

Constitution and Companion Guide of the Phillip Island Baptist Church (P.I.B.C)



Constitution

1. NAME

The name of this church is Phillip Island Baptist Church ("the Church").

2. AFFILIATION

Affirming Baptist understandings of the Gospel, the Church is a member Church of The Baptist Union of Victoria and accepts as expressions of the Christian faith the Doctrinal Basis and the Principles and Ideals of the Baptist Faith contained in the Constitution of that Union.

3. PARTNERSHIP IN MINISTRY

Partnership in Ministry (PIM) shall consist of those who profess faith in Jesus, having personally accepted him as Saviour and Lord and who are willing to participate in the life of the Church, pledging themselves to God and to their fellow partners in the spirit of the Church Covenant.

4. MISSION AND PURPOSE

As a local community of the people of God, this church exists to be-

1. A Worshipping Community, devoted to God who alone is worthy (John 4:24; Rev. 4:11)
2. A Missional Community, faithful to the Great Commission
3. A Caring Community, demonstrating God's love
4. A Serving Community, living in the world as Christ was in the world (Matthew 20:28)
5. A Nurturing Community, helping disciples grow into God's love

5. HOW WE WILL OPERATE (Governance)

1. Under the guidance of God and Scripture, the Church will be governed on congregational principles, with the Partners in Ministry meeting being the final authority on all matters.
2. The Church recognises the Church Council as its governing body and authorises it to manage the affairs of the Church subject to this Constitution and decisions of the partners meeting.
3. The Church Council must operate according to the Program and Budget. The Church Council may incur non-budgeted expenditure up to 10% of the total annual Budget and must report such expenditure in the Church Newsletter.
4. The Church Council must maintain open communication with partners on the affairs of the Church.
5. The Church will set aside, on the nomination of the Senior Pastor, such persons to Companion the Senior Pastor in the spiritual oversight of the church. These people will be known as Pastoral Companions.

6. ALTERATION TO THIS CONSTITUTION AND COVENANT

Changes to this Constitution, or covenant can only be made at a Special Meeting convened for such a purpose. Any proposed alteration to this Constitution or covenant shall first be brought to the Church Council for discussion. Notice of the wording of the proposed alteration shall then be given to the Partners in Ministry at least 14 days prior to the meeting date.