

# Newsletter

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JULY 2025

News from around the circuit	page	2
Upcoming events	page	7
Regular activities	page	9
External news	page	15

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### Christian Aid Week in Marple, May 2025.

The Churches Together Christian Aid Team in Marple undertook a number of activities around Christian Aid Week to raise money in support of farming communities in Guatemala impacted by climate change. These were:

- The distribution of 5500 Delivery-only envelopes to homes in Marple, Marple Bridge and Mellor.
- Ran a plant and cake sale held at Marple Methodist Church.
- Organised envelope or bucket collections at nine local churches.
- Held a 'Sing Out' collection at St. Marys Catholic Church in Marple Bridge.
- Set up a Marple specific CA web page for on-line giving.

In total, we contributed £5,821 to Christian Aid through donations, sales and Gift Aid to help these communities in Guatemala.

As you can see, the plant and cake sale were busy and good fun, raising over £1000 alone.



## Woodley Methodist Church

**Thrift shop and café OPEN WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS 9.30am to 12.00 Noon**

**95% OF OUR STOCK IS BETWEEN 50p and £3, MOST OF OUR CLOTHES ARE £3 or two for £5**

Come and pay us a visit, we have bargain's galore, probably the cheapest charity shop in the area and we only sell good quality clean goods.

Ladies & Mens Clothes & Shoes, Curtains, Household linens & lampshades, Bric a Brac, Crockery,

Bags of all sizes, Jewellery, Childrens Toys, books and games, books, small tested electrical goods, small items of household furniture.

AND you can visit our excellent cafe for drinks and snacks for which donations are gratefully accepted. ALL donations from the cafe are donated to local and national charities.



## Romiley Methodist Church

On Monday, 16th June, we had a visit from the Greater Manchester Blood Bikes to our Men's Evening (open to all on this occasion); they explained the work of this charitable organisation, whose unpaid volunteers are on hand 24 hours a day, every day of the year (including Christmas) to transport blood, plasma, medication, equipment, and much else between medical centres (mainly hospitals).

As with the Lifeboat Service, they rely totally on public donations, and we were able to give them a generous cheque to help their work. The three Bikers who came were very good, and the charity are happy to give these interesting talks to all sorts of groups.



## Windlehurst Methodist Church

**Active at Windlehurst:** Good news at last! You will all have seen the adverts for an assistant co-ordinator for Active, our much-loved weekly group for adults with learning disabilities. We are delighted to tell you that Jay Brock successfully applied for the post and is now a valued member of the team. You will have a chance to meet him at our Coffee Morning on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

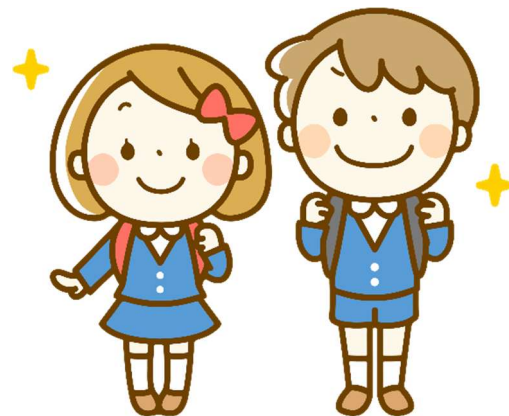
**Wood Street Mission Appeal:** In readiness for the start of the new school year in September we are once again supporting the **Smart Start** appeal. It is very important that children living in poverty have new school uniforms and kit so that they don't feel different to their friends. Items urgently needed are for children aged 4-16 years and include:

- School shirts/blouses trousers/skirts
- Polo shirts (all non logo.)
- New socks/underwear
- Pencil cases, drink bottles, lunch boxes

Donations can be handed in at Windlehurst Church on Thursday's 8.30-3.30 ready for collection on Thursday 10th July.

For more information see Wood Street Mission's website:

<https://www.woodstreetmission.org.uk/>



Windlehurst Church held a joint service with The Ridge led by Abigail Ogier, the Deputy Head of Chaplaincy for the M.H.A. The retiring collection raised £150 which will go towards helping fund the work done by the M.H.A.

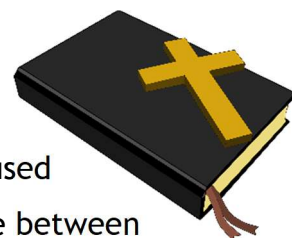
## Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Thank you to all who supported our **Christian Aid Plant Stall** in May. Our total, including envelopes delivered back from neighbours or collected at Church, amounted to **£1,635.70!** This was an increase on past years.

