

## International Church Karlsruhe – Vision (Updated May 2026)

### Vision Statement

“To glorify God by making disciples of all nations, forming a Christ-centered, Word-rooted, Spirit-led, and mission-driven multicultural church family in Karlsruhe.”

**“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”** — 1 Corinthians 10:31

**“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”** — Matthew 28:19

This vision stands on:

- **The supremacy of Scripture** (2 Timothy 3:16–17)
- **The sovereignty of God in salvation** (Ephesians 1:4–5)
- **The centrality of Christ** (Colossians 1:18)
- **The mission of the Church** (Acts 1:8)

### Five Key Vision Pillars (Doctrinally Anchored)

#### 1. Faith Formation (Word-Centered Discipleship)

Rooted in the conviction—strongly emphasized by John Calvin and Colin Smith—that **God works through His Word to transform lives**.

**“Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”** — Romans 10:17

**Focus:**

- Establish **structured discipleship pathways** grounded in Scripture
- Teach the **whole counsel of God** (Acts 20:27)
- Cultivate **spiritual maturity, not just activity**

**Key Initiatives:**

- Weekly youth and adult small groups focused on **expository Bible study**
- Annual youth retreat centered on **repentance, renewal, and gospel clarity**
- Monthly youth-led worship emphasizing **biblical theology, not emotionalism alone**
- Leadership development rooted in **character and doctrine** (1 Timothy 3)

## 2. Family Strengthening (Covenant Community Life)

Reflecting a **Reformed covenantal view of family**, where faith is nurtured across generations.

**“These words... shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children.”** — Deuteronomy 6:6–7

### Focus:

- Build **Christ-centered homes** as the foundation of the church
- Encourage **intergenerational discipleship**
- Support marriages as **living testimonies of the gospel** (Ephesians 5:25)

### Key Initiatives:

- Biblical parenting workshops for multicultural families
- Marriage mentoring rooted in Scripture
- Structured children’s catechism-style Scripture learning
- Pastoral visitation for **shepherding care** (1 Peter 5:2)

## 3. Multilingual Ministry (Unity in Diversity under Christ)

Inspired by the global vision seen in Acts and reflected in the mission emphasis of Liebenzeller Mission gGmbH.

**“After this I looked... a great multitude... from every nation, tribe, people and language...”** — Revelation 7:9

### Focus:

- Remove language barriers to the gospel
- Reflect the **global body of Christ**
- Promote unity without compromising truth

### Key Initiatives:

- Train translation teams for sermons and discipleship
- Multilingual worship elements that remain **Christ-centered, not performance-driven**
- Language support groups for integration
- Digital ministry with translated biblical resources

#### 4. City Evangelism (Gospel Proclamation & Mission)

Echoing the missional urgency emphasized by both **Reformed evangelism** and Unlocking the Bible.

**“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation...”** — Romans 1:16

##### Focus:

- Proclaim the gospel **faithfully and clearly**
- Trust God for conversion while being **active in witness**
- Engage Karlsruhe as a **mission field**

##### Key Initiatives:

- Monthly evangelism outreaches
- Seasonal campaigns (Easter, Christmas, summer)
- Partnerships with **Bible-believing churches**
- Clear follow-up discipleship pathway
- Visible community presence rooted in **love and truth**

#### 5. Community Participation & Service (Body Life & Stewardship)

Grounded in the Reformed understanding that **every believer is gifted for service**.

**“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”** — 1 Corinthians 12:7

##### Focus:

- Equip every member to serve
- Foster unity as **one body in Christ**
- Encourage stewardship of gifts for God’s glory

##### Key Initiatives:

- Spiritual gifts workshops
- Clear ministry pathways
- Expansion of home-based small groups
- Active partnership with mission organizations (including Liebenzeller Mission gGmbH)
- “One Family” multicultural gatherings

## **Doctrinal Foundation (Integrated Summary)**

This vision stands firmly on:

### **1. The Authority of Scripture**

“All Scripture is breathed out by God...” — 2 Timothy 3:16

- The Bible is our **final authority in all matters**
- Preaching must be **expository and Christ-centered**

### **2. The Sovereignty of God in Salvation**

(Strongly emphasized by John Calvin)

“Salvation belongs to the Lord.” — Psalm 3:8

- God initiates and completes salvation
- The church proclaims; **God transforms**

### **3. The Centrality of Christ**

“We preach Christ crucified...” — 1 Corinthians 1:23

- Christ is the **head of the church**
- All ministry flows from the gospel

### **4. The Mission of the Church**

(Reflected in Liebenzeller Mission gGmbH)

“You will be my witnesses...” — Acts 1:8

- Local church + global mission
- Evangelism + discipleship

### **Closing Declaration**

**“That all nations may know Christ—and that we may grow as one family in Him.”**

This vision now holds together:

- **Reformed theological depth**
- **Biblical clarity and authority**
- **Missional urgency**
- **Multicultural reality in Karlsruhe**

