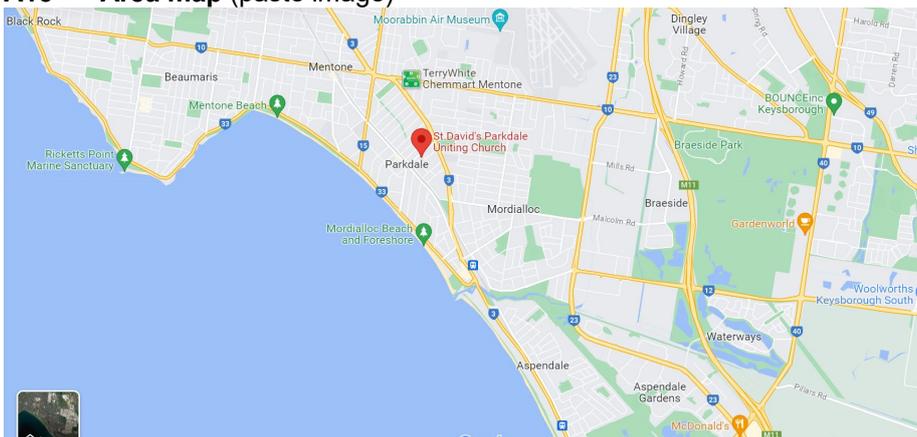




A Placement Profile

A1 Presbytery	Port Philip East Presbytery		
A2 Name of Placement	St. David's Parkdale		
A3 Placement city/suburb/town	Parkdale		
A4 Church/Office location(s)	128 Parkers Rd, Parkdale		
A5 Congregations and agencies associated with this placement	St. David's Parkdale Congregation		
A6 Ministry leadership being sought	Specific ministry role:	Minister	
	Minister of the Word <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deacon <input type="checkbox"/>	Ministry of Pastor <input type="checkbox"/>
A7 Specific details	Additional placement <input type="checkbox"/>	Replacement placement <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Full Time <input type="checkbox"/>	Part Time <input type="checkbox"/>	Time fraction negotiable
	Earliest Start Date:	1/10/2023	
A8 Placement term	Undefined <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Up to 10 years; initial fixed term of 5 years, subject to review by CC, Congregation and Presbytery (see Reg 2.7.3(a))	
	Fixed Term <input type="checkbox"/>	Required for non-congregational placements (see Reg 2.7.3(b))	Years <input type="text"/>
A9 To be completed by Presbytery, with reasons given on page :			
Is permission sought to advertise?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Is a Priority Placement recommended? A10	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Contact Person	<input type="text"/>		
A11 Email address	<input type="text"/>		
A12 Website	parkdaleuniting.com.au		
A13 Social Media	Facebook: St. David's Parkdale Uniting Church		
A14 Google map link	<input type="text"/>		

A15 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.



St. David's Parkdale is in an exciting time of regeneration, celebrating 100 years as a congregation in 2023.

Following the conclusion of our previous 10-year placement we are seeking a new minister to lead and work with us through a new season within the church.

This new season for our church community has eventuated as we have focussed during the past year on pastorally caring for members and providing a safe and caring place for them to attend, worship, and grow as disciples. Members are now inviting friends to be involved in our activities, and newcomers are attending, and choosing to stay. We see the new shoots of growth emerging in the community.

Mission

To be followers of Jesus Christ who seek to love God and serve others.

Vision

To be a vibrant church.

To share with people of all ages the good news of Jesus Christ.

To love and serve our local and global community.

Values

To be a Christ centred, Compassionate and Welcoming church.



We are seeking a minister who is brave in spirit, willing to explore new ways to reach our wider community, to enter uncharted waters and not be afraid to fail. We are seeking a minister who will walk beside our leadership team and assist St David's Parkdale to be a beacon of hope for our area. We are bold; we are hosting a monthly Dinner + event that brings people together to explore their faith journey over dinner; we came together with five churches for an Easter Dawn Service; we run an amazing Carols service; we opened our church for prayer during Holy Week; and this month we are collecting 'Food for Families'. We have an amazing worship centre and multipurpose facilities that are fully accessible and used by a range of community groups including Uniting Care, AA, Karate, and the Australian Electoral Commission.

