

Photo. A letter from our Syrian Guests.



November Newsletter United Stockport Circuit 2023

Circuit

Services:

03/12/2023	@	Tiviot	Dale	Methodist	Church
[5pm food served, 6pm Community Hymn Singing, 6.30pm service]					
An Advent carol service with our now traditional curry evening!					

Events and news

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:

We are also collecting the following: -

Socks, all sizes but especially men's

Baby wipes

Plastic takeaway containers.

Tents (2-3 person)

Sleeping bags

Please contact Deacon Janet Amey or Maggie Thompson at Tiviot Dale. Alternatively, please drop off any donations at Tiviot Dale Methodist Church. Thank you.

property@stockportcircuit.org.uk

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Can you help our Syrian guests?

It was wonderful to be able to announce last week that the Syrian family we are sponsoring arrived safely and they are settling into their new home in Stockport with lots of support from our dedicated team of volunteers. We give thanks to God for their safe arrival, and also give our thanks to all the Churches in our Circuit for your generous support so far.

As the family settle, it is becoming clear that there are lots of things they need help with. I know when we first appealed for volunteers to help establish the project, a lot of you said that you didn't have the time to be on the leadership group but that when the family arrived you would be able to help with specific tasks that needed doing. Please can you consider if you are now able to offer a little bit of time – either on a one-off basis, or more regularly – to help the family.

Below is the list of jobs which we now need volunteers to help with:

- accompanying family members to various appointments eg ESOL, Job Centre, medical, dental, volunteer opportunities, Digiknow, optical
- helping with shopping
- visiting mosques
- familiarisation with different areas
- meeting up with family and acquaintances
- recreational activities
- writing and speaking English

If you can offer help, even for just a short time, please contact:
Joanne Roy on community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Many thanks!
Cathy Bird

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Journey to a final resting place

Three days after I started my new job as Circuit Property Administrator in Sept 2021, I stood in the car park of Trinity Methodist Church having a meeting with Estate Agents, this was the start of a journey that would take 2 years and 1 month to complete.

The Circuit Leadership Team decided it was very important to continue to care for the ashes which had been placed into our care and were in the Memorial Garden at the church.

After a lot of discussion about the possibility of moving the garden to another church, it was decided this was not going to be possible. With grateful thanks to Stuart Cooper at TCC for all his guidance, I then approached the Public Protection Operation Manager who is the lady in charge of the district cemeteries for some advice.

She suggested the circuit purchased two graves at Mill Lane Cemetery and moved the Memorial Garden there.

With that decision made, I had to trace as many families as possible for the 53 sets of ashes in the garden to gain permission to move the ashes of their family member. Official notices had to be put up in the Memorial Garden and on the gate of the Church. Notices had to go in local publications to say the garden was going to be moved. We had to complete a 4-page Ministry of Justice form for each set of ashes. I managed to trace the families of 41 people, through a lot of research and some chance encounters. The Circuit was then allowed to give permission on the 12 remaining forms.

Once the Ministry of Justice gave permission for the ashes to be moved, I arranged with the PPO Manager to purchase two graves and for the cemetery people to move the garden.

This happened on the first Saturday of January 2023. Lindsay prayed before the process began.



*'O God, our Lord and heavenly Father,
we give thanks for the life you have breathed into humanity,
and we remember before you now the lives of these members of
and those closely associated with Trinity Methodist Church,
who have gone before us to your nearer presence.*

*As the ash remains of these, our loved ones, friends and colleagues
are taken to another place of rest, we put our trust in you.*

*May those who bear responsibility in this process show care and
compassion, and be given wisdom and skill, and may the journey's
end be reached safe in Your presence.'*

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Offerton Methodist Choir
presents
Our Christmas Gift
with guests
Sale Salvation Army Band
at
Hazel Grove Methodist Church
Wesley Street, Hazel Grove
on
Saturday 2nd Dec 2023 at 7.30pm
Tickets £10.00 per head
Including refreshments

Contact any member of the choir or
phone 07961917294 for Tickets

In aid of

 **St Ann's Hospice**
every day makes a difference

Photo Hazel Grove Methodist Church Saturday 2nd December at 7.30 pm Tickets £10 with refreshments. Sale Salvation Army Band and Offerton Methodist Choir. 07961 917294 for tickets. The event is in aid of St Ann's Hospice.

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'Heartbeat Choir' are holding a Christmas Concert at **Windlehurst** for Church funds on Friday 1st. December at 7.30 p.m. It is a ticket-only event!
Tickets cost £6.00 and include a cuppa and a biscuit!
The choir are hugely talented, so a night not to miss!
Tickets are available from:
Val: 07894 790343
Helen: 07818 260446

