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Holy Saturday

14-15 Ridge Sing Out, Safeguarding

Important Dates

'Active' Coffee @ Wind'l 14.3.24

Brass Band ,Woodley 19.4.24

Taizé Service, food, Tiviot 3.3.24

Coffee morning, D Lane 2.3.24

Afternoon Tea, H. Mersey 17.4.24

Stockport Awards 8.3.24

Games Day Hazel Grove 6.4.24



# March

## Heaton Moor United Church



### SAVE THE DATE! LENT / EASTER SERVICES

Maundy Thursday 28th March at 18:00

Good Friday Walk of Witness starting at St Johns Heaton Mersey at 10:00 with various stops.

Ending at St Thomas Heaton Norris with a service at 11:30

Easter Sunday Service 31st March at 06:00 .

### LENT DISCUSSIONS

Once again, we will be offering a lent discussion group.

This year's theme is around the Charles Wesley hymn Love Divine and each week we will look at a phrase from this much-loved hymn, an Old Testament reading and a New Testament reading.

Discussions take place after the main service on the dates listed below.

A lunch of soup and a roll will be provided.

Sunday 17th February

Sunday 24th February

Sunday 3rd March

Sunday 17th March

Sunday 24th March

Can you provide soup for any of the dates listed above?

If so, please speak with Sharon in the office.

We are also looking for early morning volunteers for Easter week to hand out bags.

Sharon 0161 431 0262` office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

# Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

## 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.



## Holiday@Home

We welcomed 56 "holidaymakers", as well as 8 volunteers to our most recent event. Holiday@Home is jointly organised by the local churches in the Heaton Mersey, and offers a range of activities to people who might otherwise not be able to get away on holiday. We host days of activities throughout the year, as well as a trip to the seaside in September. This time, we had chair exercises, made calendars and competed in a variety of quizzes. Everyone also enjoyed a lunch of casserole and apple pie.

**Our next event will be an afternoon tea on Wednesday 17th April**

**Booking is essential and further information from Sarah at [Sarag@hmmc.org.uk](mailto:Sarag@hmmc.org.uk).**



# Davenport Methodist Church

Davenport Service 11th February Celebrating the Lunar New Year 2024

A couple of years ago, we were pleased to welcome to Davenport, a new family from Hong Kong, who have really joined in the life of the Church.

So we were thrilled when they led our February local arrangement service.

This certainly was a service with a difference - a Celebration of the Lunar New Year.

Eric, wearing his splendid Hong Kong costume led the service (using power point with wonderful Chinese images) with the able assistance of his wife Zoe and son Osmond.. We were even treated to Chinese treats and biscuits after.

After an initial introduction where Eric shared some Hong Kong and Chinese culture, the service was divided into themes showing the various aspects of the Lunar New Year and comparing this with the Bible and Christian faith.

The last theme focussed on New Year blessings - the many superstitions of the Chinese as they search for peace v the greatest blessing of the New Year for Christians.

The service was interspersed with wonderful readings, hymns and Hong Kong music, culminating with everyone singing "May God's blessing surround you each day"

We left the service feeling truly blessed. Thank you Eric, Zoe and Osmond

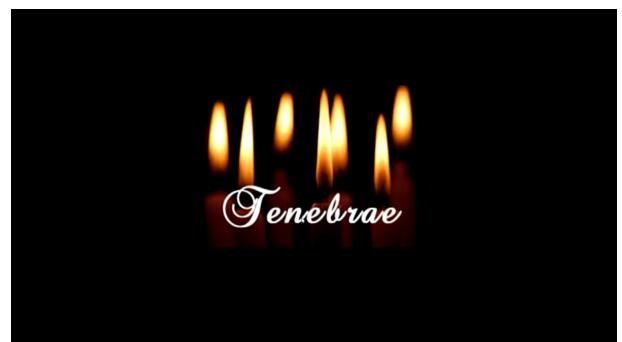


# Edgeley Community Church

## Tenebrae Service

Good Friday at 7pm 29th March 2024

'The extinguishing of lights, leaving one lit for Easter Sunday'



## Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

### Coffee morning

Saturday 2nd march 2024, 10am-1pm

Cake stall, craft stall and tombola.

