



Gateway Baptist Church Launceston Inc. Code of Conduct

The role of the Church Council is to provide leadership to the church in matters of faith, missions, church practices and property management: These Walls, Within These Walls, Beyond These Walls.

This Code of Conduct sets out the behaviour which Gateway Baptist Church expects from the Church Council members and the pastors.

Guiding Scriptures

Ephesians 4

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. ² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

²³ let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

²⁵ Let us tell our neighbours the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. ²⁶ And "don't sin by letting anger control you."^[d] Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

²⁹ Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behaviour. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tender hearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Code of Conduct Commitment

I _____ acknowledge that I have read and understood the Gateway Baptist Church Safe Church Policy, Safe Children Policy and the Church Code of Conduct. I commit to modelling the behaviours and attitudes expressed in the following principles.

<h3>Unity</h3>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage each council member in spiritual growth • Encourage each person in the development and use of their gifts • Listen carefully to each member's ideas • Appreciate each other's areas of strength • Be receptive to ideas and proposals that I haven't considered before • Show care, concern and love for each member
	<p>I will not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criticise council members • Complain about council • Complain about church members
<h3>Decision Making</h3>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek direction from the Holy Spirit in making decisions that affect the congregation • Respectfully question ideas to explore their outcomes and consequences • Positively input to discussions and help build ideas and actions to the best they can be • Respectfully and gently challenge ideas that I feel are out of step with the Scriptures
	<p>I will not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Express a critical or negative perspective before listening to and exploring other members' perspectives carefully • Manipulate by guilt or anger to get decisions to be the way I want them
<h3>Confidentiality</h3>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep personal and private information confidential • Respect and abide by the way in which individuals wish to have their information made known • Only publish photos and information when stakeholders give permission

	<p>I will not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information discussed in council with others until it is agreed that this information can be generally known • Give anyone’s personal details to anyone else outside of council without their permission • Gossip
<h2 style="text-align: center; color: purple;">Modelling</h2>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uphold and implement the Safe Church practices and the Church Code of Conduct • Relate to council and church members in ways that are positive, healthy and beneficial • Act truthfully and morally in all situations • Act fairly and compassionately towards all vulnerable people • Be open and transparent in actions and conversations • Be vigilant about addressing and reporting any improper conduct by any church member or visitor • Be approachable and listen to anyone raising concerns of safety
	<p>I will not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display or express a casual attitude towards the Safe Church requirements • Operate with hidden agendas or ulterior motives • Disregard or ignore reports of abuse or misconduct

Name:

Witness Name:

Signature:

Witness Signature:

Date: ____/____/____

Witness Date: ____/____/____