



Heaton Moor United Church

The United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church
working together in partnership



NOTICES March 2025

Sunday Services at Heaton Moor United Church

Services at 10:45 unless otherwise stated

23 rd March	Lent 3 - Leprosy Mission Service	
30 th March	Lent 4 - Rev Phil Dew Mothering Sunday	Communion and Baptism Service* See notice for further information
6 th April	Lent 5 - 10:00 Family Church 10:45 JoAnne Roy & Deborah Symmons	
13 th April	Palm Sunday Rev Clair Downing	North West Synod Moderator

Additional Services at Heaton Moor United Church

Tuesday 15 th April at 14:00	Short Service	Service followed by refreshments open to all especially those with dementia and their carers
Thursday 17 th April at 18:00	Maundy Thursday	Service with communion and light supper

Services from around The Circuit

Sunday 6 th April at Tiviot Dale	Circuit Service Telagu Fellowship	Refreshments from 17:30 service at 18:30
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Events at Heaton Moor United Church

Living Lounge Warm Space Mondays from 12:00 – 15:00	Lunch at The Living Lounge from 12:00 until 13:30 Warm space open until 15:00
Monday Fellowship Every other Monday from 19:45	Next meeting 31 st March – Games night
Weekly Wednesday Coffee Morning 10:30	All are welcome
Time To Talk 1 st & 3 rd Thursdays of each month at 14:00	(Previously bereavement support) Next meeting 3 rd April 2025
WI Coffee Morning from 10:30 until 12:00	All proceeds to Stockport Without Abuse
Shroud of Turin Talk 5 th April at 14:00	See notices for further information

Welcome to our fortnightly notice sheet – if you have any news you would like to share please send to JoAnne community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk. or notices can be handwritten and left on the community workers desk!

Notices for Sunday:	Emailed/Printed	Latest submission date
6 th April	4 th April	2 nd April
20 th April	18 th April	16 th April

If you no longer wish to receive the notices direct to your inbox you can unsubscribe at any time by contacting office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Office Hours W/C 23 rd Mar
Monday CLOSED
Tuesday 10:00 – 14:00
Wednesday 10:00 – 14:00
Thursday CLOSED
Friday 10:00 – 14:00

Office Hours W/C 30 th Mar
Monday 10:00 – 14:00
Tuesday CLOSED
Wednesday 10:00 – 14:00
Thursday CLOSED
Friday 11:00 – 14:00

STAFF WORKING HOURS

Please note our administrator, Sharon's usual working days are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Our Community Worker is no longer office based, and Wednesday is a non-working day.

Team Contact Information

- **Church Minister** – Rev Phil Dew
07947 191 661
revphildew@googlemail.com
- **Church Administrator** – Sharon Heginbotham
0161 431 0262
office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk
- **Community Worker** – JoAnne Roy
07340 269 354
community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Prayers

The church used to have a Prayer Chain where people who needed prayer could ask for their name to be passed to a limited number of people who would then commit to praying for them. We would like to reinstate the Prayer Chain and are looking for volunteers to join it. If you are interested please speak to Katy Rowe or Jean James so that we can have a chat about how the Prayer Chain will function, particularly bearing in mind the importance of confidentiality. Thank you.

Katie, Thea & Theo



All are invited
to join for buffet and refreshments after the

Baptism Service
30th March



Katie a much loved member of our church family, (you may know her from playgroup/Messy Church and attendance at Sunday services) would like to invite everyone to stay after the service in celebration of the Baptism.

Church Stewardship Campaign.

We're looking for a team to organise the meal which will launch our Stewardship campaign on September 27th.

The Meal will be free and will be by invitation.

The team **will not** be responsible for providing the catering.

If you feel able to offer your services – men as well as women!!

Please contact Anne Wilde: annewilde2002@gmail.com or 07513289225 or face to face.

Thank You.

Worship Survey

As discussed at the last two church meetings, the Worship Committee have compiled a survey. We invite each person (of any age!) who regularly attends worship (at least once a year) at Heaton Moor United Church to complete a copy of the survey and return it by April 13th. The survey is available now, and should be returned in the box outside the office.

Missional Partnership Request

Hi , would you like to know more about the Missional Partnership , I am looking for someone to join me on the steering group . It is really interesting to find out what other churches are doing and how we can work together . It is not a requirement to come from a URC background , all are welcome !! If you would like more information please come and see me and we can have a chat about it . *Thanks Sharon*



EASTER SERVICES Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday Sunrise

If you are planning on attending the Maundy Service on 17th April at 6.00pm or the Easter Sunday Sunrise service at 6.00am on 20th April . Can you please sign the sheet by the office , this is to give us an idea of how many to cater for . *Thanks Sharon*

HOLY WEEK HANDOUTS we will once again be handing out breakfast bags during Holy Week, Monday 14th through to Thursday 17th from 7:30am until circa 8:30-9:00. If you are able to volunteer please sign up outside the church office.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Easter Meal We will be hosting a meal on Easter Monday (21ST April) for those in our community who find bank holidays hard, are lonely, feel isolated or those who need care and their carers. Volunteers required before the day as well as on the day.



