

29TH JULY 2026

Heaton Moor United Church



NEWSLETTER

Sunday Services are at 10.45

2 nd August	JoAnne Roy	All Age Worship
9 th August	Songs of Praise Service	
16 th August	Rev Dr Katie Smith	Communion
23 rd August	Joint Service at Heaton Mersey Methodist Church	
30 th August	Anne Wild	
6 th September	Rev Dr Graham Adams	All Age Worship

Editorial Letter

This will be the last newsletter until 2nd September. The majority of the groups will not be operating in August, however I will still be in the building . It is a busy time for myself preparing everything for the new connexional year. So if you want anything to go in to the next newsletter please email it me by 1st September . Jo Anne is taking a well deserved rest over all of August, there is more about the food stuff later in the newsletter .

Past Events

The last 2 weeks have been quiet as things wind down for the summer break . It was great seeing the Moor than Play groups finish for their break last week. The Jane Austin based bible study finished last Wednesday . The celebration service for Noreen Baillie was a lovely reflection for such a special lady . Followed by lots of laughter and tea !

Sharon

Future Events

There will be a General Church Meeting after the service on 27th September . The day before on the 26th , there will be a concert by The MondayMondays, more details are on the fundraising page.

Regular Events		
Living Lounge	Non in August	11.00-15.00
Living Lounge Lunch	Non in August	12.00-13.00
Coffee Morning	Wednesday	10.30-11.30
Time to Talk	Thursday 1 st and 3 rd week	14.00

VOLUNTEER AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Church Directory

You should have all received an email, showing what information that is stored on the church database . Also you are being asked to complete the online form to confirm that information is correct and if you wish to go in the church directory. If you haven't received this , please let Sharon know.



Sunday Rotas

If you are a volunteer on a Sunday morning , first of all Thank You ! Secondly the new rotas will be sent out at the beginning of August that will start in September .

If you wish to come off the rota you are on , please let Sharon know by 30th July . If you are intrested in how you can help to make Worship on Sunday to run smoothly by volunteering for any of the key roles: Security, PA , Welcome or being a reader , please also get in touch .

Can I remind you , that it is up to you to organise any swaps that you may need to do , and if you can then inform Sharon that a swap has happened , that would be great.

The rota is also stored on the website , if you can't find yours !

<https://www.heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk/worship/rotas.html>

WIDER CHURCH CONNECTIONS

Heaton Moor United Church is connected to many churches across the Stockport area. We are part of the United Stockport Circuit , this is from our Methodist connections. From our URC connection, we are part of the Stockport and High Peak Missional Partnership .

Circuit News

One of our Circuit Ministers , Rev Dr Raj Patta ,was selected to speak on radio 2 on the Michelle Visage show , which is on Fridays. I have included the clip below You can listen to it by clicking the link: If you wish to receive the circuit newsletter you can subscribe to at :
www.stockportcircuit.org.uk

WHATSAPP VIDEO 2026-07-25 AT 08.51.49.MP4

Missional Partnership News

The Missional Partnership has a newsletter called The Link . It is issued every month . If you wish to receive it please get in touch with me . I have attached August's so you can have a look .

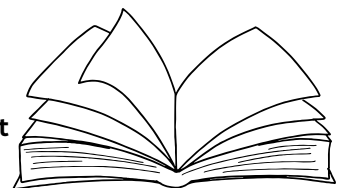
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HEATON MOOR UNITED
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PASTORAL

Book of Remembrance

The book of remembrance will sent away to be updated soon.

If you wish to add someone dear to you please contact the office



Prayer Chain

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 ROWE OR JEAN JAMES

'Action for Children collecting boxes. If you have an Action for Children collecting box and it has not been emptied recently, please bring it in before the middle of August and give it to Stephanie Donaldson, Deborah Symmons or leave it in the church office. We will empty it and return it to you within a couple of weeks. Many thanks'



Thanks

Deborah

A Choir with a Difference



Contemporary 5 part a cappella
swing & pop choir

Heaton Moor United Church

Saturday 26th September 7.30pm

£8.00 Including refreshments

In aid of the church charities...

*Action for Children, Eve Project, Leprosy Mission,
Lebone Village (South Africa) & Christian Aid*

For more information
here is their Facebook
page.



The Monday Mondays | Denton

The Monday Mondays, Denton. 358 likes. The Monday Mondays are an award winning, mixed a cappella choir based in Tameside, who perform an ec

 facebookapp

TAKE HOME *your* *recyclables*

IF THE BOX IS OVERFLOWING



Please do not
leave items
outside the
boxes. Apart
from looking
untidy they
are a fire risk

COMMUNITY WORKER

A Summer Pause... and a Summer Challenge a message from JoAnne,
Church Community Worker

I will be on annual leave for a big chunk of August to spend time with family as we prepare for Annabel leaving us for Aberdeen University in September. I will also be using this time as opportunity to pray, reflect and listen for where God might be leading next. Community work is always growing and changing, and this season offers the chance to celebrate what God has already done while discerning how we continue to serve our neighbourhood in the months and years ahead.

Throughout Scripture, we see that God often speaks most clearly when people make space to listen. Jesus regularly withdrew to quiet places to pray (Luke 5:16), and the writer of Proverbs reminds us:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

As I spend time reflecting, I'd love to invite the whole church to join me in a simple Summer Challenge.

Over the coming weeks, ask yourself these three questions:

Where have I seen God at work this summer?

Who have I encouraged or welcomed this week?

What is one small thing I can do to share God's love in my community?

