

Which is the best match for CHPC's DNA and Mission vision?	
ECO	EPC
Known for...	
"The mission of ECO and the Fellowship of Presbyterians is to build flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ." [Orthodoxy w/ less bureaucracy for all generations.]	"The first duty of the Church is to evangelize by extending the Gospel both at home and abroad, leading others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior." [In Essentials unity; in Non-Essentials liberty.]
Evolutionary Movement	Revolutionary Reaction
Post-Denominational "Kingdom vision:" Seeking ways to fulfill the above mission that produce healthy relationship and upbuilds the <i>whole church</i> of Jesus Christ in love and respect.	Denomination-Centered. Limited utilization of resources from beyond the denomination. Tends to act like <i>escapees rather than immigrants</i> —no looking back or relationships with sister churches or those left behind.
Birthered in 2012 - 2nd year	Birthered in 1981 - 32nd Year
Growth through transfer of churches from the PCUSA and other Reformed bodies and through intentional church planting. One of the 8 Core Values is for congregations to reproduce new missional communities to expand <i>the Kingdom of God</i> .	Main growth is through transfer of churches from the PCUSA and other Reformed bodies — nearly doubled in size since 2005. Desire for but limited success in developing a church planting mentality.
Polity/Structure	Polity/Structure
In < 2 years, 40 churches 30,000 members; average of 750 members/ church. Currently 1 Synod and 2 Presbyteries	In 32years, 300 churches 115,000 members; average of 384 members/church. 11 Presbyteries
Presbyteries meet 2X per year. Pastors are in relational Covenant Groups.	Presbyteries meet 2X per year. Similar to the current PCUSA model.
Presbytery of the East currently has about 30 churches.	54 churches in the Mid-West Presbytery; North - Oscoda, MI to Cincinnati; Toledo to Indy
Confessional Standard	Confessional Standard
Book of Confessions - Historic confessions from <i>Nicene</i> (325) and <i>Apostles Creed</i> (390) to the <i>Brief Statement of Faith</i> (1983). Annual study of an historic confession by the whole church [2013 study is the <i>French Confession</i>].	British <i>Westminster Confession of Faith</i> of 1646, as revised by the American church in 1788 and updated in 1984 .
Theology & Issues	Theology & Issues
Both have detailed Theology Statement and examine clergy and Sessions seeking to join. Bible is the authoritative Word of God and the rule of faith and practice on all issues. Homosexual practice is sin; abortion is the taking of a life. Both have ministries related to these Sins.	
Who owns the church property?	Who owns the church property?
The congregation.	The congregation.
Accountable Community	Accountable Community
Presbyterian Polity	Presbyterian Polity
Annual General Assembly	Annual General Assembly
Presbytery meetings 2 X per year	Presbytery meetings 2 X per year
Pastors' Covenant Groups	
Mission Affinity Groups - Chosen by the congregation and may be with ECO, Fellowship of Presbyterians churches, and historic 'sister' churches.	No equivalent to Affinity Groups

Mission Affinity Groups (MAG) consist of session-to-session relationships — face-to-face at least once a year and ways to connect through the year. Each session should have at least 1/3 of the current elders in attendance. MAG begin with the questions provided in the <i>Narrative on the Health of Congregations</i> , but may appropriately individualize those questions for their particular context.	Congregations file an annual statistical report with the EPC's Central Office in Livonia MI.
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21st C Resources: Effective Use of Technology	Some Technology
Videos of all plenary speakers are downloaded onto the web for inspiration, information and equipping. For example the High Def version of John Ortburg's talk has has over 6000 views and hundreds of downloads.	Online national resources are limited to downloadable audio with one standard video. Occasional podcasts are available.
Keynotes are national 'Kingdom' leaders that reflect ECO's core values...utilizing presbyterian and non-presbyterian resources where God is at work.	
Online professional congregation/leader equipping resources available for use in a variety of settings and ages, including intergenerational/ family.	

Egalitarian Ministry - A Core Value	Women in Ministry - A Non-Essential
Refers to 'unleashing the ministry gifts of women, men, and every ethnic group.' Applies equally to clergy and lay Elders. 20% of ECO's <i>preaching clergy</i> are woman. Racial-Ethnic leaders have been featured in regional and national events.	Women in leadership typically refers to Elders & Deacons and is a local option. Only 3 women are ordained <i>preaching elders</i> . No racial ethnic emphasis.

Center-Focused Spirituality	Center-Focused Spirituality
Calling people to the core of what it means to be followers of Jesus.	Calling people to be followers of Jesus. Well defined theology.

Missional Centrality - Full Gospel	Missional Emphasis
Core Value - Living out the whole of the Great Commission in the whole world: evangelism, spiritual formation, compassion and <i>redemptive justice</i> .	Priority is on evangelism. Less on spiritual formation and compassion. Little on justice except through Urban Ministries.

Role of the Holy Spirit	Role of the Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit's power, gift and fruits are active and essential today.	Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity. Question of 'Gifts of the Holy Spirit today' is a Non-Essential, a local option.

Leadership Velocity - Core Value	Leadership Velocity - A Non-Issue
The work of "identifying and developing Gospel-centered leaders is critical for the church, and a great leadership culture is risk-taking, innovative, and organic. "	No reference on the EPC website or documents. The EPC leadership culture is known for NOT being risk-taking. [Leaving a former denomination was enough of a risk]. Individual congregations may be entrepreneurial, but it is not a commonly held value of the EPC.

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