On Sunday 29th October **Windlehurst** held a joint Service with The Ridge and Hazel Grove to celebrate the work done in the community by 'Wood Street Mission.' We had wonderful support, and filled the Church, raising the roof with our singing! During the Service we were very pleased to welcome the CEO of the Mission, Des Lynch, who gave an address. He explained a little about the heritage of the Mission, and how it helps with the ever increasing difficulties families still face in the modern day. With family basics, such as clothing, bedding, toiletries etc. With books. With 'SmartStart' which aims to send children to school in uniform and provides stationary, sports kits, lunch-boxes etc. With Christmas, when WSM collect thousands of toys and goodies to distribute to families across Manchester and Salford. Windlehurst Church and others in the USC contribute throughout the year with donations to help with all the above projects and are supported by other groups, and the local community. The talk was both illuminating and inspiring, so if your Church would like to include a talk by WSM in a future service, or indeed go to visit the Mission, please contact Des Lynch.
E-mail: Des@woodstreetmission.org.uk
Mobile Phone: 07758 386321
We had a retiring collection to help the work undertaken by the Mission and from the generosity of the combined congregations we collected an amazing amount of £405.00, together with a further £170 to buy toys for the Christmas appeal!
So an amazing total of: £575.00!

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Photo **Windlehurst** is collecting toys and chocolates for the Wood Street Mission appeal to be collected by their driver on 21st November. You can leave gifts on the following dates between 9.30 and 3pm 9th and 16th November or Sunday 12th between 11.30 and 12.30. Also, at the joint service on Sunday 19th at Hazel Grove

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Curry and Advent Carols



Join us at 5 p.m. on Sunday 3rd December

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church,
Tiviot Dale, Stockport. SK1 1TA

Service

A service of Advent Carols reflecting on what it means for
Christ to come to Bethlehem today

Preceded by our traditional curry !!!

5 pm food, 6 pm Carols, 6.30 service

Photo Curry and Advent Carols at Tiviot Dale Methodist Church. Sunday 3rd December
5 pm food, 6 pm Carols, 6.30 pm Service

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Introduction Lynne White

Hello everyone, my name is Lynne White, I joined the United Stockport Circuit on 1.11.23 as the Circuit Administrator and I'm based at Tiviot Dale in Stockport.

My recent workplace background has been administrative in adult care settings in Staffordshire and Tameside. Prior to this, I worked in office manager and retail management roles.

I've met some lovely people and will be visiting the circuit churches over the coming weeks. I'm sure I will enjoy my new role and learn lots!

admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk

Tiviot Dale continues to welcome the following -

Take-Away tubs
Socks and Underpants (new)
Sanitary Towels
Pot Noodles
Mens coats and sweatshirts
Sleeping bags
Crossword books
Word Search books
Puzzle books

Many thanks

Action for Hope in this time and place
United Stockport Methodist Circuit environmental pledges
2024

In our commitment to the flourishing of all creation, at a time of environmental crisis, we pledge to, in partnership with others, and with the grace of God, do all we can to:

- Be a prophetic voice, speaking truth unto power.
 - Rapidly reduce our Carbon Footprint.
- Promote Eco Church and become an Eco Circuit.
 - Cherish and tend the flourishing of creation.
 - Travel lightly.

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- Rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, repair, recycle.
- Listen to the voices of children and young people.
 - Commit financially.
- Teach, preach, and communicate.
 - Pray and celebrate

Not got other plans on Christmas Day?

You are invited to enjoy a traditional, home cooked Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings, free of charge, at Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, Stockport SK7 4JQ from 12 noon until 4pm on Sunday 25 December 2023.

Come on your own or with a neighbour, friend or family member. Children are welcome, indeed ALL are welcome! Transport can be arranged if necessary.

For booking information please see the REVERSE of this flyer.

Please book early, ideally by 18 December. Leave your contact details for Marion

Telephone: 07731 840466

Email: bookings@hazelgrovemethodists.co.uk or fill in the slip below, cut off and return to Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, Stockport SK7 4JQ or via your contact and someone will be in touch with you.

Christmas Day Lunch Booking

Name

Telephone or email address

If you would need transport on the day, please give us your address:

Photo1&2 Christmas Day lunch free of charge if you have no other plans on Christmas Day. Hazel Grove Monday 25th December 12 noon until 4 pm. All are welcome. Please book your place by 18th December on 07731 840 466 or email bookings@hazelgrovemethodists.co.uk

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Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, SK7 4PZ

An exciting part time job opportunity, working in a friendly and supportive team.

CHURCH CARETAKER

We are seeking to appoint a part time Church Caretaker to work alongside the church property stewards, to enable the church to offer a safe, clean and welcoming environment for worshippers, visitors and room users. The caretaker will be a good communicator, who is able to work flexibly and under his/her own initiative.

Location: Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, SK7 4PZ

Hours: 50 hours *per month* to be worked flexibly between 0800 and 2200 hours, sometimes at weekends

Rate of Pay: £12.50 per hour

For an application pack, including job description and job specification,

please email: anthony.tonge1@btinternet.com

Closing Date: Friday 26th January 2024

Start Date: As soon as possible following appointment

For more details about Hazel Grove Methodist Church please visit

www.hazelgrovemethodists.org.uk

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

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.

