



# Community Planter

## Faith Formation and Cross-Cultural Ministry

**Position Location:** Glen Waverley, Melbourne **Employment Details:** 0.6 FTE (24 hours a week)

### Our Church

**Glen Waverley Uniting Church (GWUC)** is located in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne and has a membership of approximately 650.

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and aims to share that unconditional love. We are committed to have a diverse ministry that encourages and empowers individuals, families, youth and children to explore their faith and purpose in a community environment of unconditional love. Offering a variety of worship services, communion, faith development, baptisms, weddings, funerals, small groups, faith exploration groups, bible studies, welfare, broadcasts, podcasts, gatherings, hospitality, English conversation classes, pastoral care, coffee and so many other seasonal programs and ministries, for all ages and cultures. In all we do, we aim to serve our community, our world and each other.

GWUC takes a team approach to ministry, within an engaged and active congregation, with a dedicated and committed volunteer framework. The position reflects the congregation's commitment to the development and Ministry to local diverse cultural demographics and faith development and resourcing of Cross Cultural ministries. In particular, the outreach activities and establishment of Kingsway Ministry

The person will be part of our ministry team along with those in the roles of Minister of the Word, Ministry to Youth and Young Adults, Children & Families and Pastoral Care Worker.

### Accountability

- The position is accountable to Church Council.
- The person will report to Church Council monthly, unusually as part of the ministry team report.
- In operational terms, the appointee will be a member of the Ministry Team.
- The Minister of the Word provides leadership, support, guidance, management and oversight to the Ministry Team.

### Responsibilities and Duties

- To lead and cast vision for the development of Faith Formation and Cross-Cultural Ministry consistent with the vision, mission and values of GWUC.
- Build connections within the Church and with the wider community (including intergenerational and intercultural).
- Build connectedness and genuine community engagement.



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- Develop and implement a program consistent with the vision, mission and values of GWUC across all areas of this broad Cross-Cultural Ministry, but particularly in relation to cross cultural communities and the changing cultures and demographics within our local and direct community.
- Develop and foster pathways for playgroups, their families and associated groups within our community and to come to understand activities and experiences for these groupings and what it means to know and follow Jesus.
- Document and maintain the program in a format which will maintain and enhance the development of this ministry and ensure a documented resource consistent with the Strategy and Vision.
- Lead, mentor and develop teams and training within our community and provide leadership and guidance to grow and strengthen established cross-cultural events including Chinese New Year, Moon Cake Festival and Easter and Christmas events which involve and engage these communities.
- Provide pastoral care and support for all groups and parties within the Cross-Cultural framework and within our direct and local communities.
- Resource the ministry with appropriate curricula/resources, which will foster the Cross-Cultural Ministry.
- Ensure that a wide range of communication and media are employed to engage with these community elements.
- Nurture faith development, sharing, questioning and exploration.
- Provide leadership and co-ordination across all groups associated with activities in engaging and strengthening our Cross-Cultural relationships internally as well as through the broader local Cross Cultural Community.
- Be aware of and have an open line of communication with all existing groups including Children and Family Ministry areas, where we can integrate and expand our Cross-Cultural Ministry.
- Contribute to the wider Ministry Team by engaging with and participating across all programs and activities of the Ministry Team where your knowledge and experience will add value and professional input across the broader Ministry Team framework of Responsibilities and Actions.
- Within six months to provide a clear strategy for achieving our desired outcomes including receiving endorsements from key stakeholders.

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### Pastoral Focus

- Foster a strong community relationship particularly with our direct and local Cross-Cultural Communities, whilst engaging with and supporting participants in current programs. A strong linkage with the local community and particularly through the establishment of Kingsway Ministry.

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### Personal Qualities

- Demonstrates a strong commitment to the Christian faith and desire to share these beliefs with others.
- An excellent enabler, equipper and trainer of others.
- Formal qualifications and experience with
  - Biblical / Theological subjects.
  - Languages, especially Chinese.
- Proven ability to lead and build people and teams within communities such as ours.



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- As the role will be in the Uniting Church denomination we ask that the successful applicant be aware and adhere to:
  - i. Understanding of the UCA Basis of Union and ethos of the Uniting Church;
  - ii. Understanding of the UCA Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice for people engaged in professional ministry and the Sexual Misconduct Regulations of the Uniting Church.
- This position requires strong relational skills and an ability to connect with key local influencers including Children and Families groups across the Cross-Cultural and demographic changes occurring in our local environment.
- An awareness of the challenges of the different cultural dynamics and issues in contemporary society which reflects the diversity and cross cultural factors.
- Open to other people's faith engagement and expression and ability to engender positive engagement of volunteer groups.
- The successful applicant will be able to work independently as well as collaboratively demonstrating initiative, reliability and flexibility.
- Strong organisational, administrative skills and competencies to develop maintain and update a clearly defined program within the broader GWUC community.
- Love God and love people, especially children and families.
- A warm and genuine person who is honest and discreet and able to maintain confidences.
- Be discerning, professional and relational appreciating the subtleties of the diverse cross cultural groups we aim to develop in this ministry.
- Have gifts in leadership, teaching and encouragement.
- Excellent communication skills specifically including relevant language diversity.
- Have a good understanding of developmental and learning issues associated with the formation of Cross-Cultural Ministries and the challenges and opportunities for engaging and integrating this ministry into the broader GWUC groups.
- Ability to articulate and explain a theological framework for Cross Cultural Ministry with appropriate curricula.
- Have training and experience in appropriate disciplines.
- Be able to work effectively in a ministry team having personal responsibilities and be able to support and encourage other members of the team.
- Be friendly toward and supportive of other members of the ministry team and congregation.
- Be able to work harmoniously in a ministry team and alongside volunteers.
- A current Criminal Record Check (CRC) and a valid Working with Children check will be required prior to commencement.

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### Position Status

This is a part time positions of 0.6 FTE per week. It is not a recognised placement and so the terms and conditions of a ministerial placement are not applicable. Glen Waverley Uniting Church is committed to this ministry area and has made budget provision for salary and programs that fit within the church's mission and vision. Probationary period of three months.