### Welcome Group celebrating Nowruz



Nowruz is often called the Persian New Year and is widely celebrated across the Middle East, and elsewhere in the world. It's thought to date back some 5,000 years to Babylonian times and falls around the Spring Equinox (mid-March). Although it may have started as a religious event in Zoroastrianism it predates Islam or Christianity and is seen as the most important secular public holiday in the year in many places.

Many of the people we know staying at the hotel are of Persian (Iranian) or Kurdish origin, no matter which country they came from, and so Nowruz is a very important date in the calendar for them. There are many different traditions developed by the different peoples celebrating Nowruz, but generous, preferably outdoor, feasting seems integral.

Last year we had a wonderful spread and had been about to barbecue the meat outside when the heavens opened; luckily we were able to cook everything in the church ovens, so all was not lost. It turned into a wonderful celebration with music and dancing in two different traditions taking place in the church and the church hall. We had a traditional Nowruz table display (Haft-sin table), with the seven items that start with "s" in Farsi - sumac, garlic, apple, olives, samanu (a sweet dessert), and sabze, a dish of growing wheat - plus painted eggs, a mirror, water and flowers.

This year we hope to have another enjoyable celebration, with more of the cooking done by our friends from the hotel, as many of them miss the simple pleasures of making a meal for their families.

Catrina Stoker

## Hazel Grove Methodist Church

We are holding a Games afternoon/evening at Hazel Grove on 6th April – please find details below:

Table Games Event – At Hazel Grove Methodist Church

As it's the Olympic Games this year we thought we'd hold our own games – games more suited perhaps to our own athletic prowess – Table/Board Games!

This will take place on Saturday 6th April in the Primary and AIM rooms – all one level from the car park door.

We plan to start at 4.00pm with a Beetle Drive, a buffet style tea at 5.00pm followed by a variety of board games – you can choose what you'd like to play – Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, Scrabble – there will be a wide choice and you'll be encouraged to move around to play different games. No medals – just fun.

We are hoping that this will appeal to all ages.



Tickets will be £7 for adults with special arrangements for families with children. Children must be accompanied.

Marion on : 07731 840466.

Please leave a message or text

E mail:bookings@hazelgrovemethodists.co.uk

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*Starts at 4pm with a Beetle Drive , buffet at 5pm then more games on Saturday 6th April*

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## Windlehurst Methodist Church

### Active at Windlehurst

Thursdays 10 am - 3 pm term time. A dedicated group for people with learning disabilities. Local history, drama, healthy eating and exercise. For more information, please contact Val Rowlands on 0161 427 6807.

### 'Active' Coffee Morning

Thursday 14th March 10.30—12.00



Woodley Methodist Church

*Enjoy a brass band evening in Woodley Friday 19th April 2024*

**Woodley Methodist Church**  
**Brass Band Concert**

Vernon Building Society (Poynton) Band  
Friday 19th April 2024 at 7.30pm

In aid of Parkinson' UK (Stockport Branch)

Tickets £9

available from Phil Taylor on 0161 430 8518

Alternatively, any donations to Parkinsons UK (Stockport Branch)  
can be sent via  
Woodley Methodist Church Concerts, Just Giving page

## Romiley Methodist Church

ROMILEY METHODIST CHURCH -is having a TABLE TOP SALE on SATURDAY 13th APRIL from 10am to 1pm.

Why not come along and grab a bargain.

The Cafe will also be open selling Bacon Butties and other food. Well worth a visit and only 50p admission charge..

THERE IS ONLY ONE TABLE LEFT - PHONE 0771 421 0462 TO BOOK IT!



*Bacon butties from 10 a.m.*

## Marple Methodist Church

Cafe

Open 10-1 every Thursday and 2.30-5pm on Fridays.

We are a Warm Space, so donations only on a Friday.

We serve tea, coffee (specialty machine), toast, tea-cakes, homemade soup and bread. Vegan and gluten free available. +

There's always someone available to chat.

Digital/online advice available from 11am every week.

