



## UCA Community Life Return

### a). About You

A  Organisation Name	Glen Waverley
B  Presbytery Name	Presbytery of Port Phillip East
C  Is the congregation/organisation part of a cluster, network, parish, linked congregation or ecumenical partnership? * (Yes/No)	No

Which Congregation is involved in arrangement?	Type of Arrangement	Congregation Covered?
D  Name of local contact person:	David Morgan	
Are you the person to contact for questions? (Yes/No)* If "No" please complete the following:	Yes	
Title *		
Given Name *		
Surname *		
Phone *		
Email *		
Role *		
E  Data entered by: *	David Morgan	

## b). Ministry and Leadership

1. Did you have a Minister and/or lay person in Placement last year? (Yes/No)	Yes
No Minister and/or lay person in Placement (Awaiting placement / No plans for filling in vacancy)	

### Person in Placement (If Yes)

Minister or Lay person	Name	Full-time Equivalent (1, 0.5, 0.75 etc)	Period in placement (e.g. June to Dec)	Comments
Minister	Chris Waddell	1.00	October to December	Inducted Oct 15 2023
Minister	Neil Peters	1.00	All year	Retired Christmas 2023.
Minister	Hoon You	1.00	February to September	Intentional interim ministry

In reference to the below question, ministry roles would normally refer to people with a Position Description and commissioned in their role by the congregation.

2. Did you have other people exercising ministry roles?	Yes
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### Ministry Role (If Yes)

Roles	Paid/ Volunteer	Number	Comments (If Other please specify)	Period in role during calendar year (e.g. Jun to Dec)
9. Pastoral care roles	Paid	1	Di Paterson	All year.
1. Children & families ministry roles	Paid	1	Jemma Graham	Jan to May
15. Other	Paid	1	Welfare coordinator, currently helping approx 10-12 people each week.	Jan to Dec
15. Other	Paid	1	Office Manager	Jan to Dec

### c). Mission

Do you have a mission or vision statement? (Yes/No)	Yes
What is your mission or vision statement? (If Yes)	GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and shares in that unconditional love.
Do you have an action plan to implement the mission or vision statement? (Yes/No)	Yes
If so, does your Church Council regularly review the mission action plan to ensure activities are being undertaken in alignment to this? (Yes/No)	Yes

Mission includes those activities that primarily seek to express and bear witness to the love of God and the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action with the world.

Faith formation is any activity intended to grow people’s belief and trust in God. Please record these at question 27

4. Does your congregation/organisation provide any of the following expressions of mission?

COVID meant many things had to change, Please answer as you can, online services can be included in a further question.

Please note the list of provided is not exhaustive and there will be other expressions of mission that are not included. Please enter these as Other and provide details.

In the table below, ‘Delivery’ relates to the way in which participants engaged with the activity.

Activities that were available both online and in person should be recorded as hybrid. We recognise that not all events and activities will fit perfectly into these categories, so please select the one that is closest to being appropriate.

**Types:**

- Advent/Easter workshops
- Art/Craft Groups
- Chaplaincy (please specify type)
- Children's programs
- Community Gardens
- Community Op shop
- Engagement with people with disabilities
- Evangelism
- Family camps
- Home country of origin support
- Indigenous engagement
- International engagement
- International Student engagement
- Kids Hope
- Mainly Music
- Meals (soup kitchens, food delivery etc.)
- Men's groups
- Migrant engagement
- Music Other(Community Choir, instrumental music etc.)
- Music Together
- Parenting programs
- Playgroups

Prayer and meditation group  
Refugee assistance  
School programs (including Breakfasts)  
Senior programs (Include Aged Care home visitation and worship, Meals on wheels)  
Social Justice  
Social programs (Cafe, Coffee, and Chat groups)  
UCAF  
Volunteering Uniting.  
Winter shelter program  
Women's groups  
Youth programs  
Other (Mission activities not included above)

