



## SECTION 2 – MISSION DIRECTION

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

**Pascoe Vale - Vision Statement:** Our vision is to be a welcoming, growing and equipping community of faith, centred on Jesus Christ, and guided by the Holy Spirit.

**Pascoe Vale - Mission Statement:** We are called to follow the way of Jesus, to celebrate God in worship and service, to proclaim the Good News and to grow disciples.

**Glenroy – Vision Statement:** The vision of the Glenroy Congregation is to continue to be a vibrant worshipping and witnessing presence in the Glenroy community, and a welcoming church where strangers, including those of other nationalities, and children, whether met in the community or at our door, are welcomed into the fellowship, and assisted with their needs.

**Glenroy – Mission Statement:** The mission of the Glenroy congregation is to live out our faith as our congregation and as individuals. We do this by being nourished by the Word through meaningful worship, upholding one another in prayer, supporting the work of Church Agencies, ministering to each other through fellowship and witnessing to our community as a personal response to our faith.

2.2           **Date adopted**                   **24 / 09 / 2019 (Pascoe Vale)**

**Date adopted**                   **2013 (Glenroy)**

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

Pascoe Vale and Glenroy are welcoming and hospitable congregations, comprised mostly of retirees of Anglo Celtic origin. The number of congregation members is decreasing as members transition to retirement homes, elsewhere, or pass away. Regardless, both congregations remain committed to internal activities and outreach activities in their areas.

Pascoe Vale is the recent (2019) amalgamation of two congregations (formerly Pascoe Vale Kent Road and Pascoe Vale South) and currently maintains two properties.

Glenroy is centrally located, next door to a transportation hub; and is committed to partnering with the Nepalese Women's Association, Didi Bahini Samaj Victoria (DBSV).

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

Both congregations identify most strongly with the Family Church Style: • Everybody knows everyone • Minister is a coach

However, both congregations are like a Pastoral Church: • Often people don't feel pastorally visited unless it's by the minister

With regards to how the church is run, at **Glenroy** almost every member of the congregation has a role; and at **Pascoe Vale**, a small number of people run the church.

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

Over the past 5 years, both congregations have seen a decline in membership, which has had some impact on program/activity capabilities. Christmas and Easter after school children's programs and the Biggest Morning Tea are no longer offered, for example.

In October 2019, Pascoe Vale (Kent Road) and Pascoe Vale South congregations amalgamated into Pascoe Vale congregation.

The relationship and cooperation between Pascoe Vale and Glenroy have strengthened over the years; Pascoe Vale and Glenroy congregations hold services together 3 times a month and rotate holding services at each other's locations.

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

#### Shared goals

1. Support the spiritual growth and pastoral care of the congregations.

2. Be a Christian witness in the community.
  3. Work together, Pascoe Vale and Glenroy, to:
    - a. explore opportunities for greater cooperation such as combining into one church council; and
    - b. rationalise property to meet both current and future missional needs.
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### 2.7 What are the next Strategic Steps to achieving those goals?

1. Support the spiritual growth and pastoral care of the congregations.
  - ➔ Training and support from the minister in leading studies and worship services.
  - ➔ Review pastoral care practices and plan sustainable future approaches.
2. Be a Christian witness in the community.
  - ➔ Maintain current ministries such as the Nepalese Women's Association, Didi Bahini Samaj Victoria (DBSV) and Boys and Girls Clubs.
  - ➔ Investigate establishing partnerships within the Uniting Church and the local community.
3. Pascoe Vale and Glenroy work together to:
  - a. explore opportunities for greater cooperation such as combining into one church council; and
  - ➔ Working group has been established to consider greater cooperation between the two congregations.
    - b. rationalise property to meet both current and future missional needs.
  - ➔ Awaiting Synod/Presbytery property overview reports to help consider which property/properties to retain.

## SECTION 3 - CONTEXT

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

**Glenroy and Pascoe Vale suburbs** were established post WWII. The area is close to Melbourne city, major hospitals, tertiary education institutions and the airport and has good public transport links. Today, many quarter acre block "family" homes are being replaced by townhouses and units which tend to bring in young working professionals and/or working families looking for low maintenance accommodation close to city amenities, and/or retirees looking to downsize.

**Pascoe Vale** – Pascoe Vale does not have a central hub and, apart from small shopping strips, etc; nearby Coburg and Glenroy provide the more significant community hub facilities.

**Glenroy** – Glenroy church is close to the railway station and Glenroy Community Hub. Glenroy is a very multicultural community - the largest non-Australian born community in Glenroy is the Nepalese community. Religious affiliations include Catholic 28%, Moslem 18% Uniting Church 1% No religion 27%.

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

Both congregations are at the older end of the spectrum and mainly Anglo Celtic, with a small mix of other nationalities.

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

**Pascoe Vale** – The points of stress and pain in the wider community, such as homelessness or cultural disharmony, are not obviously visible. The absence of any central community hub in the area could provide opportunities to use church facilities to grow our Christian presence in the community.

**Glenroy** – COVID 19 and lockdowns have been the main contributors to stress. There is some homelessness evident in the community. There are immigrant families with no support (English, jobs, etc) and potential mortgage stress.

Being close to the railway station and Glenroy Community Hub represent opportunities to facilitate any actions the congregation takes to address these stressors.

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

#### Pascoe Vale

- Weekly Boys and Girls Gymnastics Clubs
  - Monthly Worship & Communion service held at nearby nursing home
  - Monthly 'Golden Oldie' movie afternoons
  - Twice yearly Sunday Afternoon Hymn Sing-alongs
  - Annual Christmas Carols Service and BBQ
  - We share (rent) our churches to three (3) other/independent Christian worshipping groups – these arrangements include occasional interactive worship activities
  - We also share (rent) our facilities with other community providers (emotion 21 who provide a weekly service to the local Down syndrome community, and Heartbeat Epworth Northwest who provide emotional support to cardiac patients and their families in the area).
  - Our Kent Road church supports a music school (run by a church member) who participates in occasional church activities (such as Carols at Christmas)
  - We hire our facilities, for suitable activities, to the local community
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#### Glenroy

- the congregation partners with Nepalese Women's Association, Didi Bahini Samaj Victoria (DBSV).
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### 3.5 What schools/agencies/institutions are in your local communities?

#### Pascoe Vale

- *Schools*: Pascoe Vale North Primary, Westbreen (Pascoe Vale) Primary, Pascoe Vale Primary, Pascoe Vale Girls College, Pascoe Vale South Primary, Antonine College Pascoe Vale South.
  - *Aged Care Facilities*: Dorothy Impey Homes, Edith Bendall, Pascoe Vale Gardens
  - *Rehab Facilities*: Dorset
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#### Glenroy

- *Schools*: Glenroy Central School, Glenroy Secondary College (used to support chaplain at the school), Glenroy West Primary School, Corpus Christi Primary School, Francis de Sal Primary School, Belle Vue Primary School, Ilim College, Glenroy Private, Glenroy Specialist School, Penola Catholic College.
- *Community Centres*: Glenroy Community Hub (integrated health and lifelong learning centre), Glenroy Neighbourhood Learning Centre Inc.
- *Aged Care Facilities*: Colton Close, Federation Village, Plumpton Villa, Monterey