

## VISION AND VALUES OF ECO



# ECO

A Covenant Order  
of Evangelical  
Presbyterians

ECO is committed  
to growing and planting  
flourishing churches  
that makes disciples  
of Jesus Christ.

ECO is a Presbyterian denomination that exists to serve the local church. We invite followers of Jesus who share a Reformed, Presbyterian heritage to reclaim a sense of covenanted biblical community. The name ECO is not an acronym. It reinforces our passion for strengthening the **ecosystems** of local churches. We believe the Church is a living organism that needs life-giving resources to help it grow, thrive, and multiply. ECO's name also draws from the Greek term *oikos*, meaning "household," used in the Bible to reference the network of relationships that nurture an individual.

### *The Commitments Behind Our Name*

#### Covenant

- Connecting leaders in accountable relationships
- Encouraging collaboration
- Ministering out of God's unrelenting grace and covenant with His people

#### Order

- Committing to a shared way of life
- Uniting around a shared theological core
- Nurturing gospel-centered leaders

#### Evangelical

- Advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Planting new missional communities
- Serving our communities and God's world in Jesus' name

#### Presbyterians

- Standing within our Reformed and confessional heritage
- Affirming the life of the mind
- Embracing the value of representative government

ECO is committed to cultivating a healthy, diverse, resource-rich ecosystem where pastors and congregations can flourish. Just as earthly ecosystems draw richness from the right kind of diversity, ECO is committed to unleashing the ministry gifts of women, men, young leaders, and every ethnicity.



The mission of ECO  
is to build *flourishing churches*  
that make *disciples of Jesus Christ*.

## OUR VALUES

### **Jesus-shaped Identity:**

We believe Jesus Christ must be at the center of our lives and making disciples of Jesus at the core of our ministry.

### **Biblical Integrity:**

We believe the Bible is the unique and authoritative Word of God, which teaches all that is necessary for faith and life. The prominence of God's Word over our lives shapes our priorities, and the unrivaled authority of the Bible directs our actions to be in concert with Christ's very best for our lives.

### **Thoughtful Theology:**

We believe in theological education, constant learning, and the life of the mind, and celebrate this as one of the treasures of our Reformed heritage.

### **Accountable Community:**

We believe guidance is a corporate spiritual experience. We want to connect leaders to one another in healthy relationships of accountability, synergy, and care.

### **Egalitarian Ministry:**

We believe in unleashing the ministry gifts of women, men, and every ethnic group.

### **Missional Centrality:**

We believe in living out the whole of the Great Commission – including evangelism, spiritual formation, compassion, and redemptive justice – in our communities and around the world.

### **Center-focused Spirituality:**

We believe in calling people to the core of what it means to be followers of Jesus – what “mere Christianity” is and does – and not fixate on the boundaries.

### **Leadership Velocity:**

We believe identifying and developing gospel-centered leaders is critical for the church, and a great leadership culture is risk-taking, innovative, and organic.

### **Kingdom Vitality:**

We believe congregations should vigorously reproduce new missional communities to expand the Kingdom of God.