



South Yarra Community Baptist Church Decisions and Questions from the Host Group Meeting

14th May, 2025

Listed below are the main decisions from our recent Host Group meeting. This is not the full minutes, but a summary of the main decisions. In line with our church policy, these decisions are circulated not only for your information, but to allow you to consider the decisions 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 Eliz Cook, Ian Cook, Rob Davis, Liesl Filippi, Nathan Nettleton, and Shelley Taylor. Jen Davis was present as minute secretary.

Summary of the Decisions

1. We received more information on the **Lease of the Manse**. Baptcare's lease ended on 15th April and our church is now responsible for the Manse's care. We will work with Earthen Vessels Church on care for the site and will need to deal with any future security breaches.
2. We reflected on the continuing conversations about **Renaming the Church**. We are not in a hurry and suspect that the different ideas, suggestions and responses will continue. When it appears that a new name is emerging, a Listening Circle will be held to gauge the congregation's feelings. If the Listening Circle shows that the issue has been well thought through and discussed and the congregation feel ready to adopt a new name, then we would proceed to a vote.
3. We did not feel that either the **Congregational Covenant** (which has been circulated for comment) nor the **Host Group Covenant** required revision at present. However, if you would like to suggest some changes, we will consider these, so please let us know.
4. **Nathan's Leave** in July and August (8/7 - 15/8) means that others will be taking on extra responsibilities. We are confident that most jobs can be covered, but we would like to know if somebody would like to **volunteer for updating the daily prayer slides**. This is a relatively simple job and Nathan will provide instructions.
5. Some discussion has been happening around the revision of **Daily Prayer Liturgies**. Some feedback is being gathered and the conversation will continue, with possibly some revision being considered.
6. **Working With Children Checks are important**. If you are obtaining or renewing yours and listing SYCBC as one of your contexts, please contact the Host Group for advice on how to show our address.
7. 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.

Next meeting: 11th June, 2025

Dates for your diary:

Feast of the Ascension Service - 29th May, 7pm

Pentecost Service - 8th June, 5pm

Church Anniversary Worship & Covenant Renewal - 22nd June, 5pm

Church Camp - 10th - 12th October