

Crosslink Christian Network Australia

Our Vision?

"To support, resource and develop Australian churches and ministries so that they can fulfil their God given vision and purpose."

Our Mission?

"We seek to fulfil our objectives through godly anointed leadership, loving and practical fellowship, sharing resources, and efficient, appropriate administrative support."

Our Background?

Crosslink Christian Network began in the mid 1990's in response to the Holy Spirit movements through the latter part of the twentieth century. The charismatic renewal began as a unique restoration movement. The Christian people impacted by God did not immediately form one or more identifiable denominations. After approximately thirty years of seeking to impact the historic denominations and because of the repressive reactions of denominational leaders, many leaders and groups of believers began to sense the Spirit leading them to go their own way.

Five local churches that had separated from their traditional denominations began meeting together for encouragement and support. Eventually they formed the Network that has now existed since 1997. The Network obtained denominational status with the Commonwealth Government allowing its endorsed ministers of churches to be registered as marriage celebrants. During these years we have sought to carve a unique place in the Australian church. Our members come from a very diverse set of backgrounds and their sense of belonging is the product of their belief in the future more than the sense of a common past.

Our name?

Crosslink is a term from the field of chemistry. To describe it roughly, the crosslink is what enables rubber to become strong, bonded and flexible enough for uses such as car tyres. The Christian and ministry associations of the name are obvious. We believe that the moving of the Spirit of God in this nation calls for a network of local churches / ministries and their leaders that is authentically Australian, strong and bonded to God's purposes and yet flexible.

The use of the name like this has another motive. The main identity for our fellowships is with its own locality. We seek to flow in unity with other local churches and their leaders to see whole regions reached for Christ. Crosslink seeks to provide elements that cannot be provided locally in order for churches and their leaders to function with full liberty and accountability.

We acknowledge the need for Australian Christian ministry for variety in developing local vision and emphasis. Since the network is relational, it depends on the strength of the relationship, not the degree of conformity, with its chemical counterpart, with seek to build unity with flexibility. Through a sense of belonging, we seek to foster greater potential to help each other get on with the job of fulfilling the plan of God for this nation.

What are our values?

As an expression of our desire to be one with the church as a whole, we affirm our commitment to the core truths contained in the Nicene and Apostolic Creeds. We have deliberately avoided closely defined doctrinal statements simply because the basis of our relationship is not the fine points of doctrine but upon a commitment to the core and tolerance with regard to the non-core doctrines. Crosslink Christian Network seeks to develop as a work of God based on Scripture and the power of the Holy Spirit in the Australian environment.

The following represent some of the things we value:

The Authority of Scripture - We value the Bible as the full revelation of Jesus Christ and seek to approve all things according to the Word of God. We are committed to believing God to fulfil every promise contained in Scripture. (2 Timothy 3:16)

The Lordship of Jesus Christ - We value our relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ as our primary commitment and seek to serve Jesus as Lord through the whole of our lives. (Acts 2:36)

The Power of the Holy Spirit - We value the empowering of the Holy Spirit as the essential enablement for ministry that would bear witness to Jesus. We seek to develop in the operation of all the gifts and graces of the Spirit given by God as supernatural equipment for the ongoing ministry of Jesus (Acts 1:8)

The Command of Jesus to Make Disciples - We value the commitment to fulfil the Great Commission given by Jesus to the church, to preach the gospel to every person, seeking to draw them to become His disciples. We will seek to multiply this ministry through planting churches. (Matthew 28:18 - 20)

The Uniqueness of the Local Church - We value the ministry of the Spirit through the local church and seek to express our faith by belonging to a local church and to exercise our ministry by the power of the Spirit as part of that Body. (Ephesians 1:22; Acts 2:40 - 47)

The Unity of the Spirit - As local churches / ministries we seek the unity of the Spirit with every believer and with all churches / ministries that confess faith in Jesus Christ. We desire to co-operate with the other churches / ministries in our region in order to proclaim the Gospel to every person. (John 17:21; Ephesians 4:3)

The Centrality of Worship - We value worship, as we seek to respond to God's desire for a people who worship Him in Spirit and truth. (John 4:23)

The Pursuit of Holiness - We are committed to becoming like Jesus. We desire that our personal lives and our relationships generally will reflect more and more of His character. (1 Peter 1:15)

Care for the Poor - We want to fulfil the command of Christ to care for those special people in God's sight whom the Bible refers to as "the poor". (Matthew 25:31 - 46)

What are our goals?

Identify and belonging - Through the relationships between leaders and members churches / ministries, we seek to provide a Spirit - filled Australian identity that embraces individual churches / ministries and their ministry of proclaiming the Kingdom of God, but with a strong sense of belonging.

Relationship and Accountability - To provide a network of encouragement that involves practical and genuine accountability. The major structural emphasis will be through strong relationships backed up by communication.

Resourcing and Support - To make resources available that will help groups of Christians to establish dynamic local churches (legal structures, credentialing, insurance, etc), so that each church will be encouraged to develop effective ministry through its own God - given vision.

Revelation and Inspiration - To gather together regularly for fellowship, worship, prayer and ministry. At these gatherings we will seek to hear from God and to be encouraged through the ministry of Godly leaders. It will be our aim to be open to every further work of God in our midst.

Overcoming Difficulties - At the invitation of the pastor or leader(s) of a particular church / ministry we would seek to provide specific support in order to overcome difficulties or resolve conflicts. We would want to do everything possible to see that the local ministry develops without hindrance.

Crosslink as a Network?

- We seek to honour and serve the visions and ministry mandates of its constituent ministries. Our basis for belonging is to provide value and accountability through loving relationship based on speaking the truth in love.
- Each church is totally autonomous.
- Each church or ministry is accepted to the Network because it has its own agreed biblical structure, vision and values, legal entity and financial structure.
- Each church or ministry will have relationship with key leaders to whom they look for mentoring. These relationships are chosen by the church and need not be members of the Network. The idea is to make sure each ministry includes the apostolic functions of father/coach to enable the local church to grow physically and spiritually.
- We look to our annual conference for opportunities to develop connections that will add value to the ministries concerned.
- The Website will continue to be developed as adjunct to this feature of our work.
- We employ one person part time to provide ministry and administrative support. We have no departments or ongoing collective responsibilities.
- The Executive of the Network are chosen because of their (apostolic) leadership gifts. Anyone evidencing these gifts can be appointed. Appointments are annual.
- Crosslink in a nominating authority for the Attorney-General's department. This enables us to register ministers of churches in the network as marriage celebrants.
- We are able to provide Professional Indemnity and Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance at competitive premiums.