

Window on the Moor



Heaton Moor United Church

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019



Ian Coverdales'

FAREWELL SERVICE

HEATON MOOR UNITED CHURCH

Sunday August 25th @ 6.30pm

Refreshments to follow

Welcome

Thank you for all your positive feedback on the last magazine. The response to the new name and cover picture was lovely. You may have noticed the front cover has now been printed in colour as a lot of you felt that the window is too glorious to be in black and white. If you would like to see the whole magazine in colour, it is available on the website or let the office know and it can be e-mailed directly to you.

The support this church provides for a variety of charities is being celebrated in this issue. With news of just some of those charities supported by the church. Well done to all that take part, attend and organise these events to help others.

Now the summer holidays are here a lot of the events that go on in the church are on hold during August, but a full program will return in 1 September. The office will still be open for all your queries

If you have anything for the magazine, please pass them on by September 25th

Enjoy! The Editorial team, Garry and Sharon

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Dear Heaton Moor United Church Family,

Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Numbers 22: 28

We have seen films, where animals talking to each other in human language, like in 'Finding Dory' or 'Fantastic Mr. Fox,' etc. and for kids of this generation, who have grown watching these films, animals speaking in human tongue is not a surprise. In the early Hebrew times in Bible, God surprises God's people with things they have not imagined, this time God opened the mouth of faithful friend of prophet Balaam, a donkey, who speaks back to Balaam for when he turned away from what is pleasing to God. It also interesting to note that in this passage, the angel of God is seen by a donkey and not by the prophet, for a donkey and the animal world is privileged to sight the presence of God, whereas it is concealed to humanity. When Balaam strikes his faithful friend, who had carried him all along at this instance thrice, donkey expresses his anger and exposes Balaam's impatience and cruelty towards him. Towards the end, when Balaam's sighted the angel of God after his donkey has sighted, Balaam repents that he had sinned.

This text from Numbers 22:21-35, is an invitation for us as readers to be prepared to be surprised by God, for God speaks to us not just through humans, but through his creation, more specifically through our pets, and the animal world, to expose our disobedience to God.

The presence of God is sighted firstly by the rest of the creation and only at last by the humanity if at all they can recognise, for God's presence is spread across the creation equally, not just the righteous and unrighteous, but also human and non-human (I confess that I am too anthropocentric in this usage.) This text calls us to treat our pets, animals, other creatures and humanity with respect and never mistreat them at any occasion, for we are all made by God as kith and kin in God's creation. Be prepared for a surprise today, that God is speaking to you through the unspeakable, and through the unimagined.

Prayer focus: God of all creation, pets, animals, plants, all creatures and humanity, help us to be prepared to get surprised by you, for you are speaking to us through the unspeakable, and help us to recognise your voice among who we think are incapable of carrying God's voice. Amen.

Let me wish you all a happy summer. May God go with

you. Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Raj Bharat Patta

August 2019



Super Sunday is on 6th
October 2019 @ 10.00
Followed by the 10.45 service

SUPER

On the first Sunday of alternate months, we have 'Super Sunday' - creative activities for children and adults, exploring a different theme each time, and leading into all-age Worship starting at about 10.45, until about 11.30. There are two things to say: first, feel free to join us, or pop in for a coffee, during the creative activities - to see what's happening or even have a go yourself; and secondly, please be patient waiting for Worship to begin, while we flow from one part to the other. Thank you - and see you

Sunday

(Final part)



On December 17th 1965, Beryl gave birth to Debra, a wonderful gift to the whole family. She was born in Stepping Hill Hospital early in the morning, before I had gone to work, it was a day that is still crystal clear in my

memory. Debra was christened at Reddish Green by the Rev. Leslie Dawson.

Three years later, on the 6th January 1969 along came Helen, our second daughter, another wonderful gift that extended our family, and was equally loved the same as Debra. She was also christened at Reddish Green by the Rev. Brian Walker.

Memories of the pantomimes at Reddish Green are still with us (O yes they are!!) when the girls took part and Beryl was the wardrobe mistress and I helped backstage before becoming the baddy in the show. All wonderful memories of Reddish Green.

