



## Covenant Partnership Information .....

### WELCOME!

If you are a recent or return visitor to one of our church family gatherings, whether face to face OR online, we just want you to know that here at Corrimal Community Church **you are always welcome** to continue relating with us at whatever level of relationship is beneficial to you in your circumstances – no questions asked.

**We exist to serve** our community by providing a safe space for you to engage with God and with a faith community as little or as much as you need. We will encourage you and seek God's blessing for you and yours, but we believe it is completely up to you if and or when you decide that you might like to explore a deeper relationship with us. Just as Jesus invited people to journey with Him and didn't chase them down the road if they decided not to, so it is that this leaflet is designed to provide you with helpful information (with no obligation attached), about how you can progress, from being a welcome visitor or guest of our church family, towards a deeper more engaged relationship; like a team member, 'sharing the responsibility' for the mission God has asked us to commit to together.

To promote, encourage and develop this deeper level of relational commitment, we created what we refer to as '**Covenant Partnership**'.

### ***AN INTRODUCTION TO WHAT WE BELIEVE***

Corrimal Community Church is the HUB for a growing HOPE (**H**eaven **O**n **P**lanet **E**arth) Network of churches and ministries that exist to get better together at declaring, representing, and demonstrating the kingdom of heaven ON earth, right where we are.



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God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are the primary mission community, each playing their part. When the Son, Jesus Christ was SENT into the world, it was to show us what the kingdom of heaven looks like ON earth, and to leave His Spirit to empower us to live out more of that every day (Matthew 6: 9-14).

**Jesus said, “I will build my church”** (Matthew 16:13-28). He invited us to put our self-focus aside and follow Him, learn from Him, and submit to Him, for the sake of others having an encounter with Him. From what we can discern, the church that Jesus builds should be a mission community just like heaven. God sent Jesus, Jesus sends us, and we (IN Christ), send each other into the world to BE present – IN Love – WITHOUT judgement (John 12 - 17), so that those we engage with in the communities where we live, work and play, might have the same opportunity to be rescued and brought back to God (redeemed) as you and I have been given (2 Corinthians 5: 11- 6:13).

The primary focus of our Covenant Partnership therefore is to encourage the development of relationships that start with Jesus and keep aligning with the standard of Jesus. We are in this TOGETHER, so we also choose to be transparent in our dealings with the community IN the world in which we live. We commit to this as best we can, neither for our own promotion nor any minimum community expectations; but to ensure that Jesus is glorified and that we remain aligned with the kingdom of heaven for the sake of Father God’s primary purpose being completed in the spheres of our everyday existence. (John 17; 1 Corinthians 9; Titus)



## **Covenant Partnership Information .....**

Corrimal Community Church is currently affiliated with the Baptist Churches Association NSW/ACT and as such we agree with the following summary of the Baptist Union Doctrinal Statement (1919), affirmed by the Association in 2003. That is ...

- The nature and unity of the Godhead – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- The deity and humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the second person of the trinity who is the Son of God
- The Holy Spirit, who is the third person of the trinity, eternally one with the Father and Son yet sent by them to achieve the Divine purpose in the world and in the Church
- The divine inspiration and authority of the Scriptures
- The sinfulness of humans
- Christ's atonement indeed indemnity for the sin of humans
- The work of the Holy Spirit in salvation and sanctification i.e., being set apart for the purpose it was originally designed for
- The Church, the Body of Christ in the world
- The baptism of believers only, and by immersion
- The communion that celebrates Christ, remembering Him until He comes
- The imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ
- The resurrection of the dead
- Rewards and punishments in a future state

## **READ ON FOR A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE COMMITMENTS THAT OUR 'COVENANT PARTNERSHIP' REPRESENTS**

(For more info., see the 'How Do I Become a Covenant Partner Steps' that follow this)



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- Seek to live a life submitted to the authority of scripture with the purpose of looking more and more like Jesus and to encourage others on a similar journey. (Acts 1:2; 2:42-47; Colossians 1:28).
- Be primarily committed to the mission we've been called to TOGETHER and in relationship with at least one of our 'HOPE Communities'. (These include our regular, general church gatherings along with a multiplying number of emerging mission groups and discovery bible studies)
- Share the responsibility for what God is calling us to be and do as a church, bringing personal spiritual strengths and gifts, AND looking for, and urging the same in others, to serve this body and serving together as ONE, advance the kingdom.
- Practice right-relatedness with God and others.
- Support the ministry of this church and the growing HOPE Network, promoting and serving our mission as you become more aware of it, and have more understanding of it.
- Trust and follow the mutually appointed leadership of our church and supportively work with them to consistently seek the Holy Spirit's guidance for leading the church, aligning us to God's primary kingdom purpose, equipping the saints for the ministry, caring for and shepherding the people faithfully, and stewarding her resources with integrity.
- Abide by ALL compliance policies and procedures (including Codes of Conduct) as they are activated in and through the life and work of our church family. Our policies are biblically based and seek to express freedom of faith in the context of its genuine governing principles and instruments, and in our responsibilities to the wider community,.



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### HOW DO I BECOME A COVENANT PARTNER?

#### Step 1.

Read this introductory information comprehensively and pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit as to when and or if, you decide to proceed. We are a body that seeks to operate through the biblically founded, kingdom counterculture traits of mutual accountability, voluntary submission, interdependent co-operation, and relational autonomy. This is a supernatural quest. We know we will need impartation from heaven to pursue this faithfully, vulnerably, safely, and together. Prayer-eration is our resting pulse.

