

Newsletter

MARCH 2025

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Double Baptism in Liverpool

I was delighted to be invited to the baptism of Abolfazl and Padide on the 9th February 2025 at Liverpool County Church Methodist Hub.

I got to know them when they arrived at the Britannia Hotel last August and they began to attend church and the welcome group. After their move to Liverpool I have kept in touch with them via WhatsApp.

Their joint Baptisms were conducted by Rev.Ian Chu and there were about 25 people present. The congregation were very friendly and welcoming and were very supportive of Abolfazl and Padide who had been involved in the planning of the service.

Abolfazl designed the PowerPoint for the AV presentation and they chose a hymn sung in the Persian language. They also said some words about their journey to Baptism and how thankful they are to live out their faith.

After the service tea and cakes were served in a nearby room.

I was then invited back to their home for a delicious Persian meal. They were so happy that I had come to share their special day and it was a wonderful experience for me too.

Carol Tate

Heaton Moor United Church

Like many churches across the circuit, we are offering a warm space, which we call The Living Lounge, each Monday from 12:00 until 15:00. In partnership with Community Post CIC and the community fridge initiative we have been offering Lunch at The Living Lounge throughout January.

Thanks to additional funding we are going to continue Lunch at The Living Lounge from 24th February. The bulk of lunch items are provided by local supermarkets and are items that would otherwise go to waste - lunch at The Living Lounge is available for everyone as we do our bit to reduce good quality food going to landfill.

From March we will begin a new initiative entitled Living Well at The Living Lounge so look out for special events to help us all Live Well!

Windlehurst Methodist Church

Margaret Rawles is currently collecting wool, this can be scraps or spare balls. Donations may be left at Windlehurst or Hazel Grove.



Wood Street Mission are collecting new or good quality books for children for Easter 🐣

Also, new or good quality children's clothes (baby-age 16), high chairs and good quality Moses baskets.

Items can be handed in at Windlehurst Church on Thursday 20th and 27th March between 9.00-3.00.

Marple Methodist Church

We are looking forward to Judith Laycock's ordination. Prior to the ordination service her Testimony will take place on 4th May at Marple Methodist Church, time TBC.

The ordination service will take place in Telford on 29th June, information regarding tickets and the live stream will be advertised in future newsletters.

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Wanted - a cleaner for Dialstone Lane Church

After 15 years of service our cleaner Lynda at Dialstone Lane Church has stepped down. We are seeking to appoint her successor. Paid the real living wage. Ten hours per week (with some degree of flexibility).

If you are interested or would like further details please contact me. A job description will be available soon.

Dave Bryant

Mobile 07922722179 Email - marganddave37@icloud.com





An exciting job opportunity, working with a dedicated team to provide quality activities and social time for local people with learning

Assistant Group Co-ordinator Active at Windlehurst

“Active at Windlehurst” meets one day a week in term time to provide activities for our members who are adults with learning disabilities.

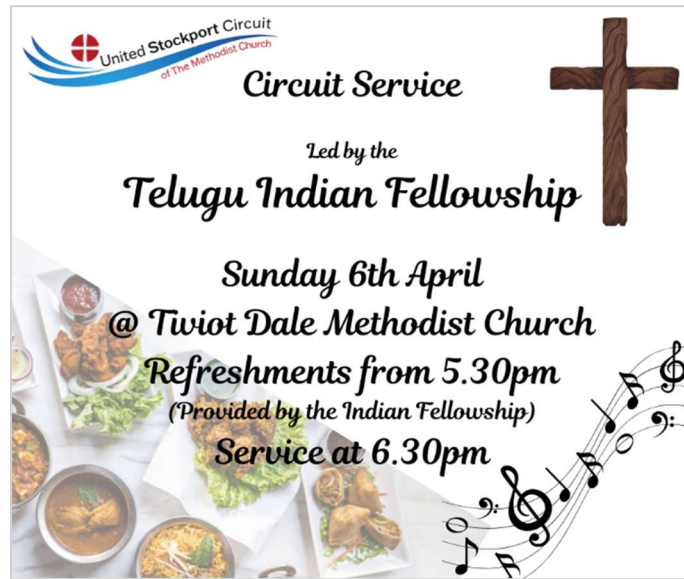
We are seeking to appoint a part-time Assistant Group Co-ordinator for this wonderful group.

