



May 2024

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CONCERT

**featuring soloists from the junior
section of the college**

01 STARTING AT 7PM
MAY

Heaton Moor United Church,
Stanley Road,
SK4 4HL

£5 entry on the door
which includes
interval refreshments



The Ridge Methodist Church



Heaton Moor United Church



Bravura Concert

22nd June 2024

7.30 pm

Davenport Methodist Church

**Norwegian and Belgian Tasting Lunch.
Sat 11th May 12-3pm cost £10.**

The Brownies and Guides are holding this lunch to raise funds for the Guides international adventures.

Heaton Moor United Church

Heaton Moor United Church once again opened their door to the community during the recent half term for Open Church.

Open Church is exactly what it says on the tin! The Church is Open to all with different activities happening throughout the church for everybody!

This week we explored the acts of the disciples in those early days after Jesus was crucified, welcoming over 55 families over the 4 days.

We had a hungry caterpillar prayer walk, made our own version of a Magic 8 ball to talk about how the disciples picked lots to choose the twelfth disciple. We compared the Son of Thunder with the God of Thunder and had a welly throwing competition in the worship space (!) As we explored Ethiopia with Phillip we got to taste some yummy authentic Ethiopian food from Asmara Bella Restaurant in Manchester, and finally we had Messy Church looking at Peter. For the adults we had conversations against mundanity (a resource from The Methodist Church) and Vintage Church looking at hearing the cockerel crow. An escape room and a quit room were also on offer!



Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Dialstone lane Methodist Church

PLANT STALL

IN AID OF



on

Saturday 11th May

from 10.00am-4.00pm

TEA & COFFEE AVAILABLE

volunteers needed please

Windlehurst Methodist Church



If you're having a spring clear out, we need Childrens' books, please

WSM are collecting books for children of any age either new or in good condition.

Any donations can be brought to
Windlehurst Church
Thursday mornings,
9 am—3 pm

The books will be
collected on
Tuesday 21st May

Woodley Methodist Church

Grab a bargain !

WOODLEY METHODIST CHURCH
THRIFT SHOP

Sale

Friday 26th April

5pm – 7pm

Ladies & Mens

Clothes and Shoes

All at bargain prices!

Romiley Methodist Church

Film Show 7th May 2pm

“The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry” (12A rating)

Entry by donation of £4 which includes cake.



Gardening and planting this month , you deserve a cake

Marple Methodist Church

Christian Aid week Plant and Cake Sale

Saturday 11 May

10 am to 12.30pm at Marple
Methodist Church.



The church will be open from
9.30 am for early drop off of
plants (no indoor plants
please).

The church will also be open
5pm to 7.30pm

Friday 10 May

for early drop off of plants.
Please come along to support
this event.

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

CACTUS Project

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
Can you help?

We need volunteers for Community Café at Tiviot Dale.
Community Café is every Thursday from 2 – 6pm.

Could you offer once a month? More volunteers are needed to sit with people who need a listening ear, to be in the dining room, to chat and engage in activities such as jigsaws, puzzles and colouring, and share in a meal together.

Appeal for resources:

Socks, all sizes but especially men's socks
Baby wipes
Chess sets
Tents (2-3 person)
Sleeping bags
Pull along shopping trolleys (plain preferred)

Please contact Deacon Janet Amey or Maggie Thompson at Tiviot Dale. property@stockportcircuit.org.uk

Alternatively, please drop off any donations at Tiviot Dale

Circuit Service

Tiviot Dale

5th May 2024

'Celebrating God's Creation'

5.30 pm Refreshments

6.30 pm Service

Circuit Service

Note—there is no 2nd June Service

at Tiviot Dale

Dialstone Lane

9th June 2024

'Ordinands Testimony Service'

**Deacon Janet Amey and
Reverend Catharine Hughes**

7 pm Refreshments

7.30 pm Service

Circuit Service

Tiviot Dale

7th July 2024

'Farewell Service'

For Reverend Lindsay Kemp

5.30 pm Refreshments

6.30 pm Service

Dear friends, a Stockport Community Sponsorship group is seeking your help with the below request...

"We are looking for a 2-bed house in the Edgeley Area of Stockport within the catchment area of Larkhill Primary School for a young family of refugees who have been here for 3 years.

