

NEIGHBOURHOOD CO

Culture & Safer Churches Guide

Penrith NSW 2750

OUR THEOLOGICAL ANCHOR

Because love moved into the neighbourhood, so we do too.

At Neighbourhood Co, we are called to:

Save Souls & Make Disciples (SSXMD)

We embrace:

- The Great Commission - **Gospel of Matthew 28:18–20**
- The Greatest Commandment - **Gospel of Matthew 22:37–39**

We believe love moved in through Jesus -
transforming hearts, homes, and communities.

We are not building an event.

We are building a neighbourhood of faith.

VISION SNAPSHOT

ENCOUNTER

The Person of Jesus

Because love moved in, we can **ENCOUNTER Jesus**.

We create spaces where people meet Jesus personally -
where lives are saved, healed, and made whole.

Jesus made this possible on the cross.

This is not emotionalism.

This is salvation.

This is surrender.

This is a Spirit-filled transformation.

We believe every gathering should make room for:

- The presence of God
 - The preaching of the Gospel
 - The power of the Holy Spirit
 - A clear invitation to respond
-

EQUIP

Everyday Disciples

Because love moved in, we **EQUIP daily disciples**.

We go beyond surface faith.

We form disciples who follow Jesus:

- At home
- At work
- In their marriages
- In parenting
- In leadership
- In calling

We believe transformation is personal -
But it is never private.

When Jesus changes you,
He changes everything around you.

Discipleship is not optional.
It is our mandate.

ENGAGE

In Community

Because love moved into the neighbourhood -
So we do too.

We ENGAGE in community.

We carry the love of Jesus into:

- Streets
- Schools
- Sporting clubs
- Workplaces
- Homes

We are not called to isolate.
We are called to incarnate.

We were not made to be alone.
We were made for community.

ASPIRATIONAL GOAL

We aspire to become:

A spiritually healthy, multi-generational church in Penrith where:

- Every believer is discipled.
- Every family is strengthened.
- Every child is protected.
- Every leader is accountable.
- Every street knows we are for them.

Not the biggest church.
But a faithful one.

Brick by brick.

OUR CULTURE

Church culture shapes how people experience Jesus - beyond sermons and services.

It is the:

- Atmosphere
- Attitudes
- Language
- Leadership tone
- The way we handle conflict
- The way we welcome strangers
- The way we protect the vulnerable

A healthy culture reflects Christ and helps people flourish.

“Let everything you do be done in love.”
- 1 Corinthians 16:14

Presence Over Performance

We are not performers.

We are worshippers.

We would rather:

- Be present rather than polished.
- Be more prayerful than impressive.
- Be more authentic than amplified.

“Be still, and know that I am God.”
- Psalm 46:10

Excellence matters.

But presence matters more.

Encouragement That Enlarges

We build people up.

We speak life.

We disciple with truth and grace.

“Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up.”
- 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Encouragement enlarges capacity.

Correction is given in love.

Leadership lifts — it does not crush.

People Are Our Purpose

Programs serve people.

People do not serve programs.

“Love your neighbour as yourself.”
- Mark 12:31

We value:

- Names over numbers
- Shepherding over strategy
- Care over convenience

Every person matters to God.

So every person matters to us.

Authentic In Our Approach

No masks.

No religious performance.

No spiritual superiority.

“Put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour”
- Ephesians 4:25

We admit weakness.

We pursue holiness.

We practice repentance.
We walk in humility.

Integrity builds trust.
Trust builds community.

OUR CITY

Penrith is not our project.
It is our home.

We honour the people who have built this region.
We honour the families raising the next generation.
We honour the churches faithfully serving here.

We are not here to redefine the city.
We are here to serve it.

We believe God is already at work in Penrith.
We simply join Him.

SAFER CHURCHES COMMITMENT

Safety is not optional.
It is worship through wisdom.

We are committed to being a church where:

- Children are protected.
- Families are respected.
- Leaders are accountable.
- Boundaries are honoured.

Every leader must have:

- Valid NSW Working With Children Check
- Completed ACC Safer Churches training

- Clear understanding of reporting responsibilities

We commit to:

- Two-adult rule in children's environments
- No private messaging of minors
- Visible and appropriate pastoral meetings
- Proper documentation of incidents
- Mandatory reporting compliance
- Clear complaints and grievance pathway

Safety protects:

- People
- Leaders
- The witness of the Gospel

We never say:

"It'll be fine."

We ask:

"What is wise?"

"What protects people?"

"What honours Christ?"

LEADERSHIP CULTURE

Leadership at Neighbourhood Co is:

- Servant-hearted
- Spirit-led
- Theologically grounded
- Emotionally healthy
- Accountable

We test character before gifting.

We protect marriages and families.

We value longevity over platform.

If serving is beneath us,

Leadership is beyond us.

OUR DECLARATION

We are not building:

A brand.

A personality.

A platform.

We are building:

A neighbourhood of faith.

A culture of encounter.

A community of disciples.

A safe church for families.

Because love moved into the neighbourhood -
so we do too.