

Newsletter

JANUARY 2025

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT



Davenport Methodist Church

Davenport Methodist Church have been fundraising for new screens since September, and we are delighted to say they have now been installed!

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Dialstone Lane Church has an insatiable appetite for suitcases to help residents of the Britannia Hotel both when they are required to move on, and to store their clothing and belongings in their rooms. In the past The Britannia provided mainly short stays for guests, so the rooms offer little in the way of wardrobe or cupboard or drawer space. Imagine the difficulties for a family or 2 strangers in one room, living there for months on end.

If you are able to help with any bags or suitcases, please contact Andy or Catriona Stoker on 0161 487 2010 or cat.stoker@btinternet.com

Heaton Moor United Church

We completed our second annual Bible study course just as Advent began. The sessions are fortnightly via zoom, and the aim is to begin another after Lent! The group has really enjoyed getting to know one other, the discussions, the fellowship and of course, learning more about our Saviour!

The 2023 topic was 'A lineage of grace', featuring Rahab, Tamar, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary (mother of Jesus), who were the 5 women in Jesus' genealogy.

The 2024 topic was 'Sons of Encouragement', featuring 5 men, who impacted the world in which they lived; the 5 men are: Aaron, Amos, Caleb, Jonathan and Silas.

The material for both of these courses was written by Francine Rivers, who is wonderfully creative. She writes a story around what we know of these characters in the bible, while maintaining the integrity of the scripture; then she imagines some of the conversations and events that we don't know and writes about what might have gone on in-between the lines!

The material for these courses is important to open up conversation; however what is really precious is the level of conversation we have as we discuss these people from our bible. We learn about the cultures, the geography and the history of God's people. Most importantly, we learn about the God who came to earth as a baby to save us!

We talked about what we'd do after Lent in 2025 and we thought it might be good to do something slightly different - possibly around the TV series called 'The Chosen'. We could perhaps watch/listen to an episode at our leisure between sessions and then discuss it together.

Happy to chat further if you want to join us after Lent next year and you have any other suggestions! - Carol Jack

Festive Lunch - on December 23rd we held our first Lunch at The Living Lounge event in partnership with Community Post CIC who operate the community fridge. We received lots of delicious festive M&S sandwiches and sweet treats and welcome people from the community, we all had a lovely afternoon and are looking forward to hosting Lunch at The Living Lounge each Monday throughout January.

Windlehurst Methodist Church

Windlehurst Church as always supported the Christmas Toy collection for WSM. The response from Church, our local W.I. and community was fantastic, as you can see from the display below! A Big Thank You! 🙌 to everyone who donated, and helped make Christmas a little easier for family's who find this time of year challenging!



We are now collecting family basics items which can be dropped off, at Windlehurst Church any Thursday from January 9th between 9.00a.m. and 3.30p.m. They would welcome: towels, sheets and duvet covers, children's socks and underwear Items can be stored until we get a confirmation collection date.

Circuit

Dear Friends,

I wanted to just write a very brief message to say thank you for all your generosity on my departure. My farewell service before Christmas was a truly beautiful and humbling one and I appreciate all the kind words which were spoken and the very generous gift.

The 'Junctions of the M60' Calendar will remind me of you all throughout the coming year!

I appreciate everything, and all of you, from the bottom of my heart.

My love and blessing is with you all as the Circuit goes forward in an unknown and exciting future with God's grace.

I look forward to hearing news of you all.

Rev. Cathy

Rev. Jan Tate will be replacing Cathy on September 1st 2025 as Superintendent and minister of Hazel Grove and Romiley churches. The following arrangements will be in place to offer cover during the period of absence.

