

20 ALPINE PRESBYTERY
25 CULTURAL &
STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK



PREFACE

We operate within the PCANZ, its protocols and culture¹, and the Five Faces of Mission. We also affirm the PCANZ's commitment to build and grow **whanaungatanga**². (Whanaungatanga is about working to develop relationship, kinship and family connection through shared experiences, working together and providing a sense of belonging.)

Whanaungatanga speaks to our commitment to connection, cohesion, unity, togetherness and belonging.

We practice whanaungatanga in the following ways:

WHANAUNGATANGA

POSTURE

We hold an **open posture** for relational connection with the communities around us and seek God's love in those communities.

PARTICIPATION

We encourage **in-person participation** at local, regional and national gatherings and events.

PLANNING

As a Presbytery we will **develop contextual plans** and strategies that incorporate whanaungatanga.

PARTNERSHIP

We encourage Church Councils to consider whanaungatanga as a way of being and **to support and pray for** neighbouring churches and congregations.

PATIENCE

We commit to using resources to assist us in our discussions and **choosing listening over efficiency**.

PEACEMAKING

We commit to finding ways to attend to concerns and conflicts in our life with **an intentional desire for unity**.

PRAYERFULNESS

Undergirding this is a commitment to **deepening our discernment processes in seeking God's guidance together** by choosing to trust God and each other.

¹See Chapter 1 of the PCANZ Book of Order.

²Approved at the 2025 PCANZ General Assembly in Christchurch

“As part of the one holy, catholic and apostolic church, the Church shares in the wider church of Jesus Christ throughout the world and is committed to sharing in God’s mission to the world, and seeking to announce, with the promised guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, the good news of God’s transforming love in Jesus Christ.” [Book of Order 1.3]

This document informs our life as Alpine Presbytery. Our commitment is to building organisational culture before structures, though we acknowledge that both are important. This document is aspirational and is intended to guide the Presbytery. It reflects the kind of Presbytery we hope that we are in the process of becoming. It builds on the previous strategic documents in Alpine Presbytery, is intended to guide the Presbytery, its Council, Teams and Staff in how to be as much as what to be doing.

We hope for a healthy Presbytery "ecosystem" which provides encouragement and support for caring, diverse and creative expressions of ministry in our region. This document is not a plan, rather it is intended to provide a framework for our life together as we seek to respond to the invitation of God in the contexts that we find ourselves operating in.

Presbytery encourages its churches and other ministries to consider ways that these guidelines might shape the ways they operate as part of their witness to the communities they serve.

OUR COMMITMENTS

As a Presbytery we are committed to:

This list has been adapted from the Alpine Presbytery 2020 Cultural & Strategic Framework, p2

Nurturing and resourcing the life of our various communities, churches, and ministries, in response to the life of God, among us, and in all creation.² [Book of Order Ch.8]

Seeking to live out our calling as God's children welcomed by God's giant 'Haere Mai!' From the youngest to the oldest, people are valued, their ministries are encouraged, as we all collaborate in God's bringing a new world into being. This is part of **Whanaungatanga**.

Welcoming and celebrating our diversity as we value and respect one another. This is **Manaakitanga**.

Growing in the love and grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, as we seek to build and nurture our relationship with God through worship, spiritual practices, and whole of life witness. This is **Rangatiratanga**.



Whanaungatanga is working to develop relationship, kinship and family connection through shared experiences, working together and providing a sense of belonging.

