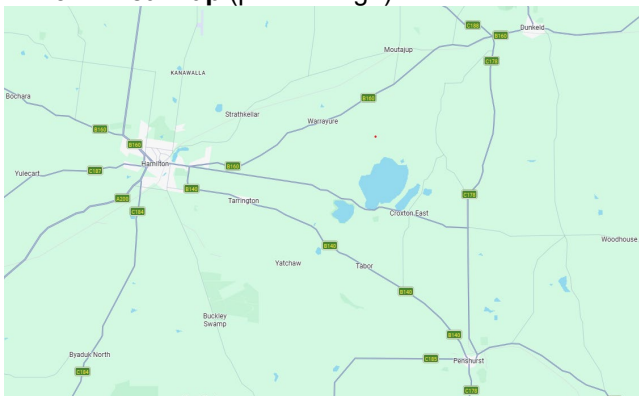




## A Placement Profile

<b>A1 Presbytery</b>	Western Victoria Presbytery		
<b>A2 Name of Placement</b>	Hamilton – Grange Cluster		
<b>A3 Placement city/suburb/town</b>	Hamilton Congregation		
<b>A4 Church/Office location(s)</b>	113 Lonsdale st Hamilton Vic 3300		
<b>A5 Congregations and agencies associated with this placement</b>	Hamilton, Dunkeld & Penshurst.		
<b>A6 Ministry leadership being sought</b>	Specific ministry role:	<input type="text"/>	
	Minister of the Word	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ordinand <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deacon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pastor <input checked="" 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" value="100%"/>
	Earliest Start Date:	Immediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OR <a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>
<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 Error! Bookmark not defined.:</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>	Unitingchurchhamilton.com.au		
<b>A11 Social Media</b>	Facebook Hamilton uniting church live-streaming		
<b>A12 Google map link</b>	https://www.google.com/maps/place/Hamilton+VIC+3300/@-37.7446348,141.9972319,14.75z/data=!4m15!1m8!3m7!1s0x6acce17acd0e29c1:0x40579a430a0c5f0!2sHamilton+VIC+3300!3b1!8m2!3d-37.7420251!4d142.0216734!16zL20vMDQ1dHJw!3m5!1s0x6acce17acd0e29c1:0x40579a430a0c5f0!8m2!3d-37.7420251!4d142.0216734!16zL20vMDQ1dHJw?entry=tту&g_ep=EgoyMDI2MDQyNy4wIKXMDSOASAFQAw%3D%3D		

**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.**

**Hamilton** Congregation is the largest in the Henty Region. Weekly services are at 9.30 am allowing the Minister to conduct a second service in outlying areas, this occurs approximately 3 times per month.

The Hamilton Service is live streamed to a broader community.

Congregation and community members are involved in a food distribution program, a Tuesday meal program, managing a pre loved furniture and bric a brac op shop (The Argyle), the Hamilton Men's Shed, a Mother Goose Pre School program and supporting the connection with The Hamilton and Alexandra College (an ELC – Year 12 boarding School).

The UC alternate with other denominations providing worship and communion services to the three nursing homes in Hamilton.

The funeral ministry is an important part of the life of the congregation, often this is an outreach to community families not directly involved in regular church life.

**Dunkeld** – a small ecumenical group meet in the Community Centre on the second Sunday of the month at 5 PM, members usually share in a Café meal following the gathering. Sunday services are on the 1st and 3rd Sundays worshipping in the Stirling Centre (The Dunkeld community centre). This worship community is not dependant on the Minister being present.

**Penshurst** – a small congregation, meets fortnightly with some Hamilton folk joining in. Supports aged care worship in Kolor Lodge/Penshurst Aged Care Facility.

### **Henty Region**

The Presbytery of Western Victoria is divided into 6 regions. Henty, Corangamite Otway, Moyne-Warrnambool, Gariwerd/Grampians, Wimmera and North East.

The Grange Cluster is one of three clusters that make up the Henty Region. They sit alongside the Surrey Cluster (Portland, Macarthur and Bolwarra) and the Glenelg Cluster (Casterton, Coleraine/Digby and Nareen)

The Henty region currently has a Henty Region Council that meets quarterly. There is no minister currently in Placement in the Surrey Cluster and the Glenelg Cluster is served by a .5eft Pastor in Placement – Mrs Elaine Edwards. It is expected that ministers in Placement in the Henty Region will cooperate for the benefit of the Region. Currently there is no expectation on how they might work as a team, but this may change with the Presbytery led move towards one Church Council for the whole Henty region.

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

Our next priority is the proposed amalgamation of the Church councils to one governing Council replacing the existing Henty Region Council

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

**If so, provide details on page** Error! Bookmark not defined..

Yes

No

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

Senior members form the basis of the congregations. Hamilton's population is not ethnically diverse, although greater diversity has occurred in the last five years mainly working in retail, education, health care and local government. There are some Sri Lankan, Indian and Chinese people in Hamilton. Although not actively involved in the worship life of the congregation, some are involved in Church activities.



