



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions from the Host Group Meeting

13 April 2023

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, Liesl Filippi, Samara Pitt, Nathan Nettleton, Uncle Dennis Fisher and Ian Cook.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. The **updated Child Safety policy** has been approved by congregational vote.
2. The **pastoral review survey for Nathan** has received responses from the the congregation and we are waiting on the final report from Sue McDonald. Thanks for everyone who gave feedback, it is valued and appreciated!
3. **Audrey Kateena, Clare Gogerly and Jonny Spoor** have been accepted and welcomed into membership during our Easter services. Hooray! It was really good to hear their stories of connection with this congregation, and we look forward to continuing to learn and travel together with respect and understanding.
4. During **Nathan's upcoming leave** (26 June - 20 August), **Alison Sampson from Sanctuary Baptist** in Warrnambool has agreed to take on a pastoral care role for at least one day a week. As a former congregation member and pastor at this church, Alison is well known to many of us and is familiar with how we operate. She will not be able to attend the Sunday service as her own congregation meets at the same time, but will attend several daily prayers sessions each week, come to host meetings and will be available for other pastoral catch ups. Thanks to Shelley, Ian, Acacia and Jeff who will run the Sunday services. At this stage, there will be **no notice sheet, and no uploading sermons to the website** during this period. However, if you are willing to put your hand up to learn to do one of these tasks, please contact Nathan.
5. Jeff Wild has brought an initial request for our congregation to consider **supporting the IPTL Theological College in Timor Leste** which he visited recently. We are waiting to receive some more information about their request and will look at this again next month.
6. This month we had the **Holy Week services, Great Paschal Vigil and Easter Sunday Morning** brunch and liturgy. The services were much enjoyed, although we missed the Herring Island boat trip which we cancelled due to wet weather. We are considering whether the great Paschal Vigil on Saturday could be done in 2 parts with a dinner break in the middle next year, as it is a very long service to do online without the movement we used to do in the old physically gathered service.

7. We have received a suggestion about **reviewing daily prayers**, including the time slots. We will discuss this next month, so if you have an opinion about anything to do with the daily prayers, let us know!
8. We are considering having our **church camp** this year at Aireys Inlet, with people able to book accommodation to suit their needs and having a central gathering space, possibly a church hall or community centre. We are still investigating options and how it could work, stay tuned.
9. 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:

May 4	Host meeting, 7pm
May 18	Feast of Ascension service 7pm