



PLACEMENT PROFILE

SECTION 1 – BASIC INFORMATION

- 1.1 Placement Name(s): Grovedale Uniting Church
- 1.2 Please list congregations/agencies names below
- Grovedale Uniting Church
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- 1.3 Profile approved by Church Council/Governing Body 1 / 12 / 2019
- 1.4 Primary purpose of placement:
- To minister God's Word and lead worship
- To assist congregation to grow in our faith and share it with others
- To Provide Pastoral Care Support to an Ageing Congregation.
- To reach out and assist with developing innovative contemporary ministries to younger persons.
- 1.5 Suitable for (bold all that apply): Minister of the Word / Deacon / Ordinand/ Pastor
- 1.6 Time fraction: _____ 100 _____ %
- 1.7 Term:
- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Undefined up to 10 years (See Reg 2.7.3(a)) | <u>Yes</u> |
| Fixed Term: | _____ Years |
| Initial Term reviewed in: | _____ Years |

This profile should be prepared by the Congregation(s)/ agency in consultation with Presbytery. It is specifically designed to assist in the placement process but it can also be used as a record of mission planning.

Contents

Section 1: Basic Information

Section 2: Mission Direction

Section 3: Context

Section 4: People and Activities – to be completed by each congregation in the placement.

Section 5: Joint Congregations – to be completed if more than one congregation in the placement.

Section 6: Working Relationships

Section 7: New Minister – this section contains a list of mission and pastoral activities which are also listed on Minister's Personal profiles

Section 9: Presbytery – to be completed by Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee.

Section 10: Terms of Placement

ENCLOSURES

Please mark all the documents attached to the profile:

- Floor plan of residence
- Financial information including a copy of last year's Financial Statement and financial projections
- Position descriptions of relevant ministers
- Others

SECTION 2 – MISSION DIRECTION

2.1 What is the Vision statement and or Mission priorities of the placement (or of the individual congregations)

To know Christ and make Him known.

To worship God and grow through fellowship and discipleship, each member in loving ministry and transforming outreach.

2.2 Date adopted 03/11/2019

2.3 Provide a short description of the placement/congregation

Grovedale Uniting Church is a warm, friendly, welcoming, caring community who enjoys Sunday worship and singing and is committed to active volunteerism through bringing members to church functions. The Church runs an Op shop and Bookshop, supports Uniting Barwon, provides the ministries of Mainly Music and Messy Church. The Church is generous in giving to numerous charities and is committed to providing a suite of buildings that are able to accommodate people with disabilities.

2.4 How has the placement/congregation changed over the last 5 years?

Membership has changed with some who have passed away and some new people who have joined the life of the church.

Beginning of Messy Church in co-operation with Armstrong Creek Fresh Expression Uniting Barwon moved from South Geelong to be onsite in 2015.

2.5 What are the congregation's goals?

- To continue to support and grow the already existing ministries
- To employ a Children & Families Co-ordinator 16hrs pw
- To develop strong pastoral care and healing ministry teams
- To continue to liaise with Uniting Barwon in providing assistance and outreach to the disadvantaged community.
- Explore bringing existing groups of Messy Church, Mainly Music, Joy Club and Sunday morning congregation together.
- To explore ways of reaching out to the community with God's love and His Word.

2.6 What are the next Strategic Steps to achieving those goals?

- Spend time in prayer, praise and worship seeking God.
- Build strong teams and equip them to support ministries both within and outside the church.
- Revise and develop Media promotion of ministry activities through a website and information pamphlet, sharing positives of our activities.
- Review how pastoral care is provided, decide on what model or models to adopt, provide training and implement the plan.
- Invite representatives from the groups (Messay Church, Mainly Music, Joy Club and Sunday morning congregation) to a workshop to plan a gathering, if one is desired.

SECTION 3 – CONTEXT

3.1 Describe the communities in which this placement is located (Mission context).

Grovedale is a popular location for a mix of age groups particularly for 20-40 and 60 plus. There are young families with school age children and many retirees as well. Affordable houses are, in general, well kept making it a pleasant area to live. Housing varies from fully owned to rental properties and student accommodation. Over the past couple of years there has been a significant growth corridor with several new suburbs being established bringing many young families as well as second and third home owners. Unemployment is slightly better than the national percentage. Aged care is well catered for in the area with about nine facilities available.

3.2 How does your congregation reflect or vary from the age, and ethnic mix of your local community?

The community is predominantly Anglo-Saxon with 95% speaking English and several other nationalities living harmoniously together. Our Sunday congregation, apart from one family with two young children, is mainly in the 65 plus age bracket. In fact there are several in their 90's, one 100 and another 104! There are many younger families who attend our Mainly Music program and monthly Messy Church, totalling around 40-50 participants.

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

Our church is situated on a main arterial road leading to the coastal areas and visible to residential communities and local businesses. The stressors of high rent, first home buyers mortgage and loss of employment are reflected in the number of people seeking help from Uniting Barwon who share our buildings. Our Opportunity Shop and Book Shop are a source of outreach to the community providing cheap clothing and goods as well as a listening ear. University students are low income earners and are a transient population.

3.4 List ways in which you connect with, serve, or partner with people in your wider community?

- Liaise with Uniting Barwon who provide welfare in a variety of ways for those in crisis
- Members network with the local retirement villages and assisted living institutions. Provide pastoral care visits to several aged care facilities especially to those where some of our congregation are now living. We have a singing group who visit and perform for the residents on a regular basis.
- Our Craft Group has been operating for many years and provides outreach to the community.
- The Joy Club is a group where people come together to play, sing and enjoy companionship. Some participants are from the wider community.
- Networking with other community organisations eg RSL, Gideons
- Noticeboard facing the highway and letterbox drops to advertise events
- Provide facilities for the use of various community groups eg Probus Opportunity and Book Shops connecting with the community and outreach.

3.5 What schools/agencies/institutions are in your local communities?

8 Primary Schools, 4 Secondary Colleges, 1 University, Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre, 4 Retirement villages (another in progress), 9 Aged Care Facilities, 3 Supported Living Facilities.

A large shopping complex, another under construction, several smaller shopping strips

Leisurelink Gym & Swimming complex, Health related gyms, sporting grounds and facilities, several medical centres

Two fire brigades, Police Station. Op Shops

Lutheran Church, Baptist Church, Catholic Church and several others

Hospitals – Epworth Private Hospital (local), University Hospital & St John of God (central Geelong), McKellar Rehabilitation Centre (North Geelong)