Sadly, the Reddish Church closed and joined up with the U.R.C. Church in Reddish, which brought us to decision time, when the walk down Reddish Road would have been difficult with two children. So, the decision was to join Heaton Moor Methodist, a Church in which we have been immensely happy. Mid eighties, because of dry rot in the old Church the whole congregation realised that a new building was needed, therefore the whole membership pulled together and the old Church was demolished and the new Church opened on the 8th December 1990. A superb joint effort led by the Rev. Neil Dixon whose inspiration brought about the building we worship in today. I truly believe that this new Church would not have been brought about if the Holy Spirit had not lead us and inspired the teams that brought all the individuals together to create the current Church.

In 1992, I began studying to be a Local Preacher, and came on plan in 1995 and have not regretted it for one moment, for to preach the Word of God to the people of God is a privilege that I value to this day.

U.R.C. joined with us to create Heaton Moor United Church, a developing unit of Christian folk who take out God's message and who work together to bring the Word of God to the people of Heaton Moor. I pray that the Church will now grow in strength to become a beacon of love for all people for generations yet unborn. May God bless our work and it grow in strength to be God's witness of the Resurrected Christ.

Arnold Jones February 2019

Charity News

August will see the end of the churches chosen charities this year. The charities this year have been: Lebone and Parkinsons.

We always support a charity at home and one abroad.

Throughout the year many of the events you attend support these charities.

If you want a charity to be supported by the church let the office know and it will be passed on the fundraising committee.



Total raised £6768.23 this is including donations that people do through standing orders. This is for 2 years as no monies were sent last year.

This charity was chosen as it has established links with the church, over the years they have visited us, and we have visited them.

Many of you have enjoyed a strawberry tea whist supporting this cause at the event that is held every year.

For those new to hearing about Lebone here is a brief history of the charity that is based in South Africa.

The seed for the vision of a care centre for children abandoned or orphaned because of HIV/AIDS, was planted in December of 1997, Lebone House!! (Lebone' means 'Light' in Sesotho). The care centre was opened in 2000. The Lebone vision expanded and grew. On Lebone land there is now a Lebone Edu Centre where the children of Lebone House are educated. There is an Agricultural Produce Centre, which feeds 600 people and creates some income. A Skills Development Centre now empowers people with a skill and gives them the opportunity to generate an income. The Training and Counselling Centre does basic HIV/AIDS education and homebased care. Also, pastoral, bereavement and social support.

The homebased charity was Parkinson's. Several members of the congregation have or are living with this condition, so to support them we are supporting this charity.



Total raised £1902.32 this is half of the monies raised through the events held in the church this year.

People with Parkinson's deserve better

In 1969 Mali Jenkins founded the Parkinson's Disease Society.

Mali's sister, Sarah, had been living with the disease for some years. Mali placed adverts in the personal columns of a couple of newspapers asking people to come forward who were interested in forming an exploratory steering group.

The first meeting consisted of only 16 people. It was at Westminster hospital on 26th February 1969 but led to the foundation of the 'Parkinson's Disease Society', now 'Parkinson's UK'.

One million people across the UK are affected by Parkinson's
87% of people with Parkinson's have faced harassment and discrimination.

If you wish to find out more go online or telephone 0800 138 6593

**JMA Coffee Morning
Saturday 12th October @ 10.00 am Heaton
Moor United Church**



Alongside the church's charities, here is some news about other charities that are supported throughout the year.



Stephanie, Sue and, Deborah would like to thank everyone for their wonderful support for Action for Children. We raised £317.85 at the coffee morning and £256.50 from the retiring collection (of which £131 was gift aided).



Stephanie, Deborah, Sue and Linda the lovely organisers.

A bring and share lunch
will be served afterwards.
A list is in the hall to sign
up to.