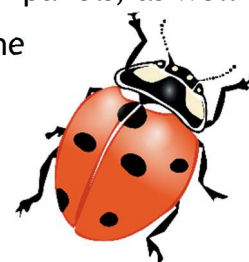


**Dialstone Methodist Church** have been very pleased to be visited by all 90 of a local school's Year 3 children, to contribute to their RE learning; this took place over 2 weeks in June. When they arrive they divide into 2 groups, which swop over half way through their morning, so that by the time they come together, both groups have had the same experience. It all has to be done at some speed as our church is a good 20 minute walk from any school and school dinners wait for no-one!

One group goes straight into the Church itself and has the chance to learn about why the church has certain features - pulpit, font organ, communion table, banners, Bible, etc - with a chance to talk about how they might be used in worship. This is all done interactively with the children. They then choose between designing a banner, deciding how the chairs should best be arranged, thinking what they'd like to write a song about or going into the pulpit and deciding what they would say while standing in the pulpit. This last is very popular!



The second group meanwhile has a talk about how we now use our buildings and grounds to promote our Eco-Church interests and why that is important to us as Christians. We also talk about Fairtrade as an expression of our Christian support for justice. They're always interested in the fact that we have an air raid shelter still standing behind the main buildings from when the church was used as school rooms during WWII. We then go into the grounds, everyone having a quiz sheet, looking to fill in the missing vowels on questions about things they can see in the grounds which show we want to care for the earth, God's creatures and for other people. So they can spot nest boxes, a bug hotel, nettle and bramble patches, pots filled with vegetables, strawberries and sensory plants, our defibrillator, benches, and count the solar panels, as well as see the things that help people know the building is a Church - the cross, the noticeboards and our box hedge fish symbol. If there is time the children can then look at a display of Fairtrade food available from local supermarkets and draw the Fairtrade symbol.



When the children come together and after a short service, comprising a short Bible story, prayer and hymn, we give them a drink, and Fairtrade bananas and chocolate samples and the volunteers and staff have a well deserved brew, before setting off back to school. It's a happy event that the children seem to enjoy and we are pleased to be able to share something of what Church means to us.

## Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

We need the following items to help us to support our work with homeless people at the Town Centre Mission:

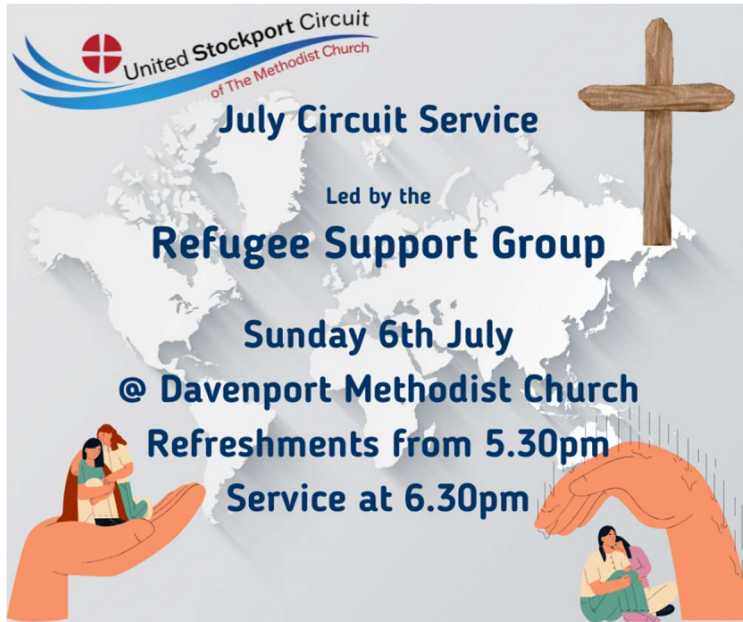
- Sleeping Bags
- Sleeping Mats
- Tea and Coffee

These items can be dropped off at Tiviot Dale during the café on Thursday afternoons or email [admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk](mailto:admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk) to enquire about alternative drop-off times.



## UPCOMING EVENTS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### Circuit



July's circuit service will take place at Davenport Methodist Church and will be led by the Refugee Support Group.

Refreshments will be served before the service, with the service commencing at 6.30pm

We look forward to seeing you there!

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no circuit service in August.



September's circuit service will be our welcoming service for Rev Jan Tate. The service will take place at Romiley Methodist Church.