NEW Music Café starting in May for those with a dementia diagnosis and their carers. This new weekly event is in collaboration with Stockport Mind and Manchester Camerata Orchestra. Music champion volunteers are needed – no musical experience required! Full training will be given prior to the start of the café and there will be ongoing training and support. Volunteers will need to be available Tuesday afternoons from 14:00 – 16:00. An introductory session will take place on Tuesday 8th April which all interested parties need to attend.

Open Church activity volunteers will be required and room volunteers. Please speak with JoAnne if you can help with planned activities, refreshments or can offer an activity! Open Church will run from 22nd April – 24th April 10:00 until 14:00 each day.

If you are interested in any of these volunteering opportunities please speak with JoAnne (07340 269 354 community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

Living Lounge – volunteers are needed to help lay out the food we receive from 11:30am on a Monday (usually 30 minutes) then to assist with refreshments and serving the food. Please sign up on the sheet outside the office!



5th April Shroud of Turin Talk 2pm. See flyer

Open Church Roll Away The Stone 22nd – 24th April
10:00 – 14:00 each day

June 2025 Refugee Week – if you would like to be involved in refugee week at church this year please speak with JoAnne



HEATONS CHURCHES
PARTNERSHIP

WALK OF WITNESS

FRIDAY 18TH APRIL

10am St Thomas Heaton Chapel
finishing with a Good Friday Service
at St Winifred's Heaton Mersey at 12:00

*the walk is expected to take 90 minutes with a
short refreshment break before the service

Come and remember
the events of Good
Friday as we walk
through Heaton Moor



The Living Lounge – Warm Space

Our Living Lounge is registered as a warm space but it is so much more than that!

It's a space for old friends and new to meet over a light lunch. It's a space for people attending the building for "groups" to get to find out more of us a church community, and it's a fantastic welcome for those in the community who have never been inside the building before.

It's a space for people to just have 5 minutes with a drink, a place for people to share their worries and a place for people to pore over the recent cinema listings!

It's a space to enjoy a light lunch – never knowing what will be served, but knowing that since January we have saved a significant amount of food from going to landfill.

Common Questions about The Living Lounge

Where does the food come from? The food comes from the Post Community Fridge run by Drawing Board Productions CIC, the organisation that publishes the Post Newspaper. The food is collected from local supermarkets (most weeks M&S and Aldi) and is food that would otherwise be thrown away.

Why can't the food go to food banks? Food banks can sign up to the scheme independently – many of them have. The food given to us is to be used for activities organised and ran by Post Community Fridge / Heaton Moor United Church. In many cases it would not be appropriate for the food we collect to be given to the food banks due to the restrictions around storage, delivery and best before dates.

Is there a need for "free food" in Heaton Moor? We recognise that our community does not have high numbers of food poverty or indeed fuel poverty, but that is not the aim of the project. The Living Lounge primarily is a place to gather people together and show who we are as a church community, since we began in January we are averaging 16 attendees each week (an average of 11 from the wider community and 5 from the church community). The secondary goal of the lunch is to reduce food waste – did you know that a third of all food produced globally is wasted.

We also hope that the project will help to reduce social isolation, boost wellbeing and provide support for those in need.

How is it funded? The food we collect is free. We have received grants from Stockport Council and The United Reform Church and this money covers *top up* food (average £20 per week) and room hire. This money will also be used to develop additional activities at The Living Lounge in the future.

Can I make a donation? The conditions of receiving the food is that we cannot sell it, however donations can be made for church funds by either card using the card machine or in the donation box situated outside the office.

How is it managed? Responsibility for The Living Lounge lies with the community worker. They are responsible for ensuring relevant policies and procedures are followed and that it remains a safe space for all, including risk assessments and safe recruitment of volunteers. Volunteers help with refreshments, clearing away and most importantly talking to those in attendance.

What makes The Living Lounge different from a Community Initiative? Part of The Living Lounge is *living well at The Living Lounge* and we will be offering activities that help attendees explore what does it mean to live well spiritually. We are starting this aspect off on the 24th March when Rev Phil Dew will bring his first "Thought for the day", something he hopes to offer monthly.

When will The Living Lounge finish? There is currently no end date to The Living Lounge.

If you have any questions about The Living Lounge please speak with JoAnne, 07340 269 354
community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Giant Easter Egg Raffle



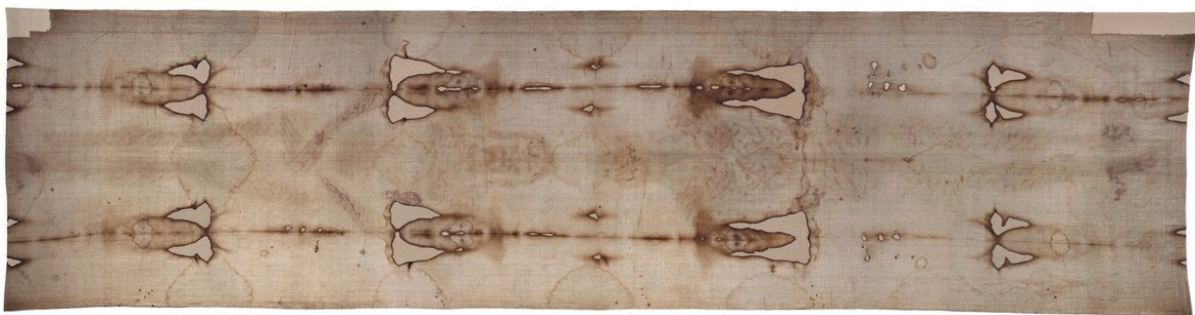
We have been donated this *GIANT* 10kg Easter Egg to raffle off to raise funds for our Dementia Friends Group which meets each Friday.

