



Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania
Presbytery of Yarra Yarra

Placement Profile
Presbytery Minister Congregations

Presbytery:	Yarra Yarra
Time Fraction:	Full-time
Term:	Up to ten years
Suitable for:	Lay or Ordained
Terms & Conditions	Refer to Terms of Placement
Approval Date:	Presbytery Standing Committee, 9 August 2023

Primary purpose of the placement:

The Presbytery of Yarra Yarra is supported by a team of Presbytery Ministers. The person appointed to the role will be a key member of the leadership team, providing support to the Presbytery, its leadership and committees, and to congregations to live out the Presbytery strategy of Looking, Learning, Leading and Loving.

The person appointed to this placement will have responsibility for working with congregations and faith communities as they identify and develop local and regional plans for ministry. Furthermore, the person will be part of the Synod's equipping Leadership for Mission (eLM), working closely with other eLM Presbytery Ministers.

The role is supported by a part-time Office Secretary.

This Profile Supplement is to be read in conjunction with the documents in the Appendices.

Presbytery of Yarra Yarra

Position: Presbytery Minister Congregations

The Presbytery:

The function of the Presbytery is to perform all the acts of oversight necessary to the life and mission of the Church in the area for which it is responsible, except for those agencies which are directly responsible to the Synod or Assembly. It will in particular exercise oversight over congregations within its bounds, encouraging them to strengthen one another's faith and bear one another's burdens, and exhorting them to fulfil their high calling in Jesus Christ. It will promote those wider aspects of the work of the Church committed to it by the Synod or the Assembly.

All of these functions are dependent upon the key factor of Presbyteries having relational oversight for those congregations within its bounds. This is not oversight as exercising power or control but a relational way of being where the gathered members of the Uniting Church are cared for and working together to fulfil their call to discipleship in Jesus Christ.

Role purpose:

As a member of the Presbytery Ministry Team in the Presbytery, the appointee to the role will have responsibility for working with congregations and faith communities as they identify and develop local and regional plans for ministry.

Within Yarra Yarra Presbytery, all Presbytery Ministers are appointed under a common Profile, although each member of the team has particular responsibilities which are set out in this supplement to the broader profile.

Key duties associated with this role include:

- Working with congregations as they identify and develop local and regional plans for ministry, including Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities and members;
- Helping with mission studies prior to profile writing;
- Encouraging the development of lay education.
- Developing, resourcing and supporting effective mission networks;
- Promoting and encouraging national and world mission;
- Developing mission leadership by ensuring effective teaching and theological teaching within the presbytery;
- Monitoring and researching emerging mission patterns and models throughout Australia.
- Working closely with Synod's eLM unit, including participating in the eLM Presbytery Ministers gatherings.
- Committee memberships may include:
 - Presbytery Standing Committee
 - Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee
 - Other Presbytery committees related to mission, strategy and community services
- Assisting congregations to fulfill the UCA Regulations, especially those referring to the life and witness of a congregation or faith community.

Key selection criteria:

Qualifications and experience

- Membership of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- An understanding of and willingness to work within the faith and polity of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- Theological, educational and/or missional leadership qualification.
- Familiarity with the Councils and Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- The Uniting Church in Australia is committed to keeping children safe so a Working with Children Check is required.
- Competence with IT software, equipment and applications, including Microsoft Office.

Skills and abilities

1. **Leadership:** Ability to exercise leadership in a proactive but co-operative style, with strategic perspective.
2. **Team Membership:** Experience in working in a team and an ability to work as an equal member in a shared team environment.
3. **Relationship development:** Identifies issues in common and seeks knowledge to build mutually beneficial partnerships, and displays CALD sensitivity and intercultural awareness.
4. **Planning and organising:** Sets clearly defined objectives and priorities and operates accordingly
5. **Understanding and empathy:** Relates to people in stressful situations and is able to provide relevant advice and assistance.
6. **Creativity and Innovation:** Generates new ideas; draws on a range of information sources to identify new ways of doing things
7. **Drive & commitment:** Enthusiastic and committed. Demonstrates capacity for sustained effort and hard work.

Personal competencies

1. **Initiative and accountability:** ability to be proactive; can seize opportunities and act on them; takes responsibility for own actions.
2. **Communication skills:** excellent verbal and written communication skills; excellent interpersonal skills, and ability to effectively interact with a diverse range of individuals, groups and committees.
3. **Spiritual awareness:** ability to demonstrate insight into the importance of faith; ability to reflect on one's own spiritual life and interacts comfortably with people of all faiths.

Additional requirements

- Familiarity with and willingness to comply with the requirements of the Uniting Church in Australia Code of Conduct for Lay Leaders.
- Current Victorian driver's licence
- Ability and willingness to engage in meetings outside normal working hours.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities

Within the context of the range of tasks described in Section 7.3 of the Profile, the following specific tasks may be included:

- Helping congregations and ministry workers to develop, implement and evaluate their local and regional mission plans;

- Engaging in regional planning for the life and work of the Uniting Church in the area through congregations, faith communities, Uniting Care agencies, chaplaincies, UCA schools, and growth corridor.
- Facilitating mission studies and reviews of future ministry requirements prior to profile writing;
- Helping to equip and enrich all congregations and agencies to engage in mission beyond the bounds of the church;
- Developing expertise in mission and theological discernment in congregations, faith communities and agencies;
- Helping Presbytery establish and strengthen links with its schools and agencies;
- Helping congregations and agencies identify and develop suitable placements for both specified ministries and pastor;