



CoroUniting  
CHURCH COMMUNITY

## Eldership at CoroUniting 2018 Elections

### *Our Vision*

*Colossians 1:28*

*“We preach Jesus to everyone. We teach and warn others with wisdom so that everyone might be presented to God, perfect in Christ.”*

*Three broad elements to this vision are:*



***Up:** We lift up God in worship. We fill our hearts, minds and souls with His gospel, His love and His Lordship (our justification)*



***In:** Christ is in us. We want our outward lives to reflect this inward reality (our sanctification)*



***Out:** We love, we serve and we preach Jesus in ways that are open to unbelievers (our vocation)*

*Do you want to be used by Jesus to grow His church at Coro? Do you want to help us work out what our vision means for our Church community and ministry? If so, it may be that God is calling you or someone you know to serve as an Elder at Coro.*

## **Calling a new generation of Elders for Coro**

Coro Church is seeking to reinvigorate the Church Council for a new season. We are asking God to provide Elders to help us be a church that is effective in presenting Jesus to those around us. We want more people to know God. To do that we need to care for our people well and equip them to use the Spiritual gifts they have. We also need to think through the way we do things so that the good news about Jesus is accessible to others.

Are you called to join us in this exciting new season?

The role of the Elder at Coro will be:

- Spiritual leadership
- To love and pray for the people
- To evaluate our ministry according to our vision
- To discern with others what God is saying to our church
- Vision setting and casting, evaluating our culture and worship in the light of our vision
- Discipline: Bringing the gospel to bear on relationships that affect the life of the Church body

Many of the administration tasks required of the Church Council will be delegated to a subcommittee (Administration Team) that the Council has appointed. While some administration tasks will remain, the Council's focus will be the vision, culture and oversight of our ministry.

To do this an Elder will be asked to:

- Attend a monthly evening Council meeting and occasional retreats
- Assist in the smooth running of the Sunday service, eg. communion, prayer with the worship team, pastoral care etc.
- Possibly oversee a ministry in the church

## So, who leads the Church?

Jesus leads His Church as its Pastor (John 10:11,14,16), its Leader (Matt 28:18), its Teacher (Matt 23:10), its Equipper (Eph 3:7), as the true Elder (1 Pet. 2:25) and Servant (Matt 20:28), its Builder (Eph 2:21) and its Goal (Eph 1:10). Any church leadership is dependent on this.

In the New Testament, two offices that focus on Church leadership are the Overseer and the Deacon. The '*Overseer*' focused on preaching, teaching, prayer and church discipline. The '*Deacon*' focused on service and practical help. The word '*Elder*' was a term used to describe leaders in general. 1 Timothy 5:17 implies that not all elders preach and teach but are involved in other areas of church governance. The calling of the elder was to shepherd 'God's flock', the Church. They were to lead by example, to have authority over, to serve, to pray for and to direct as under-shepherds of Jesus.

### Character over Skills

While a leader needs to be competent for the task, the primary emphasis in the Bible is character before skill. A person is called not just because they can do the job but because they demonstrate the maturity, humility, faith and integrity befitting a church leader under Christ. These are set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:1-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-3.

### Elders for the Church Council at Coro

We are praying for younger and older women and men with these gifts to serve on a Council of nine. Four existing elders, Rex Griswood, Jenny Wichert, Geoff Diment and Norm Tucker will remain for two more years (after that, they can be re-nominated) with Simon as Minister. We are seeking **4 new Church Elders** to serve Coro for a recommended term of 4 years. We are praying for people who share the vision and theology of Coro and who can lead with resilience and faith. Practical skills in governance, communication and the ability to work interdependently will be an asset.

## **Summary of the process**

### **From Sunday 18 February (for one month)**

We would ask that each Church member prays and seeks to discern who may be called to be an Elder at Coro on the Church Council. When someone comes to mind, approach them and ask if they would pray and consider being nominated. If they are willing, the nominator finds someone else to second the nomination.

Fill out a nomination form and place it in the Communication Box at the Welcome desk or hand it to Simon Dent or Acting Chair Jenny Wichert.

### **Sunday 18 March**

Nominations close. Simon and the Elders to meet with nominees on that afternoon to answer questions and explain the role.

After this meeting, nominated members may continue with the process or withdraw.

### **Sunday 25 March**

The name of those continuing with the process will be published in the newsletter.

### **Election Date – Sunday 8 April**

The Election of Elders will be by secret ballot at the Congregational Meeting after church on Sunday 8 April. To be elected as an Elder, a nominee needs 70% of the vote. Absentee voting in the week prior will be accepted at the church office (until Friday 6 April). Members may vote for as many of the nominees they discern are fit for Eldership.

The ballots will be counted and the result announced at the end of the meeting.

*Thank you for prayerfully considering this request to be nominated*