Superintendency Acting Superintendent Rev Katie Smith

Hazel Grove Pastoral and strategy Support Revd Ian Coverdale (1 day per week)

Romiley Pastoral and ministry support Revd Raj Patta and JoAnne Roy

Hong Kong Fellowship Chair and Co-ordination Deacon Janet Amey

Line Management of lay workers will be undertaken by various members of the ministry and circuit steward team

Local Preachers Meetings Co-ordination and contact Liz Delafield Preacher preacher@stockportcircuit.org.uk

General Point of Contact Circuit Administrator will receive general requests and forward appropriately as necessary admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk

Congratulations



We are delighted to share that we have two members of the circuit who are finalists in the Stockport Race and Culture Awards 2025. Mei Yuk Wong is a finalist in the unsung hero category and Rev. Dr. Raj Patta in the distinguished service to ethnically diverse grassroots communities.

If anybody would like to attend the award ceremony tickets can be booked using the following link [STOCKPORT RACE AND CULTURE AWARDS 2025 Tickets, Fri, Feb 7, 2025 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

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 1pm – 3pm everyone welcome.

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

Edgeley Community Church

Craft group (bring your own)

Monday 1-3pm - £3 drink & biscuits

Chatty Cafe

Starting on
Friday 27th Sept
Then every
Friday, 10-12

Times are to be
trialed at first with a
view to extend

Serving tea, coffee,
hot chocolate, biscuits,
t-cakes and toast
(Lunch options may be introduced at a late date)

Please come and support us
at Edgeley Community Church,
Edgeley Rd, Stockport, SK3 9NB

Cafe

Starting on
Tuesday 24th Sept
Then every
Tuesday, 10-12

Times are to be
trialed at first with a
view to extend

Serving tea, coffee,
hot chocolate, biscuits,
t-cakes and toast
(Lunch options may be introduced at a late date)

Please come and support us
at Edgeley Community Church,
Edgeley Rd, Stockport, SK3 9NB

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

Tuesday afternoons 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.

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.

Marple Methodist Church

The Seed Café every Thursday and Friday

Lydia's Place - craft group every other Thursday

Romiley Methodist Church

Monthly film club on the first Saturday of the month at 2pm.

Windlehurst

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 – there will be no meeting in January but will resume again on 5th February, from 13:45 for a prompt start at 14:00.

Woodley Methodist Church

THRIFT SHOP AND CAFE OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY
9.30am to 12 noon



Who We Are...

We are a group who have always loved playing music and singing together and 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"

So the Dates for 2025 are:

Friday 31st January –

Friday 28th February -

Friday 28th March -

Friday 25th April – Cancelled – Holy Week

Friday 30th May

Friday 27th June

Friday 25th July

Friday 29th August

Friday 26th September

Friday 31st October

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**

EXTERNAL NEWS



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

The District has a weekly newsletter which you can sign up via the District website. The District website is now live and can be accessed at <https://nwedmethodists.org.uk>. Please contact the District with your feedback - they

would love to know your thoughts! Send feedback to admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk.

Events from across the District

Liverpool Plus Mission Area

***Threads through the Bible** is a breath-taking culmination of ten years' dedication and passion, showcasing three extraordinary exhibitions: **Threads through Creation**, **Threads through the Cross**, and **Threads through Revelation**. Across a stunning display of 38 silk panels, stretching 80 meters and featuring over 25 million intricate stitches, this exhibit is a visual storytelling masterpiece.*

*The exhibition is at **Liverpool Cathedral** from **16th January to 3rd March**. Admission is **free** and it is open daily from **10am - 6pm**.*

Update from Christian Aid:

Hello, my name is Zoë Abernethy and I am Christian Aid's Church Engagement Fundraising Officer for Gr. Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. For 80 years, we've been standing with the poorest of our neighbours. We work in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice. We believe poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. But together, with supporters and partners, we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

My role is to inspire churches and individuals across the North West to be agents of change with Christian Aid, to overcome poverty. If you have a passion to expose poverty throughout the world, to help in practical ways to end it, and to highlight, challenge and change the structures and systems that favour the rich and powerful over the poor and marginalized, then I would love to hear from you to talk about ways in which you can be involved. Your contribution makes a difference no matter how small. You can discover ways in which you can be involved here or give me an email directly on zabernethy@christian-aid.org – I would love to hear from you!