Types	No. Groups	Average Number Attending	Delivery	Frequency	Participants	Comments	Initiated in last 12 months?
Children's programs	1	10	In Person	Weekly	Mostly within congregation	Sunday Squad on Sunday mornings	No
International engagement	1		Hybrid	No Selection Made	Relatively even	Partner church with "Riedel" Congregation, in Manado, Northern Sulawesi, Indonesia.	No
Men's groups	1	15	In Person	Weekly	Mostly within congregation	GOMER	No
Music Together	1	28	In Person	Weekly	Relatively even	Free Spirit	No
Art/Craft Groups	1	5	In Person	Fortnightly	Mostly within congregation	Craft group.	No
School programs (including Breakfasts)	1	6	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Up to 8 volunteers serve pancakes to about 300 students.	No
UCAF	1	25	In Person	Monthly	Mostly within congregation	UCAF	No
Youth programs	1	15	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Friday night Youth Group	No
Music Other (Community Choir, instrumental music etc.)	1	12	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Choir of Hope	No
Prayer and meditation group	1	7	Online	Weekly	Mostly within congregation	Meditation group	No
Other (Mission activities not included above)	2	70	Online	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Live streaming of services	No

Migrant engagement	1	20	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	TheHub provides a welcome and opportunities to practice English with members of the congregation.	No
Other (Mission activities not included above)	1	10	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Welfare program provides food, vouchers and advice to 10-12 people each week.	No
International engagement	1	15	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	English language program	No
Other (Mission activities not included above)	2	18	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Badminton group meets twice weekly, with many community members.	No
Playgroups	1	15	In Person	Weekly	Mostly wider community participants	Playgroup reduced to one day per week during 2023.	No
Social programs (Cafe, Coffee, and Chat groups)	1	15	In Person	Monthly	Relatively even	Leisure time afternoon tea on 1st Monday of month. The main focus is for people who are isolated and not able to get out easily.	No

5. Describe any relationships or partnerships with other Uniting Church congregation/s. (This could include areas of mission, administration, compliance, leadership and worship) \*

Relationship, Partnership or Working Partnership?	Congregation	Description of Relationship
Relationship		Some involvement in the Synod emissions task group.

6. What involvement has your congregation had with UCA Church related activities outside the congregation (e.g. Presbytery, Synod eLM, Retreat days, Justice conferences... etc. including via zoom) in the last 12 months? \*

Some involvement with the emissions reduction task group

7. What new missional activities has your congregation been actively considering or would like to explore?*	We have been trying to find a resource for a Basic Christianity for Chinese speakers course.
8. Have any Missional Activities ceased? (Yes/No)	No
If yes, what missional activities have ceased in the last calendar year and you don't intend to restart?	
9. Does your congregation collaborate with other organisations? (Yes/No)	Yes
If your congregations has been involved in expressions of mission in partnership with another body (e.g. Uniting agency, Scripture Union, chaplaincy associations, local council, other churches, schools, sports clubs etc.), please describe?*	<p>GWUC is an active participating member of the Glen Waverley Interchurch Council. We also have a representative on the Monash Council's Interfaith Gathering. Leisure Time collaborates with City of Monash (we also receive a grant). ThHub gets referrals from the local municipal library. We provide volunteers to run extra programs in the deaf facility at a local primary school. The panncake program at the local secondary college includes liaison with the welfare team at the school.</p>
9a) Did your congregation engage in or support any overseas missional work e.g. organising or funding missional or ministry trip to overseas congregation or community? (Yes/No)	Yes
If yes, please provide details (Free text response)	<p>Sister church relationship with Monado in Sulawesi. No transfer of money occurred, therefore no need to be compliant with ACNC. Uniting World and Frontier Services were both supported with proceeds from our 2023 fete, the first since 2019. ACNC conduct was left to them</p>
If yes, were you compliant with the ACNC External Conduct Standards? (Yes/No)	Yes

