



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions from the Host Group Meeting

13 July 2022

Listed below are the main decisions and questions from our recent Host Group meeting. This is not the full minutes, but a summary of the main decisions and questions. In line with our church policy, these are circulated not only for your information, but to allow you to consider the decisions and ponder the questions and, if you have any concerns about any of them, to seek more information or ask for them to be reconsidered. Where possible, we will not implement the decisions for at least seven days, in order to allow time for people to respond. Questions or concerns can be raised with any member of the Host Group, or by emailing all of them at once at hosts@southyarrabaptist.church

Those in attendance at the recent meeting via Zoom were Eliz Cook, Shelley Taylor, Samara Pitt, Ian Cook and Nathan Nettleton.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. **Nathan's work hours** were high in preparation for Pentecost and taking leave, but he took some good uninterrupted leave in June/July. Thanks to Ian for running the service during that week.
2. **New child safe standards** have been brought in for Victoria, we will work on this over the coming months.
3. In response to the **proposed changes to the BUV constitution**, we have received some initial legal advice, more detail on this will be clarified over the coming month.
4. Over the past month we had our anniversary and covenanting rite, and a lovely pub lunch gathering with Margie and Jeff when they visited Melbourne, thanks for Merryl for organising this. A reminder that anyone can **organise a get-together** like this. If you have something planned, fill in the **Activity Planning Checklist** in the members area on the website (or contact Samara to get a copy emailed to you) and let the congregation know through the email list!
5. We note that some people are feeling significant weariness and stress at this stage of the Covid pandemic, particularly those who are carrying a sense of responsibility to keep others safe. Let's keep looking out for each other's wellbeing.
6. **Church camp** is coming up on August 26-28 in Anglesea at the Araluen Lutheran campsite which has had some renovations since we last attended. We will have an Open Space program for the weekend, so if you would like to run an activity, start thinking about it now! We want to make it possible for all people who want to to attend, so cost will be flexible if required. The regular Sunday services will be in person at camp, but we hope to offer Sunday vespers online for those unable to attend the camp. More information and registration forms will be sent around soon.
7. We have begin to consider how we would hold **funerals** as an online worshipping community. Nathan is planning a workshop on this in September, and there will be also space at church camp to discuss.

8. We have begun to consider how we can **attract new people to our congregation** and services. One question is: are we hoping to just let more people know about what we already do, or how could we find out what we could do differently to meet new needs in the community while still operating out of a sense of our congregation's call? We will have a discussion about this at camp.
9. No new ideas about the **stewardship of the Surrey Road property** at this stage.
10. Anyone is welcome to **attend a host meeting**, please let Nathan know if you wish to do so. The hosts may also invite a congregation member to attend a meeting if we feel they have insights into a particular issue on the agenda.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 30 July, 12noon	Merri Creek walk
Thursday 4 August	Host meeting
Friday 26 - Sunday 28 August	Church camp, Angelsea