



A Placement Profile

A1 Presbytery	Presbytery of Port Philip East		
A2 Name of Placement	High Street Uniting Church Frankston		
A3 Placement city/suburb/town	Frankston		
A4 Church/Office location(s)	16-18 High Street, Frankston		
A5 Congregations and agencies associated with this placement	Frankston congregation		
A6 Ministry leadership being sought	Specific ministry role: Minister of the Word ☒ Ordinand ☐ Deacon ☐ Pastor ☐		
A7 Specific details	Additional placement ☐ Replacement placement ☐ Full Time ☒ Part Time ☐ Time fraction 100% Earliest Start Date: Immediate ☐ OR December 2026		
A8 Placement term	Undefined ☒ Up to 10 years (see Reg 2.7.3(a)) Fixed Term ☐ Required for non-congregational placements (see Reg 2.7.3(b)): Years		
A9 To be completed by Presbytery, with reasons given on page :	Is permission sought to advertise? Yes ☐ No ☐ Is a Priority Placement recommended? Yes ☐ No ☐		
A10 Website			
A11 Social Media			
A12 Google map link			
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.

As a congregation, we are deeply caring, worship-strong, justice-active, striving to become an intergenerational church.

We identify as a vibrant and active congregation, who welcome all with compassion, and acceptance - an inclusive and welcoming Christian community.

The Church Health Check noted our congregational top strengths as:

1. Belonging & pastoral care - People feel they belong and are cared for - high level of care, connection and support.
2. Worship life - We have now joined into one combined service, including a mix of different styles, where creativity and variety is encouraged.
3. Community service and justice - We have a strong commitment to disadvantaged people, through involvement with Breakfast Club, Wednesday BBQ, Voices of Frankston, Operation Larder. We welcome AA and other service groups to regularly use our building spaces.

Our main areas of weakness requiring urgent attention are:

1. Lack of children/youth/young families. This issue of the lack of young people and families is one that the congregation is very keen and willing to directly address.
2. Ageing and declining numbers. Our congregation is ageing and there are less people physically able to take on certain tasks, and this limits our activities and outreach.

What is exciting/challenging/attractive?

- We are passionate about social justice and are directly involved into serving the marginalised.
- We have demonstrated that we are able and willing to change. This year our two worshipping groups have merged into one combined worship service, with a mix of the old and new styles.
- We acknowledge that we are on a journey, and that we have experienced an unsteady period in relation to leadership of late. **After a strong and stable time of leadership the congregation has had 2 Ministers of the Word over a period of 10 years, one of whom was called to the role of Moderator after 4.5 years.** Despite the ageing of the congregation there is still the enthusiasm and energy to transition into being an effective and active intergenerational church.
- Youth Engagement Lead Grant - We have some Synod grant money which could be used to assist with these goals, after two unsuccessful attempts to employ a suitable person in 2025.
- Frankston is a wonderful place to live, the gateway to the Mornington Peninsula, and with a wide range of services and facilities and a community eager to move forward.

Our current Minister is retiring at the end of 2026. For our new Minister, we are looking for a proactive minister who will take initiative and be able to explore new possibilities and opportunities, along with our key leaders. Pastoral Care is seen as a very high priority. We also seek someone who is willing to engage in personal professional development who can exercise and provide effective leadership across the many dimensions of the congregation and oversee the operations of the Church Office as team leader.



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

- Becoming more attractive to young families, leading the aim of becoming an Intergenerational church
- Continue to be actively involved in outreach, including supporting those on the margins
- Continue to evolve responsive and innovative worship styles (responsive to the needs of all members of the congregation and embracing different worship styles),
- Leadership in exploring the establishment of small groups to enhance members belonging and formation in discipleship.
- Ensuring that pastoral care is actively led, enacted and exercised

B3 Does this placement relate to more than one congregation?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, provide details on page .

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

There are several members from Sri Lanka, South Korea, Samoa, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya, and the Philippines, however the congregation is primarily of white Euro-centric background. A Chinese-speaking congregation regularly uses our buildings for their worship on Sunday afternoons.

B5 What languages are spoken in the life of your:

Congregation, by		Community, by	
Individuals	Sinhala, Korean, Afrikaans, Samoan, Swahili, Filipino, Indonesian.	Individuals	Frankston is a diverse area where over 83% of residents speak only English at home. The largest non-English-speaking communities primarily use Mandarin, Greek, Filipino/Tagalog, Italian, and Russian.
Groups	Predominantly English Mandarin (Chinese congregation)	Groups	Predominantly English

B6 What languages are spoken by the congregation in worship?