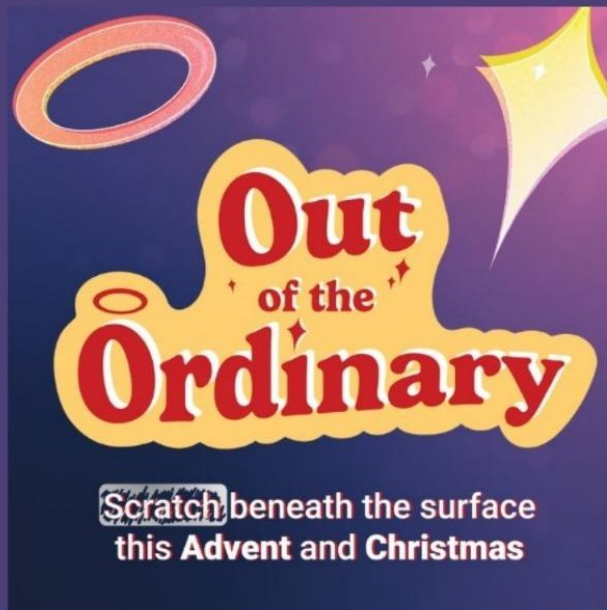
For more details about the United Stockport Circuit visit stockportcircuit.org.uk

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 setting up time at Windlehurst and preparation time
Rate of pay :	£11.75 to £14.78 per hour to reflect prior experience.
Next Steps:	For an application pack, including job description and job specification, please email USCJobApplications@gmail.com
Closing Date	5 th January 2024, interviews to take place w/c 22 nd January.
Start Date	As soon as possible following appointment

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Scratch beneath the surface this Christmas
During Advent and Christmas, you are invited to experience
how the wonder of God's love is revealed in the ordinary:

2,000 years ago, a seemingly ordinary birth changed the world
each day, ordinary acts of kindness can breakthrough to the
extraordinary



An Advent study group on Zoom will
be led by Rev. Dr. Raj Patta

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85847417069?pwd=SDhDVEg2dFNyXhyUmJKM1A5SnlTQT09>

Meeting ID 858 4741 7069

Passcode 410282

7.00pm

Thursday 30/11/23

Thursday 7/12/23

Thursday 14/12/23

Thursday 21/12/23

More information can be found at :
www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

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November Update

First Five Weeks in Stockport

It's been a very hectic first five weeks in England for the family.

With two parents, two adult children and a teenager there are more forms to fill in than you can believe: for a school place; for Council Tax; for NHS registration; for bank accounts; for English courses for Arabic speakers; for, for, for.....it never ends!

All the things you have had to fill forms in for over the years, but all at once, all in a foreign language, and all needing to be done in the right order, so you can put the reference number given on the top of the first form in the check box of the next one.....

Plus appointments with a whole host of official organisations, not to mention with medics and dentists, opticians...

The Project Team (with the help of some brilliant interpreters) have been steering them through the bureaucracy and helping them find their way around Stockport's shops and bus routes.

- Please remember the Project Team and the family in your prayers.
- And when you start planning your church events programme for 2024, please consider adding a fund-raiser for our Circuit Sponsorship Scheme.



You can scan the QR Code to make a donation to our Sponsorship Scheme, and so play your part in helping a refugee family resettle in Stockport and build a new life in Britain.



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Christmas Services

Margle Methodist Church
Carol Service, Sunday 17.12.23 at 6.30 p.m.
Communion Service, Christmas Eve, Sunday 24.12.23 at 6 p.m.
The Day, Christmas day Monday 25.12.23 at 10 a.m.

Ramsley Methodist Church
The Longest Night, Thursday 21.12.23 at 7 p.m.
Midnight Communion, Christmas Eve, 24.12.23 at 11.30 p.m.

The Ridge Methodist Church
Christingle, Sunday 20.12.23 at 10.30 a.m.
Blue Christmas Service, Thursday 23.12.23 at 6 p.m.

Woodley Methodist Church
Christingle, Sunday 17.12.23 at 2 p.m.
Carol Service 17.12.23 at 4 p.m.


Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
"Cory and Advent Carols" Sunday 3rd December- Circuit Service led by Rev. Lindsay Kemp, Circuit band - Advent Carols.
Food at 5 pm. Singing at 6 pm. Service starts at 6.30 pm.
Christmas service, informal, fun, Thursday 14.12.23 at 1.30 p.m. 30 minutes then refreshments
Christmas service, informal, fun, Thursday 21.12.23 at 1.30 p.m. 30 minutes then refreshments.

Davenport Methodist Church
Christingle, Christmas Eve, Sunday 24.12.23 at 3 p.m.

Hazel Grove Methodist Church
Christingle, Christmas Eve, Sunday 24.12.23 at 3 p.m.

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church
Christingle, Sunday 17.12.23 at 3 p.m.

Heaton Methodist Church
Service of Living Remembrance, Sunday 3.12.23 at 4 p.m.
Christingle, Sunday 20.12.23 at 4 p.m.
Carol Service, Sunday 17.12.23 at 4 p.m.



The illustration at the bottom of the page depicts a festive winter scene. On the left, a glowing yellow street lamp stands on a sidewalk. Three children, dressed in red and white Santa hats and coats, are standing in a row, each holding an open book as if reading. To their right, a brown dog is sitting on the snow. The background is a simple, light-colored sky.