Hazel Grove Methodist Church

*Circuit Service to
welcome
Rev Cathy Bird*

Sunday 1st September 11.00am
Wesley Street Hazel Grove SK7 4JQ
192 bus : Queens Road stop

**IF YOU REQUIRE A LIFT PLEASE CONTACT THE
OFFICE.**

The logo for Messy Church features the word "MESSY" in large, white, 3D-style letters with a red shadow, and "CHURCH" in smaller, yellow, 3D-style letters below it. The background is a vibrant, colorful paint splatter pattern in shades of red, green, blue, and pink. To the right of the logo, there is a list of activities: "all-age fun", "crafts", "games", "interactive worship", and "food".

all-age fun
crafts
games
interactive
worship
food

**MESSY
CHURCH**

Wednesday 17th September 15.00@
Heaton Moor United Church
Come straight after school and have your tea
and some fun!



Money raised by Heaton Moor United Church for Christian Aid

Harvest	£233	(£145 Gift Aided)
Coffee Morning	£187.50	
St Paul's, St Thomas'		
HMUC		
DEC Cyclone Idai Appeal	£446.10	(£197 Gift Aided)
Lent Lunches	£194.65	
Christian Aid Week		
House to House	£694.08	
Church Collection	£133.50	
Big Brekkie	£175.93	
Total	£1003.51	(£350.75 Gift Aided)
Final Total for the year:	£2064.76	



This charity is committed to children and their families who really do need a special kind of help. These children are suffering from life threatening illness for whom medical science can offer relief but no cure. For such children and their families there is a way sharing the care and stress. Through your donations they can provide skilled nursing, essential breaks for parents and the rest of

the family with encouragement, friendship and relief, enabling the whole family to return home refreshed.

This year we have raised £462 for Francis House.

The annual retiring envelope collection for Francis House will be Sunday 8th September.

Moore than...Tea and Cake

Wednesday 18th September
3pm to 4:30pm
Heaton Moor United Church
on Stanley Road



Join us for an afternoon of chatting, singing, dancing and tea and cake!

Come on your own or with a friend.

A warm welcome awaits you!



The Leprosy Mission Nepal

transforming individuals and communities

The U.K. Government have recently doubled all donations to The Leprosy Mission.

So your very generous £213 collected in March became a very healthy £426!!!!

Plus, one or two people sent personal gifts too. So, THANK YOU!

So, our gifts went even further

The focus this time was " Heal Nepal ". People who are all too often forced to live in poverty, ostracised and extremely frightened.

Like Ram who daren't even tell his wife he has been treated for leprosy

He and his entire family could be cast out of the village if found out.

Ram's secret is a terrible secret to bear.

There is a great need for locally trained leaders who will help to remove this stigma and fear

Leprosy Coffee Morning Sat.26th October If you're able, please be there to help The Leprosy Mission further their ork.

STAMPS

And don't forget to save your postage stamps as well please

Jesus healed many people with leprosy May we continue His work.

Betty Allport and Valerie Evans



CAFÉ
CHURCH

15/9/19

10.45

Heaton Moor United Church



SEPTEMBER 15TH
AFTER CAFE CHURCH

AGM CHURCH MEETING



Bring your lunch and join us after the service
in the worship area.

Please let the office know any points you wish to raise by
September 1st
office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Rev Marjorie Grantham 1941- 2019



It is my great pleasure to write about our dear friend, Marjorie.

Marjorie wrote her own eulogy for her funeral but not as far as we are aware, her own obituary.

As many of you know, Marjorie was an orphan who was adopted by a couple who had the village shop in Middlewood. Marjorie had an idyllic childhood, delivering newspapers, working in the shop, her main task being to clean the bacon slicer! She went to school in Macclesfield town, traveling by train (at the time both rail stations were open at Middlewood).

Eventually the family moved to Reddish where there were other members of the family. Marjorie, in the meantime, had been off to Teacher training college to become a primary school teacher. Years later she became ill and had to take early retirement, still living in Reddish and attending Christ Church where she was a member of the Regnal League for many years and took office. I remember her going off to conference and becoming a local preacher.

