

Newsletter

September 2026

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A Letter from the Superintendent

Well folks, I've been here a year! The time has gone really quickly but in many (good) ways I feel as if I've been here for ever.

This time last year I had many things that I wanted to do in my first year and I'm sure you had expectations. One thing that really called me to the circuit was the need to work on an overarching circuit strategy. You may think that nothing has been done about this. Indeed I'm a bit disappointed by the progress too.

What you will not know is that there have been several important issues that required the Circuit Leadership Team's attention at Circuit, District and Connexional level. At times we seemed to move from one crisis to another. These things have moved work on the strategy further down the to-do list.

However, in addressing these things we are in fact shaping our approach to the circuit. While at the moment we are having to be reactive we are hopefully building a place where we can begin to be more proactive.

If you want to have your say (and I know many of you do) the job would be much easier if we had more circuit stewards. Is this something you should consider doing? There are sections of the circuit that are not represented on the CLT. Or you could offer to be a circuit meeting rep for your church. There are still places available.

Whatever your input, you remain an important part of our future. We will again be holding open meetings where we can discuss the way forward. We won't always agree but hopefully we can disagree gracefully. Within the circuit and within your churches listen to each other, learn from each other and move forward together.

Here's to the next 12 months!

Jan

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

The Ridge Methodist Church

The Ridge held a viewing party for the partial solar eclipse on Wednesday 12th August.

It was a lovely opportunity to gather together and marvel at the glory of God's creation.



In the following link Rev Katie Smith shares her reflections of the eclipse:

[Solar Eclipse Reflections](#)

Woodley Methodist Church

Woodley Methodist Church family are sad to announce the death of our dear friend and long-time member Gordon Cooper. Gordon was baptised at Woodley and served God faithfully throughout his life in a number of ways. He was also a local preacher in the former Romiley circuit.

Gordon's funeral will take place on Monday September 7th 12.45 at Woodley Methodist Church. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Hong Kong Fellowship

HKF Gatherings:

19 Sept - Rev Raj Patta

17 Oct - Raymond Cochrane

21 Nov - Paul Walsh

Social events:

5 Sept - Weekend Roast Lunch + Gardens Visit

6 Oct - Board Games Night

7 Nov - Bowling or Movie

Windlehurst Methodist Church

Windlehurst Methodist Church held an enjoyable 'Hymns and Prayer' evening as the Circuit event for August. This was part of the 'Circuit Year of Prayer.'

Several of the people who attended had chosen their favourite hymn and spoke about its origins and personal importance to them.

We are very grateful to Deacon Jude Laycock for organising this event, linking each hymn was a relevant prayer. Special thanks to Gillian Stunell for her lovely musical accompaniment.

Everyone also enjoyed coffee, cake and a chance to chat! □



The next 'Special' appeal for the **Wood Street Mission** will be for Christmas toys, and will be launched early in November, details to follow.

Until then we continue to support the ongoing 'Family Basics' appeal. We are grateful for:

- New or good condition second hand baby toys.
- New and great quality second hand clothes
- NEW socks and underwear for children aged 2-16.
- New Bedding. NOT second-hand!
- New and great quality second hand towels.

Donations can be dropped off at Windlehurst Church between 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Thursday 10th or 17th. September, Thank you. □□

'Active' at Windlehurst, would like to ask "Has anyone else received a personalised letter from Andrew Bailey, Governor of The Bank of England?" **'ACTIVE' HAS!!**

We have taken part in the national surveys to choose which wildlife will feature on the new £5, 10, 20 and 50 notes. All members and volunteers took part in the first survey various rounds, and as a group we shortlisted a barn owl, a hedgehog and a bee from the three categories.

Simon wrote a letter to Andrew Bailey explaining our votes and an accompanying letter explained what 'Active' is and requested a reply. Delighted that we got one!



Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

We have had a sort out at Dialstone Lane and have a surplus of hymn books as detailed below. If you would like any of them, please email admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk.

Hymn Books	Surplus to requirements
Title	
Hymns and Psalms -words H&P	54
H&P – Music edition	3
Songs of Fellowship SOF words	22
SOF large print vol 1/vol 2	2
SOF Combined version	2
SOF Words and Music vol 1and vol 2	8

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church
NEW CHURCH CHARITY



**BLOODBIKES
MANCHESTER**

REGISTERED CHARITY 1145329

The Blood bikes urgently transport Blood, Plasma, Platelets, Samples, Vaccines, Donor Breast Milk and any other urgently required medical items to hospitals and healthcare sites at night, daytime, weekends and Bank Holidays, so that is 24 hours each day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. The service is completely free and supplied by Volunteers.

**PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT THIS AMAZING
CHARITY**

Circuit Year of Prayer

This year has been designated as a year of prayer for our circuit, its churches and those who attend and are involved within the churches. Each month we will focus our prayers on a church.

This month we pray for Windlehurst Methodist Church, these are their prayer requests:

We should like to request that prayers are said for:

- All who come to worship at Windlehurst and to the services we share with 'The Ridge'. Our minister, local preachers and visiting speakers who have enriched our worship.
- All the groups who use our building in so many ways:
 - 'Active' for adults with learning disabilities and an equal number of volunteers, meeting each week for a wide variety of activities.
 - 'CAMEOS' who meet once a month to sing, chat and offer friendship to all.
- Community groups, such as 'Heartbeat Chorus,' Hand-bell ringers, the local Women's Institute craft group and more.
- Our house-group who meet weekly to study chosen books and bible verses.
- Finally, to pray for strength and guidance to lead our Church forward in these uncertain times, and to help us realise our plans and hopes!

Faith Development Worker

Woodley Methodist Church

Woodley Methodist Church is an active church that is seeking someone to work with our “Funday Monday” community to provide faith development opportunities for the families that attend.

Funday Monday is a space where families gather to take part in craft, games, play and exploration of a biblical theme. We want to build on this work and offer more opportunities to explore faith and how it connects with our lives for all ages.

Location :	Woodley Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Woodley, SK6 1NF and home working
Hours:	10 hours per week to include our Funday Monday sessions one Monday afternoon per month
Rate of pay :	£13.52 to £17.00 per hour to reflect prior experience (effective from September 2026 and to be reviewed for September 2027)
Next Steps:	For an application pack, including job description and person specification, please email: revkatiesmith@gmail.com
Closing Date	Extended to 13 th September 2026
Start Date	As soon as possible after appointment

For more details about the United Stockport Circuit click [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Woodley Methodist Church

Thrift Shop Fashion Show

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

On Friday 11th September 2026 at 7 pm
(doors open at 6.30pm)

Lots of Pre-loved and New Designer and good brands
of Ladies & Gents Clothes, Shoes, Handbags Etc

Tickets only £6 - includes a glass of Fizz!

Get your tickets from the Thrift Shop, open Wednesdays &
Saturdays 9.30am to 12 noon

Or from

Lynne 07751 838 722 or Liz 07981 681 955



Please bring your own shopping bag if possible- we are trying our best
to save the planet

Your last chance to get your ticket for our fabulous fashion show, just give me a ring or drop me an email and I will save you a ticket to be collected on the night.

Lynne Styles lynnestyles47@gmail.com
07751838722

Romiley Methodist Church

OUR ANNUAL MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION will take place on Saturday, 12th September from 10.30 till 4.30. There will be numerous layouts on show, (including some hand-on and drive-it yourself layouts), a small art exhibition, and a Café selling sandwiches and cakes, as well as teas, coffees, and soft drinks at very reasonable prices. Entry is by donation, with all the proceeds going to Action for Children, the Methodist charity.

“THE WORK OF A RAILWAY CHAPLAIN” is the title of a talk to be given by Karen Schofield, who has the experience of doing such a valuable and interesting job. Karen will be describing her work on Monday, 21st September at 7.30 p.m. in the Church - entry by donation, including refreshments, and all are welcome.

A Choir with a Difference



Contemporary 5 part a cappella
swing & pop choir

Heaton Moor United Church

Saturday 26th September 7.30pm

£8.00 Including refreshments

In aid of the church charities...

*Action for Children, Eve Project, Leprosy Mission,
Lebone Village (South Africa) & Christian Aid*

Heaton Moor United Church

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Quiz

& CORNED BEEF HASH SUPPER

on Saturday 17th October
Quiz at 4.00pm Supper at 5.30pm

This will be our first event this year for our Church Charity



Andrew will be doing one of his very interesting Quizzes for us
and this will be followed by Corned Beef Hash (or a vegetarian option) and
Apple Pie or Crumble.
Please come and join in the fun and food.

**TICKETS WILL BE £7.50 FOR ADULTS
AND £3.00 FOR CHILDREN**

Tickets will be available from the middle of September.
Any enquiries please see Gill.

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Windlehurst Methodist Church



Davenport Methodist Church

Save the Date!

We will be hosting a Soup & Sweet on Saturday 14th November. This will include several events, and table activities, still in the planning. Watch this space!

