures which expand them, help us to live out our shared values. Our ethos is a living document that will continue to be refreshed as frequently as the times and context necessitate.



# Our Ethos Statements

## We are SENT – with Kingdom Priorities



We proclaim and demonstrate with compassion the good news of Jesus. We are sent by Him into the world, with a personal and shared mission to make disciples. Within this mission, larger than ourselves, we work with others to see His Kingdom come.

*Matthew 28:18-20,  
Matthew 4:17, Matthew 22:1-14,  
Luke 19:10, Ephesians 2:8-10,  
4:11-15, John 17, 2 Corinthians 5:14-15,  
Daniel 2:44*

## We are ADVENTUROUS – in Restoration



We courageously bear witness to Jesus in our rapidly changing world with creativity and innovation, gentleness and respect. Holding methodology lightly, we actively restore New Testament patterns for the Christian life in fresh ways. With reflective experimentation, we persevere in our pioneering and we champion the 'have a go' mindset.

*Isaiah 43:18-19,  
Matthew 13:52, Acts 1:8,  
Matthew 9:14-17, 1 Peter 3:15,  
1 Chronicles 28:20, Isaiah 41:10*

## We are EMPOWERED – by the Spirit



We rely on the indwelling power and counsel of the Holy Spirit, humbly offering our spiritual gifts in loving service to God and others. Conscious of the spiritual battle, we prayerfully walk in step with the Spirit bearing His fruit as He leads, guides and transforms us into the likeness of Jesus.

*Galatians 5:16-26,  
John 16:13-15,  
Ephesians 4:1-6, 6:12,  
1 Corinthians 12:1-10,  
Romans 8:1-17, 12:3-8,  
Ezekiel 36:26-27*

### **We are ANCHORED – in the Scriptures**



We have the Scriptures as our anchor, tethering us to God and His redemptive story, preventing spiritual drift. In them, we find life-giving, soul-enriching and mission-equipping truth. They are complete within themselves, holding the place of God-given authority in the personal and shared Christian life. The Scriptures unify us in the essentials of faith, while also providing freedom for exploring the variety of application in love.

*2 Timothy 3:16-17,  
Luke 24:32, Hebrews 4:12,  
John 1:1-5,14, Acts 17:11,  
Joshua 1:8, Psalms 119:105, Isaiah 40:8*

### **We are ENGAGED – in Transformation**



We cultivate spiritual practises that awaken us to the presence of Jesus who transforms us by His Spirit into His likeness. We are invited into this formational process for the Glory of God, the blessing of others and the abundance of our own lives. We navigate life's experiences of suffering and joy together through the sharing of story, discernment, affirmation and communion.

*Romans 12:2,  
John 10:10, Revelation 3:20, Proverbs  
27:17, Luke 22:19-20, Romans 8:28-29,  
Psalms 51:10-12, Psalms 1:1-3*

### **We are WELCOMED – into Family**



We are baptised into Christ, who makes us family with both God and each other. We acknowledge that our bonds of spiritual connection are life-giving, the breaking of which can result in hurt and loss. From a place of genuine connection and mutual accountability we sacrificially love, honour and support one another, from generation to generation.

*Romans 12:9-16, Romans 6:3,  
Galatians 3:28, 6:2, John 1:12-13,  
1 John 3:16, Philippians 2:5-11,  
Ephesians 1-32:11-22, Matthew 18*

### **We are ALONGSIDE – in Service**



We embrace humble service that equips and empowers the body of Christ, releasing the priesthood of all believers. We express this by working together, bringing a mutual offering of love, gifts and resources for the extension of His Kingdom.

*Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:10-13,  
Philippians 2:5-11, John 13:12-17, Mark  
10:43-45, 1 Peter 2:9,  
Isaiah 58:6-12*