

## Position Description

**Church:** City Heart Church of Christ

**Role:** Pastor

**Allocation:** 0.4-0.5 FTE (2 – 2.5 days per week)



**Role Focus:** To assist in leading City Heart Church of Christ (CHCC) congregational life and missional engagement in the local community, and in the process, enabling leadership development and discipleship as intentional areas of growth, so that CHCC will continue to develop as a Community of Hope and Compassion.

### Role Key Areas:

- Stand firm on the truth of God's Word; to **communicate that Word** through preaching, teaching and example.
- **Mentor others** to develop their preaching and teaching gifts.
- To **challenge and motivate** people to grow in their personal relationship with Christ through prayer and the work and power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Growing the Church** through prayer, spiritual and Biblical leadership, preaching and teaching.
- To **faithfully communicate God's Word** through preaching, teaching and mentoring others to develop their preaching and teaching gifts, and to lead the development of the overall teaching plan.
- To **offer pastoral care** to Church members and those in the community, including conducting weddings and funerals as required.
- To **develop and cast vision** for the future growth of the Church in partnership with the Ministry Team.
- To **empower and support the current ministries** of CHCC, as expressions of a living link between the community and the Sunday gathering of CHCC.
- To **develop leaders** – this will include identifying, training and releasing members of CHCC into ministry opportunities.
- To **build links** with the broader Stawell community and to explore future community engagement possibilities that are consistent with the mission of CHCC.

### Accountabilities:

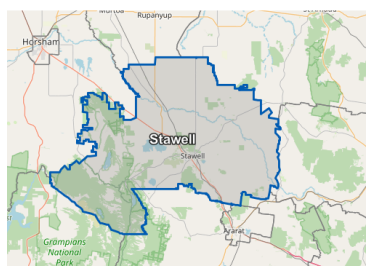
The Pastor will be accountable to and work in close liaison with the Ministry Team.

The Pastor will be an Accredited Minister of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania and the stipend will be subject to the terms and conditions of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania.

The Pastor will undergo an annual review by the Ministry Team according to CCVT guidelines.

## City Heart – Church Profile

City Heart is a Church of Christ congregation, situated in the heart of the Stawell business and retail district.



**Stawell** is located in the Wimmera region of Victoria, 237 kilometres west-north-west of Melbourne. Located within the Northern Grampians Local Government Area. It is the gateway to the Grampians National Park 25 kilometres south. The Grampians is a major national and international tourist destination. At the 2021 Census, Stawell had a population of 6,220. It was founded in 1853 during the Victorian Gold rush. It is one of the few

towns in Victoria retaining an active gold mining industry. An exciting new development is the international Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory located 1 kilometre deep within the mine to directly locate and identify the nature of 'dark matter', believed to be a big part of the universe. This is the first such Laboratory in the Southern Hemisphere. There is one in the Northern Hemisphere, located in Italy under the Gran Sasso mountain.

Stawell is famous for the Stawell Gift, a professional foot race that began in 1878. Other sports are well supported such as football, golf, netball and tennis, with fishing in nearby lakes. There is an indoor swimming pool. Several wineries operate in the region. Stawell has 2 State Primary Schools, 1 Catholic Primary School, 1 Secondary School and a school for special needs.




There are 5 denominations apart from City Heart Church of Christ – Anglican, Catholic, Uniting, Lutheran and Seventh Day Adventist. There is a Salvation Army presence. The Baptist Church closed recently. The Inter Church Council operates a welfare cottage next door to City Heart which owns the cottage.

Stawell is named after Sir William Foster Stawell (1815-1889), the Chief Justice of Victoria.

**City Heart Church of Christ**, formerly known as Stawell Church of Christ, is an affiliated congregation of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania. It has served the local community since December 1905. During this time there have been various ebbs and flows in the life of the Church as it sought to communicate God's love to and for its local community. Since 2015 the Church has followed God's leading with a renewed vision and purpose, and the current name captures the missional intent of the congregation. City Heart is now seen as a high-profile Church in both the local and regional community. In the heart of the town with the town in our hearts under the banner of "God cares, We care".

### City Heart – what we look like and how we serve:

- The Church believes and functions as a priesthood of all believers, led by the Holy Spirit. All are encouraged to participate in the worship services and other areas of ministry according to their gifts and talents, including the preaching ministry.

	<b>People</b>	<b>8,504</b>
	Male	50.3%
	Female	49.7%
	Median age	48
	<b>Families</b>	<b>2,192</b>
	Average number of children per family	
	for families with children	1.8
	for all households (a)	0.5
	<b>All private dwellings</b>	<b>4,352</b>
	Average number of people per household	2.2
	Median weekly household income	\$1,184
	Median monthly mortgage repayments	\$1,010
	Median weekly rent (b)	\$214
	Average number of motor vehicles per dwelling	2

- We are a fellowship of over 50 people, with an average Sunday 10am worship service attendance of 30.
- We are a growing fellowship, made up of people of various ages, (with an increasing number of younger people,) and ethnicities, having welcomed folk from Vanuatu, Indonesia and South Africa and more recently the Philippines, who have come to the region for work.
- The age profile of the City Heart Church of Christ as compared to the ABS statistics for Stawell.

City Heart Church of Christ			The Stawell Community	
Age	No.	% of Total	Age	% of Total
0-19 years	9	16%	0-19 years	20
20-39 years	5	9%	20-39 years	22.1
40-59 years	16	29%	40-59 years	24.3
60+ years	26	46%	60+ years	33.7

- Because of the location of the Church, we welcome visitors regularly. These visitors include:
  - Those who come to the region for holidays.
  - Those relocating for work.
  - Family and friends of members.
  - Locals looking for a Church.
- Those who visit City Heart for worship will experience a relaxed and joyful gathering, with a blended worship style, where all are welcomed, God is honoured and encouragement for Christian living is communicated from the faithful teaching of God’s Word.
- Worship services are led by a worship team, with a mix of contemporary and traditional hymns and songs, supported by multimedia technology.
- Baptisms have featured in the Church’s life over recent years as people have committed themselves to the lifelong adventure of loving God and others.
- Other programs of City Heart Church of Christ:
  - The Tuesday Community Dinner (fortnightly) has up to 30 guests in attendance.
  - There are three Bible Study groups that meet regularly.
  - The local “Foodbank” operates from the Church-owned cottage next door.
  - A men’s breakfast has recently begun with plans for this to be a regular outreach.
  - City Heart participates in the local Churches’ combined services, held when there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month.
  - Co-ordinates the weekly contributions of Christian Devotions by local Churches to a regional newspaper.
- City Heart numerically may be a smaller Church but its heart is large and those who are part of the Church are committed to loving God and loving their neighbours.

### **City Heart – what we value:**

Our Statement of Faith. We believe that the Bible is, in its entirety, the inspired Word of God. It is God’s revelation to man, inerrant as originally written by Spirit-controlled men. We believe the Bible to be the centre of true Christian unity and the supreme and final authority against which all matters of doctrine, faith, human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tested.

- We value the working and inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the importance of prayer.
- We value gathering around and living in ways that are faithful to God’s Word.
- We value the regular opportunities to be taught so we can serve.
- We value the opportunities for personal response and growth as disciples and followers of Jesus.

- We value the contribution that everyone can make to the life of the Church.
- We value our relationship with God as we express our dependence on Him through times of prayer.
- We value the privilege of stewarding all the resources God has given (people, finances, property, opportunities) for the purpose of showing others that we care because God cares.
- We value the privilege of serving our community and neighbourhood, inviting people into a living expression of God's love and care.
- We value hospitality and welcome all to participate in our common life.

**City Heart – our priorities for the future:**

- We are committed to growing the Church younger, creating an environment all generations can make our Church their home.
- We are committed to mutual sharing of ministry as each one uses their gifts and abilities in ministry. This includes the current ministry areas: Community Engagement and Young Adults; Prayer Ministry; Welfare and Hospitality; Discipleship and Spiritual Growth; Men's Ministry; Women's Ministry; Worship Presentation; Pastoral Care and Financial Management.
- We are committed to being a place where people will have an experience that invites them to explore and commit to a lifelong journey of following Jesus.
- We are committed to the maintenance and development of our location on Sloane Street.