## d). Governance and Members

Church Council information	
10. How are you governed? *	1. Church Council
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Church Council</li> <li>2. Whole Congregation under regulation 3.9.3</li> <li>3. Faith community regulation 3.9.2</li> <li>4. Other</li> </ol>	
Comments	
11. Frequency of governance meeting	2. Monthly
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fortnightly</li> <li>2. Monthly</li> <li>3. Bi-monthly</li> <li>4. Quarterly</li> <li>5. Semi-annually</li> <li>6. Annually</li> <li>7. Bi-annually</li> <li>8. Other</li> </ol>	
If Other, please specify:	
12. Number of people regularly attending meetings *	10
13. Number of Church Council Members	10
14. Does your governing body identify itself as culturally diverse (in age, gender and/or ethnicity)? (Yes/No/NA)	Yes
If Yes, please select from the list below (all applicable) and comment	
Age (Yes/No)	Yes
Gender (Yes/No)	Yes
Ethnicity (Yes/No)	Yes
Comments	
15. Chairperson is:	Church council member or elder/leader
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Church council member or elder/leader</li> <li>Minister in placement</li> <li>Joint arrangement</li> <li>Retired Minister</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	
How long has the chairperson is been in this position?	1 - 3 years
Congregation Membership	
Membership of the United Church is defined in the UCA regulations as confirmed members, baptised members (not yet confirmed) and members in association. However, there are others who attend who are active in the life of the congregation and these can be recorded as Adherents/Active participants.	
16. How many people are in each of these categories:	
Confirmed members *	388
Baptised members *	112
Members in Association *	24
Adherents\Active participants *	79
Average number attending worship *	135
17. Does your congregation identify itself as culturally diverse (in age, gender and/or ethnicity)? (Yes/No/NA)	Yes
If Yes, please comment and tick Box(tick all applicable)	



Age	Yes
Gender	Yes
Ethnicity	Yes
Comments	Multiple ethnicities, but not matched to the surrounding community
<b>18. How many of the following took place in the last 12 months?</b>	
Confirmations or reaffirmations *	2
Baptism - Children *	2
Baptism - Adult *	1
Transfers in *	2
Transfers out *	1
Funerals *	14
Marriages *	0
<b>19. Number of your people who participate in activities run by your church?</b>	
Frequently *	150
Occasionally *	70
Infrequently *	200
We understand that data is not kept on the ages of members or adherents. Rough estimates are adequate for the below question.	
<b>20. Number of members/adherents</b>	
0 - 4 years *	0
5 – 11 years *	21
12 - 17 years *	25
18 - 29 years *	33
30 - 39 years *	25
40 - 49 years *	20
50 - 59 years *	25
60 - 69 years *	22
70 - 79 years *	72
80 - 89 years *	92
Over 90 years *	31
<b>21. What approximate percentage of members/adherents are (adding the numbers below together should equal 100):</b>	
Female *	62
Male *	38
Indeterminate, intersex/unspecified	0

22. Approximately how many new people participated in worship services last year?

Please select reasons from the following list:

1. Renewed faith
2. New to faith
3. Transfer from another denomination
4. Transfer from other Uniting Church
5. Seeker (someone exploring faith)
6. Unknown due to virtual format
7. Other

Reason	Number	Comments
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<b>23. In the past year how many of your congregation members no longer attended due to:</b>	
Transfer to another congregation or denomination *	2
No longer active in church of any description *	20
Death *	14
Ill Health *	20
Unable to attend worship due to COVID	0
Other	Not measured. Just estimates.
<b>24. How is information from church council or other bodies of the church communicated?</b>	
Announcements in worship or meetings	Yes
Church Publications e.g. Crosslight	Yes
Email	Yes
Newsletters/Bulletins/Pew Sheets	Yes
Noticeboards	Yes
Social Media (Facebook, Instagram etc.)	Yes
Websites	Yes
Other Specified - Communication	

## e).Community Worship and Faith Development

25. When and where were worship services held?

Please select the **styles** from following list:

Café-style/Meal-based

Contemporary

Contemplative/Reflective.

Creative/Informal

Messy Church

Multi-age/Family

Traditional

Wider Community (e.g Hospital/Aged Care/Prison/School)

Youth-focused

Other

In the table below, 'Delivery' relates to the way in which participants engaged with the activity (Online / In Person / Hybrid). Activities that were available both online and in person should be recorded as hybrid. We recognise that not all events and activities will fit perfectly into these categories, so please select the one that is closest to being appropriate.