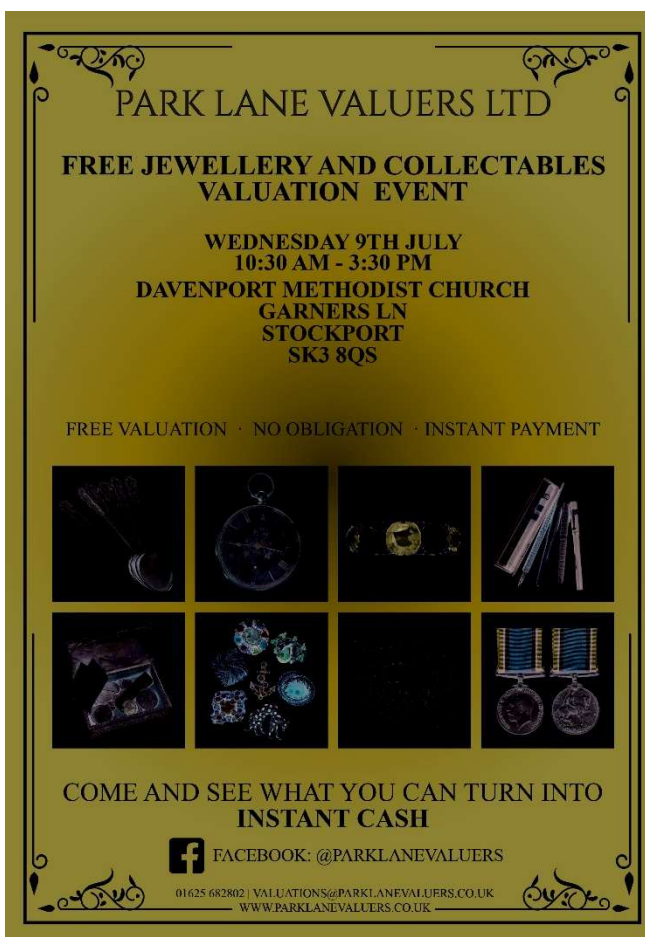
This will be a great opportunity to meet our new Superintendent and we look forward to welcoming her to our circuit!

## Davenport Methodist Church

### Antiques Valuation and Buying Event -

Wednesday July 9th, 10.30am - 3.30pm.

Everyone welcome to bring along any antiques they wish to have valued and possibly sell.



## Romiley Methodist Church

**Stockport Male Voice Choir Summer Concert** - This will take place in Romiley Methodist Church on Friday, 18th July, starting at 7 p.m. Entry on the door for only £9, which includes refreshments. Do come and enjoy a lovely musical evening!

**Men's Evening** - Monday 21st July (which welcomes ladies too on this occasion), is a talk about the **Vintage Car Collection** held by Norman Stansfield, who will bring a couple of these vehicles with him. This will take place at 7.30pm in Church - all welcome.



## 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. 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.



### Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

**Dialietots** takes place on Mondays during termtime from 9.30 -11.30am.

Come along with your baby or toddler for time to play, enjoy a brew and some toast and finish with a singsong to kick the week off. No need to book. Just come round to the back of the church building for access.

**3Ms (the Monthly Monday Meeting)** is held on the second Monday of the month at 2pm.

A social group which starts with a short quiz, has a speaker or other activity and finishes with refreshments. Open to all.

## 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 2pm - 4pm.

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

This is more for fun than competition, as anyone can shout out the answers.

We are having a few more people dropping in which is lovely and very encouraging.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

### Prayer Meeting

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

## 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](mailto:dementiafriendlyheatons@gmail.com)

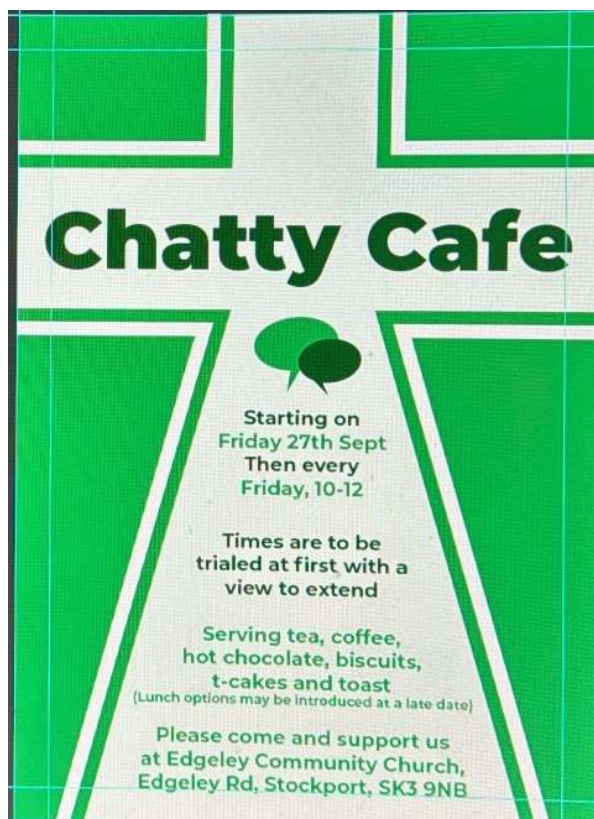
**Monday Fellowship** - fortnightly gatherings of fun and fellowship Monday evenings from 19:45.