The eldest child is under a SEND plan at school and really needs to stay within the school she is currently in to maintain the amazing support the school is providing for her.

Dad works part-time and attends English lessons.

Mum looks after the two-year-old and attends English lessons.

Their current tenancy is coming to its end and the landlord, who has supported them for 3 years, is now looking to move into the property himself after the tenancy has ended in September.

There have not been any issues with the tenants, the property, or the landlord. The family are delightful and have not had any issues paying bills.

They came here under the Community Sponsorship Scheme and have continued with the support of the team for 3 years.

Our group will continue to support them with private English Lessons, school meetings with regards to educational needs for the children and some health appointments if necessary.

Should the family have to move into homeless accommodation, the daughter will not be able to continue in her current school as the family hostel is 5 miles away in Stockport. Ideally, we would like a long-term tenancy allowing the family to feel settled and develop as a family with security."

If you have any contacts who might help explore a solution, please can you put them in touch with

Lucy McJannett

Lucymcjannett@btinternet.com

Claire Griffiths

claire.griffiths@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk



Who We Are...

We are a group who have always loved playing music and singing together and started Musical Memories in order to create social singing sessions to help bring older folk together for the simple pleasure of singing, talking, remembering and Where we are enjoying each other's company – not to mention the FREE cuppa and biscuits!

Studies into singing sessions for older people have shown that singing together can boost levels of immunity, reduce stress, and improve mood leading to a positive impact on overall health and well-being.

We meet on the **last Friday of the month** in the Church Hall see below:

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN START TIME & VENUE

31st May – 2.00pm – 4.00pm - in Church **"Songs from the Shows"**

28th June – 2.00pm – 4.00pm – in Church with **Harry & John Jefferies**

26th July – 2.00pm – 4.00pm – in Church

30th August – 2.00pm – 4.00pm – in Church with **Organist Roger Pearce**

27th September – 2.00pm – 4.00pm in Church

25th October – 2.00pm – 4.00pm in Church with **RAINBOW**

29th November 2.00pm – 4.00pm in Church with **Organist Roger Pearce**

Woodley Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Woodley, Stockport SK6 1NF

If you would like to join us or know more about the group, please telephone [Phil on 0161 430 8518](tel:01614308518).

HONG KONG FELLOWSHIP

The Hong Kong Fellowship was established in Jan 2023 in responding to the needs of a faith community for Hongkongers who live in Stockport. We started with three Hong Kong families and now we have 70 members registered. Every 3rd Sunday afternoon of the month, we have a fellowship gathering at Edgeley Community Church. There is a different theme every month and led by guest speakers. We start with a light lunch, then worship together, and play crafts and games activities. We share information and support each other. Many of the members were already Christians in Hong Kong, some are new to the Christian faith, and others are in search for the meaning of life. Our youngest member is six and the oldest ones are over 70s. We have a lot of talented people, including artists, musicians, cooks, teachers, and Christian leaders.

In addition, we organise a monthly social event. So far, we have music jam night, bowling, theatre show, exhibition, dim sum, and film screening.

Every Friday morning, we also run an English Workshop for our members to improve their English. It is run by one of our members, Ada who was an English teacher in Hong Kong. The class is mainly for beginners. We have over 30 people registered.

On Tuesday evening, there is a Bible Study led by Chris who is one of our members too. The group has participants from a diverse background, not just Hongkongers.

We are very grateful to have the support from the Circuit and Caleb project to fund our fellowship for five years. As the group grows, we hope to explore ways for future development.

Please come and visit us. We would like to use our talents to build the church together with you!

Mei Yuk Wong

Hong Kong Fellowship Coordinator

Mei Yuk joined the Circuit in September 2023 as the Hong Kong Fellowship Coordinator.

Since primary school, Mei Yuk was educated in Christian schools in Hong Kong. She was a youth leader at a local Anglican church, and head girl at St Catherine's School for Girls. After graduating with a Bachelor of Divinity from the School of Theology, Chung Chi College, Chinese University of Hong Kong, she worked for different church organisations in Hong Kong, including Hong Kong Christian Institute. She was the Vice-Chair of the Hong Kong Women's Christian Council, and graduated from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, specialising in Women and Development.

In the UK, Mei Yuk has worked in a community centre, an arts centre, and a local authority before working for the church again.

Over the last decade, she has worked for Heaton Mersey Methodist Church and Edgeley Community Church as a lay worker. She enjoys working with families and the community, and understands the importance of an open and outward looking church for its mission.

When the political situation in Hong Kong was getting worse over the last few years, she supported many Hongkongers and groups in different ways. She thought it was vital for the church to respond to the needs of the new community, and urged the church to welcome and support Hongkongers in the Stockport area. With the blessing of Edgeley Community Church, the Hong Kong Fellowship was established in January 2023.

Recently, Mei Yuk has received a Community Champion Award from Groundswell Project in Manchester. It is in recognition of her contributions, especially to the Hong Kong community over the years. Additionally, she was nominated for the Person in Faith, Community Award from Make a Difference in Stockport.

Beside her church work, Mei Yuk is a creative professional. She graduated from Wimbledon School of Art and London Guildhall University (London Metropolitan University). She makes artwork, curates exhibitions, writes plays and produces theatre work. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally.



Would you consider being a Circuit Steward?

The role of circuit steward is an important one in the life of the Methodist Church

The circuit is a key structure in Methodism. It is to circuits, not churches, that ministers are stationed and Methodism acknowledges that it is the circuit that is "the primary unit in which Local Churches express and experience their interconnection in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help"

Those who have taken on this responsibility point to how rewarding and stimulating it can be as they seek to support and shape the circuit in response to the needs and challenges of its local area.

Circuit stewards work in partnership with presbyters, deacons, church workers and others to enable individuals and communities to find fulfilment and belonging within the Church.

As the role is voluntary, circuit stewards carry out their responsibilities alongside jobs, family commitments and other responsibilities. So, patience and a sense of humour are essential criteria for the job, as is the ability to work positively together as a team.

Circuit stewards have a range of duties and you can read more about the role here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/equipping-circuits/offices-and-roles/circuit-stewards/what-is-a-circuit-steward/>

In the United Stockport Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the ministers meet as the Circuit Leadership Team at least once a month, usually in person but once every quarter on Zoom and have roles ranging from looking after manse to supporting ministers pastorally, overseeing ministerial invitations, and liaising with local churches. Learning is "on the job" and it is recognised that we all learn from each other. It is not necessary to be an "expert" but to offer your time for the benefit of the circuit as a whole.

If you think you might be able to offer yourself for the role of Circuit Steward, please speak to either of us, or to your minister – you are not committing to anything by having a conversation!

Cathy Bird (Superintendent Minister) and Jayne Quinn (Co-ordinating Circuit Steward)

The **Manchester** and **Stockport**
Methodist District



REPRESENTING THE METHODIST CHURCH AT MANCHESTER PRIDE

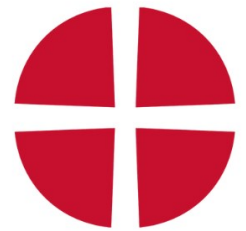
Your opportunity to be part of a group planning and preparing our entry to the Manchester Pride Parade on

SATURDAY, 24TH AUGUST, 2024

If you're passionate about being part of an inclusive church, and want to positively share this message and celebrate with the LGBTQ+ community in Manchester, you could be just what we need! To find out more, please email Steering Group Coordinator Rachel Foster on youth@altrinchammethodistcircuit.org.uk



**God
for
All**



Representing the Methodist Church at Manchester Pride

Your opportunity to be part of a group planning and preparing our entry to the Manchester Pride Parade on Saturday 24th August 2024.

If you're passionate about being part of an inclusive church, and want to positively share this message and celebrate with the LGBTQ+ community in Manchester, you could be just what we need! To find out more, please email Steering Group Coordinator Rachel Foster on youth@altrinchammethodistcircuit.org.uk.

