

Taking our pulse

Planning for future ministries by re-visiting our vision and dreaming dreams

Remember when we spent time reflecting on where we believed God was leading us as a congregation and after much prayer and conversation we identified areas for growth, commitment and focus over the next 5 years. 5 years are upon us! We would like to see if we are still committed to our vision & mission and how we can continue to grow our ministries here at Glen Waverley Uniting Church.

Here is a reminder of how we saw ourselves 4ish years ago

“We 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.

We offer 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 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.

Our biblical understanding of the Church and her role centers around us loving God and loving our neighbour in all our communal activities.

Responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our local and global world, we strive to be a church reflecting Jesus' gospel message of love, grace and transformation.

We belong to a multi cultural community and our ministry needs to reflect this.”

We then identified two **Internal** and two **External** areas.

1. Continuing to build connectedness and genuine community.

We build on our existing pastoral care, enriching our fellowship and strengthening our sense of community, by

- Fostering relationships
- Small groups

- Pastoral care and Pastoral partners
- Gatherings and events
- Intergenerational connections

2. Nurturing faith development, sharing, questioning and exploration.

We offer engaging worship along with opportunities to discover and explore faith in an environment where all are welcome wherever they are in their journey of life and faith, by

- Providing specified study groups
- Developing expressions of faith
- Diverse worship services, styles and times
- Broadcast Ministry
- Teaching
- Conferences, seminars and guest speakers
- A culture of asking questions, exploring and sharing faith

3. Kingsway Ministry.

We intentionally grow our ministry to our local multicultural community, by Reflecting our context's demographic

- Ensuring culturally diversity
- Intentional listening to and learning from other multicultural or ethnic specific church communities
- Building relationships by pastoral care and prayer support to Kingsway businesses
- Participating in Kingsway events. i.e. Chinese New Year
- Communicating and affirming by the use of Thank you cards and Christmas cards
- Utilising our grounds and facilities to enhance our ministry in Kingsway. i.e. Fete, Book sale
- Fostering relationships
- Navigating our diverse world
- Inviting people on the journey

4. Raising Glen Waverley Uniting Church's profile, by serving our local community.

We nurture partnerships to enable our congregation to grow our servant heart, by

- Partnering with schools, councils and clubs etc
- Reflecting our local demographic
- Talking to community organisations to identify needs within Glen Waverley
- Talking to global organisations to identify global concerns
- Empowering the disempowered
- Advocacy of community and global topics

We are therefore asking all groups to ponder on the following questions...

In your group.

Group Name: _____

Are we still feeling warm towards our vision and the areas we decided to focus on?

What are the things/activities etc that you are enjoying?

What's working well?

What are you excited/ encouraged by?

Do you have challenges, what are they?

What dreams do you have and what would help you to achieve these?