

Code of Ethics for Those in Ministry and Senior Leadership Within All Souls Church

Passages of Scripture such as 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-4 discuss the qualities and responsibilities expected of church leaders. Standards for the Christian life are described in Romans 12:9-21 and Ephesians 5:1-5 and instruction on Christian service is found at Ephesians 4:11-13, 15-16 and Philippians 2:1-4.

The following Code of Ethics has been developed to offer guidelines about appropriate behaviour for those at All Souls in ministry and for senior leaders, including those serving on governance committees and for those serving in senior support team roles.

We affirm the following foundational principles:

- Human beings are made in the image of God and each person is of unique value. We seek to treat everyone with dignity and respect.
- Christian leadership follows in the example of Jesus. Leaders are to be humble and to actively seek to love, to serve and do good.
- Christian leaders are called to seek justice and truth. Leaders are to be people who do the right thing by others and to act with honesty.
- Christian leaders are dependent on God's grace. We seek mutual encouragement and for every Christian to be an active participant in ministry, each according to their gifts. We need each other.

Leaders at All Souls will strive with the help of the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the following Biblical standards of Christian living:

- A growing relationship with God: rooted in prayer; committed church attendance, obedience to Scripture; and a commitment to growth in love, holiness, service and fellowship.
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- Committed to the truth of the gospel: having Scripture as the ultimate guide for faith and practice. The [basis of faith](#) summarises the central truths of the Christian faith as we discern them in the Bible.
- Having integrity: following the highest ethical standards in both personal and professional conduct, including in use of money and power.
- Speech that honours Christ: speaking the truth in love and not being quarrelsome or given to gossiping.
- Exercising self control: in speech and action and free from pornography and substance abuse (alcohol, drugs and other dependencies).
- Faithfulness in sexual behaviour: recognising marriage as the faithful, self-sacrificial and in intention life-long covenant between one man and one woman, and the place approved by God for sexual relations.
- Living distinctively: demonstrating the fruit of the spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Concerned for others: promoting the welfare of others, being aware of the risk of abuse, respecting boundaries and seeking to protect the vulnerable from harm.

All Souls is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and we subscribe to their Basis of Faith. We affirm the EA's [Ethos and Practice](#) which stems primarily from the Basis of Faith. The Ethos and Practice recognises the need to be consistent with the purposes and patterns of behaviour which accord with an orthodox and historic understanding of the ethical implications of the evangelical Christian faith.