Knitting and crafts every fortnight.

Volunteers always welcome -

contact Geoff at 0161 427 2509





# Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

## 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:

- Socks, all sizes but especially men's socks
- Baby wipes
- Plastic takeaway containers.
- Tents (2-3 person)
- Sleeping bags
- Pull along shopping trolleys (plain preferred)

Please contact Deacon Janet Amey or Maggie Thompson at Tiviot Dale. [property@stockportcircuit.org.uk](mailto:property@stockportcircuit.org.uk)

Alternatively, please drop off any donations at Tiviot Dale

## *Circuit Services*

All services at Tiviot Dale Church SK1 1TA

**3rd March**

**Taizé Service**

(join us to experience the unique spirituality of a reflective Taize service)

**Food 5.30pm**

**Service 6.30pm**

**7th April**

**Service led by Revd Raj Patta and the Indian Fellowship**

**Food - Indian Curry at 5.30**

**Service 6.30 pm**

**Deacon Janet Amey**

I am delighted to let the Circuit know that Janet has passed the final hurdle on her journey towards ordination and has been recommended by the District Probationer's Committee to proceed to ordination at the Methodist Conference this Summer.

Janet will be ordained at Morley Central Methodist Church, LS27 9EE (near Leeds) on Sunday 30th June 2024 at 4pm.

Tickets for the Reception into full Connexion (which takes place as part of the Conference Worship in the morning) and The Ordination Service will be available from April.

It would be lovely if Janet can be supported by lots of friends from the Circuit on this special occasion! Please let Lynne White know if you would like to attend ([admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk](mailto:admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk)) and we can then order tickets centrally and organise transport depending on how many people are going.

Please hold Janet in your thoughts and prayers in the coming months..

I am also pleased to tell you that Deacon Jude Laycock has been approved to continue into the second year of her probation.

Cathy Bird

## New North West Methodist District from September 2024

From September 1st 2024 the United Stockport Circuit will be part of a new, larger District covering most of the North West of England.

The old Manchester and Stockport District will no longer exist. The Chair of the new District will be Revd James Tebbutt, who has recorded an interview in which he tells us:

About himself and his background

Some facts that people may not know about him!

What is important about our new district

Why this matters to churches and circuits

What he hopes to achieve as our new District Chair (subject to Methodist Conference)

And a word of encouragement to us all.

Please take a look at the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLnRNxKjGq4>

In a second video, James talks to us about the volunteering opportunities in the new District. If you would like to offer for any of these roles, please let Cathy Bird know and she will let you have the relevant forms.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJufGOS6B7o>

## AWARDS

We are delighted to announce that Cathy Bird, Raj Patta and Mei Yuk Wong have all been nominated to win an award in the Person in Faith Award category at the 3rd Annual International Women's Day 2024. These Community Awards for International Women's Day 2024 recognise both women and men in Stockport for the work they do in our communities to improve the lives of others.

If you would like to come along to the event to support them and all the other nominees, tickets are available through Eventbrite (see details below)

This is an annual Community Awards event which celebrates local Sheroes and Heroes who do amazing work yet are not recognised for their selfless work in our local community. We like to think of this award ceremony as a day of recognition and celebration, but most of all it embraces who we are as a community together. Let's dress up and razzle-dazzle on a day that celebrates grassroots workers in the voluntary sector.

Let's celebrate the good work in our community together.

The awards ceremony will be held at:

The Hardcastle Suite, Edgeley Park, Hardcastle Road Stockport SK3 9DD.

9:30 am to 2:30 pm on Friday 8th March 2024.



Eventbrite link here [3rd Annual Make a Difference Community Awards for IWD24 Tickets, Fri 8 Mar 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#) Tickets are £10 each. When buying your ticket please consider purchasing an additional ticket as a 'Pay it Forward' for low-income or unwaged women who otherwise would not be able to join in our celebration. Thank you in advance for your 'Pay it Forward'.

