Presbyterian Church of Victoria *MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE*

**Church Health Checklist – an assessment tool**

*The 2014 General Assembly of the PCV “Encourage[d] all presbyteries to use the Healthy Churches Checklist to monitor and assess any churches within their jurisdiction that present signs of a lack of ‘Church Health’ and work with them to seek resolutions.” (Minute 90.3)*

*A Healthy Church has a clear and motivating vision of its purpose, role and function.*

*-* Does the church have a compelling vision for its future?

- Is the vision clear, memorable and specific?

- Can the pastor, leaders and congregation verbalise the church’s vision?

- Does the vision motivate the church into action?

- Is the church willing to sacrifice, change, take risks, or even suffer for the sake of the gospel?

*A Healthy Church is a church which produces fruit.*

- Is the number of those attending static / increasing / decreasing?

- Have there been conversions / baptisms?

- Are there signs that people are changing as God works in their heart?

- Are people discovering and using their spiritual gifts?

- How are newcomers made to feel part of the church family?

*A Heathy Church is a God-worshipping church.*

- Does worship engage hearts, minds and emotions in glorifying God?

- Is worship planned to engage and influence both Christians and those not yet committed to Christ of all generations/ages?

*A Healthy Church has elders who are spiritually mature and alive and who minister, serve, pray, visit and exhibit a godly lifestyle.*

- Do elders humbly serve in a way that provides a godly example?

- Do elders preach?

- Do elders lead in prayer?

- Do elders lead Bible studies?

- Do elders attend the church ministries?

- Do elders verbalise the gospel?

- Do elders visit?

- Do elders lead in devotions & pray with members?

- Do elders attend any training sessions?

- Are elders able to promote the spiritual development of the members?

- Do elders own and accept the Westminster Confession of Faith as an exhibition of the sense in which they understand the scriptures and as a confession of their faith?

*A Healthy Church supports the ministry financially from its tithes/offerings.*

- What is the giving?

- Does the church rely on investments?

- Is the church receiving sustentation/subsidy?

*A Healthy Church has a love for the gospel and a missional focus.*

- Does the church interact with the culture around it?

- Is the church passionate about reaching its community, nation and world with the gospel?

- Does the church warmly welcome people of all ages, cultures, socioeconomic groups and special needs people?

- Is the Gospel faithfully and clearly proclaimed?

- Is God’s grace clearly understood?

*A Healthy Church is a church which cares for its own people and its neighbours.*

- Are loving relationships developing between congregation members?

- Is the church engaging with its surrounding community for gospel driven purposes?

- Are small groups meeting the needs for spiritual growth and fellowship?

- How are congregational members encouraging one another? Hebrews 10:25

- How are members spurring each other on toward love and good deeds? Hebrews 10:24

- Does the church demonstrate God’s passion for the poor, homeless, disabled and those suffering?

- Are biblical principles used when handling conflict?

*A Healthy Church is a church which prays.*

- What opportunities for corporate prayer does the congregation have?

- How many attend these times?

*A Healthy Church is a church whose leaders make disciples of the Lord Jesus.*

- How is the church intentional about encouraging its members to have attitudes and behaviour that mirror Christ?

- Do leaders humbly work together as a team?

- Do members joyfully share time, talents, and treasures?

- Are leaders intentional about training future leaders for the church?

*A Healthy Church is a church which has healthy Ministry leadership.*

- Is the Minister [and his wife] in good physical health?

- Is the Minister encouraged to grow spiritually by attending conferences, lectures, etc.?

- Does the Minister have regular holidays and a weekly day off?

- Is the Minister able to prayerfully share any personal concerns with his elders or presbytery colleagues?