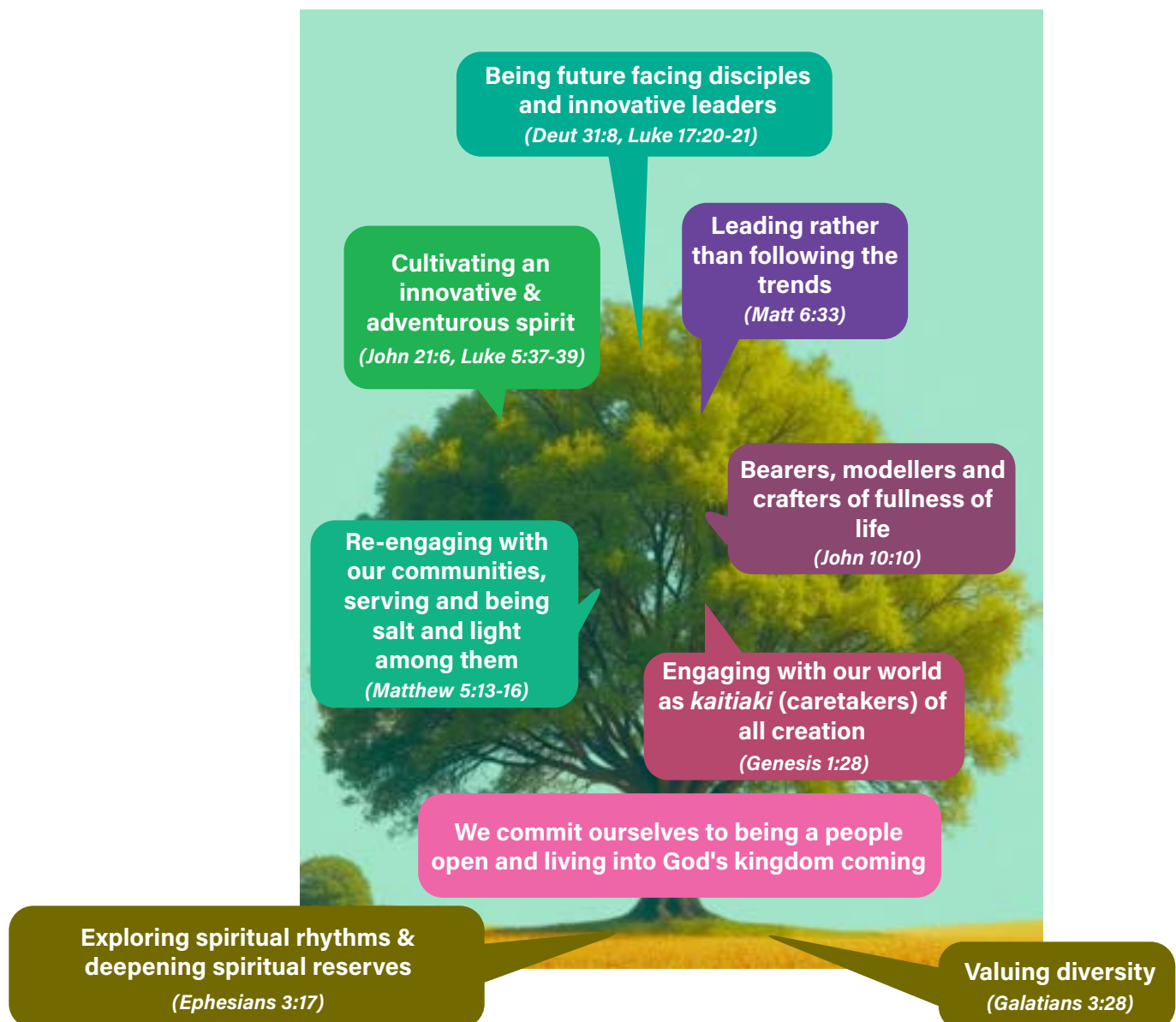
Manaakitanga is aroha, respect, generosity, and care for others. It is working to increase the mana of others instead of our own.

Rangatiratanga is the act of weaving people together, focusing on people reaching their highest potential, expanding and deepening their talents and skills, thus strengthening and enhancing the whānau/family or collective.

² See Chapter 8 of the PCANZ Book of Order.

HERE TO THERE

We sense we are in a season of great change. What has been will carry us into the future, but not necessarily in the current form. Our structures and styles are being tested and our ways of connecting in our communities are needing to be more creative. We are invited to embrace this rather than fear it. While drawing on the experience, strength, and resources at our disposal, we lean into the call of God as we navigate our way into the future God is calling us to. We remember Jesus' words to Nicodemus: 'The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit' [John 3:8]



ESSENTIAL MARKERS

Considering our calling and context, these are the essential markers of how we want to be together in response to the Spirit's leading:



This is a rework of page 3 of the 2020 Cultural & Strategic Framework.



ALPINE
PRESBYTERY
RESOURCING THE BRAIDED RIVER

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