Our membership has an enormous heart for supporting missions and those in need. It is warm and incredibly hospitable. In this new season we are actively in the process of examining how we interact with the wider community to address the needs of the community and would invite guidance in this area. Our congregation is a community of people with many and varied gifts, skills, abilities and talents. We would welcome a minister willing to work collaboratively with the leadership team, and with all groups within the church community to advance our mission opportunities.

Our Sunday morning worship is contemporary and intergenerational. Our congregation actively participates in the worship service with bible readings, prayers, technology and hospitality.

We seek to use modern technology and social media platforms, both in worship, and during the week, to communicate the activities of the church. We seek a minister with confidence and technological skills to utilise these platforms.

The congregation strives to be welcoming, with a strong value placed on pastoral care and hospitality during, after, and outside of worship. A key focus of our applicant would be in the areas of Pastoral Care and relationship building. Our leadership would like to work alongside our minister to inspire and provide confidence for members, empowering us all in the use of our gifts and abilities.

In summary, our congregation is seeking to creatively explore new ideas as we move into a new season. In that sense, we are seeking a minister open to exploring how we might engage with ourselves and the community in a modern world.

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

- Continuing with a strong ministry of Pastoral Care for all attendees, by seeking to be an inviting community that serves one another, creates a sense of belonging for all, and provides assistance where needed.
- Increasing the number of events/activities to attract and welcome new attendees, and create links between members.
- Creating greater links with Uniting and other groups that utilise our premises.
- Exploring social justice opportunities, beginning with our local community and what the Uniting Church is doing, and reaching further afield.
- Further researching our local community as to its needs in regards to facilities and services which we may be able to provide.
- Continually evaluating our Worship Service to ensure that it is meeting the needs of existing members and appealing to community members.
- Building up our Small Groups and assisting them to grow as disciples.
- Supporting our congregation as their lives and needs change, particularly addressing the increasing issues of loneliness and isolation.

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?

Predominantly Anglo-Saxon
Other groups include South African, Indian, Sri Lankan, Pacific Islander, Chinese (1-2 of each nationality)

B5 What languages are spoken in the life of your:

Congregation, by		Community, by	
Individuals	Afrikaans, Tamil, Mandarin	Individuals	Predominantly English
Groups	English	Groups	English

B6 What languages are spoken by the congregation in worship?

English

B7 Describe any involvement your congregation has in covenanting activities.

We regularly provide support for:

- UCA Mission & Services Fund
- Frontier Services
- Tearfund Australia
- Cancer Council Victoria
- Uniting Church Emergency Relief
- Uniting Food for Families

The funds are raised with Craft Stalls, Sausage Sizzles, Food Drives, Retiring Offerings



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

Uniting VicTas - Uniting Pathways 2 Employment Program is held in our buildings Monday to Friday during school terms.

Uniting Food for Families – we contributed to the program in December 2022 and July 2023.

G Mission

G1 List three of your missional activities that your congregations does best?

- Raising money for UCA and other For Purpose organisations, and food donations in response to the community in circumstances of increasing economic distress.
- Interaction with the community through the Craft Group.
- Organising functions such as lunches and dinners.

G2 What are three missional activities your congregation would like to develop?

This is an area in which we seek assistance from a minister, to :

- Expand links with the Uniting Pathways 2 Employment Program.
- Expand ways in which to open our church to community members during significant church festivals.
- Partner with existing or new community programs.



G3 How has the congregation changed in the past two years?

During the last decade we experienced a decline in our congregational numbers, in particular our Youth and Young Families. However, this has been turned around during the past twelve months and we have had an increase in attendance. New attendees consist of a mix of returning members from a few years ago and some new people from the local community.