Raffle tickets are £1 a strip and can be purchased from the church office, or at Dementia Friends (Fridays between 13:30 and 15:30)

The Shroud of Turin: A Scientific Enigma

There are few historical artefacts that have been studied as extensively as the Shroud of Turin. This cloth, which many believe covered the body of Jesus Christ in the tomb, is an enigma which has intrigued historians, artists and scientists ever since the publication of the first photographs taken of the Shroud at the end of the nineteenth century. Since that time, successive generations of experts drawn from a diverse range of specialist fields of study have spent countless hours searching for evidence that could reveal the true nature and origin of this ancient linen cloth. These included a group of scientists who in 1988 radiocarbon-dated a sample of fabric taken from the Shroud of Turin. They concluded that the sample of fabric was produced in the period 1260-1390AD, prompting one of those scientists to declare that, "Someone just got a piece of linen, faked it up and flogged it".

Many people have since accepted this conclusion believing that this brings to an end any debate over the nature and origin of the Shroud. However, even at the time of that fateful dating test, there was already a large amount of historical and scientific evidence that appeared to challenge that conclusion and the amount of this contradictory evidence has increased significantly as a result of ongoing research over the years since that test.



This 60-minute presentation provides an overview of this evidence, focusing in particular on the astounding findings revealed by scientific examinations of the image markings visible on the Shroud, which undermine the claim that a medieval artist could have simply "faked it up and flogged it". It explains why, after having examined the Shroud's image markings and bloodstains, several forensic scientists have concluded that they are consistent with the tortures described in gospel accounts of the crucifixion. The talk also outlines evidence which shows that the Shroud is much, much older than the age indicated by the carbon dating test and explains why that test may have failed to give the true age of this enigmatic cloth.

The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session.

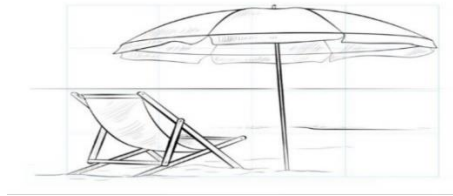
If space permits, the presentation may also include a display which features a full-sized replica of the Shroud of Turin as well as full-sized negative images of the front and back of the body.

Heaton Churches Invite you to
Holiday at Home

Join us to enjoy companionship, food and fun

Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 2pm – 4pm

**Heaton Mersey Methodist Church, Cavendish Road, Heaton
Mersey, SK3 3DP**



Come and join us for another Holiday at Home Event. An afternoon social event, fun, companionship, and afternoon refreshments.

Who is it for?

Everyone. We would like to encourage folk who do not normally get out very often, or are isolated to come along.

So, if you have a friend or neighbour in that position, please tell them about these events.

Holiday at Home is run by local volunteers from the Heaton's Churches, so if you normally have a carer to help with mobility or everyday tasks, please bring them along to support you.

Booking is essential for this event.

No later than Monday 30th March 2025

Please complete the booking form attached and return either by post via:

Mrs Linda Preece, 19 Woodlands Road, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, SK4 3AF.

Or you can also give your form via Heaton Mersey Methodist Church (Sarah Rose), St John's Church (Linda Preece or Jean Sykes), or Heaton Mersey Congregational Church (Diane Dolan).

Any questions please or you require further information please contact:

Linda Preece – 0161 431 4585

E-mail : linda.preece19@gmail.com

Jean Sykes -

Email : jean.sykes@coffeeandconversation.co.uk

Diane Dolan – 0777 5930122

E-mail : dianedolan121@me.com

Sarah Rose – 07708 653714

E-mail : sarah@hmmc.org.uk

We are planning to have 2 events later in the year. One in July at Heaton Mersey Methodist Church and a trip in September. We will contact you later in the year to confirm these and with booking information.

Holiday at Home Booking Form – for 9th April 2025

Name:

Address:

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Telephone

E-mail:

Date of Birth:

I would like to attend Holiday at Home on:

Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 2-4pm – Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

This is a free event but you are welcome to make a donation on the day.

Signed:

Date:

Please indicate if you would like us to keep your details so that we can invite you to future events. Yes/No

Emergency Contact:

Name

Telephone No.

Please indicate below if you have any dietary requirements or allergies: -

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Please indicate below if you have any medical conditions, we need to be aware of: -

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Please indicate below if you would require transport

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