

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2025

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A Letter from the Superintendent ...

It was great to see so many of you at the Circuit Consultation yesterday. I think there were some good discussions around the room.

My study floor is currently covered with flipchart paper and post-it notes (if you weren't there ask somebody to explain). It is my intention to list all that was written and send it out to the churches via their contact person. Hopefully then those of you who were unable to attend yesterday will know what's going on.

The CLT will then look at all the responses and come up with a plan for the future - a strategy. This will be sent out to the churches and we will all meet again to look at it in more detail. If, in the meantime, you think of something you wish you'd said please drop me an email (super@stockportcircuit.org.uk) or write a letter and I will add it to the list.

Getting things right takes time but I think we're on the way. Of course we mustn't just talk about it we must also pray about it. During 2026 we will focus our prayers on the circuit and its future plans. We will also focus on one church each month and pray particularly for them and any joys or concerns they may have. I will provide a list for every church.

To kick-start the year we will be holding a Prayer Day on Saturday 10 January. This will be held at Heaton Moor United Church from 10am to 4pm. We are hoping that every church will be involved. Please look out for further details.

I want to end by reminding you that, as I said in the service yesterday, we are all called to be saints. We are not all meant to be the same but to use our own talents and personalities and work for God in the world.

Jan



3Generate is the Methodist Church's youth assembly and takes place in the NEC across a weekend in October. Over 1500 children and young people and their leaders camp in tents inside one of the halls and explore the town that pops up. There are worship concerts, discussion groups, crafts, physical activities, a tech hub with games, animal encounters and so much more.

It's a fantastic opportunity for our young people to realise that they are part of something bigger and explore the good news in ways that are only possible at a different scale.

This year Katie and Jude took four children who have been regulars at Woodley's Funday Monday sessions for the last three years, with ages between 9 and 12. It was a first time for all of them, but they were already talking about going next year before the weekend was over.

We joined the group from the Glossop and Tameside circuit, sharing a coach and camping area and were very grateful for their organisation. We are also grateful to the circuit who paid for the tickets and the district who paid for the coach. This meant that we could offer an amazing weekend away at a very minimal cost to the families.

We'd love to take a larger group next year, so would love to hear from you if you want to chat about how this might benefit the children and young people that come to your church. Contact Katie or Jude.

You can read and watch more about 3Generate [here](#).

Marple, The Ridge & Marple URC Joint Litter Pick



Marple & The Ridge Methodists and Marple URC Eco Groups joined forces on 18th October for a litter pick in the Marple town area. As you can see from the photo, we managed to find plenty of rubbish over our two-hour pick which the council have kindly disposed of for us. After the pick was finished we stopped off at Marple Methodist church for a well-deserved

doughnut, biscuit and hot drink. Thanks to all involved and especially to Sue Arden from Marple URC and Sue Palmer for helping organise the event.

Windlehurst Methodist Church

Windlehurst Methodist Church are supporting the Christmas Appeal launched by **Wood Street Mission** for 2025!

We are collecting NEW, unwrapped toys or gifts, books and essentials for children aged 0 to 14 years, across Manchester and Salford. Toiletry sets were popular last year to donate for the older children both boys and girls.

Any gifts can be left at Windlehurst Church on Thursday mornings (13th, 20th, 27th November). They will be collected towards the end of November. For more details please see Wood Street Mission's website: [HOME - Wood Street Mission](#)



Hong Kong Fellowship

A short video has been created to explain and celebrate the work that has contributed to the success of the Hong Kong Fellowship. Please follow the link to view this video: [Hong Kong Fellowship](#)

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church



We have a monthly afternoon service at 4.30pm on the third Sunday of the month and would love to welcome more people along to it. If you appreciate a quieter service, away from the bustle and business that can sometimes surround our morning services, we feel we have an additional offering. Do come and see what you think.

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

Christmas Hampers for local people in temporary accommodation.

Deacon Janet has committed us to providing a 100 Christmas hampers for those spending Christmas in temporary accommodation. These will go to families, couples and single people, all living in shared or inadequate accommodation that are classified as homeless. Together we can provide a Christmas blessing. Could you give any of the following...

