



## A Placement Profile

<b>A1 Presbytery</b>	Yarra Yarra Presbytery		
<b>A2 Name of Placement</b>	North Ringwood Uniting Church		
<b>A3 Placement city/suburb/town</b>	Ringwood North		
<b>A4 Church/Office location(s)</b>	14 Dickson Crescent, Ringwood North		
<b>A5 Congregations and agencies associated with this placement</b>	North Ringwood Uniting Church		
<b>A6 Ministry leadership being sought</b>	Specific ministry role:	Lead Minister	
	Minister of the Word <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deacon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ministry of Pastor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Ordinand <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>A7 Specific details</b>	Additional placement <input type="checkbox"/>	Replacement placement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Full Time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part Time <input type="checkbox"/>	Time fraction <input type="text"/>
	Earliest Start Date:	Click here to enter a date.	
<b>A8 Placement term</b>	Undefined <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Up to 10 years (see Reg 2.7.3(a))	
	Fixed Term <input type="checkbox"/>	Required for non-congregational placements (see Reg 2.7.3(b))	Years <input type="text"/>
<b>A9 To be completed by Presbytery, with reasons given on page 13:</b>	Is permission sought to advertise? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Is a Priority Placement recommended? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>A10 Website</b>	nruc.org.au		
<b>A11 Social Media</b>	<b>Facebook:</b> North Ringwood Uniting Church Messy Church: Messy Church North Ringwood Uniting Youth: NRUC YMT NRC: North Ringwood Care Children and families: NRUCkids at North Ringwood Uniting <b>Live Streaming on YouTube:</b> www.youtube.com/@nrucyouth		
<b>A12 Google map link</b>	<a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/North+Ringwood+Uniting+Church/@-37.7957037,145.2345351,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x6ad63a3cd2fc57bd:0x8317711e77e3fabe!8m2!3d-37.795708!4d145.23711!16s%2Fg%2F11b7819k4v?entry=tu">https://www.google.com/maps/place/North+Ringwood+Uniting+Church/@-37.7957037,145.2345351,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x6ad63a3cd2fc57bd:0x8317711e77e3fabe!8m2!3d-37.795708!4d145.23711!16s%2Fg%2F11b7819k4v?entry=tu</a>		

### A13 Area map (paste image)



## B The Congregation

**B1 Tell a potential minister about this placement and yourselves, in your own words and pictures, in no more than one page. Share something of your congregation's values, beliefs and ways in which you live out and share the gospel message.**

**Include comment about why you need a new minister. How will this placement be exciting, challenging, and attractive to a minister? How can God be served in new ways here? What do you want the Minister to do with you and for you?**

**This is your chance to 'be creative' and catch the attention of someone who is thinking of sharing their call, their gifts, their life with you.**

North Ringwood Uniting Church (NRUC) offers an exciting opportunity for a minister to share in God's mission as part of our vibrant multi-generational community. We seek a minister who feels called by God to nurture us spiritually, encourage us and guide us by the Word, bringing us a wider perspective on living out an active faith in the world and in communion with the wider church, as we commit to our mission statement "To know Christ and make Christ known".

A safe and welcoming community, we value and respect each other's differences, show compassion and reflective listening. This positive environment commits to restore relationships, encourage and affirms initiative and experimentation, offering grace, patience and understanding. Our minister will walk beside us as we continue to discover and develop our own and each other's God-given gifts.

Music plays a significant role in the way we worship God. We have 4 different bands supporting across each Sunday morning service in rotation, resulting in a wide variety of music and worship expression. The congregation enthusiastically enters worship and is open to the movement of the Spirit through music. Our technical team supports our all-aged Sunday service through live video streaming to the internet (for those unable to attend in person) and supports the minister and congregation through sound, data projection and recording. During term time we run Sunday morning children and youth programs. We hold Messy Church monthly attracting young families and provides those discovering or rediscovering their faith through hands on creative experiences, a celebration time reflecting on God, and sharing a meal. This also provides a faith-sharing opportunity for the many volunteers involved in this service.

