



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions from the Host

Group Meeting

10 October 2018

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 were Nathan Nettleton, Eliz Cook, Shelley Taylor, Ian Cook and Samara Pitt.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. Ian is preparing a short survey for feedback on final details for the **kitchen renovation**. Stay tuned if you have strong opinions about bench top material and the colour of cabinets!
2. At the Delegates' Dinner on Friday 19th October, a motion will be presented that the BUW and participating local churches apply to join the **National Redress Scheme for Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse**. This means that if there was a finding of sexual abuse within our church, the redress (financial compensation) owed to the survivor/s would come out of the Baptist Union redress support fund as well as church funds. Participating churches will make an annual contribution of \$400 + 0.01% of their insured asset value (this means buildings, not land or contents). More detail on the scheme is [here](#). We recommend that our congregation participate in this scheme. The deadline for opting in is 14 December 2018.
3. The **Connecting Voices conference** for LGBTIQA+ Christians and allies is this weekend (13-14 October) at Darebin Arts Centre. Samara, Acacia, Alison, Sylvia and Margie will be attending to host the SYCBaps table. If you would like to help or attend the conference, tickets are available at the venue, and feel free to promote – it will be an important 'safer' place to explore intersections of gender, sexuality, theology, faith and practice.
4. The **Advent Retreat Day** is December 3 with Ros Wright – venue to be confirmed.
5. Nathan finished his chapter on **Baptist Spirituality** for a forthcoming book on Protestant Spiritual Traditions. He took 1.2 weeks worth of annual leave hours across a four-week period to meet the deadline.
6. Nathan will prepare a short liturgy for use by people who might want to **host a story-sharing session** in their home. We encourage people to initiate other ideas or activities that they favour coming out of the open space discussions on membership and covenanting.
7. **Dates for your diary:**

October 13-14	Connecting Stories conference
October 20, 2pm	Alison's ordination
November 1 (time tbc)	Feast of All Saints, St Martins
November 11	Ancient Wisdom workshop
November 18	Working bee
December 3	Advent Retreat Day

Next meeting: 7th November 2018, 7:30pm