

## **Profile: Colin Pretorius**

- Personal information:** I am 54 years old, very happily married to Maggie and have three adult children (29, 26, 25). Born in South Africa, I migrated to Australia in 2001 and settled in Melbourne.
- Education and working life:** I've had the privilege of studying at the RTC for the past 3 years and have recently completed my M.Div. degree. Most of my working life was spent in the fields of commerce and IT.
- Faith journey:** Raised in a nominally Christian family, I was baptised and did my profession of faith in the Dutch Reformed Church. I cannot pinpoint exactly when I truly gave my heart to the Lord – for me it was more a process of growing ever closer to Him. It is a process of a deepening relationship for which I not only praise the Lord but which I pray will continue until Christ returns.
- Church involvement:** I have been a member of the Dandenong Christian Reformed Church for the past 10 years and am currently serving in my second term as elder. As an elder I share in the pastoral visitation of church members, especially of those in the adjacent aged care facility.
- During the past three years I have been blessed with a number of opportunities to share God's Word from the pulpit, a privilege for which I'm truly thankful.
- As our congregation has been without a pastor for the past six months, I have taken on a number of additional responsibilities such as the rostering of preachers, elders and deacons and have also been responsible for putting together the orders of service. I serve on the search committee for a new pastor and have been involved in the church planting planning team.
- I am responsible for our congregation's outreach action to the ex-South African community in our local area, focusing on helping especially new immigrants to settle in a new country and finding a spiritual home. This ministry, which includes a monthly Afrikaans service as well as fellowship, has also led to the formation of a Bible study group which meets at our home. This allows my wife and me to nurture and provide additional pastoral care to this part of our community.
- On a denominational basis I am involved in the Bible Translation Committee and have represented our congregation at a number of Classis meetings.
- Ministry passions:** I pray to continually grow closer to and in knowledge of my Saviour so that I will be better equipped to bring the message of His saving grace to others. My ministry passions are pastoral ministry and care and the faithful preaching of God's Word.
- Other interests:** Maggie and I share a love of Siberian Huskies, reading, tumbling-gymnastics and travel. I am a keen photographer and when time permits I like to combine my interest in IT, books and genealogy by creating electronic family history books.