



GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH PROJECTS

2025 RECOMMENDATIONS

Outreach and Social Justice Mission Group, at the request of Church Council, have overseen the 2025 COP process. Three members of the group were appointed to become the COP Selection Panel.

The Panel received 4 applications for a grant. In line with COP Procedures, where insufficient applications are received, the panel has recommended a further 2 grants in support of UCA services.

All six projects were considered carefully and checked against assessment criteria, alignment with UCA mission, number of people to benefit and needs to be met. All projects were commended and approved to receive funding from proceeds of our Annual Fete.

The grants include projects which will benefit a range of communities across local, national and international regions.

We thank the applicants for the effort and time involved in bringing forward these projects.

We are pleased to present the 6 projects we recommend to receive 2025 COP funding.

Yours in Christ,

2025 COP Selection Panel

Margaret Fraser, Annette Wojak, Pam Bunney

July 2025

GWUC Welfare



GWUC Welfare
providing practical assistance

Congregation Applicant: Faye McDougall

GWUC Welfare provides welfare assistance to individuals and families in need in our local community. Welfare offers non-perishable food and toiletries, vouchers, and support with education-

related expenses like uniforms and books. Through the provision of supermarket and pharmacy vouchers, people gain a sense of empowerment in purchasing essential items themselves. Clients include people who are disadvantaged, homeless, lost their jobs, suffering from mental and physical illness and unable to work, asylum seekers and refugees. Funds would enable purchase of additional groceries and supermarket vouchers and to have the resources to be a little more generous where there is a desperate need. GWUC Welfare does not turn anyone away, including those outside the postcode, and aim to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those they serve.

Nourishing our Neighbours



Congregation Applicant: Vida Foo

Nourishing our Neighbours (NoN) was setup with two purposes: to provide food to those in need and to safeguard the environment by preventing food going into landfill. Volunteers collect food from supermarkets, grocers and bakeries every day and then re-distribute products directly to clients in Box Hill North and Blackburn South. NoN also distribute excess food

through many organisations such as Uniting Food Relief Burwood. Clients include the homeless, those struggling to feed their families, asylum seekers and the vulnerable in the local communities and through partner organisations. Funds would enable replacement of two ageing fridge/freezers, which are essential to ensure the safe handling of fresh produce and extended shelf life of food products. NoN not only provides clients with food needs, but through interactions with one another and the volunteers, a sense of community grows.

Quilts for Orphans



Congregation Applicant: Margaret Duncan

Quilts for Orphans, established in 2007, is an organisation of volunteers who make and gift handmade quilts, creating fabric hugs for children and adults in need. Quilts are gifted across Australia and

worldwide through a wide range of organisations, including: hospital newborn and paediatric intensive care units, short term care services for vulnerable children, domestic violence organisations, palliative care and aged care settings and refugee services. Recipients of the quilts locally are the families and individuals accessing the services listed, and globally efforts are focused on orphanages, more recently Thailand. Funds would contribute to the purchase and installation of a hydraulic lift on their longarm quilting machine, which would make it height adjustable. Being able to adjust the machine between each user would enable volunteers to avoid injury and remove the restriction that currently makes it only accessible to a small number, providing the opportunity for other members to use the machine.

UnitingWorld, Fiji



Congregation Applicant: Russell Crawford

UnitingWorld is the international aid and partnerships agency of the Uniting Church in Australia. Uniting World partners with the Methodist

Church in Fiji to prepare its congregations and communities to strengthen disaster preparedness and climate resilience in the face of climate change. Trained church leaders and chaplains can offer immediate and ongoing emotional and spiritual support, grounded in faith and cultural understanding, to people affected by climate-related disasters. The project will benefit Fijian communities vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly in rural and coastal areas, as well as local church leaders, trained chaplains, and volunteers who support their communities in times of crisis. Funds will contribute to training additional chaplains in trauma healing and pastoral counselling, to procuring and storing non-perishable emergency food, and to assessments of church buildings for registration as official evacuation centres.

Frontier Services, UCA



"We dream of an Australia where everyone who lives in our regional and remote areas is cared for and supported and have a mantle of safety and well-being. Australian people who live out bush experience the tyranny of distance and social isolation. These include indigenous communities, isolated properties, mining communities, and other remotely located communities. And for them, we are the people who knock on the door, take the time to listen, offer a helping hand, and be

of service". <https://frontierservices.org/about/>

"People living in remote communities experience greater isolation, have limited access to support services and are more vulnerable to crises. As an agency of the Uniting Church, we raise funds to advocate for people and communities in rural and remote areas, equip our Bush Chaplains, and mobilise volunteers to offer practical, pastoral and spiritual support".

Annual Report 2023-24

Moderator's Emergency Response Fund, UCA



"Every year thousands of people are impacted by emergencies in Victoria and Tasmania. The Moderator's Emergency Response Fund is a way for those of us wanting to help when current or future emergencies occur, and to contribute to communities in need of immediate assistance. Funds may be used within the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania to: provide for pastoral, ministry, and

mission activities to assist in the Church's responses to disasters, emergencies or other crises; support relevant councils of the Church to undertake disaster preparation programs/response, programs/ processes; partner with other organisations in disaster preparation/response programs and processes. https://issuu.com/ucavictas/docs/202504_crosslight_april_2025_web

Recommended Project Allocations

Project	Region	People to be assisted	For \$21,000 fete funds	For \$23,000 fete funds
GWUC Welfare	Local	Families and individuals	\$5000	\$5000
Nourishing our Neighbours	Local	Families and individuals	\$3600	\$3600
Quilts for Orphans	Victoria & International	Families and individuals	\$2000	\$2000
UnitingWorld, Fiji	International Fiji	Communities	\$6000	\$6500
Frontier Services, UCA	National	Communities and individuals	\$2200	\$2950
Moderator's Emergency Response Fund, UCA	Victoria	Communities	\$2200	\$2950
TOTAL			\$21,000	\$23,000



Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Corner Bogong Avenue & Kingsway

Annual Fete

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**Saturday
18 October**
8.30am to 2.00pm

*All proceeds support the outreach projects
of Glen Waverley Uniting Church.*

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

**Food Stalls, Cakes & Jams, Plants, Craft,
Jewellery, Kids Activities, Face-painting,
Popcorn, Toys, Silent Auction, Books,
Treasures & Collectables, Music and MORE...**

Donations Welcome: Donations for stalls including books, plants, household items, toys, treasures or small electrical items (in working order) may be delivered on Friday 17 October 9am-7pm. **Please note:** We are unable to accept mattresses, furniture, pre-loved clothing or unsaleable items.

For more details contact GWUC Church Office - 9560 3580 | office@gwuc.org.au