For more details about the United Stockport Circuit visit stockportcircuit.org.uk

Location :	Windlehurst Methodist Church, High Lane, SK6 8AF and some home working
Hours:	10 hours per week in term time i.e., 40 weeks per annum to cover 8:30am to 3:30pm on Thursdays plus flexible preparation time
Rate of pay :	£12.55 to £15.78 per hour to reflect prior experience, to be reviewed in September 2025
Next Steps:	For an application pack, including job description and job specification, please email revkatiesmith@gmail.com
Closing Date	21 st March 2025, interview to be arranged at a mutually convenient time.
Start Date	May 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Circuit



The Methodist Church Manchester & Stockport Area

MWiB Spring Gathering

Saturday, 12th April, 10.30 a.m. - 3.15 p.m.

(Coffee served from 10.00 a.m.)

Monton Methodist Church

(Corner of Park Road & Grange Drive M30 9JG)

Speaker: Rev Leonora Wassell

Part 1: 'The Status of Women' and

Part 2: 'The Butterfly Movement' (with Craft!)

Please bring your own lunch, drinks provided **All Welcome**

 **Methodist Women
in Britain**

... Christ



3Generate

We are hoping to take a group of young people to 3Generate this year. This year 3Generate will be held on 3rd-5th October at the NEC Birmingham.

3Generate is an event for children and **young people aged 4-18** and includes various activities, workshops, and worship sessions designed to help young people explore their faith, develop leadership skills, and make a positive impact in their communities.

If you know of any children and young people within your church that may be interested in attending please contact Rev Katie Smith or Deacon Judith Laycock for details.

More information about the weekend can be found at [this link](#).

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church



Venue: Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Theme: Creating Harmony.

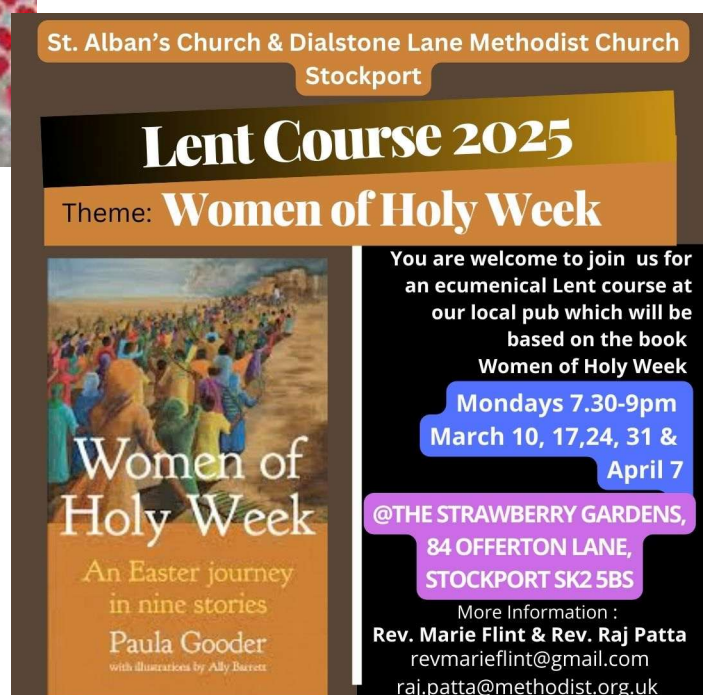
Time: The day will begin with coffee at 10am and end at 3.30pm.

An opportunity to explore the theme creatively, through various activities.

Artserve Members and non-members are all welcome.

Although the day is free registration is required.

Please contact Anne Wilde - annewilde2002@gmail.com



Big Brew Fairtrade Coffee Morning - Saturday 5th April, 10.00-12.00 in the coffee lounge at Dialstone Lane MC.