Our first 'getting to know her' was when she became office secretary at the new Church, Heaton Moor, with Rev Neil Dixon and during this time, received her calling to be an ordained Minister in the Methodist Church. Marjorie did her training and elected to become a Minister in local employment, unpaid, in the Stockport Methodist circuit where she concentrated on pastoral care, especially in care and nursing homes. She also frequently preached and took up many other Ministerial duties, becoming much loved in the circuit, so much so that when she was ordained at Ormskirk URC Church, we took a full coach load to support her, getting lost, and having to delay the start of the service!!

Around this time Marjorie moved into a new flat at the 'Laurels', Mauldeth Road, becoming our neighbour and my chauffeur, taking me to services and meetings and regularly to Heaton's Churches prayer breakfasts. She became part of our family coming to birthdays, games evenings and seeing new years eve`s together. Marjorie gained a friend in Phyllis Haigh, going out for lunches and helping her prepare the stalls for Christmas and summer fairs. I can picture her blowing balloons up and at the gate, collecting entrance money. She also had very good friends in Banbury where she had holiday breaks. Unfortunately, Marjorie`s health began to fail with ongoing problems leading to major circulation issues, stent inputs and finally her leg amputation. She bore all this with amazing resilience, patience and never-ending good humor



Losing her car was a blow but she took on her electric wheelchair, learned new routes to Church, the health centre and the 'Blue Corn Café', meeting up with regular friends where the owner was such a support to her and chief mechanic for her wheelchair!

Marjorie`s physical strength weakened and after numerous times in hospital and recuperation, the decision was made that she could no longer manage on her own so she moved into Fern Lea rest home in Hazel Grove where again she was in and out of hospital and was diagnosed with cancer. After much pain, so bravely borne, she was released, to be with her Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ, in peace and love, where she so wanted to be. Nothing can describe the way she had fought so much, suffering undeservedly for so long, as was said by so many, 'The bravest person they had ever known'.

So many friends and Church members visited her regularly and I know she was so grateful for those visits and 'scrabble mornings', especially when communion was brought by Ministers and the superintendent.

I feel I must mention certain people who went beyond anything she expected. Niece, Jayne, loved and cared for her for so many years, especially in all the practicalities of life and she was so loved by Marjorie along with husband, Garry and their son, Dylan.

Jean James, along with George, were magnificent at sorting Marjorie`s problems, always at the end of the phone as well as constant visits and feeding her, she was so grateful. David Smith, along with Audrey in wheelchair, visited her wherever she was, hospitals, care homes, and David took Marjorie, in his vehicle, to Church, appointments, Church events and

his own home. He took her to her final appearance, at our 60th wedding anniversary, she loved you both.

We miss you dear Marjorie, never will you be forgotten. However, we rejoice in the privilege we have had in knowing a dear sister in Christ who has enriched so many lives in so many different ways.

Jim Lowe



**HARVEST SERVICE
29TH SEPTEMBER**

**10.45 @ HEATON
MOOR UNITED
CHURCH**

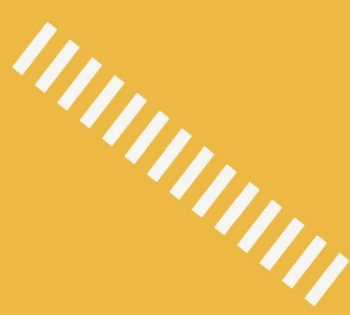
**PLEASE BRING FOOD
DONATIONS FOR
WELLSPRING AND
OTHER LOCAL
CHARITIES**

**FOLLOWED BY A
LIGHT LUNCH
IN AID OF
CHRISTIAN AID**

Which one are you ?
Are you one of the few?

Some go to church just for a walk,
Some go to stare and laugh and talk,
Some go there to meet a friend,
Some their idle time to spend,
Some for general observation,
Some for private speculation,,
Some to learn the latest news,
That friends at home they may amuse,
Some to show how sweet they sing,
Some how loud their voices ring,
Some the preacher go to hear,
His style of voice to praise or jeer,,
Some to sit and doze and nod,
But few to kneel and worship God
Anon

STOCKPORT
SCHOOLS
BRASS
BAND



12/10/2019
@ 7.00pm

HEATON MOOR UNITED CHURCH

Supporting the band
and church charities
Adults £5
Children £1

www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk