The Aspley Uniting Church is seeking a compassionate and dedicated full-time Families Minister of the Word to engage, support and nurture families in its congregation. The families' ministry agent will be responsible for leading and developing programs and ministries that fulfill the Growth Potential mission of AUC, particularly as regards the size and vibrancy of the families' congregation, and foster spiritual growth, connection and support for families across all life stages. The position involves working with children, parents and extended families to build a growing vibrant and inclusive faith community. This role provides an exciting opportunity to make a significant impact in the lives of families within the church and the broader community.

For any further information please email Greg Early: early.gregory1@gmail.com Please submit an expression of interest to the Secretary of Placements Committee placements@ucaqld.com.au by COB Monday 17 March 2025.

You can find the Placement Description Families Minister Aspley 2025 below.



Placement Description

Placement Title: Families Minister

Service Area: Asplev Uniting Church. Moreton Rivers Presbytery

Placement Status: Full Time

Location: Aspley, Brisbane, Queensland

Stipend Details: Refer to the Ministry Agent Payments Notice on the Queensland Synod

website, updated 1st January each year

The Church:

The Uniting Church in Australia (the Church) is a large uniquely Australian Christian denomination in Australia with heritage from historical reformed evangelical denominations. In Queensland, the Uniting Church has around 250 congregations and has schools, colleges and large community services (such as UnitingCare Queensland and Wesley Mission Queensland).

The Uniting Church is multicultural, committed to reconciliation with first peoples, calls for reconciliation across its communities and aims to use its people and property resources wisely and in the furtherance of God's mission in the world.

Within the ministry of the whole Church, Jesus Christ calls men and women to proclamation of the gospel in word and deed through a call to ministry. This calling is exercised by preaching and presiding at the celebration of the sacraments and witnessing in the community of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Placement Purpose:

The Aspley Uniting Church is seeking a compassionate and dedicated full-time Families Minister of the Word to engage, support and nurture families in its congregation. The Families Minister will be responsible for leading and developing programs and ministries that fulfill the Growth Potential mission of AUC, particularly as regards the size and vibrancy of the families congregation, and foster spiritual growth, connection and support for families across all life stages. The position involves working with children, parents and extended families to build a growing vibrant and inclusive faith community. This role provides an exciting opportunity to make a significant impact in the lives of families within the church and the broader community.

Key Responsibilities:

Work within the policies and procedures of the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod including the <u>Safe Ministry with Children policy</u>, <u>COVID-19 Vaccination Policy</u> and the provisions of the Workplace Health and Safety Legislation and other relevant legislation including reporting hazards/incidents, support for injured workers and full participation in return to work plans.

Be an inspirational spiritual leader and a devoted pastoral carer

Work alongside the leadership and with the guidance of the Lead Minister

Work with the Council, Elders and the Congregation to address all of the needs of the Congregation.

Work with the leaders of the church community

Undertake other ministry duties as and when directed within the capabilities of the incumbent, including new initiatives on evangelism and social responsibility

Reporting Relationships:

This placement reports to the Presbytery Minister, Moreton Rivers Presbytery, for matters of faith and discipline.

Key internal relationships:

In conjunction with the Lead Minister of the Word, Council and Elders Committee. the Office Manager and Children's Co-ordinator

Key external relationships:

In conjunction with the Lead Minister of the Word, be an active supporter of the Board of Dorcas Acts (a group within the Church which provides financial aid to the wider community in Queensland and interstate) and the Committee which overviews the activities of Aspley Classes for Seniors; also be involved with congregation members in their outreach into retirement villages in the near community.

Worship Leadership and Preaching

- Lead and co-ordinate programs designed for families, including children's church, family services and intergenerational worship events
- Prepare and deliver Biblically grounded and inspiring sermons that reflect the core values of the Uniting Church and address the spiritual needs of the congregation.
- When required, lead regular traditional services (8.30 am services)
- Foster an inclusive, welcoming and engaging environment where families feel supported and connected
- Create opportunities for families to grow together spiritually through Bible study, prayer and service activities
- Develop resources, curriculum and activities that help families integrate faith into their daily lives.
- Foster a vibrant worship environment with relevant liturgy, music and prayer that reflects the direction towards the Growth Potential mission of the Church and the diverse nature of the community

Children's Ministry and Youth Engagement

- Oversee and develop vibrant children's ministry programs for different age groups, ensuring spiritual, social and emotional growth
- Work with volunteers to provide safe and meaningful experiences for children and youth, including Sunday School, mid-week programs and holiday events
- Encourage and support the involvement of youth in church activities, including leadership training, worship participation and community outreach
- Promote and foster family involvement in all aspects of children's and youth ministries

Pastoral Care and Support for Families

- Provide pastoral care and support for families during significant life events such as births, baptisms, graduations, marriages and times of crisis
- Be a source of encouragement and counsel to parents in navigating the challenges of raising children in a faith-centred environment
- Develop and lead parenting workshops, seminars and support groups to assist parents in their spiritual formation and family life

Family-Focused Worship and Events

- Plan and lead family-centred worship services, including all-age services and special celebrations like Advent, Easter and Christmas
- Organise and lead family-friendly events such as retreats, social gatherings and service projects
- Encourage intergenerational participation in worship and church activities, building connections across age groups

Community Outreach and Engagement

- Develop and implement outreach programs specifically aimed at families in the wider community, building relationships and fostering connections with unchurched families
- Promote and support social justice initiatives, encouraging families to engage in community service and advocacy
- Collaborate with United Early Learning, Aspley, local organisations, schools and other community groups to serve the needs of families in the area.

Team Leadership and Volunteer Development

- Recruit, train and empower volunteers to serve in family ministry programs, ensuring a high standard of care and engagement
- Work alongside church leadership, including the Lead Minister, the Children's Co-ordinator, the Office Manager and volunteers to create a co-ordinated ministry approach
- Foster a spirit of teamwork, mutual support and shared mission within the ministry team.

Communication and Administration

- Maintain clear communication with families through newsletters, social media, emails and other forms of outreach
- Develop and manage a budget for the family ministry program, ensuring effective use of resources

• Track and report on the progress and impact of family ministry programs, adjusting as needed based on feedback and evaluation

Qualifications and Skills

- Ordained Minister in the Uniting Church or equivalent recognised denomination
- A strong personal faith in Jesus Christ, demonstrated through active spiritual practices and a commitment to working within the purpose and values of the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod and adhering to the policies, organisational requirements and processes
- Service: personable with a commitment to building strong relationships with key stakeholders/customers across the Church and its agencies, boards and committees of the Synod
- Responsibility: demonstrated attention to detail, timeliness, analytical and focussed on outcomes
- Respect: demonstrated ability to clearly communicate orally and in writing with others and manage competing views
- Excellent preaching, communication and public speaking skills
- Proven skills and experience in modern technology, particularly in the presentation of services.
- Strong organisational and time-management skills with the ability to manage multiple projects and deadlines
- Experience in family ministry, children's ministry, or a related field, preferably in a church or ministry setting.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to engage and build relationships with individuals and families of all ages
- Ability to recruit, train and support volunteers, fostering a team-oriented approach
- Sound administrative skills, including planning, budgeting, report writing, organizing and leading programs for children, youth and families
- Creative and proactive in designing and engaging relevant programs that meet the diverse needs
 of families
- A commitment to building a welcoming and inclusive environment where all families, regardless
 of background, feel valued and supported
- Enthusiastic about fostering intergenerational connections and creating opportunities for families to grow together in faith
- A background in theology or ministry, with a focus on family life and spiritual formation, is preferred.

Personal Attributes

- Integrity: demonstrated ability to act with impartiality and honesty
- A deep and personal relationship with God, demonstrated through a strong prayer life, spiritual discipline and commitment to the teachings of Jesus Christ

- Compassionate, empathetic and approachable with a heart for serving families in both their joys and challenges
- A heart for service, particularly in nurturing and supporting the spiritual lives of others
- A warm, open and welcoming personality with a focus on building community and inclusivity
- A strong sense of calling and commitment to the mission of the Uniting Church

Basic Requirements

- Current drivers licence to enable pastoral care and attendance at Presbytery functions to be given high priority
- Working with Children Clearance Card (BCB Blue Card)
- Where necessary, a National Criminal History Check to be provided and assessed every three years
- This position is for the exercise of the duties of an ordained ministry of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- The successful applicant will be required to comply with the Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice and access regular professional supervision
- This is an approved placement of the Uniting Church in Australia and the ministerial stipend and allowance provisions will apply
- The successful applicant must be eligible to legally work in Australia and proof of eligibility may be requested

Authorised by:

Name: Gregory Early

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Signature:

Title: Chairman, Aspley Uniting Church Council

Date: 21 January 2025