Tea, coffee, food including Zaytoun olive oil and dates, Easter cards and eggs, chocolate, wide range of crafts.

Proceeds from the refreshments (including home made cakes with Fairtrade ingredients) will go to Transform Trade, who campaign on inequitable trade situations in many industries, including various types of farming, clothing and the differing legislative environments which allow rich countries to “export” their dirty industries and their rubbish to poorer countries.



Windlehurst Methodist Church

Active at Windlehurst are holding a Coffee Morning ☕ on Thursday 3rd April from 10.30-12.00.

Entrance £1.50, which includes a drink and biscuit!

Donations of cakes and raffle prizes are always welcome!

Heaton Moor United Church

Heaton Moor United Church will be holding a Lent Study after the morning service on the following dates:

9th March, 16th March, 23rd March, 6th April, 13th April

This will be accompanied by soup and a roll.

Woodley Methodist Church

Funday Mondays

Woodley Methodist Church invites you to our monthly fun times exploring seasonal topics and bible stories.

These are open for all ages from the very young to the not so very young - all are welcome.

There will be a time to meet people, have a snack and a drink, to play, to chat, and to craft, all with the topic in mind.

There is no charge for these events - we would just love you to come and join us.

Where - Woodley Methodist Church

When - 17th March from 3.15 to 5pm

For more information contact our minister, Katie Smith, on revkatiesmith@gmail.com or 0161 430 2964

REGULAR ACTIVITIES FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Hazel Grove Methodist Church

Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies' Fellowship meets on alternate Thursday afternoons in the church building from 2pm - 4pm. Old and new members welcome as we begin a new year. Come along and enjoy fellowship and fun and, of course, a cuppa!



Knit and Natter

Knit and Natter meets on alternate Wednesdays at 10.00am in the coffee lounge. Everyone is very welcome - to knit, to natter and enjoy a cuppa. The Group Knits all kinds of things, knee blankets for local care homes, hats for premature babies, vests for newborns abroad, Easter chicks for Francis House - anything for wherever there's a need.

Chatty Café

A joint venture with the United Reformed Church at the URC's Short Street Site - providing a warm space each Wednesday from 10.00am - noon with tea/coffee and light snacks - toast, teacakes etc for the local community and anyone who would like to call in for a brew and a chat.

Davenport Methodist Church

Craft Club



1st Wednesday of every month 14.00 - 16.00.

£3.00 per session includes refreshments.

An opportunity to learn a new skill, or share a skill you already have.

Come along to a session to find out more.

Thursday Drop In

Every Thursday 1pm - 3pm everyone welcome.

Come along and share in refreshments and a chat, plus sometimes this includes a quiz.

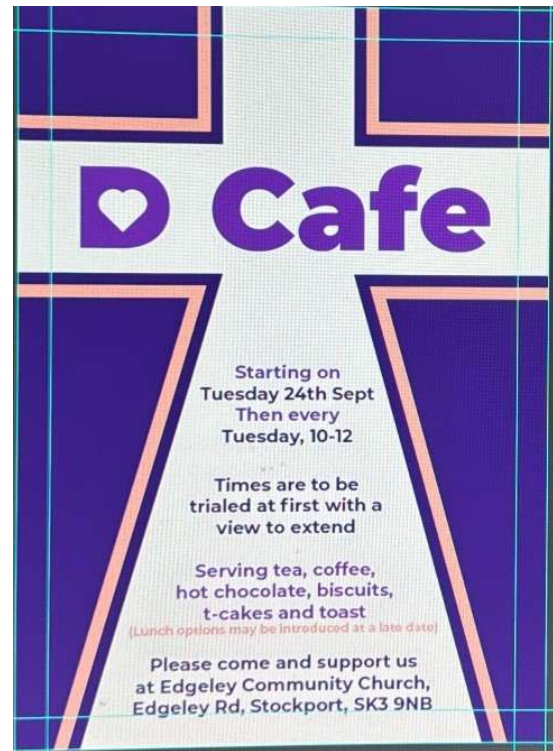
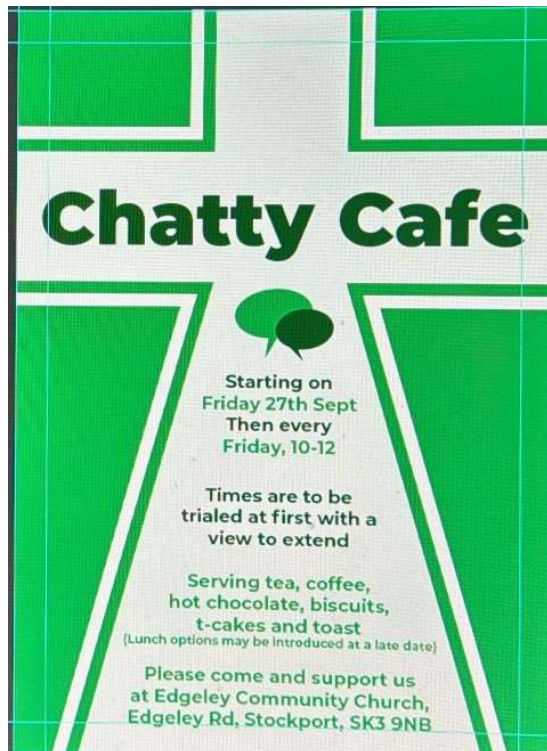
Prayer Meeting