NORTH WEST ENGLAND METHODIST DISTRICT

THE EQUIP SERIES



**TUE 12 MARCH
WED 17 APRIL
THU 16 MAY
MON 10 JUNE
TUE 16 JULY
WED 14 AUGUST
2024**

**MONTHLY
ONLINE EVENTS**

**HOSTED ON
ZOOM**

7.30 - 8.30PM

**(ARRIVE FROM
7.20PM FOR A
7.30PM START)**

Come along to these information evenings and be equipped as we move towards the launch of the North West England District. These evenings will include:

- Devotions
- An update from each sub group, to increase our knowledge and understanding of how the new district will look and feel
- Q and A session

These events will run on a monthly basis, and you are invited to attend any/all of these sessions. To Join:

[https://zoom.us/j/94658927054?](https://zoom.us/j/94658927054?pwd=ZmNKUGl3SWdleXJsckZyZW5tT3MrZz09)

[pwd=ZmNKUGl3SWdleXJsckZyZW5tT3MrZz09](https://zoom.us/j/94658927054?pwd=ZmNKUGl3SWdleXJsckZyZW5tT3MrZz09)

(Meeting ID: 946 5892 7054 Passcode: 125750)

To access via phone dial 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 and follow prompts.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE
EMAIL NWEDCOMMUNICATION@OUTLOOK.COM.**



Spring 2024: Refugee Update to the Churches

In case you missed it here's a quick reminder: our Circuit is sponsoring a Syrian refugee family to come and settle here in Stockport. A small project team is steering them through the forest of rules and regulations and supporting them as they learn English and get access to the medical help and schooling they need.

Project Team leader Viki Packman presented a full report to the April Circuit Meeting, setting out what we have done since the family arrived last October, and pointing the way ahead for them to take their full place in British society in the next two years.

If you would like more detailed information you can read Viki's full report to the Circuit Meeting [here](#).

Want to help, but don't know what's needed?

Maybe you could be one of our TALKERS! We're all good at it: so please come and share your skill in speaking English with family members.

Perhaps start with a 'no commitments' offer of just an hour as a taster to see how it goes? Times can fit round your timetable (and the family's own busy diary), and you will always have a second volunteer with you.

We also urgently need new recruits to our band of lift-givers for day-time medical appointments for the family, one of whom is quite severely disabled.

Could you sign up to be one of our TALKERS?

Could you sign up to be one of our DRIVERS?

If you can then please call JoAnne Roy our Volunteer Coordinator:

Call her on 07340 269 354 or email: community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

New Bank Account and QR Code

Donations from individuals and church organisations are always very welcome and will certainly be put to good use.

Our account name is 'USC Sponsorship Scheme', A/c 67316436, bank ref 08-92-99,

or you can make a card donation via our QR code shown here:-



Appeal for housing/accommodation

As you will know, Dialstone Lane Methodist Church have been running a weekly "Welcome Group" for people seeking asylum accommodated at a local hotel since November 2021. Many have become very involved in our Church as well, attending services regularly, being baptised and some becoming members. Many have been moved away from the hotel – and Stockport - under the Home Office's policy, but some have been able to maintain links with us. Others have remained at the hotel for well over a year. For some, our Church has become the nearest thing to a family in this country for them.

So, we rejoice with them, as people we have got to know well are now receiving their Right to Remain in the UK. But it is tinged with sadness as we are all too aware that this is a major problem in terms of their accommodation, particularly for single people, as local Councils are currently not accepting responsibility for housing them – and indeed are struggling to accommodate those they do accept responsibility for such as families with children under 18 and people with health conditions. This is all part of a wider housing crisis that many of you will have heard about in the media.

Because of their involvement with our Church, **I am appealing to members of the local Methodist Church as to whether any of you have a spare room which you could let to an individual. There would be money available from Housing Benefit to pay for this.**

Please contact Andy or Catriona Stoker from Dialstone Lane if you think you could help or would like more information.

Email: Andy – andy.stoker@btinternet.com; Catriona – cat.stoker@btinternet.com

Staying at Home this Summer?

Tiviot Dale are Holidaying at Home

Monday 5th August to Friday 9th August

10am – 4pm.

Block it in your diaries now – more details about how to book in and the programme will follow in the next newsletter.

We are looking for people to assist us.

- * Does anyone have a 45-minute talk on an interesting subject?
- * Would you like to help us out preparing afternoon tea?
- * Are you good at painting nails?
- * Would someone be able to come and teach a line dance?
- * Are you part of a singing group who would like to offer us a performance?

Offers to Maggie,

email property@stockportcircuit.org.uk