Day	Time	Style (choose the option that works best)	Delivery	Average attendance	Frequency	Language	Participants	Comments
Sunday	8am	Contemplative/Reflective	In Person	18	Weekly	English		
Sunday	9:15am	Contemporary	In Person	48	Weekly	English		In person and live streaded.
Sunday	11am	Traditional	In Person	49	Weekly	English		In person and live streamed.
Sunday	1:15pm	Traditional	Online	13	Weekly	Indonesian		Connected with sister church
Sunday	5pm	Café-style/Meal-based		8		English		

26. Did you have any groups for worship, faith formation or other spiritual practices? Faith formation is any activity intended to grow people's belief and trust in God.

Please select the Type from the list below:

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Bible Study          | 8. Family camps            |
| 2. Family small group   | 9. Family study groups     |
| 3. Lay Training         | 10. Men's study groups     |
| 4. Prayer/Meditation    | 11. Retreats               |
| 5. Sunday Schools       | 12. Theological Book Clubs |
| 6. Women's study groups | 13. Young Adult groups     |
| 7. Youth groups         | 14. Other                  |

Day	Time	Type	Delivery	Average attendance	Frequency	Language	Participants	Comments
Tuesday		Bible Study	Online		Fortnightly			Susan Karoly
Friday	10am	Bible Study	In Person	6	Weekly	English		Friday morning study group.

27. What approximate percentage of your worship services are led by:

Ordained minister	80.00
Pastor	
Lay leader(s)	20.00

## f).Risk Management, Occupational Health and Safety

28. Are the following items easily accessible on the church premises:	
Safety Manual 2016? * (Yes/No)	Yes
Is the "if you are injured" poster prominently displayed? * (Yes/No)	Yes
Is the Evacuation plan properly signposted? * (Yes/No)	Yes
29. Following inspection by the Synod OHS Officer, have you implemented their recommendations for remediation of defects in your church property? (Yes/No/In Progress/NA)	Yes
Reason	

## g).Safe Church Policies

30. Is your Church Council/Congregation aware of and adhering to the UCA "Code of Conduct for Lay Leaders"?	Yes
Comments:	
The code of conduct can be located on the UCA Assembly website under 'Resources'.	
31. Does your Church Council/congregation maintain an up-to-date register of "appointed leaders" (as per Synod's definition) required to hold a Working with Children Check (Vic/NSW) or Working with Vulnerable People Registration (TAS)?* (Yes/No)	Yes
Comments:	Included in rolls database
32. Has the Church Council/congregation appointed someone to administer the WWCC/R database for your congregation?*(Yes/No)	Yes
Comments:	David Morgan
33. Have appointed leaders attended Safe Church training within the last 3 years?*(Yes/No)	Yes
Comments:	Using the on line training
34. Has your Church Council/congregation:	
Appointed Culture of Safety contact person (Yes/No)	Yes
Worked through the Implementation Guide for Church Councils that can be found on the VicTas Safe Church website (Yes /No)	Yes
Reviewed the most recent Child Safe Policy VicTas which is available on the VicTas Safe Church website. (Yes/No)	Yes
Comments:	David Morgan and Lynne Boyer
For information navigate to the following website: <a href="http://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/">http://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/</a>	
35. Is your Church Council/congregation aware of the Current Child Safe Standards required by the Victorian Government (July 2022) and the Tasmanian Government (January 2024) and can the council identify how they are being implemented in your setting through implementation of the Child Safe Policy? * (Yes/No)	Yes
For information navigate to the following website: <a href="https://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/">https://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/</a>	

Comments:	
36. Is your Church Council/congregation aware of the Reportable Conduct requirements of the Victorian and Tasmanian Governments and can the Council identify how they are being implemented in your setting? * (Yes/No/NA)	Yes
Comments:	

## h). Feedback

Thank you for completing the return. The information you have provided will better inform the Synod and presbyteries on the wider life of the Church community. Your information is treated with respect and will not be shared with third parties outside of the Synod.

How easy was this survey to complete? 1 – Very Easy 2 – Easy 3 – Moderate 4 – Difficult 5 – Very Difficult	3 - Moderate
How many people needed to be contacted in order to complete this survey? - One - A Few - 5 or more	A few (We needed to contact a couple of people with specific roles e.g. Culture of Safety contact)
Have you been made aware of any use of this information? (Yes/No)	No
Was there any section or question you had difficulty completing?	Comings and goings are not recorded.
Do you have any comments you would like to make about this survey or the process?	More prefill would be good, eg Ministers.