Every first Sunday of the month at 10:00am for 15 minutes. All are welcome to join us.

Edgeley Community Church

Craft group (bring your own)

Monday 1-3pm - £3 drink & biscuits



Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

Tuesday afternoon Fellowship

We have a small group who meet every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm and 3pm for Bible study and discussion, followed by a time of prayer from 3.10pm. The group is open to everyone who would like to take part.

Chatterbox and Craft

Chatterbox and Craft meets every Monday (except Bank Holidays). Drop in any time between 1 and 3pm to knit, sew, paint, draw, play music or whatever you would normally do at home alone. Or just come along for a good chat.

Monthly Communion

The 4th Friday of every month at 14:00. Thirty-minute communion service followed by refreshments and time to chat.

Heaton Moor United Church

Dementia Friendly

Heatons



Dementia Friendly Heatons takes

place every Friday (except August and Christmas!) from 13:30 until 15:30

The group is for those with a dementia diagnosis and their carers. We aim to promote a dementia-friendly community by providing a safe, comfortable, and supportive environment that enables friendly social interaction in a relaxed atmosphere. We are a musical group who enjoy singing and dancing and have a weekly chair exercise class.

If you would like more information on the group please contact JoAnne on 07340 269 354 or dementiafriendlyheatons@gmail.com

Monday Fellowship - fortnightly gatherings of fun and fellowship Monday evenings from 19:45. See www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk calendar for next date.

Marple Methodist Church

The Seed Café every Thursday and Friday

Lydia's Place - craft group every other Thursday

Romiley Methodist Church

Music for Pleasure on Thursday 20th March is at 2 p.m. in the Church, when Brian Thornley, our organist, will take to the piano and play selections of a wide range of pieces chosen at random by the audience from the Star Folio music editions. This will be followed with a cuppa and a posh biscuit - all welcome!

Our **Saturday Afternoon Filmshow** (for the Easter season) on 5th April at 2 p.m. will be the 1953 Biblical epic “THE ROBE,” which tells the story of Marcellus, a Roman military tribune (played by Richard Burton) who commands the unit that is responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus and two robbers, and whose mind is haunted afterwards by what he’s done. He wins Jesus’ robe in a dice game at Calvary, and it’s this robe, regarded as cursed by some, but as a miracle-maker by others, that forms the title of the film. The other main characters are Demetrius, a Greek slave (Victor Mature) who becomes Marcellus’ personal servant; Diana (Jean Simmons), an item with Marcellus; the Apostle Peter (Michael Rennie); the Roman Emperor Caligula, the villain of the piece (Jay Robinson, in a somewhat unrestrained performance); & Pontius Pilate, he of the washing hands (Richard Boone). “The Robe” was the first film to be shot in the new widescreen process of Cinemascope, and was directed by Henry Koster, with a screenplay adapted from Lloyd C Douglas’s 1942 novel of the same title (Lloyd C Douglas was a Minister turned novelist). The music score was by the ever-reliable Alfred Newman. Richard Burton didn’t think very highly of his own performance, or of the film, but had to agree that it was “an almighty hit” - and it got him an Oscar nomination (along with 5 others for the film). It’s a film that has everything - action, love, hate, and a great, inspiring story

Entry by donation, with complimentary tea and cake during the interval. All welcome!

