



PLACEMENT PROFILE

SECTION 1 – BASIC INFORMATION

- 1.1 Placement Name(s): Toorak Uniting Church
- 1.2 Please list congregations/agencies names below
- Toorak Uniting Church
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- 1.3 Profile approved by Church Council/Governing Body / /
- 1.4 Primary purpose of placement: **To replace retiring minister.**
- 1.5 Suitable for: **Minister of the Word**
- 1.6 Time fraction: **100%**
- 1.7 Term:
- Undefined up to 10 years (See Reg 2.7.3(a)) _____
- Fixed Term: _____
- Initial Term reviewed in: 5 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)

Our vision: We welcome and accept people of all races, religions, political views, gender, marital status, sexual orientation and ages. Wherever on their faith journey they may be, wherever they have come from, wherever they are going; whatever they believe or do not believe; TUC is a place where all are welcome.

Our mission: To care for all people. To build community in worship and care. To support people on their life journey. To share with others the teachings of Jesus with generosity and joy.

2.2 Date adopted 5 / 5 / 2021

2.3 Provide a short description of the placement/congregation(s)

TUC has one congregation, which is usually shared over two Sunday services (9am & 10.15am). After each morning service, attendees share fellowship over coffee. We share at least one Whole Church Community service per quarter, usually followed by BBQ or lunch together. We feel blessed that our number of congregants has remained steady in the past 10 years for both services despite lockdown in 2020. On an average Sunday there would be approximately 10-15 at the 9am service and approximately 50 at the 10.15am service.

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

TUC has become more progressive in theology. We now have a good balance of traditional and contemporary theology. In 2020 we began livestreaming. Post-lockdown there is still a proportion of our congregation who attend this way. Our offerings have moved increasingly to direct credit. Our congregation has become increasingly involved in raising funds for our Outreach Projects. We used to have an intern minister, however have not since 2017. The 9am service used to have 15-20 congregants on average each week, but the lower numbers have not really recovered post-covid lockdowns.

2.5 What are the congregation(s)/placement's goals?

- a) To walk with others and encourage them in their spiritual growth.
- b) To provide challenging, spiritually moving and enriching worship.
- c) To strengthen our support of Outreach programs.
- d) To strengthen our commitment to and awareness of the Toorak Ecumenical Movement and activities of the broader Christian community
- e) To continue to be a centre for community in our region.
- f) To continue to support and build up the Ministry of Music.

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

- a) Encouraging follow-up discussion after worship. To provide challenging, spiritually moving and enriching worship.
- b) Actively support placement in worship planning and delivery.
- c) Continue to support current projects (Kinross, Christmas Bowl, Food For Friends, Toorak Op Shop, SOSK (Skills opportunity and survival in Kenya), Cranbourne Food Truck, Robinvale High School etc...) and strengthen our personal connection to these activities.
- d) Enhance and support the role of the Communications Team, who have oversight of the media that we use to connect with each other and the community, and the Annual Roach Lecture.
- e) Maintain an effective Church Office that can assist the community to access and use our campus.
- f) To support the Director of Music with funding and encouragement.

SECTION 3 - CONTEXT

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

Toorak and adjacent suburbs. [In the 2016 Census, there were 12,909 people in Toorak (State Suburbs). Of these 46.0% were male and 54.0% were female. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 0.3% of the population. The median age of people in Toorak (State Suburbs) was 45 years.]

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

Matches fairly well with the local community. Of the more than 80 church members who responded to our survey, 37% were male, 61% were female and 2% preferred not to say. 46% of our parishioners are aged between 71-85 years old and 28% are aged 56-70 years old.

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

Loneliness and isolation. Aged community. Fear about future – worries about climate change, population policies, financial security etc.

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

Kinross Arts Centre is an active outreach providing a community arts and spirituality space. Part of Kinross is the Manse café, which encourages residents of Toorak to gather together on our grounds. Alan Watson Dance Class has been run by TUC staff and volunteers for around 50 years, giving teens a chance to come together in a safe space to learn ballroom dancing. John Macrae Centre was started by our church and provides day care for frail elderly. JMC is now wholly administered by *Uniting* but our historic ties remain strong and we provide the building to JMC free of charge (net). John Mackenzie Kindergarten was also started by church volunteers but is now an incorporated entity. The church continues to support JMK through access to generous facilities on a subsidised basis. Yoga groups, Bridge groups, Ikebana, Over 50s exercise group, Ceramic Glass Circle and others are community groups which hire our facilities at reduced cost on a regular basis. Many other casual users also hire our function rooms on an ad hoc basis.

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

St Catherine's School, Scotch College, St Kevin's, MGS, MGGS, Lauriston, Loreto, Toorak Primary School. Initiatives of Change. Prahran Mission.