Furthermore, two years ago, many members did not feel a connectedness to the church. The new leadership team has been intentional in creating an environment in which members feel valued and comfortable. This has encouraged new growth, a feeling of unity, and members 'fellowship' with one another comfortably. We are experiencing a renewed energy and excitement to be involved in the life of the church and its mission to reach out to our community.

G4 What changes and developments are anticipated in the next three to five years?

- We are looking to position the church, both structurally and worship style, in a position that will see the church grow numerically and spiritually and engage significantly in the community.
- We wish to continue to increase our members' commitment to God and His service.
- We want to develop ourselves to be a key place in the community, a place of welcome that is responding to the needs of the community.

J The Community

J1 Describe the wider community in which your ministry is located.

St David's Parkdale Uniting Church has been located in Parkdale for 100 years. Formerly we were a parish with two other churches in Mordialloc.

The church is located in the beach side suburb of Parkdale and most members live between Aspendale in the south and Mentone in the north. The Mordialloc-Parkdale area has a population of 21,000 people with 52.6% being female and 47.4% being male. The median age is 42 with the average number of children per family being 1.8. There were 110 people who identified as indigenous in the area. Mordialloc-Parkdale are on par with Victoria in the young age groups with a higher than average number of young people in 10-19 year age groups. The area is also higher than the state average in the 40 – 69 age groups.

In terms of marital status the area is similar to the Victorian average. Education status is also close to the state average, although the number of people with a Bachelor Degree or higher is higher than the state average. The area does not have at this time a wide array of other cultures and would not be classified as multi-cultural. The workforce would be best described as professional with a low number of machinery operators or labourers when compared to the state average.

J2 What makes this an enjoyable place to live?

- Beach
- A well-developed public transport system with train and bus services
- Café culture
- Mordialloc Strip Shopping Centre
- Playgrounds at the beach and throughout the suburbs
- Residents do not feel 'hemmed in' by development
- Bike Track
- A variety of Sporting fields
- Braeside Park

J3 What are the points of stress and pain in the wider community?

- Isolation and loneliness
- Increasing incidence of mental unwellness across the wider community.
- Increasing numbers of people suffering from dementia and other mental health issues living at home with their carers.
- Carer stress.
- Struggles with the higher cost of living, and a feeling of being 'time poor'.
- Concern about work opportunities and rising debt levels.
- Concern from Business Operators about the impact to custom and traffic management with the pending building, and arrival of Skyrail.

Our Strategic plan outlines our commitment to being a church that is caring, respectful, inclusive, having empathy for others and generously sharing our resources to support those in need. There is a renewed energy and sense of excitement as we allow ourselves to be open to all the possibilities and opportunities to bring the Strategic plan into practice in our local and wider community.

Against these stresses, the church sees the following as strengths to engage the community:

- Church council and leadership members are 'can do' people – able to strategise, seek improvements and facilitate change.
- We have fantastic facilities/ high profile facilities.
- We are increasing our profile within our community.
- We have a contemporary music/worship team.
- We have Uniting Care using our facilities.
- There are a number of local established agencies and services addressing community needs. We have begun to consider how we may partner together and contribute to existing services rather than develop new programs
- We have regular interest from new people attending worship services that direct us to new areas of care or service.
- We acknowledge the data informing us that being connected to a local community church is not a usual practice or priority for members of the wider community. This presents to our church community opportunities to explore new, contemporary, inclusive ways to be a welcoming, vibrant church in the local community.



J4 How closely does your congregation reflect the demographics of your local area?

We have an ageing congregation with many retired members, reflected in the community. These members value pastoral care. We have no members in the 10-19 year age group, and only 2 families, each with 3 young children. We have a growing number of newly retired or soon to be retired members. This is exciting as it will create a large volunteer base.

J5 What community facilities are present in the local area?

Library
Beach, Life Saving Clubs, Sailing Clubs, Football Clubs, Bowling Club, Tennis Club
Railway station very close
An education hub with government and private schools (6 Secondary and 8 Primary Schools)
Parkdale Oval
Shirley Burke Hall