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

<b>Congregation, by</b>	English	<b>Community, by</b>	English
Individuals		Individuals	
Groups		Groups	

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

English

**B7 Describe any involvement your congregation has in covenanting with first nations people.**

We always start our services with an acknowledgement of country and do invite first nations people to speak to both church council meetings and church services at certain times

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

Hamilton & Alexandra College who hold their school dedication services in the Hamilton Uniting Church and also invite the minister to speak at their school assemblies

## C Mission

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

Community Food Distribution Program  
Tuesday Community Meals  
Argyle Second hand shop

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

- To work with the Minister in actively spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed in all the Church's activities.
- To continue to actively participate in current programs and outreach activities.
- To strengthen and encourage the lay leadership and build up others to develop new skills.
- To encourage community members outside of the congregation to be involved in outreach activities.
- To work ecumenically, especially in the smaller rural congregations.

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

Whilst ageing, the Hamilton Congregation remains very committed and as detailed above is very involved in the community. The challenge is to encourage more community members to volunteer in this important work. Many of the Outreach programs involve people from other denominations and many non – church folk as volunteers.

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

Our major change that is in discussion at this stage is the proposed amalgamation of our church councils to become one district council.

## D The Community

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

Hamilton is a rural city, with a population of approx.. 10,000. Major educational facilities from pre – school to Tertiary. Excellent medical clinics and hospital, dentists. Strong sporting participation and facilities across a range of sports. Cultural centre with strong music focus, annual Eisteddfod, highly renowned Art galleries, cinema, library and Performing Arts Centre. Sheepvention is an annual August event based on sheep/wool and agricultural pursuits, attracting visitors from across South Eastern Australia.

Cavendish, Peshurst and Dunkeld – all small rural towns servicing a farming population and more recently popular with tourists.


Peshurst has a Volcanic Discovery Centre and Dunkeld is the last stop on the 160 kilometre Grampians Peaks Trail. Dunkeld has a volunteer run Visitor Information Centre and famous Royal Mail Hotel.

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

Great lifestyle, picturesque landscapes, the mountains and the central location from the coast to the Grampians and the South Australian border. Great facilities from recreation to the arts.

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

- Sheepvention is a major Western District initiative which is Hamilton based but involves a wider district.
- Sunday Services are live streamed, attracting 50 – 60 viewers per week from all over Australia.
- To continue to foster the link with The Hamilton and Alexandra College community as follows: the possibility of youth ministry could be discussed with the Principal, Dr Michael Horne. Easter/Christmas Services are shared with the Presbyterian Minister for historic and church capacity reasons, Hamilton UCA minister's involvement with the Hamilton College Official Functions – Speech Day, ANZAC Service,



Scholar's Assembly, Beginning of the Academic Year Service for Staff, Year 12 Leaver's Service etc; Occasional other events by invitation and assistance/support in times of Crisis.

- The opportunity to share the gospel with the community groups we have links with.
  - Work with counselling in emergencies – VCCEM, CFA and Red Cross Emergency Services, for example in fires, floods etc
  - Most would cite gambling, drinking and drug problems, in particular ICE as causes of stress in the wider community.
  - The exodus of young people to Melbourne and larger Regional cities for further education or employment is concerning as they rarely return. A few do return to raise their children.
  - Decline in younger people willing to take on responsible positions in sporting clubs, service groups, community groups as current office bearers and leaders age and need to be replaced.
- Housing availability & the cost of living

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

Although many of our congregation are older we also have programs for the young and the young at heart.

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

- Hamilton - 6 Pre Schools, 7 primary schools, 4 secondary schools – 3 of which offer boarding students from Rural Areas, SE South Australia, Asia as well as indigenous students from NT and WA.
  - District – there are Child Care, Pre school and Primary School facilities in the outlying towns of Peshurst, Dunkeld, Cavendish and Tarrington.
    - Secondary schools are Monivae College (Catholic), Good Shepherd College (Lutheran), The Hamilton and Alexandra College (UCA) and Baimbridge College is the state secondary school.
  - Children and adults with special needs are well catered for with a Special Development School (Parklands School), Mulleraterong – day services, Southern Stay Residential Care and Nigretta Supported Employment Workshop
  - SW TAFE have a campus in Hamilton. RIST (Rural Industry Skills Training) also operates in Hamilton. Hamilton District Skills Centre offering secondary students in training in Hospitality, carpentry and automotive..
- Hamilton also has a vibrant arts community, a performing arts centre, art gallery & cinema.
- There is also a large number of sports facilities, indoor heated pool and an Olympic outdoor pool, a basketball stadium and many gym establishments.
  - The Hamilton base hospital has a good range of medical facilities with specialists both local and visiting. There are two medical centres.