

UNITING FAITH & FAMILIES
A FAITH COMMUNITY
OF THE PRESBYTERY
OF PORT PHILIP WEST

# Selection of the select

# **PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

### Who are we and what is our vision?

The Uniting Faith and Families community was born over ten years ago out of an annual social justice family camp. It's challenging to practice faith as a family in the secular Australian context when everyone is busy and being Christian is unpopular. If children don't have friends who go to church, it can be very hard for a family to foster faith and maintain involvement in the local congregation. That's why we have been coming together and supporting each other.

Uniting Faith and Families has grown from a small idea into a vibrant community. It now needs the nurture and resourcing of a minister or pastor to accompany and support the community further on its journey.

While most churches are able to draw on income from the use of their buildings or investments, which are grounded in their historical roots, our community does not currently have any assets other than our people. As we are a geographically dispersed faith community, we don't have the need for buildings to worship in, but we do need ministry support to ensure the ongoing discipleship of our children and families.

### We need your help

We are seeking support from congregations who have financial resources and would like to leave a legacy. This is an opportunity to invest in ministry with Uniting Church children, young people and their families, and nurture the faith of the next generation of the Uniting Church.

We are currently seeking expressions of interest for communities or individuals who would like to explore partnering with us.

If you would like a member of our faith community to come and talk with your church council or congregation to assist with missional discernment, please contact us.

### Partner with us

There are two ways you can partner with us:

### Scenario 1: Sharing your minister

If you are a small congregation who can afford a full-time minister, but don't have a full-time missional engagement, your ministry profile could be developed as a shared focus between your congregation and Uniting Faith and Families. It would be a very attractive placement for a vibrant minister. In this way, the assets from your investments are gifted to grow not only your local congregation, but ministry with families and their children across the Synod. We could share community life and grow in faith together.

## Scenario 2: Sharing your money

If you are a congregation who have been blessed by wise stewards and now have significant resources or have sold property and the assets have to be used for missional activities, you could choose to partner with Uniting Faith and Families. You could contribute to paying part of the stipend for a ministry placement to serve the Uniting Faith and Families community project. There may also be members of your community who might like to make a one-off or ongoing donation.

Our goal is-to raise \$50,000 per year for three years which would provide a half time stipend.

The community currently contributes \$10 - 15,000 each year to pay for a support worker two days per month. The ability for the community to raise its own-financial capacity internally has been proven and has the potential to increase.

# Contact

Rev Joan Wright Howie (Chairperson) joanwh@bigpond.com or 0424 670 093

or Cath James (Support Worker) cathjames42@gmail.com, 0438 504 394

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ Website: https://unitingfaithandfamilies.org