



Heaton Moor United Church

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



NOTICES February 2026

Sunday Services at Heaton Moor United Church *Services at 10:45 unless otherwise stated*

15 th February	Rev Paul Brewerton	Communion Service
22 nd February	Rev Jan Tate	1 st Sunday in Lent
1 st March	Rev Katie Smith	2 nd Sunday in Lent
8 th March	JoAnne Roy	3 rd Sunday in Lent
15 th March	Rev Dr Graham Adams	4 th Sunday in Lent, Mothering Sunday & Communion Service

Additional Services at Heaton Moor United Church

Wednesday 18 th February at 18:30	Ash Wednesday	
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Upcoming Events at Heaton Moor United Church

Living Lounge Warm Space (weekly) Mondays from 11:00 – 15:00	Lunch at The Living Lounge from 12:00 until 13:00.
Monday Fellowship (fortnightly) from 19:45	Next gathering Monday 16 th February
Weekly Wednesday Coffee Morning 10:30	All are welcome
Time To Talk 1 st & 3 rd Thursdays of each month at 14:00	<i>(Previously bereavement support)</i> Next meeting 19 th February 2026
Moor Love Weekend 13 th February from 19:00 14 th February from 10:00	Further details in the notices Pre-Loved Clothes Swop Pre-loved table top
Pastoral Visitors Meeting 19 th February at 10:00am	Open to all pastoral visitors. For further information please contact Katy Rowe
Big Brew Coffee Morning Saturday 14 th March from 10:00	Coffee morning to raise funds for Fair Trade
Bravura Concert Saturday 28 th March	Save the date for what will be a fabulous concert – see notices for more 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
1 st March	27 th February	25 th February
15 th March	13 th March	11 th March

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 WC 16 th Feb
Monday 10:00 – 14:00
Tuesday 10:00 – 14:00
Wednesday 10:00 – 14:00
Thursday CLOSED
Friday CLOSED

Office Hours W/C 23 rd Feb
Monday 10:00 – 14:00
Tuesday 10:00 – 14:00
Wednesday 10:00 – 14:00
Thursday CLOSED
Friday 12:30 – 15:30

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 Administrator** – Sharon Heginbotham 0161 431 0262
office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk
- **Community Worker** – JoAnne Roy 07340 269 354
community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

NOTE JO-ANNE IS ON ANNUAL LEAVE FROM THE 16TH FEBRUARY TO 22ND FEBRUARY INCL.



Our prayer chain is made up of people who are committed to praying for those who make prayer requests. The guidelines for the prayer chain are that it is focussed and confidential.

Names are passed round the chain with a short, clear message so that prayer requests can be responded to quickly.

If you, or someone you know is in need of prayer and you have their permission to pass on their name then please contact Katy Rowe. Katy can be contacted by phone (either calling or text message) 0785 784 2141

If you would like to join the prayer chain please speak with either Katy or Jean James.

Superintendent Rev Jan Tate is going to be available after the service on the 22nd February for a question and answer session. For more information please speak with a member of the Leadership Team



As many of you will know our dear friend Michael Woodhall passed away on Sunday 1st February.

There will now be a joint funeral for both Jean and Michael in Shropshire on the 2nd March at 13:00.

For those locally who may wish to gather and remember Jean and Michael we will be holding a small service at church on this date. Further information will be shared nearer the time.

If you are unable to join us at this time we ask you to light a candle and join us in the following prayer

God of Mercy, from whom we come,
by whose Grace we live, in whose love we are held at last;
surround us with your presence that in our grief and loss
we may find assurance and hope
in the One who died for us and rose again,
Even your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Lord,

This weekend is Yours.

As we gather for these two events, we ask You to turn up the volume on love. Let it be loud in our laughter, real in our conversations, and obvious in our actions.

Bless every plan, every volunteer, every moment. If something goes off-script, remind us You're the best improviser of all.