- Biscuits
- Christmas cake
- Christmas pudding
- Chocolates
- Jams/preserves
- Savory crackers
- Sweets



Please give any donations either to Deacon Janet or Maggie at Tiviot Dale. Thank you.

Tuesday volunteers needed in the Town Centre.

As part of the Town Centre ministry in Stockport we hold a café on Thursday afternoons. It is widely known to support some of the most vulnerable in the area, people living local to the town centre and people coming in on public transport. This is a wonderful café that is a safe place where powerful conversations and life journeys are shared and people make new friends and get support or signposting.

Learning from the success of this, we are opening a similar café on Tuesday afternoons. The Thursday team are keen to support this, but it would be good to have some new volunteers to boost this provision.



Are you a good listener? Do you want to make some new friends? Do you want to get involved in town centre ministry? Do you want to find out more?

If you are answering yes to any of these questions then please contact Deacon Janet. We would be very grateful for your support.

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Circuit



Advent Course

In December I will be leading an Advent Course at Hazel Grove based on the 1954 musical “White Christmas” and I would like to open it up to the whole circuit.

It will be held on the first three Mondays in December. On Monday 1st December we will meet at 2pm and watch the film together. On the next two Mondays (8th and 15th) we will start at 2.30pm and we will be looking at some of the themes we can take from the film.

Look out for further details. I hope to see you there. Rev Jan

Marple Methodist Church

Remembrance Sunday Service - 9th November at 10.30am

Many hundreds of knitted poppies have been created over the last 12 months and formed into a wall of red within the church. This is to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War 2 and remember those fallen, injured and in any way affected.

The Poppy display can be seen on or after 9th November. The Church will be open on Thursday 13th November whilst the Seed Café is open (10am to 1pm) and Friday 14th November (1pm to 4pm).

The Church will also be open on Remembrance Day Tuesday 11th November (10am to 12) for a quiet place of remembrance.



Woodley Methodist Church

Christmas Fayre Saturday 15th November 10am-2pm

Come and start the festive season with a chance to buy gifts and crafts, join in with games and of course visit Santa himself!



Romiley Methodist Church

“The North West Air Ambulance Service” is the title of an illustrated talk to be given by Victor Crawford in Romiley Methodist Church on Monday, 17th November, at 7.30 p.m. Entry by donation, and all welcome!

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church



Dialstone Lane Methodist Church Christmas Fair - Saturday, November 22nd, 10.00-12.00

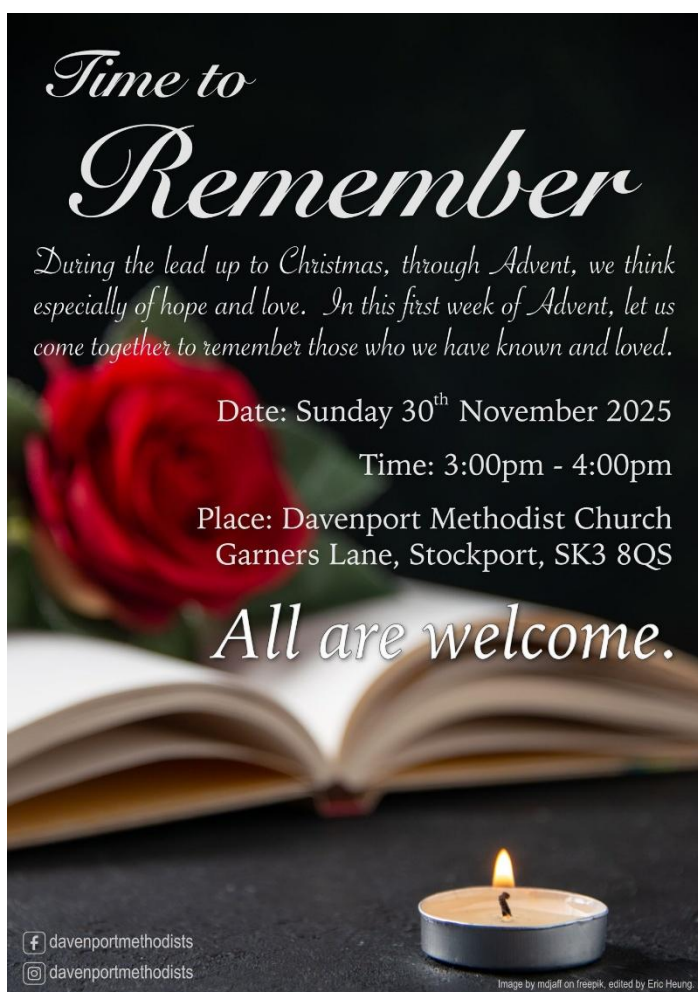
Do come and join in our Christmas Hamper Raffle and chocolate tombola, buy from our many stalls - cake and preserves, indoor plants, jewellery and accessories, Fairtrade gifts and foods, charity Christmas cards, our Art club pictures and cards, and sewn items in lovely fabrics - or just enjoy a chat over refreshments with a Christmas theme.