Principally English, although there is occasionally involvement of people in their own first languages in prayers.

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

The congregation is committed to the issues facing First Nations people, and regularly raise awareness of these in a dedicated service in January. There have been attempts to connect with the local indigenous organisation, but these have not developed effectively.

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

Cornish College. We actively supported its establishment and have previously enjoyed a strong relationship, through a previous minister being on the school board, and several members being employed there. This has dissipated somewhat over the past couple of years, however there are two congregational members who remain long term staff at Cornish, and an ongoing relationship with the school chaplain (a Uniting Church Minister) in relation to East Timor trips.



C Mission

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

We actively provide support for marginalised people in the community, through Operation Larder, the Brekky Club, the Wednesday BBQ, and Voices of Frankston, all of which use our buildings to operate from. Community Support Frankston (CSF), an agency of the local Council, also has a direct connection with our church.

We also support many local service and community groups, e.g. Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Al Anon, and Red Cross, by providing a low fee venue. Our suite of spaces are used extensively throughout the week and in the evenings.

The congregation also has exercised long term active support for a number of overseas development projects eg. East Timor: congregational members have been visiting and supporting people and projects in East Timor for several years.

There has also been active support for the work of the Banyan Tree/Tom Sutherland in India and a Maternal Health project also in India. Over a period of some 40 years, the congregation has been instrumental in actively supporting the annual Somers Camp for local youth, including the current Camp Mum, being an active church member.

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

Engage more proactively with young families, including our existing Playgroup.

Seek out opportunities to engage and connect with external groups which currently use our premises eg. Brekky Club.

Explore the active use of the Synod grant money to potentially employ a youth worker.

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

The Congregation has noticeably declined in numbers over the past two years, due to ageing and deaths, including the challenge of young families leaving the area.

We have enacted a significant change recently, moving to one “combined service” from two separate services (one a traditional service, and one a more contemporary service). This is the outcome of discussions over 3 years, and a discussion paper circulated in May 2025, and appears to be widely supported by the congregation. This has been formally endorsed by Church Council and its implementation will commence from July 2026. Through this transition worship has continued to be vibrant and positive.

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

As we continue to connect with the wider community, we are exploring new ways of supporting those on the margins of society.

Closer connection and liaison with other groups such as Community Support Frankston/Council to identify gaps and ascertain where assistance is most needed.

Continuing to liaise and collaborate with other local congregations/ churches.

D The Community

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

Frankston is a very socio-economically diverse and culturally-shifting community. It contains significant pockets of social disadvantage, which has underscored the congregation’s commitment to proactively care for and support those who are marginalised. At the same time, the area also has many affluent and sought-after residential zones, especially in Frankston South. The CBD area of Frankston has seen much revitalisation and renewal over recent years, as can be seen in the main shopping precinct and foreshore area. The local council has sought to be proactive in this current regeneration. At the same time, the local council has also supported efforts by this congregation and others in the local area to assist those in need, including the homeless.

D2 What makes this an enjoyable place to live?

- Frankston's scenic beach and foreshore attracts many, with well-maintained facilities.
- Vibrant Arts and Cultural centre: Frankston Arts Centre
- Monash University and Chisholm TAFE
- Peninsula University Hospital /Peninsula Private Hospital/ extensive array of medical specialists
- Frankston High School and access to nearby independent schools
- Easy road access/ EastLink and Peninsula Link and public transport
- A hub providing access to a wide range of welfare services

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

Points of stress and ongoing difficulty in the wider community of Frankston emanate from an array of causes. The apparent discrepancy between the affluent 'haves' and impoverished/ marginalised 'have nots', exacerbated by the pockets of disadvantage so close to those who are comfortably off, lies at the heart of much distress. This is also seen in other elements:

- being at the end of a suburban train line intensifies the location of many at risk individuals.
- high rates of homelessness among those who live near the main shopping/ CBD area.
- significant rates of drug dependency
- significant instances of mental health difficulties
- significant instances of family violence and family breakdown
- many families and individuals experiencing significant financial pressures.

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

Not directly aligned. Although our connections with community activities have meant that some people with significant issues attend regularly.

D5 What community facilities are present in the local area?

As well as those previously noted, a relatively new and well-patronised local recreational facility is the Council-run PARC (Peninsula Aquatic Recreation Centre). A wide variety of sporting and special interest clubs operate, including several quality golf clubs in the local area. Major cinema complexes operate both in central Frankston, the Frankston Arts Centre attracts major arts organisations, including the MSO, and other events. At the other large shopping centre in Karingal, another large cinema complex operates. A community house network also operates.