**Circuit Service**

**Tiviot Dale Methodist Church**

**Tiviot Dale**

**Stockport**

**SK1 1TA**

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**3rd March 2024**

**Taizé Service**

*Join us to experience the unique spirituality of a reflective Taizé service.*

**Food 5.30pm**

**Service 6.30pm**

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**Taizé Service**

*Prayer, silence, and songs inspired by the ecumenical and international monastic community of Taizé, France.*

**WOODLEY METHODIST CHURCH  
HYDE ROAD, WOODLEY**

***PRESENTS***

**a '*Concert*' with**

**Vernon Building Society  
(Poynton) Brass Band**

***Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024, at 7.30pm***



**VERNON**  
BUILDING SOCIETY  
(Poynton) Brass Band

**Tickets £9.00 (to include light refreshments)**

**Contact Phil on 0161 430 8518**

**Proceeds from the evening to go to  
The Charity Parkinson' UK**

## Would you consider being a Circuit Steward?

The role of circuit steward is an important one in the life of the Methodist Church

The circuit is a key structure in Methodism. It is to circuits, not churches, that ministers are stationed and Methodism acknowledges that it is the circuit that is "the primary unit in which Local Churches express and experience their interconnection in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help"

Those who have taken on this responsibility point to how rewarding and stimulating it can be as they seek to support and shape the circuit in response to the needs and challenges of its local area.

Circuit stewards work in partnership with presbyters, deacons, church workers and others to enable individuals and communities to find fulfilment and belonging within the Church.

As the role is voluntary, circuit stewards carry out their responsibilities alongside jobs, family commitments and other responsibilities. So, patience and a sense of humour are essential criteria for the job, as is the ability to work positively together as a team.

Circuit stewards have a range of duties and you can read more about the role here:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/equipping-circuits/offices-and-roles/circuit-stewards/what-is-a-circuit-steward/>

In the United Stockport Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the ministers meet as the Circuit Leadership Team at least once a month, usually in person but once every quarter on Zoom and have roles ranging from looking after manses to supporting ministers pastorally, overseeing ministerial invitations, and liaising with local churches. Learning is "on the job" and it is recognised that we all learn from each other. It is not necessary to be an "expert" but to offer your time for the benefit of the circuit as a whole.

If you think you might be able to offer yourself for the role of Circuit Steward, please speak to either of us, or to your minister – you are not committing to anything by having a conversation!

Cathy Bird (Superintendent Minister) and Jayne Quinn (Co-ordinating Circuit Steward)

“When Hope Seems Lost”

Reflections from Palestine

Holy Saturday March 30th 1.30pm-2.30pm

At **Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, SK7 4JQ**

led by Revd David Hardman (Methodist Liaison Officer in Palestine)





# SING OUT FOR SPRING

The Ridge Methodist Church

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

7 pm – 8 pm



# Please would you consider joining the District Safeguarding Group for the new North West England District?

Do you have knowledge and/or experience of safeguarding either professionally, personally or within the church?

*You may have experience of safeguarding within the church, perhaps as a safeguarding officer or trainer, as a Monitoring and Support Group Member or an experienced minister.*

*We are particularly looking for people who bring specific experience, such as those who work with domestic abuse services or with survivors, those who work with perpetrators or have worked in for example social care services, health, the police, probation or counseling services*

Do you have a desire to drive up the quality of safeguarding within the churches and circuits within the new District?

*Would you like to help us to help us drive forward safeguarding activity within the new District?*

Then please complete an attached Expression of Interest form, giving the area of interest and activity that you might wish to be involved in as

**District Safeguarding Group**

## For everyone interested in training to facilitate Safeguarding Foundation Module Sessions

The next Training the Trainers event will take place over 2 evenings, via Zoom, and you must be able to commit to both sessions.

### Session 1

Tuesday 16th April 2024 19.00—21.30

Will cover delivering training, supporting participants and practical issues to be aware of.

### Session 2

Wednesday 17th April 2024 19.00—21.30

Will focus on the newly developed material itself.

To book a place on this course please contact the District Safeguarding Officer, Helen Bolton. 07498 800 427  
mands@dso.methodist.org.uk

Prior to participating in the training, you will need a reference from your Superintendent Minister. Please forward your reference to Helen Bolton.