We have a strong volunteer base across the various ministry, missional and legal/regulatory roles and groups and as a congregation we are able to fund two staff directly from weekly donations. In addition, we have several self-funded ministries running throughout the week: North Ringwood Care (community emergency food relief); Playgroup; and, Community House (providing medium term accommodation and community). For such a thriving community, we seek a minister who will balance oversight and delegation, taking leadership where required and be an excellent team player across many groups.

At NRUC we love to be challenged and stimulated by strong biblical teaching to step up in action and word. A pastoral care program is offered through Care Circles facilitators. This program, put in place during COVID, offers bible study and/or support groups. We see the opportunity for greater growth of this pastoral structure to encourage and grow relationships within the congregation and across various groups (Appendix 2). We encourage our future minister to grow our vision in parallel with challenging us to fulfil Christ's vision for the Church.

The Victoria Mizo Church (VMC) is an autonomous faith community of the Uniting Church in Australia who shares the use of the Dickson Crescent church property with the North Ringwood Congregation under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) cosigned with the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra. Our two independent faith expressions continue to respect and support each other's respective faith communities.

Since December 2024, this profile document has been discussed at length with the congregation, with opportunity for individual and collective review provided and a congregational meeting substantially committed to an opportunity to make comments and suggest amendments (including for those attending online). In addition, while we await the call of a new minister, we have undertaken a period of collective discernment and led by the Spirit we are now actively working in the following focus areas: Growing our Faith, Caring for Each Other, Growing our Future, Reaching out to Others, and Caring for our Environment.

We seek a minister who will speak God's word, partner in pastoral care, strengthen all-age worship, support social justice, and develop and grow the vision of the global church to live out God's Kingdom here on earth.

**B2 List and explain any particular priorities which the congregation has identified and which it will address in the next two to five years?**

**Faith/Faithfulness:**

The focus on faith/faithfulness is what sets the church apart from any other local community group. NRUC desires deep roots in the Faith with a focus on biblical teaching. There is a continuing desire to grow these roots and commitment to our faith and prayer life.

**Inter-generational Worship:**

Members value NRUC as a place of inclusivity with the identification of a strong commitment to all-age worship. This has been highlighted during our community discernment time.

**Involvement/volunteer base:**

We have a wide variety of gifts, skills and ability to be involved within the general day-to-day working of the congregation. We are looking to move forward in this area and provide support to those who are on our serving rosters. Providing extra teaching, tapping on the shoulder those with skills and encouraging a greater serving attitude where people are able. We would appreciate encouragement and accountability in this area.

**External Profile:**

Our facilities make for great connection points for people outside the church. God is leading us to develop ways of building connections, creating visibility through outreach, and to make NRUC visible to the local and wider community and beyond. Our future priority in this space is to evolve our current various methods of communication to better serve these communities and increase our online presence.

**B3 Does this placement relate to more than one congregation?**

Yes

No

If so, provide details on page 9.

**B4 What ethnic and language groups are represented in the congregation? What proportion of the congregation does each represent?**

English speaking, predominately Anglo ethnicity.

**B5 What languages are spoken in the life of your:**

Congregation, by		Community, by	
Individuals	English	Individuals	English
Groups	English	Groups	English

**B6 What languages are spoken by the congregation in worship?**

English

**B7 Describe any involvement your congregation has in covenanting activities.**

N/A

**B8 List any UCA Schools and/or agencies (Uniting VicTas, Uniting AgeWell) with which the congregation has an existing relationship.**

N/A



## C Mission

### C1 List three of your missional activities that your congregation does best?

- North Ringwood Care - emergency food support
- 31 Wonga Road - community house
- Missional fundraising – substantial funds raised at annual church garage sales are distributed to various organisations both locally and internationally such as UnitingWorld, Frontier Services, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Uniting, Medical and Dental Sailing Ministries (Vanuatu)

### C2 What are three missional activities your congregation would like to develop?

Expand our connection with families coming to worship at Messy Church and encourage their growth in the faith and participation in the broader church community.

Re-grow the Youth Ministry to support the children coming to our church as they grow and bring their friends.

Increase our support activities for our disabled and aged congregation within their homes and aged care.

### C3 How has the congregation changed in the past two years?

Messy Church has brought more young families to our Sunday Morning service.

Restructuring of the children and youth programs is underway as our previous Youth Worker was ordained and moved into parish ministry elsewhere and our Children/Families Worker's retired.

Appointment of Pastor - Youth Worker in December 2024.

### C4 What changes and developments are anticipated in the next three to five years?

No specific changes are anticipated; however, children and youth are our future, the continual growth and development of these ministries is needed within the next three to five years to ensure the continuation of our congregation.

We have an ageing portion of the congregation, many of whom also have volunteer posts which will need to be filled in the future. We need to continue our succession planning, growing the congregation's skills and commitment to continue our community in the years to come. Within our current programs the number of volunteers outstrips the number available. We need to balance our people and our program commitments.

We are also conscious of people who may have drifted from the community or faith and we seek to reconnect.

## D The Community

### D1 Describe the wider community in which your ministry is located.

- Housing: Ringwood is an older area, with areas of high density, and a wide range of socio-economic situations. North Ringwood is relatively newer (approx 50 years), with mainly stand-alone homes on suburban blocks which is similar to Warranwood and Croydon Hills, the suburbs to our east. Further north we head into Park Orchards where there are larger houses on acre blocks and Warrandyte with bush blocks, and beyond that are multi-acre properties. The area is attracting younger families as older members move on, but housing prices are influencing those who can afford to move into the area.
- Religion: Generally, the community is best described as apathetic about church rather than antagonistic, the major private schools in the area are mostly of Christian heritage, and many families send their children to them without any further involvement in church. Similarly, our playgroup is very popular, with a waiting list, yet many of the families are not involved in any other church activities.
- Politics: The area has been historically a Liberal party seat, however, the last two Federal elections have been remarkably close, and at the federal election in May 2025 the seat of Deakin changed to Labor with an moderate swing. The State seat of Warrandyte didn't feature a Labor candidate, and while a Greens candidate ran strongly, the seat remains in Liberal hands.

### D2 What makes this an enjoyable place to live?

- The overall feel is of treed green spaces, rolling hills, and relaxed living.
- It is close to all services: hospitals, medical facilities, many good schools, kindergartens, childcare, not too far from the city, yet close to the Yarra River, Mount Dandenong, and the Yarra Valley.
- The community is mobile: buses are readily accessible to Ringwood station and shopping centres. Cars are still the major form of transport in the area, with Eastlink connecting to the Eastern Freeway making access to the city and bayside easily achievable. However, there are also many bike and walking tracks in the area allowing access to many lovely creeks and parks.
- There is a vibrant restaurant and café culture both in North Ringwood and Ringwood and surrounding areas, giving a wide choice of casual coffee meeting places and dining experiences.
- We are serviced well by many sporting clubs for both children and adults across a wide range of sports.

### D3 What are the points of stress and pain in the wider community?

- Cost of living increases
- Family/relational breakdown
- School truancy
- Mental health

### D4 How closely does your congregation reflect the demographics of your local area?

We are a congregation of mostly European descent. We are a reasonably accurate reflection of the wider community of North Ringwood. The 2021 census showed that 80% of residents in the City of Maroondah spoke only English at home. There had been a slight increase in the number of people born overseas since the previous census but the increase is lower than the Victorian state average.

### D5 What community facilities are present in the local area?

Schools: Primary, Secondary, Kindergarten and Child Care.  
Hospital and Medical Facilities  
Council Services; Maternal and Child Health Centres, Library  
Retail: Local Shops (North Ringwood) and Shopping Centre (Eastland)  
Emergency Services  
Recreation: Sports (Football Clubs etc ) and Activities (Scouts etc).