

Who can be a Member of RBC?

Our Constitution sets out the process of becoming a member of the church.

- (a) Confess Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour
- (b) Subscribe to the Statement of Faith in this Constitution
- (c) Agree to be bound by the church Constitution including the Code of Conduct
- (d) Be prepared to take part in the life and ministries of RBC and be subject to its leadership. (See 1 Cor 12:12-27) and
- (e) Have either: (i) been baptised by immersion upon a personal confession of faith in Jesus Christ; (ii) desired baptism by immersion but was precluded from it by disability; or (iii) received in another Christian tradition a different form of baptism which is acceptable to the Elders.

It is possible to become a “non-voting member “ of RBC which means that you are member of the church but do not have the right to vote at church meetings. This can be appropriate in a range of circumstances, but most people who join become “voting members” who desire to participate in the spiritual ministry of discernment and decision making in RBC. We take our responsibility and privilege as voting members seriously and so the constitution requires that voting members do actively join in to the processes of decision making.

What are the responsibilities of being a member?

Our Constitution sets out our agreed responsibilities together.

All members are to contribute to the life of RBC as they are able and gifted in line with the Statement of Faith of RBC as they: (a) Glorify God in the worship and work of the Church; (b) Join as fully as possible in congregational worship, and RBC community life, listening to God's Word and sharing in the Lord's Supper; (c) Lead a Christian life, studying the Scriptures and engaging in regular private prayer; (d) Serve harmoniously with others in the fulfilment of the RBC's objectives, seeking to build up other believers in love and spiritual growth; (e) Give faithfully according to their financial means and personal abilities, and with a thankful heart, to the work and witness of the Church and sharing a faith testimony

into the wider community; and (f) Comply with the Code Of Conduct.

Voting members are also to participate in the Voting members' meetings and discernment processes, sharing with other believers in the process of discovering the will of the Lord in matters of RBC business. Generally, we have 2 Voting members' meetings per year, and so this involvement , though important, is not very time consuming.

What do I do from here?

If you would like to become a member of RBC, then please complete the attached form and return it to the church Administrator or hand it to The Hub and they will pass it on for you.

You can also fill out the application form online at thehub.rbc.org.au.

Membership Information

Becoming a Member of RBC

Welcome to RBC!

Our vision as a people is to Love God, Love People and see Lives change as we follow King Jesus together.

At RBC, belonging is about much more than the Sunday service. Belonging is about how we can expand the kingdom of God and grow in our relationships with God and one another.

RBC is One Church across Many Communities. In Christ, though, each one of us brings our own unique gifts and experience to the table and so we are all of one heart and one mind!

We encourage you to sink your roots down deep at RBC and one of the significant ways you can do that is to officially become a "member".

You can participate in our worship and be part of community at RBC without officially becoming a member, but membership is a significant step and enables you to take part in us discerning the will of God together.

Membership shows your desire to fully support the work of RBC and has both rights and responsibilities.

As a Baptist Church our decision making happens among us here locally at RBC. We appoint leaders and Pastors who are given the responsibility to lead and to make many of the decisions needed for a church to grow and thrive. Our most important decisions though are taken as a church through the voting members of the church seeking God together.

Perhaps becoming a member of RBC is the next step in your journey with Jesus?

Here is a summary of information about membership from our constitution.

Why are we here?

Our constitution sets out our mission together.

RBC seeks to engage in the mission of God as it is revealed in the Bible, holding in focus the following aims and objectives:

(1)To announce and demonstrate the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

(2)To give Biblical instruction, including the implications for daily living, to people of all ages and cultures.

(3)To nurture a disciple-making culture that encourages

and trains believers in sharing their faith and in the use of their spiritual gifts and talents in the service of Jesus Christ.

(4)To engage in and encourage regular public worship of God in accordance with the statement of faith.

(5)To create an environment where the love of Christ is expressed through mutual understanding and encouragement, justice and love, forgiveness and practical care, and to reflect those qualities into the world around us.

(6)To partner in the mission of God through supporting the work of Baptist affiliated ministries locally, nationally and globally.

(7)To partner in God's mission by planting vibrant and diverse communities of faith that reach more people with the life changing message of the gospel.

What do we believe?

BIBLE

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God. In the Bible we find the complete revelation of God's will for the salvation of people of all ages, and divine authority for the Christian faith and lifestyle.

TRINITY

We believe in One God, creator of all things, who is perfect and eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

JESUS

We believe that Jesus is fully God and fully man, was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross as the atoning sacrifice of our sins. Further, He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and now sits at the right hand of the Father as our High Priest and advocate.

BROKENNESS & RENEWAL

We believe that all people are created in the image of God but have fallen into sin and are therefore lost in broken relationship with God. It is only through the regenerative work of the Holy Spirit that salvation and life with God can be obtained. The shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only grounds for justification & salvation.

HOLY SPIRIT & WITNESSING

We believe that, through the Holy Spirit, God glorifies His Son, Jesus Christ. That the Holy Spirit, Indwells, guides, instructs and empowers those who believe so that they might live Godly lives of service. Every believer should be continually filled with the Holy Spirit, thus being empowered to be witnesses to the truth of the Gospel.

UNIVERSAL CHURCH

We believe that there is one true Church universal, comprised of all those who have received God's grace in the person of Jesus Christ and that the local body of believers gathers for worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, fellowship, service, and the observance of Baptism and Communion.

BAPTISM

We believe that believers baptism by immersion is the appropriate response to the grace of God in Jesus Christ and that all believers should be encouraged to be baptised in accordance with the call of Jesus.

PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS

We believe in the priesthood of all believers and maintain that every believer has been gifted and equipped by God for their role in the ministry and life of the church.

CONGREGATIONAL GOVERNMENT

We believe that God leads and directs His Church through His people and seek to facilitate this through the exercise of congregational government.

NEW HEAVENS & EARTH

We believe God, in His own way and in His own time, will bring about the renewal of all creation, setting the world to rights and establishing the new heavens and new earth. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth, the dead will be raised and Christ will judge all people in righteousness.