See [www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](http://www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk) calendar for next date.

## Edgeley Community Church

**Craft group** (bring your own)

Monday 1-3pm - £3 drink & biscuits



## Windlehurst Methodist Church

**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 from 13:45 for a prompt start at 14:00.

## 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

**Friday Communion**  
**July 25<sup>th</sup> 2.00 pm**

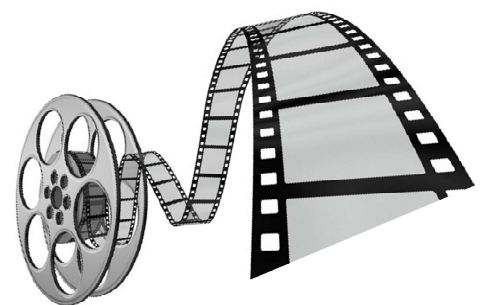


**Tea & Coffee available after the service  
if you wish to stay for a chat.**

This thirty-minute communion service is a lovely opportunity to meet for a short thoughtful service and is followed by refreshments and time to chat. PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Friday communion in August.

## Romiley Methodist Church

Our Saturday Afternoon Filmshow on 5th July at 2 p.m. is “JUST MERCY,” mentioned in the June Circuit Newsletter - a powerful and true story about a fight for justice in 1990s Alabama.



Our August film on 2nd August at 2 p.m. will be the 2021 family adventure, “THE WOLF AND THE LION,” based on the true story of a lion cub rescued from a crashed plane in the Canadian forest by classical pianist Alma, and a wolf cub who also ends up with her. The three of them form a close bond, only for a forest ranger to discover the cubs and take them far away and separated from each other. But guess what .... Entry by donation, with tea and cakes during the interval - all welcome to this charming family film!

**“Music for Pleasure”** on Thursday 17th July is at 2 p.m. in the Church, when Ken Morewood will talk about a particular celebration of music in the Albert Hall (no, not the upcoming one!) This will be followed with a cuppa and a posh biscuit - all welcome!



## **Woodley Methodist Church**

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

Bargains for all, come and have a browse!

**ARE YOU A KNITTER?** Why not come and join our **Knit & Natter group**. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month (March to October) at Woodley Methodist Church at 10.00 till 11.30. You would be very welcome.

We are knitting various items for the Teams4U shoeboxes which we organise and send each year in November. Wool, needles and patterns provided.

## **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 - 21<sup>st</sup> July from 3.15 to 5pm

For more information contact our minister, Katie Smith.





**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” This month we are looking forward to being entertained by “Copyrite”.

### **Dates for 2025 are:**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July - Copyrite

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

26<sup>th</sup> 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**

## **Marple Methodist Church**

**The Seed Community Cafe** is open every Thursday morning and Friday afternoon.

Opening times are-

Thursday - 10am to 1pm

Friday - 1.30pm to 5pm

Teas, coffees, toast, tea cakes, soup.

**Lydia's Place** - craft group every other Thursday

## EXTERNAL NEWS



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>.

## Events from across the District

### District Online Worship: Action for Children

Sunday, 13th July at 6.30pm

This month our guest speaker is Karis Kolawole, Faith Partnership Lead for Action for Children.

For the Zoom code (which remains the same), please email [prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk) or direct message us on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you there!



## District Testimony Services 2025

Over three Sundays in May the District held four Testimony Services for our five Probationers who have been recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained at Methodist Conference on Sunday 29th June 2025.

We wish to thank all who hosted and participated in these wonderful services of celebration, and for the refreshments provided at each. The services were all supported by friends and family, as well as by local members and those drawn more widely from across their Circuits and the District.

We offer thanks, also, to all who contributed to the offerings for the Connexional Ministerial Training Fund held at each service. The total raised across the four services was £1,514.70. Thank you!

We pray, now, for Judith, Sincere, Hayley, Ruth and Sarah as they go forward at the end of the month, as recommended, to be received into full connexion at the Conference this year in Telford, and ordained in various surrounding churches.

To God be the glory!

*Revd Phil Gough, District Secretary for Ministry and Vocations*