



# Heaton Moor United Church

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



## NOTICES May 2026

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

24 <sup>th</sup> May	Local Arrangements	Pentecost
31 <sup>st</sup> May	Liz Delafield	
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Leo Roberts	All Age Worship
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Local Arrangements	Action for Children Service
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Rev Dr Graham Adams	Communion Service

### Additional Services

Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May at 14:00 Abeny Scout Centre	Pentecost Prayers in the Park	Circuit Event see notices
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### Upcoming Events at Heaton Moor United Church

Living Lounge Warm Space (weekly) Mondays from 11:00 – 15:00	<b>THERE WILL BE NO LUNCH ON 25<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Lunch at The Living Lounge from 12:00 until 13:00.
Weekly Wednesday Coffee Morning 10:30	All are welcome
<b>**NEW**</b> Wednesday Evening from 17:00	A coffee “evening” where food from M&S will be available for collection along with fruit/vegetables See notices
Time To Talk 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month at 14:00	<i>(Previously bereavement support)</i> Next meeting 4 <sup>th</sup> June
Open Church – Roots and Rainbows 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Children and family event 10:00 – 14:00 each day. See notices for further details
PACT Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> May at 18:30	Police and Community Together Meeting meet neighbourhood policing team and raise any concerns.
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 10:30 – 12:00	Action for Children coffee morning

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

Notices for Sunday:	Emailed/Printed	Latest submission date
7 <sup>th</sup> June	5 <sup>th</sup> June	3 <sup>rd</sup> June
21 <sup>st</sup> June	19 <sup>th</sup> June	17 <sup>th</sup> June

*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](mailto:office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)*

Office Hours W/C 25 <sup>th</sup> May
Monday CLOSED
Tuesday 10:00 – 14:00
Wednesday 10:00 – 14:00
Thursday CLOSED
Friday CLOSED

Office Hours W/C 1 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE
Monday CLOSED
Tuesday CLOSED
Wednesday CLOSED
Thursday CLOSED
Friday 10:00 – 15:00

## STAFF WORKING HOURS

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

Due to half term our community worker will be working varied hours, please contact her by phone/email rather than calling into the office.

## Team Contact Information

● **Church Administrator** – Sharon Heginbotham 0161 431 0262  
[office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

● **PLEASE NOTE** Sharon is on annual leave from 28<sup>th</sup> May until 15<sup>th</sup> June inclusive

● **Community Worker** – JoAnne Roy 07340 269 354  
[community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)



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.

FOOD BANK ITEMS - big thanks to Val and Gary Evans for taking our most recent collection to the food bank. The box is now empty ready to be filled up again so please continue to bring in tinned goods.

The Wellspring are currently very short on sugar so donations of sugar will be greatly appreciated.

### WHATS THIS SPACE?

We are very lucky that we have a very busy building but not necessarily a busy church! I'm holding two conversation events to gather ideas of where we can put more "church" into our space.

This isn't about putting on events, this is an opportunity for us to gather and see what more "church" could look like - and that will be different for each of us - it's these different ideas I want to hear!

An opportunity to share your thoughts without then feeling pressured that you have to "do" anything with them!

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm

Light refreshments will be provided - please sign up on the board outside the main hall!

Would you like to take part in leading the service on July 12th?

On that day members of the congregation are needed to take responsibility for the service.

We need people willing to read various things, announce hymns and lead prayers etc.

You do not need to prepare anything yourself.

If you would like to be part of the group please contact Anne Wilde by June 14th.

[annewilde2002@gmail.co.uk](mailto:annewilde2002@gmail.co.uk) or 07513289225



# COFFEE MORNING

Raising vital funds for the work of Action for Children

**13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**  
**10:30 - 12:00**

Cakes, raffle, pound stall & more!

[www.actionforchildren.org.uk](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk)

Driven  
by  
**love**  
we take



Gifts of cakes greatly received on the day!



Join us for a different type of worship

No hymns, no sermon, no pews!

An hour of worship in a new way by

**Searching for God in the West End'**

Why not join us on Wednesday evenings at 7.15pm from

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Beauty and the Beast

June 10<sup>th</sup>, Oklahoma!

June 17<sup>th</sup>, Les Misérables

## Searching for God in the West End: *The Lion King* and the Meaning of “Hakuna Matata”

An afterthought from JoAnne Roy, Community Worker

One of the joys of *Searching for God in the West End* is discovering that even the most familiar musicals can open up profound spiritual questions. Listening to music from *The Lion King* together, one moment that stayed with me was the song *Hakuna Matata*, a phrase many people know simply as “no worries.”

In the show, the song appears at a crucial turning point. Simba has run away after the death of Mufasa, carrying guilt, shame, and fear. Timon and Pumbaa offer him a new philosophy: leave the past behind, stop thinking too deeply, and focus on surviving happily in the present. On one level, it feels joyful and freeing. This point in the story is a time to laugh and enjoy the relief after some of the darkest scenes in the musical.

Yet as the story unfolds, we realise *Hakuna Matata* is not the full answer. Simba cannot stay hidden forever. Avoiding responsibility is not the same as healing. Eventually he must return, face the truth, and step into the calling that has always been his.

That made me think about Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount:

“Do not worry about your life...”

— Matthew 6:25

At first glance, this can sound similar to *Hakuna Matata*. Jesus tells people not to worry; Timon and Pumbaa tell Simba “no worries.” But there is an important difference.

The *Hakuna Matata* approach can become escapism, pretending pain, injustice, or responsibility do not exist. Jesus, however, never asks people to ignore reality. He speaks these words to people living under oppression, poverty, and uncertainty. His teaching is not “nothing matters,” but rather: *God is with you, so fear does not have to control you.*

Christian faith is not about denial. It is about trust.

For Christians in 2026, that feels deeply relevant. We live in anxious times: wars continue, the climate crisis grows, technology changes faster than many can process, and mental health struggles affect huge numbers of people. “No worries” can sometimes become the slogan of a culture that distracts itself rather than confronting what is broken.

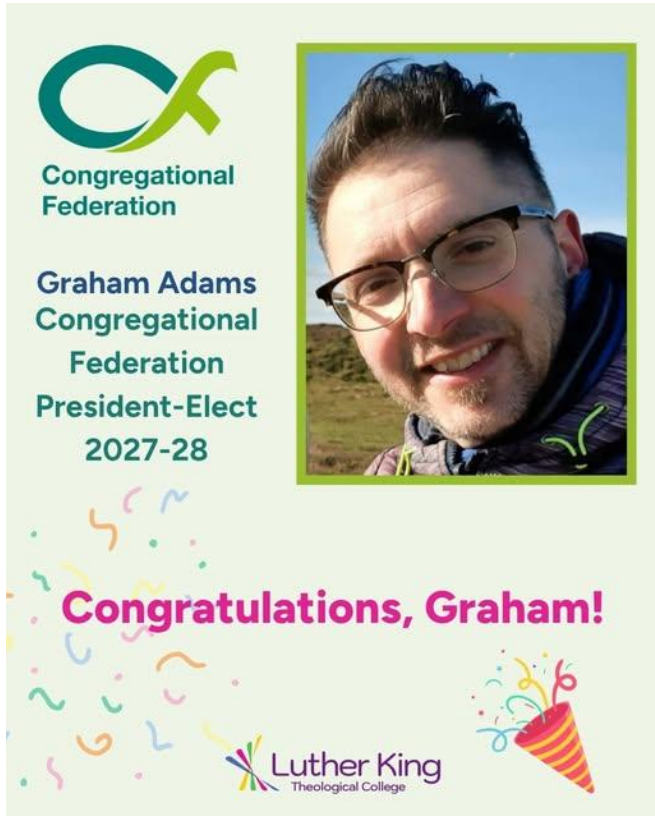
Jesus offers something more demanding and more hopeful. He invites us to lay down anxiety *without* laying down compassion or responsibility. Christians are called not to panic, but neither are we called to disengage. We are meant to trust God enough to face the world honestly.

In that sense, Simba’s journey mirrors something important about discipleship. He matures when he stops running away and embraces who he was created to be. Likewise, Christian faith is not about escaping the world, but about returning to it with courage, purpose, and hope.

Perhaps the challenge for us today is this: can we live with peace in anxious times without becoming indifferent? Can we refuse worry without refusing responsibility?

That feels like a question both *The Lion King* and the Gospel leave with us.

# MEMBER NEWS



We echo the congratulation from Luther King College for our very own Graham Adams who has been elected President of the Congregational Federation (2027-2028).