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

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

See www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk calendar for next date.

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

Last Friday of the month at 2pm. 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.

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.

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.



Marple Methodist Church

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

Opening times are-

Thursday - 10am to 1pm

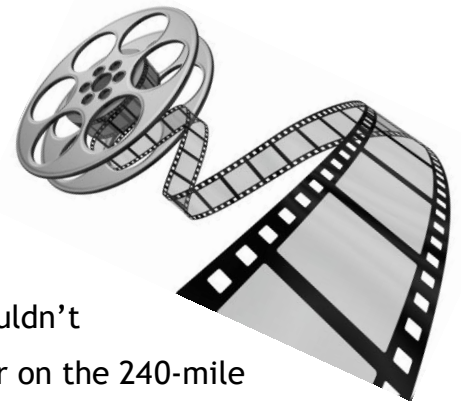
Friday - 1.30pm to 5pm

Teas, coffees, toast, tea cakes, soup.

Lydia's Place - craft group every other Thursday

Romiley Methodist Church

OUR SEPTEMBER FILMSHOW on Saturday, 5th September at 2 p.m. is a rare chance to see the lovely 1999 film “**The Straight Story**” (a true story) about Alvin Straight, aged 73, who in 1994 learned that his estranged brother Lyle was critically ill. Alvin couldn’t drive a car, so got on a lawn mower and set off at 5 miles an hour on the 240-mile trip across Iowa and Wisconsin to see Lyle, and make amends while it was still possible. Did he make it? Come and see!



OUR OCTOBER FILMSHOW ISN'T A FILMSHOW! Our tradition each October is to invite Christine Birchall to arrange a photographic presentation, usually about a fairly local area. This year, the title of her presentation is “A Walk along the River Dean” - from its source in the Macclesfield Forest to the confluence with the River Bollin. Christine’s talk, illustrated with numerous of her superb photographs, will look at the history of the area, its wildlife, and the scenery of this lovely part of Cheshire. Entry by donation, as usual, and with tea and cakes during the interval. All are very welcome! - Saturday, 3rd October, 2 p.m. in the Church



“Music for Pleasure” on Thursday 17th September is at 2 p.m. in the Church, when John Owens will present a programme entitled “This is the Light Programme,” a phrase that may bring back memories!

Admission by donation, including refreshments, and all welcome

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. 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. Bargains for all, come and have a browse!

Knit and Natter group at Woodley Methodist Church on the second Wednesday of each month. This month we will be meeting on Wednesday 9th September at 10.00 in the church foyer. We are a small friendly group of knitters who come together to knit items for our Christmas shoebox appeal while enjoying a natter, tea, coffee and biscuit. We have patterns, needles and wool to share and you are warmly welcome to join us.

Funday Mondays - Woodley Methodist Church invites you to our monthly fun times exploring seasonal topics and bible stories. Every third Monday of the month 3.15pm - 5pm. 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.

"Musical Memories"
At Woodley Methodist Church
2.00pm – 4.00pm

"We Welcome those with or without dementia".

DATES 2026

Friday 25th September - **Personal Choices**
Friday 30th October – **RAINBOW**
Friday 27th November – **Personal Festive Choices**
No Meeting in December!

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served



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 2-4pm in the Church Hall and we "Welcome those with or without Dementia"

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

Connexional New Year Service

There will be a service at Methodist Central Hall, Manchester (M1 1JQ) to mark the beginning of a new Methodist Year and at which we will welcome The President, Revd Mark Slaney, and The Vice-President, Caroline Stead, of The Methodist Conference to Manchester. The theme of this Methodist Year is Joy and Sorrow and Mark and Caroline will speak on this theme.

The service will take place on Tuesday 8th September and begin at 11.am. After the service there will be a buffet lunch.

It would be wonderful if you were able to join us at the service and the lunch. So that we can cater accordingly, please register [here](#).



District Online Worship

We next meet on Sunday 13 September at 6.30pm, with Revd David Newlove, Mission Area Lead for Cumbria and Deputy Chair, preaching on the theme of Creation Justice. For the Zoom code (which remains the same), please email prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk or direct message us on Facebook.



SALFORD CIRCUIT MWiB

You are invited to a

THANKSGIVING PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH on

WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2026

11.15am - SPEAKER:- PHILLIPA HILL

Vice-Chair MWiB Theme:- Journey Through Japan

12.15pm - PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH



AT

MONTON METHODIST CHURCH - M30 9JG

£5.00