Bring the curious, the hurting, the hopeful, the sceptical. Surprise people with kindness. Spark new friendships. Heal old wounds. Let no one leave without feeling seen, valued, and loved.

Holy Spirit, move through us.

Make us brave with our compassion.

Make us generous with our welcome.

Make us bold in spreading love far beyond this weekend.

Let this be more than events, let it be a ripple that keeps rolling.

In Jesus name, Amen

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to a decline in numbers we have made the decision to cancel the Monthly Short Service with immediate effect. We hope to re-introduce such service at a different day/time in the near future.

CREATING SAFER SPACE – Safeguarding Training

There is a requirement for certain volunteers within The Methodist Church, especially those who volunteer with children and vulnerable adults, to have the foundation safeguarding module from The Methodist Church. (If you have undertaken safeguarding training with the Church of England this is recognised within the Methodist Church)

There is opportunity to complete this training online or in person across the circuit.

Emails have been sent to all those who need to undertake or renew their training (it needs to be renewed every 4 years) if you have not received an email, and you think you should have safeguarding training, please contact Sharon Heginbotham

office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk or call in at the office.

MOOR LOVE We are half way through our Moor Love Project for 2026 and have been hearing some great examples of random acts of kindness!

This weekend we have our two events under the theme Pre-loved, a clothes swop and table top.

Our clothes swop on Friday 13th February starting at 7pm is set to be a great night with some lovely clothes being brought to swop.

PRE-LOVED CLOTHES SWOP

The idea is simple.

1. Find three items of clothing that still has life left in it but you no longer wear.
2. Come to church on Friday at 7pm with your clothes.
3. Enjoy some light refreshments whilst looking at clothes.
4. Swop your three items for new to you clothes!

PRE-LOVED TABLE TOP - SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 10:00 - 12:00

Join us on Saturday 14th February as we sell some pre-loved items to raise funds for Stockport Without Abuse

You've probably seen the donations we've received as we have been a little overwhelmed but that means we've got some great stuff to sell!



PRE-LOVED BY GOD

Pre-loved by God, what feelings, memories, or thoughts does this phrase awaken in you?

To explore this further, we've invited members of our worship group to share their personal reflections on what it means to be "pre-loved by God," and we'll be sharing their insights and stories throughout February.

PRE-LOVED.a reflection by Rev. Graham Adams

Pre-loved by God ... agape and eros

However we understand God, surely Love is at the very heart of it – and therefore it will be a love that has been there before we knew about it, before we responded to it, and before we sought to reflect it in our own lives.

It was unrequited love – but that's never stopped God from showing it. God loves us with a love beyond our comprehension.

But what kind of love is it?

In Greek, there are three words for love – philia, agape and eros. Philia is the deep affection that people feel for one another, whether friends or family. Agape is how we tend to think of God's love: it is self-giving love; love which pours itself out towards us without expecting anything in return; it is simply generous love. No wonder this is how Christian faith has generally focused on God's love – it resonates with our sense of God's boundless grace, love that is for us no matter how much we struggle to reflect it.

But there's an odd thing about focusing on agape. If it need not be reciprocated, that implies that God doesn't get any particular enjoyment from loving us – God just loves, regardless of what we do. While this is comforting, because it allows for us being flawed in our love, it also seems to miss something.

Eros gives another dimension. While eros is often associated with the love between sexual partners, it is not limited to those human experiences. Eros is also a kind of love which gives and receives – it enjoys loving another partner, because it gets something from the relationship, as well as enjoying giving love. It is a love which asserts itself – 'This is me being who I really am, in relation to you', but also receives from the partner. It is a mutual kind of love.

I think it is helpful to remember that God shows some eros as well as agape. God enjoys loving us. God desires love from us and enjoys it when we show it. God desires us to show love towards other people and enjoys it when we show it. Not only is God's agape a pre-love – a love that reaches out to us selflessly even before we respond, but God's pre-love is also eros, waiting excitedly for a response.

If God is both agape and eros, this helps to create relationships – not only between us and God, but between us and each other – because God's agape-eros shows itself to be generous towards us and open to receiving from us, and desires us to show that same kind of love towards each other: generosity towards others and willingness to receive as well. Both are important.

****REMINDER** MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

There is no longer a requirement to use the switch in the ladies toilet for hot water. A boost switch has been installed in the downstairs kitchen above the dishwasher, one has also been fitted upstairs There are instructions next to it but if you have any problems please speak with Sharon.

SAVE THE DATE 28th March 2026

BRAVURA - An award winning intergenerational choir

PRESENTS SPIRIT OF THE SEA

SATURDAY 28th MARCH 2026

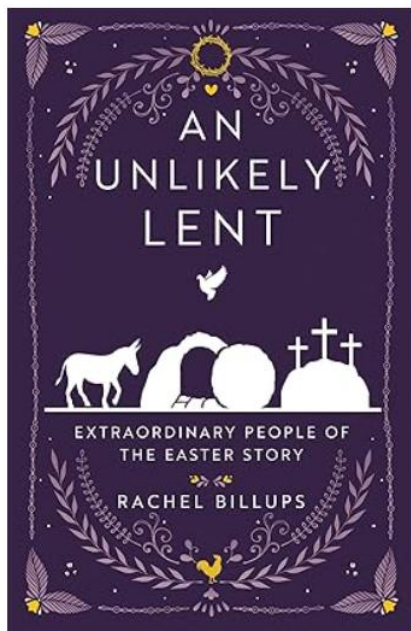
Heaton Moor United Church

Stanley Road Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4HL

Time 7.30pm

All proceeds to the Church's Charities

Watch this space for further details



Lenten Conversations

We will be gathering for Lenten Conversations on four Sundays in Lent. We won't be meeting on the 22nd February or Mothering Sunday (22nd March). We will begin around 12.30 pm, preceded by a light lunch of soup and a roll. The timing is flexible, but we aim to finish by approximately 1.15 pm.

This year, our conversations will be based on the book *An Unlikely Lent*, which explores the lives of some of the extraordinary people of the Easter story—such as Mary of Bethany, Barabbas, and the women at the foot of the cross. Through their stories, we'll reflect together on faith, courage, and unexpected encounters with God.

No prior knowledge is required! There is also no expectation to read the book and you don't have to attend all sessions!

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend, whether you come for the discussion, the fellowship, or just to share a simple meal. This is a wonderful opportunity to pause, reflect, and journey through Lent together.

The soup rota for the lent conversations is outside the church office, please speak with Sharon if you have any queries regarding the soup rota

Other Resources for Lent

The Methodist Church **Pause. Breathe. Make space for God.**

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/lent/>

**At the time of printing we do not have information from The United Reformed Church on their Lent Resource for 2026 but we will share once we know, we expect it will be covered in their daily devotions which you can find on the website, or Facebook page **

Other Lent Devotionals

There are some other great lent devotionals being released for 2026 here are a few highlight but check your favourite charities/Christian organisations to see if they have released any too!

- **Stewardship (40acts):** Provides the "40acts" challenge, a 40-day, 6-week journey designed to encourage generosity and reflection, now integrated with their Giving Account app. <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/40acts>
- **Tearfund:** Features a "Living Water" 7-week Lent devotional focused on deepening faith and reflection, available via email. <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/lent-devotional>
- **Bible Society:** Offers a 40-day, free daily devotional journey through the Psalms, including audio podcasts. <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-lent-encounter>
- **Compassion UK:** Provides a free downloadable 2026 Lent devotional, including weekly reflections and prayers. (<https://www.compassionuk.org/blogs/lent-prayers/>)
- **CTBI (Churches Together in Britain and Ireland):** Provides "Belonging in Christ," a series of reflections on unity and peace. <https://ctbi.org.uk/resources/lent-2026-reflections/>
- **Christian Aid** Provides resources focused on their annual Lent and Easter appeal and have a Count Your Blessings activity sheet for Lent, copies of this are available outside the office.