MENCAP Christmas Carol Service at Dialstone Lane - Monday December 1st 1.00pm

Last December we revived the tradition of a MENCAP Carol Service, which had not happened since Covid. Before that the service had been held at Dialstone Lane since moving from St Mary's in the marketplace, largely due to parking difficulties there.

Members of Mencap invited particular year groups from local special schools and also members of day centres to contribute their choice of song or reading and we had a wonderful service, supported by church members, followed by refreshments. Come and see for yourself!





We would love you to join us for
A Celtic Christmas Celebration –

Have You
Heard?

By Joel Raney

Sung by **United Christian Singers**

Led by Anne Wilde.

Including favourite carols for everyone.

A **FREE** event at |

Heaton Moor United Church,

On **Saturday, DECEMBER 6TH at 6pm**

Donations for the Church Charities.

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.

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

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.

Friday Communion
November 28th 2.00 pm

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

Romiley Methodist Church

OUR NEXT SATURDAY FILM PRESENTATION is on **SATURDAY, 6th DECEMBER 2025** starting at 2.00 p.m., when we are showing the 2004 American animated fantasy family-adventure film **“THE POLAR EXPRESS,”** starring Tom Hanks in multiple roles. Set on Christmas Eve in Grand Rapids, it tells the story of a boy who is beginning to have doubts about his belief in Santa Claus. The Polar Express, a magical train on its way to the North Pole, stops outside his house, and the Conductor invites him aboard. He accepts, and thus starts on an exciting adventure in a memorable ride to the North Pole, encountering some special people and learning on the way about the values of friendship and bravery, and about the spirit of Christmas. *“The Polar Express” is a film for young and old alike - Tom Hanks optioned the story after reading the original children’s book by Chris Van Allsburg to his children and hoped to play the Conductor and Santa Claus (he actually plays six roles in the film!) Entry by donation, with tea and cakes in the interval!*



“Music for Pleasure” on Thursday 20th November is at 2 p.m. in the Church, when **Christine Birchall** will give a presentation in words, music, and photographs entitled **“The Elements,”** followed by refreshments. Entry by donation, 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!

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 - Next meeting 17th November 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 2-4pm in the Church Hall and we "Welcome those with or without Dementia"



Dates for 2025 are:

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**

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



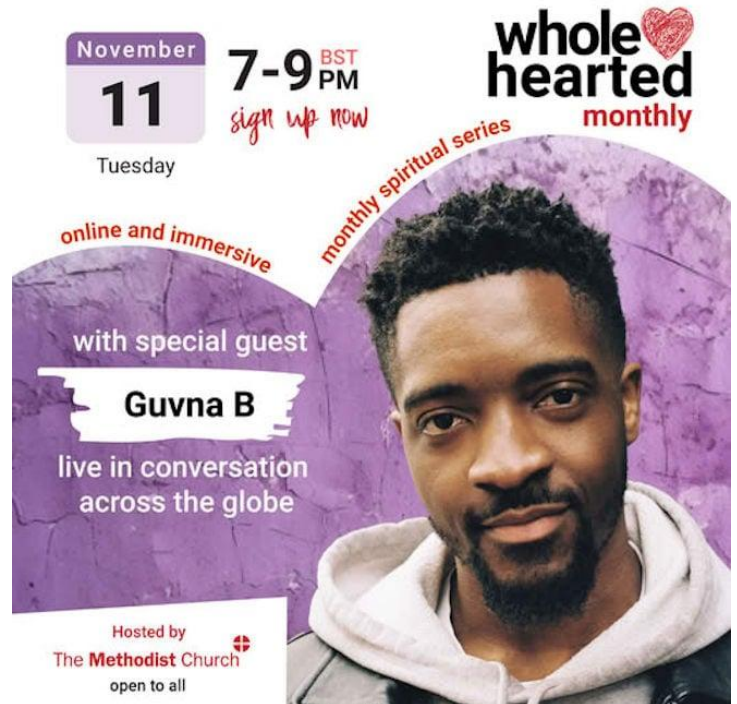
**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

The District has a weekly newsletter which you can sign up to via the District website.

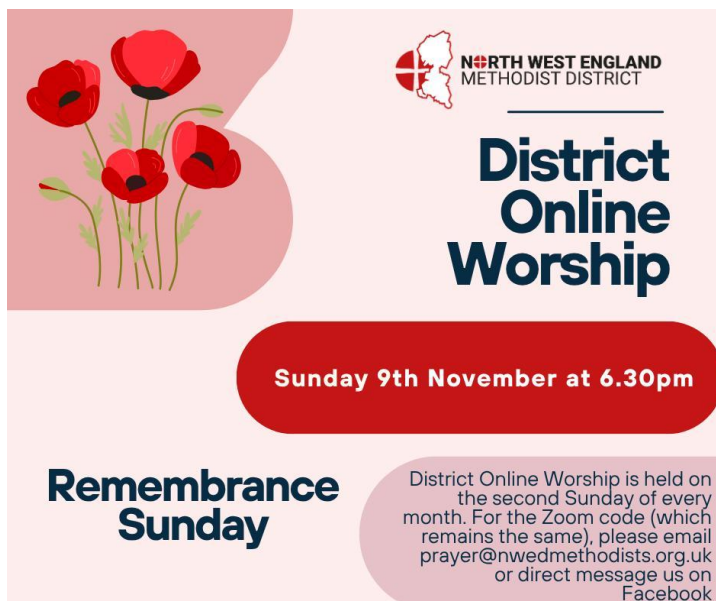
The District website is now live and can be accessed at <https://nwedmethodists.org.uk>.

Events from across the District

Join us for a free, online event on Tuesday 11 November from 7.00pm, featuring special guest Guvna B, broadcaster, rapper, author and advocate for young people. Guvna B (aka Isaac Borquaye) will speak about music, faith, raising children and how the Church can learn about mission from children and young people. We'll also hear testimony from youth leaders, as the Methodist Church commits to significantly increase the number of active young disciples.



Wholehearted is a free monthly online gathering of Christians learning, playing, praying and working for the transformation of the Church and world God loves.



Our next Online Worship is taking place on Sunday 9th November at 6.30pm - Remembrance Sunday.

For the zoom code (which remains the same), please email prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk or direct message us on Facebook.

This Advent and Christmas season, the Methodist Church invites you to join ‘**Gifted**’ with resources to support your worship, welcome, and witness - including service outlines, small group materials, outreach ideas, posters, postcards, digital assets and more.

Gifted is a message of good news to a weary world...

Gifted:

- is for everyone in our churches and beyond: both believers rejoicing at God’s gift of Jesus, and those who might find the season more wearying than wonderful.
- reaches out to people longing for transformation but feeling stuck. For those searching for something more, something real - but unsure where to look.

Gifted is the Methodist Church's open invitation, speaking the good news to people that they matter. That they are Beloved. Created with infinite care. A gift to the world, just as they are. For more information and resources: [Advent and Christmas Resources - The Methodist Church](#)

