



SECTION 1 – BASIC INFORMATION

1.1 Placement Name(s): Montrose Uniting Church

1.2 Please list congregations/agencies names below

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

1.3 Profile approved by Church Council/Governing Body 15 / 03 / 2022

1.4 Primary purpose of placement:

- To be spiritually fed and encouraged to enable each of us to serve our church and others in the community
- Provide leadership and support for the congregation to carry out tasks and activities
- To provide challenging, engaging and stimulating sermons
- Encourage continuing interaction and form constructive partnerships with like-minded community groups,

1.5 Suitable for (bold all that apply): Minister of the Word / Deacon / **Ordinand**/ Pastor

1.6 Time fraction: 0.5 %

1.7 Term:

Undefined up to 10 years (See Reg 2.7.3(a)) flexible
Fixed Term: 3-5 Years(ordinand)
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.

Please Note: Sections 1, 2 & 3 of this profile will be uploaded to the [VicTas](#) website.

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)

Discerning the will of God to worship faithfully and innovatively, provide hospitality to all-comers, diligence in pastoral care, responsiveness to those in need, and engaged with the local community.

2.2 Date adopted 10 /09 /2021

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

Montrose UC is a caring congregation who value their friendships. They enjoy having their faith challenged and deepened during their worship. Many long term members of the congregation have a commitment to inclusion, supporting people in their journey with God and exploration of their faith and spirituality.

Montrose has an open and inclusive approach to theology and accepts a range of perspectives, the congregation has been valued for its inclusive nature and openness to people who have felt rejected in other places

Although we are an "older" community we have an adventurous attitude towards theology. We like to think of ourselves as young at heart, open to challenge and inclusive of all!

2.4 What Church Style best describes the congregation(s)? (See [Church Style Document](#))

FAMILY CHURCH

- Members of the congregation know and support one another
- Minister is a coach
- Many members of the congregation take on key roles

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

The last 2 years during COVID have been challenging for our congregation as we have not been able to meet face to face and we did not have the technical capacity to all meet via zoom. The pastoral care team has done a great job of keeping in touch with people via telephone.

We shared a minister with Lilydale Uniting church and they also utilised our church premises for services while their church was undergoing renovations however this partnership will not be continuing. (at their request) Our congregation is ageing and we do not have many new members.

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

Creating a community that nurtures our individual and collective spiritual development and faith journey.

To be able to respond to social justice needs arising in our local, national and global communities.

A congregation whose faith is engaged, educated and stimulated and feels confident to participate in a variety of lay preaching roles.

MUC to be a visible and active presence in our Montrose/Yarra Ranges community.

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

Minister to provide guidance, encouragement and support with these activities

Provide small group sessions to up-skill congregation for lay preaching-

- Mindfulness
- Public speaking / microphone skills
- Modelling variety of structures for prayer
- Helping congregation with access to resources

Trialling of different service styles / structures / settings and new mission initiatives

Being responsive to local issues in the community as they arise.

Finding ways to reconnect with the community after the challenge of COVID isolation

E.g. Car boot sale
Community BBQ
Letter box drops
Healing services

Ongoing education of issues to stimulate, educate and challenge an active faith.

SECTION 3 - CONTEXT

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

Diverse socio-economic community

Mainly people of Anglo Saxon descent

Various tradespeople, professionals and others

A high rate of people stating 'no religion' (50% more than national average)

Retirees (variety of aged care facilities). Families (Primary, secondary and tertiary)

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

Congregation is older than general population but otherwise reflects local community.

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

Church property is in a prominent position and easily seen and accessed by local community

There is significant unseen homelessness in the outer east

Property prices are rising and many people are unable to afford a home.

The community is still struggling to adjust to the impacts of COVID

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

- Church car boot sale – held 4 times per year prior to COVID
- Mentoring at local Billanook primary school
- Support of Helping Hand – volunteers and provision of food and toiletries
- Communion services at Mercy Tullamore Nursing Home
- World Day of Prayer – ecumenical event
- Indigenous Hospitality House
- Uniting – use of church cottage for emergency housing
- Stable One - winter challenge – donations and volunteering

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

- Billanook Primary School
- Billanook College
- Montrose Primary school
- Mercy Care
- Kirkbrae retirement Village
- Mycare