



South Yarra Community Baptist Church

Decisions and Questions from the Host Group Meeting

4 October 2017

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, Sylvia Sandeman, Shelley Taylor and Samara Pitt.

Summary of the Decisions and Questions

1. The final **Safe Church policy** will be circulated and put to congregational vote in the coming weeks. Thanks to everyone for your input. As part of the policy, hosts will be indicated on the photo board so that the church leadership is clearly identifiable.
2. The faulty **oven is being repaired** this week, and work towards **replacing the fridge** will proceed after that. Thanks to Ian for this work.
3. The **church camp** is being booked at Araluen in Anglesea for 2018, final dates to be confirmed once we know their availability.
4. To **support LGBTIQ people during the marriage equality campaign**, signs have been put up on the property, and also on the church website and Facebook. Engagement with the church on this issue via our social media is high and increasing, and requires a significant element of pastoral care. A liturgical event for those feeling caught in the crossfire is being discussed this week.
5. The **Advent Retreat day** scheduled for December 3 will proceed according to our usual format. We will approach Peter Bentley about leading it for us.
6. We are interested in revisiting our **catechumenate and membership processes** and exploring their purposes and how well they are working. We will plan a time for discernment and discussion on this` in 2018.
7. Our **church and laughingbird email** is becoming increasingly unreliable with messages not getting through to some members, so we are looking at moving to a paid server for email only.
8. Our next **working bee** is scheduled for October 15, and the **All Saints Day ecumenical service** is on Wednesday November 1st at St Martin's Anglican, 6pm.

Next meeting: November 8th, 7:30pm