Church member Sue Jones is taking part in The Great Manchester Run on 31<sup>st</sup> May raising funds for MND. If you wish to sponsor Sue please use this link

<https://ajbellgreatmanchesterrun2026.enthuse.com/pf/sue-jones>

Good luck Sue!



Many members have copies of the image on the left as I believe 100 were sold to raise money for the new building. Sadly, as people pass on relatives offer the pictures back to church and we have acquired quite a few. If anybody would like one please speak with the office.

# VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

## **NEW Food Wednesday Evening Food Provision!**

Our Wednesday Evening Food Provision (17:00 – 19:00) is seeing on average 12 people coming each week to collect food items which would otherwise go to landfill. I'm confident that there are more people in our community who would benefit and would stay for a brew and a cuppa BUT I have no volunteers!

We are trialling this service until the end of June so if you are able to volunteer one Wednesday evening in June so I can promote it more please do let me know ASAP.

JoAnne Community Worker

07340 269 354

[community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

Rotas are on the board outside the main hall for

- Living lounge volunteers
- Busy table volunteers
- Open Church volunteers

## **NEW mid-week welcome volunteers**

We are looking for mid-week welcome volunteers who can welcome, sign-post and chat to people who come to the building. This is to support our desire to be an "open building" and to encourage wider engagement between the church and community.

We would hope welcome volunteers can be available Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Hours/times to be discussed with volunteers.

As this is a new role full training is required and it won't suit everybody! \*\*No moving of furniture is required\*\*

If you are interested in applying for the role please speak with JoAnne, Community Worker.



GREATER MANCHESTER  
**POLICE**

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# Partners and Communities together

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## Heatons

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**PACT** is the process through which communities can raise any issues or concerns they have in their area to their local Neighbourhood Policing Team and partner agencies. Residents are encouraged to come and discuss key issues within the community.

### Location

Heaton Moor United Church  
Stanley Road  
Stockport, SK4 4HL

### Date / Time

Wednesday 27th May @18:30



For the latest alerts from your neighbourhood team on what is happening on your street and in your local community – sign up to receive free email or text alerts


[www.beeintheloop.co.uk](http://www.beeintheloop.co.uk)

You can access many of our services online at [gmp.police.uk](http://gmp.police.uk)  
For emergencies only call **999**, or **101** if it's a less urgent matter.

# **PENTECOST**

## **PRAYERS IN THE PARK**

**COME HOLY SPIRIT**



**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May**  
**2pm - 4pm**  
**Abney Scout Centre**

Newlands Road, Cheadle, SK8 2BP

**ALL ARE WELCOME, family and friends to join us as we gather in celebration of Pentecost for a time of creative prayer, fellowship, and shared worship in God's creation.**

Bring a chair or blanket if you wish, refreshments and toilet facilities are available.  
Limited car parking available at the scout centre but local car parks nearby

## **NOTES FOR CHURCHES**

### **Pentecost Prayers in the park 2026**

As part of our year of prayer we are inviting churches to join us as we gather for Pentecost at Abney Scout Centre.

We will spend the afternoon together in prayer, fellowship and shared worship.

Throughout the afternoon there will be different stations where you can pray, some will be in the traditional reflective sense and others will be more creative!

We hope to have a fire which will bring another element to the afternoon, along with crafts and side-show games.

There will be facilities for making hot drinks, take-away cups will be provided but if you would like to bring your own drinking vessel this would be helpful!

The centre is well equipped with toilet facilities, including disabled access. If the weather has been dry then the field is also easily accessible. However even if we experience our usual seeping downpours and you have mobility issues it should not prevent you from enjoying the afternoon as there will be plenty to do in the centre.

There is limited parking at the centre and we ask that this is used as a drop off for those who have mobility issues or where walking is a problem. Overleaf you will see where the alternative car park is within the grounds of Abney, there are also local car parks within Cheadle Village and we encourage car sharing.

We encourage you to come along for this opportunity to gather as one across our circuit churches, strengthening our unity, encouraging one another in faith, and witnessing together to the life we share in Christ as a wider community.

If you wish to volunteer on the day as a steward, activity volunteer, kitchen volunteer slots are available in half hour increments, please contact JoAnne Roy. If you have any queries also please contact JoAnne !

JoAnne Roy

[community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk](mailto:community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk)

07340 269 354

### **COMPETITION**

We would also like to use this opportunity to host a circuit “bake-off” we are inviting people to submit a cake in the spirit of Pentecost/Prayer for judging, and of course eating!