#### Step 2.

This is a serious commitment, so, if you believe that you should become a 'Covenant Partner, please fill in the 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) form. If there isn't an EOI inserted in THIS printout, they are available in hard copy from the facilitator of your 'HOPE Community' OR at the Church HUB Reception OR can be downloaded with the introductory information on the FAQ page on our website.

Filling out the form is not an arduous task but please don't hesitate to ask for assistance with any question you have about the form or its contents. Once completed, please submit your form either by handing it to your 'HOPE Community' facilitator, OR a Host at the Church Hub Reception, OR scan email it to [secretary@corrimalcommunity.church](mailto:secretary@corrimalcommunity.church) OR send it to The Secretary, Corrimal Community Church, PO Box 4133 TOWRADGI NSW 2518

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### Step 3.

Once your Expression of Interest form has been processed, you will be invited to an orientation opportunity with one or more of our oversight leaders/elders, in the shape of a very informal chat over a meal or a cuppa depending on what's most flexible and convenient for all those involved.

If there is a reasonable number of orientation chat's being organized at any given time, we will offer a scheduled single fellowship event like a meal so we can all meet each other and ensure we are covering any genuine questions through the process. This orientation opportunity will focus on the church's core values and YOUR questions, and will attempt to provide: -

- A reflection on 'Covenant Partnership' as a deeper journey together with maturing fellow workers IN Christ, who are seeking God towards sharing the responsibility for the kingdom advancing task.
- A brief history of our church, particularly focusing on how we arrived at who we are now.
- A deeper look at our beliefs, vision, practices, policies and procedures and what has shaped and continues to shape what's important to us.
- An opportunity to explore ways to connect, serve, equip, and be equipped as part of a team serving the cause as well as a clear process for exiting the covenant if desired.



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- Other helpful insights as are considered relevant at the time.
- An opportunity to sign up for Covenant Partnership if that remains something you believe the Holy Spirit is leading you to do.

### Step 4.

If you sign up to be a Covenant Partner during or after this process, the leadership team will work with you to find a suitable person to function as your first contact for anything you need whilst being a Covenant Partner. That person maybe the reference person you've already been connected to through the orientation opportunity, a facilitator of a 'HOPE Community' you are a part of, OR a person who is a Corrimal Community Church (HOPE Network) Covenant Partner that you may already have a relationship with. This isn't over prescriptive or cumbersome, it just emphasises our desire to ensure you have a trusted relationship at some level within the leadership of the church, that can help you experience all the blessing and encouragement that accompanies connection, involvement, engagement, and service.

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We want to celebrate our partnership with you as much as possible and that includes making sure you have outlets and opportunities for input and for expression of faith and service. We want to ensure as much as is possible that you are feeling engaged and valued.



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If you sign up to be a Covenant Partner, you will receive a Certificate of Acknowledgement as a keepsake and a reminder of the process – similar to a certificate of baptism or dedication. You will also receive an official copy of your signed ‘Covenant Partnership’ agreement.

Some of you ‘might’ even like to celebrate your partnership at your ‘HOPE Community’, or perhaps you’d be comfortable to celebrate via a brief ceremony with other ‘covenant partners’ in a wider church family gathering. This is an optional extra and we can facilitate that if it’s appropriate for your circumstances.

Covenant Partnership with Corrimal Community Church is a statement of agreement with, and excitement about, our vision and mission in this world. It is a way of stating unequivocally “I am on board! I’m with you! I’m all in!”

We are so excited that you are considering journeying with us in this way, and we can’t wait to see how God uses you with us and in our context as we play our part in advancing God’s kingdom ON the patch of earth that we are connected to and are responsible to God for, as it IS in heaven!

**The loose-leaf double-sided form within this pamphlet, is an ‘Expression of Interest (EOI) Form, that you can fill in and submit in response to Steps 1 and 2 outlined in this introductory pamphlet about Covenant Partnership. ONLY a submitted EOI gives us permission to invite you to an orientation opportunity as described in Step 3.**





## Covenant Partnership Information .....

### Covenant Partnership – Expression of Interest Form

**NB:** The information you provide on this form is ONLY for providing an orientation opportunity and will only be recorded with us IF you decide to formally become a Covenant Partner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Family Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Best Email Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residential Address (including post code):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Address (if not same as above):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: (DD/MM/YYYY)

(optional)

**The section overleaf is OPTIONAL ,,,,,,  
but we'd appreciate your answers if you don't feel it is asking too  
much of you. Your answers to these optional questions will help us,  
help you, make the most effective connections with Corrimal  
Community Church. Thank you!**



## Covenant Partnership Information .....

### OPTIONAL EXTRA INFORMATION

To what community(ies) of faith/mission do you currently belong if any? (CCC/Other or N/A)

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Please list where you belonged/attended (if you did) during the last 5 years? (CCC/Other or N/A)

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Having read the Covenant Partnership introductory information, including the summary of what we believe, would you consider your beliefs to be reasonably compatible with us? (Please add any clarifying details as needed)

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If we described your faith journey to this point in time as a number line from minus ten to plus ten, and somewhere between minus five to zero being where you made some sort of decision to follow Jesus and relate with Him more closely, where might you mark the number line below to describe how you see your current daily experience of faith?

(NB: Please be assured there is no judgement here, just a desire to provide the best possible resources for your circumstances – we're **ALL** on a journey and only senior leaders will see this)

-10 ←----- -5----- 0 ----- +5 -----→ +10

Please tell us briefly why you marked the number line where you did.

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