

Missio Alliance has emerged in response to a strong call from a diverse array of Christian leaders, especially church leaders, for a "space" of theological conversation and resourcing related to the new questions, challenges, and opportunities facing North American Christianity in God's mission. In developing this "space," Missio Alliance is creating a new ecology of relationships amongst institutions, networks, churches, and leaders who resonate with these <u>Originating Convictions</u>, <u>Distinguishing Features</u>, and basic <u>Focus of Our Work</u>.

Related to this, online publishing is core expression of the work we feel God has called us to. We see this as <u>a ministry of writing to resource theological practitioners for</u> mission.

There are two integrated aspects of this ministry that are crucial to understand:

- 1. The kind of space we are seeking to curate
- 2. The kind of content we are seeking to curate

The Kind of Space We are Seeking to Curate

- 1. We seek to create a diverse space one where voices and perspectives that, while emerging from a place of historic Christian orthodoxy (our affirmation of the <u>Cape Town Commitment</u> is a baseline for this), tend to be marginalized within broader evangelical discourse those of women and ethnic minorities.
- **2.** We seek to create a *hospitable* space one that winsomely, yet poignantly, invites robust discussion as opposed to shutting it down.
- **3.** We seek to create an *integrated* space one where substantive theological reflection <u>emerges from</u> and is <u>oriented toward</u> ministry practice.
- **4.** We seek to create a resourceful space one where church leaders draw from and engage in because they find it to be meaningful and transformative both personally and ministerially.
- **5.** We seek to create a *hopeful* space one where the historic, present, and future work and love of God in and through God's people is preeminent.



The Kind of Content We are Seeking to Curate

Missio Alliance hosts 4 Writing Collectives.

Anchored by a diverse group of <u>Leading Voices and a regular Writing Team</u>, Missio Alliance Writing Collectives provide space for resourcing and conversation among theological practitioners in the areas of Culture, Formation, Theology, and Witness.

Each of these Writing Collectives has its own specific point of reference.

Culture: A space for critical, theological engagement with the cultural trends and events of our day.

Formation: A space for reflections and perspectives on the task of forming Christian disciples and leaders.

Theology: A space for unpacking theological perspectives as they relate to the faithful practice of ministry and mission.

Witness: A space for exploring perspectives and practices that deepen and enrich the witness of the local church.

At the same time, what we publish in each Collective will generally be marked by a common set of characteristics.

- 1. A clear articulation of the problem/issue in view
- 2. A strong biblical/theological frame of reference
- 3. A meaningful link to implications for Christians/churches "on the ground"
- 4. Links to additional voices/resources on the topic being addressed