

The Pastor

Congregations vote to choose their pastor (requiring a minimum two-thirds approval) and their choice needs to be approved by the Presbytery. The pastor is answerable to the Presbytery for the conduct of his ministry. Pastors are generally appointed to serve indefinitely, but after 3 years are free to take up an appointment elsewhere.

Jamie Newans and Steve White are the pastors of the Coffs Harbour congregations.

The Committee of Management

Each congregation appoints a committee to look after buildings, finance and general administration. The purpose of this committee is to free the elders and pastors to do ministry (See Acts 6). The Committee is elected each year at our Annual General Meeting. Elders are automatically members of this committee.

We currently have a committee of nine people serving the congregations in Coffs Harbour. Elections take place in March each year.

Membership

There are two types of membership in the Presbyterian denomination. There are "communicant members". Ordinarily membership is by public profession of faith. They are the only ones who can vote regarding elders and ministers.

The other members are called "adherent members". Adherents are people who attend regularly, but have made no formal commitment to the congregation. Adherents cannot vote when it comes to electing elders or calling a minister.

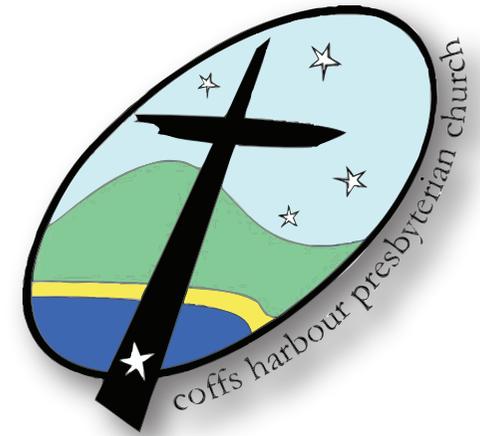
How Do I become a member?

Members are not required to agree to a doctrinal statement, but the Session admits to membership those who they are confident are genuine Christian believers. Ordinarily there will be a course of instruction with the pastor to ensure that people understand the promises and responsibilities involved in membership.

If you would like further information about the Presbyterian Church of Australia please feel free to speak to Jamie or Steve or any of the elders.

A Brief Guide To...

The Presbyterian Church of Australia



I am writing you these instructions so that, if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

1 Timothy 3:14-15