

Dear Church Family,

I am writing to address a matter of grave concern regarding the leadership of our church. It is with a heavy heart that I bring forth these issues regarding Edi Giudetti, and I want to make my intentions and message clear from the outset.

After much careful consideration and investigation, I have come to the conclusion that Edi Giudetti is not suitable to continue serving as the pastor of our church. I am presenting formal charges to support this assertion. Below are the charges I have compiled against Edi:

1. **Dishonesty:** Edi has been found to have lied on multiple occasions to the congregation.
2. **Hypocrisy:** His actions are inconsistent with the principles he preaches, demonstrating a lack of integrity.
3. **Violation of Church Constitution:** Edi has failed to adhere to the constitution of Hope Baptist Church, undermining the foundational principles upon which our church operates.

These charges are not levelled without careful consideration; they are backed by substantial evidence and corroborated by multiple witness testimonies. Additionally, in recent weeks, several members of our congregation have come forward with troubling revelations regarding Edi's behaviour. While I won't divulge specifics today, these disclosures have underscored the gravity of the situation. Moreover, his targeted attacks against me have highlighted the pressing need to confront these matters.

While it would be easier for me to simply leave the church and focus on my personal life, I cannot in good conscience remain silent. I am driven by a sense of responsibility to ensure that the truth is known and that our congregation can make informed decisions about its leadership.

I want to emphasize that my motivations are not rooted in a desire for retribution or revenge. Despite the hurt and frustration, I and my family feel, my ultimate goal is to walk blamelessly before the Lord. This requires me to speak out against wrongdoing and ensure accountability within our church community.

To provide clarity, I have outlined specific instances that support each charge:

**Dishonesty:**

1. Edi lied to Shane Treacy regarding the reason for the change in venue for the Men's Breakfast Ministry.
2. He falsely announced to the Youth and Young Adults group that I was no longer attending due to an age restriction.
3. Edi misrepresented the communication between CCCC and Hope Baptist Church to the congregation regarding their desires and intention for inter-Church collaboration in youth camp ministry during 2022 - 2023.

### **Hypocrisy:**

1. Despite preaching about biblical conflict resolution, Edi has not sought me out for one-to-one reasoning or discussion. Rather discussing the matter with many others both members and non-members.
2. He has publicly judged me based on assumptions rather than allowing me to defend my actions according to the constitution.
3. Edi has engaged in gossip by spreading negative comments about our church to another congregation, that being Aberdeen St, Geelong, where Edi has been preaching periodically over the last few months.

### **Violation of Church Constitution:**

1. Edi has suspended David Estoppey's membership, disregarding the procedural requirements outlined in our constitution.
2. His text message on the 15/03/24, urging certain members and non-members to leave the church, conflicts with the principles of peaceful resolution outlined in our constitution.
3. Edi has subjected me to disciplinary action, disregarding the procedural requirements outlined in our constitution.

It is my sincere hope that by bringing these issues to light, we can work together as a church family to address them in a manner that honours God and upholds the values of our congregation. I urge you to consider these charges carefully and prayerfully as we navigate this challenging situation together.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

Cody Kereopa, supported by half of the members of the church,

*David & Chrissy Estoppey Debbie Green Juliet Kereopa Andy & Shirley Lim  
Mark Lim Wes & Rose McKinnon Bernadette Moroney Stu & Shilo Northcote  
Shane & Elise Treacy*

And long time non-members

*Jack Ellis Allyah Gowans Jason & Roberta Gowans Wade Kereopa*

