



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions

from the Host Group Meeting

20th August, 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. **Nathan has returned from his conference and annual leave.** We welcomed Nathan and reported that SYCBC activities went smoothly, thanks to his significant pre-preparation for hosting and liturgies - and thanks to those who stepped up for extra tasks. Any minor problems were solved, including rescheduling Karen Quah's valued sermon. A 'back-up host' for liturgies, able to step in with any emergency, might be identified in any future rosters.
2. We talked about the **Earthen Vessels Church (EVC) Dedication Service** (9 August), attended in-person by Melbourne based SYCBC congregation members and viewed online. The service was appreciated for its enthusiasm, the quality of its music, and its strong commitment to community and was a significant event, marking the Surrey Road building as EVC's own church. SYCBC's role was acknowledged, with Acacia (representing Nathan) and Ian receiving special mention. The Mid-Week liturgy is continuing to meet fortnightly in the EVC church building.
3. We discussed the **Lease of the Manse to EVC**. Lease draft documents, prepared by Felicity Jenkins, had been circulated, for review and approval, before presentation to the Special Church Meeting on 24 August. We made some changes to the wording of the documents. These will be going to the SYCBC congregation and EVC and then reviewed by an independent lawyer. We will be asking the congregation to approve the planned course of action and give the Host Group authority to finalise the detail of the documents.
4. The **SYCBC Annual General Meeting** is scheduled on 21st September. You will be reminded to submit any reports ahead of time. We agreed that the AGM would be a good time to hear Nathan's reflections on his time in Georgia.
5. We are still encouraging further discussion on **a new name for the church**, so please feel free to comment on existing suggestions or make new ones. We hope the conversation can start up again with Nathan's return.

6. 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: 10th September 2025

Dates for your diary:

Annual General Meeting - 21st September

Church Camp - 10th -12th October