Windlehurst

Active at Windlehurst, a dedicated group for people with learning disabilities. Local history, drama, healthy eating and exercise.

Meet during term time every Thursday from 9:00 - 15:00, for more information contact Val Rowlands on 0161 427 6807

CAMEOS (Come And Meet Each Other & Sing)

Friendship, refreshments and a jolly good sing! All are welcome. We meet the first Wednesday of every month - there will be no meeting in January but will resume again on 5th February, from 13:45 for a prompt start at 14:00.

Woodley Methodist Church

Thrift Shop and Café open every Wednesday and Saturday 9.30am to 12noon

Bargains for all, come and have a browse!



Musical Memories are a group who have always loved playing music and singing together. We started Musical Memories in order to create social singing sessions to help bring people of all ages together for the simple pleasure of singing, talking, remembering and enjoying each others company - not to mention the 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 and memory leading to a positive impact on overall health and well-being

We meet on the last Friday of the month in the Church Hall and we “Welcome those with or without Dementia”

Dates for 2025 are:

Friday 28th March -

Friday 25th April - Cancelled - Holy Week

Friday 30th May

Friday 27th June

Friday 25th July

Friday 29th August

Friday 26th September

Friday 31st October

Friday 28th November

26th December - **NO MEETING - HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**

If you would like to join us or know more about the group please go to the Woodley Methodist Church Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/WoodleyMethodists> or telephone Phil on **0161 430 8518**

EXTERNAL NEWS



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

The District has a weekly newsletter which you can sign up to via the District website. The District website is now live and can be accessed at

<https://nwedmethodists.org.uk>. Please contact the District with your feedback - they would love to know your thoughts!

Send feedback to admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk.

Events from across the District

District Online Worship: Sunday 9 March at 6.30pm

We are excited to announce that on the second Sunday of every month, we will be having a District Online Worship on Zoom.

The first one is taking place on Sunday 9th March at 6.30pm with guest speaker Rev. David Hardman, Methodist Liaison Officer in Jerusalem, joining us live from Jerusalem, to help us at the beginning our Lenten journey, 'The Way of Jesus'.

The zoom link is as follows:

<https://zoom.us/j/97923125645?pwd=L656LDUauCGtv46fg2PoKXxwI24E8a.1>

Meeting ID: 979 2312 5645

Passcode: 543701



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

NWED UPDATES



**THU 27
MARCH
2025**


**ONLINE EVENT
HOSTED ON
ZOOM
7.30 - 8.30PM
(ARRIVE FROM
7.20PM FOR A
7.30PM START)**

Come along to this information evening and hear the updates following the launch of the North West England District. This evening will include:

- Devotions
- An update from each hub, to hear developments on various areas in the new District
- Q and A session

To Join:
<https://zoom.us/j/92628597645?pwd=JRGkH54xtvg4MSVipeAcvz5JEISok8.1>
(Meeting ID: 926 2859 7645 Passcode: 814479)
To access via phone dial 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 and follow prompts.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE
EMAIL ADMIN@NWEDMETHODISTS.ORG.UK**



PEAKE LECTURE 2025

All are welcome to attend this year's
Peake Lecture:

**"Sacrifice and Salvation:
Reading Hebrews Today"**

Saturday 22nd March, 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

The Nazarene Theological College,
Didsbury, Manchester M20 2GU

Presented by Professors Loveday Alexander and Philip Alexander

Sign up using the booking link below:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1226397190009?aff=oddttdcreator>