

Choosing Leaders

For CrossRoads to be the church God wants us to be, and to achieve His vision for us requires leadership that is attuned to His will, and open to His leading, i.e. to being led by the Holy Spirit. Leadership is one of the gifts that God gives to certain, but certainly not most, people as the Apostle Paul reminds us (Romans 12:8). Discerning those who are suitable for the ministry of Leadership in the congregation is an important responsibility of all of the members of CrossRoads and one that should not be taken lightly.

Each year we hold leadership elections and the meeting where this will take place for 2015 will be on Sunday 15th March. While this may seem to be a long time off it is not in effect, because of the long summer break for parts of which many people will be away. It is therefore important to start thinking and praying now about who should be nominated for the various positions.

Elections for the Leadership team are carried out according to CrossRoads "Governance Model 2010" copies of which are available in the Foyer.

It is important that CrossRoads has a governance regime that facilitates our Vision attribute of '**Flexibility**', if we are to be a church for the 21st Century, Governance Model 2010 provides for this. Each year under the staggered retirement system two of the six team members retire and so nominations will be required for two (2) of the six Leadership Team members each of whom will be elected for a three year term. CrossRoads has worked hard over the last few years to establish a nomination system that seeks to ensure that the right people are elected to these key positions, and over that time the Leadership Team has developed the criteria below for suitable nominees.

The current Leadership Team has been working effectively with great harmony, and this is important when considering nominations, which is why the Biblical requirement for leaders as set out in 1 Timothy 3:2-13 are very important i.e. that nominees must be:

- *In a faithful marriage relationship (if they are married)*
- *They must be self-controlled and possess commonsense*
- *They must practice hospitality—to other members of the congregation*
- *They must be an 'apt teacher' i.e. be able to explain the faith to others*
- *They must not be controlled by alcohol (v.3) nor by their temper or be materialistic, a lover of money*
- *They must not be a recent convert (v.6)*
- *Their life must be a good witness to outsiders so that God's name is not dishonoured*
- *Also they must not be a person that causes division (Titus 3:9-11)*

In addition, the Leadership Team has also developed for eligibility for nomination the following criteria. Those nominated must:

- Have a weekly congregational attendance record averaging at least 40 weeks per year over the previous two years.
- Maintain a 40 weeks per year attendance at CrossRoads Christian Community to retain tenure on the Leadership Team
- Have a demonstrated commitment to CrossRoads Parish Vision
- Be an active and regular member of a CrossRoads small group
- Should not be disqualified as defined in the Statutory qualifications outlined in the Diocesan Ordinance 2008

Each year the eligibility of nominations for the Leadership Team will be considered against the above criteria by the non-retiring members of the Leadership Team.

We will also be required to elect two (2) Parish Wardens who deal with matters of finance and property, this election being carried out under the Diocesan Parish Ordinance 2008. The criteria for eligibility for Wardens are that the person must be baptized and have attended services at least 13 weeks in the last year. However, in this regard, while it cannot be mandatory, in order to ensure the harmonious working of CrossRoads it is the ***strong recommendation of the Leadership Team*** that the characteristics of those considered for Parish Wardens should be the same as those for the Leadership Team.

We will also be required to elect five (5) persons as Parish Nominators for 2015.

Nominations can be made on the forms which will be provided between the 1st February and the 22nd February.

Choosing people for these positions is a very serious matter as the smooth and effective working of CrossRoads ministries depends on appropriately mature and godly people being elected. Therefore members are encouraged to give significant prayer and thought in consideration of those to be nominated.

In Christ,

Martin J. Bragger,
Senior Minister.