The summer is time when most groups and clubs take some time off and so it is an opportunity for us to be intentional in reaching out. Perhaps it's taking time to speak with a neighbour, inviting someone for a coffee, offering practical help, praying for someone who is struggling, or simply noticing the people who might otherwise go unseen. Community ministry isn't only something that happens through a paid worker, it is the calling of every follower of Christ.

When September arrives, I'd love to hear your stories. What did you notice? Where did you see God already at work? What ideas, hopes or dreams do you have for how our church can continue to serve our community?

May this be a season in which all of us discover afresh what it means to be Christ's hands and feet wherever we find ourselves.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"
(Isaiah 43:19)



Over the past three weeks, our Tea & Truth group has enjoyed exploring excerpts from three of Jane Austen's novels alongside passages from Scripture. Together we discovered that Austen's stories are about much more than romance, they invite us to reflect on character, relationships, and the ways we grow and change.

Beginning with *Pride and Prejudice*, we considered Elizabeth Bennet's realisation, "Till this moment I never knew myself," alongside Jesus' parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, reflecting on the humility that comes from seeing ourselves truthfully before God.

In *Sense and Sensibility*, Marianne Dashwood's journey through disappointment led us to explore how God can use life's difficult seasons to shape our character and deepen our hope.

Finally in our discussion of *Emma* centred on Mr Knightley's words, "It was badly done, indeed," we were reminded of the importance of speaking the truth in love, receiving correction with humility, and seeking reconciliation when we have caused hurt.

Throughout the series there was plenty of tea, cake, laughter, and thoughtful conversation. We shared ideas, asked challenging questions, and discovered fresh connections between Jane Austen's timeless observations of human nature and the enduring wisdom of Scripture. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make Tea & Truth such an enjoyable and enriching time together.

History of the floodlighting of the Church stained-glass window.

In the last few years of the old church building, it became the norm to hold candle light evening services around Christmas Time. These were fine but the unlit stained-glass window was just dark and featureless.

I thought it would be a good idea to floodlight it from the outside but I didn't realise just how dense stained glass is. The first few attempts using domestic tungsten halogen floodlights; even a 1,000-Watt unit were very disappointing, having little effect.

I was able to borrow from British Nuclear Fuels, 5 off, 400-Watt high bay MBFu fittings which even on their own produced many more lumens than the tungsten halogen. These were to be mounted on a wooden pallet on the roof of the Sunday school building at the rear of the church. They were very successful but it was to be the last time as the church was to be demolished and rebuilt in a different style.

The newly built church now has the repositioned window facing the Heaton Moor Road, so it seemed appropriate to light it up again, but this time from the inside to present a colourful image and witness statement to passing pedestrians. Again, it was an empirical time and it took a few fittings before a satisfactory result was achieved. This was effected with a 400-Watt Tungsten Halide floodlight mounted off the wall. It was also controlled by a wall mounted purpose-built industrial timer which can be adjusted to allow the light to come on and off at desired times. . Because of this I was invited to St Agnes Church in Reddish to discuss the viability of doing the same there

When the church (now HMUC) had a general update with LED fittings, this floodlight was confined to the scrapheap by the contractors and replaced with a LED floodlight of low output. This proved to be a bad choice and did not highlight the window as well as the unit it replaced. The fitting was changed twice to the more powerful, higher lumen output, LED unit that we have now.

This light is, I believe, a worthy successor to the original concept.

Alan Shore, December 2023.

If you have enjoyed this little bit of history lesson about the window. Andrew Barber has traced the history of the window back to the original designer right through to how it was placed where it is now . He will be doing a presentation at the Lebone Coffee morning on October 3rd at 11.00, on the Window of Heaton Moor United Church

CHRISTIANS IN SCHOOLS NEWS

July 2026

PRIMARY NEWS

- What a brilliant school year we have had!
- We have visited 40 different primary schools.
- We have recently given around 2500 Year 6 children the 'It's Your Move' book and encouraged them as they think about their move to secondary school.
- We did a prayer space at ECC Green Lane for Y6 Norris Bank pupils.
- Beth and Reagan came along to some of our Y6 sessions to introduce themselves and share about the CU clubs going on in secondary schools.
- We continue to see that children are very open to exploring Christian faith.

SECONDARY NEWS

- Reagan's CU group at Stockport School, Cheadle Hulme High, Bramhall are going really well and are supported by local churches.
- Reagan ran another worship event at Aquinas and it was really well attended including some Muslim students.
- Beth was able to be at St Anne's when the Y6 pupils did their transition visit day and was able to publicise her Tuesday group to them.
- Beth now has support from St Mark's Bredbury and St Barnabus' when she does her weekly Werneth High School drop in.
- Beth has seen more pupils at the Priestnall group - Christian pupils are happily inviting their on-Christian friends along.

PRAYER POINTS

- Reddish Vale High School - we have a link with a Christian school governor at RV and they are trying to encourage the school to allow us to start a CU group in partnership with ECC. Pray this will happen.
- Reagan & Beth as they run the CU clubs in September - that schools publicise these clubs well, new Y7 pupils come and regulars return.
- As the demand for our primary work grows (again!) may we be given wisdom in how to grow our team to meet the demand.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Food Collection and Living Lounge Lunches



Please note there will be no living lounge lunches served throughout August.

Lunches will return on Monday 7th September.

Volunteers are needed and the sign up sheet is on the board outside the main hall.

During August food will be available for collection on a Monday from 10:30 until 12:00.

At the time of writing there is no guarantee food will be available Wednesdays.

Minister : Rev Katie Smith : katie.smith@methodist.org.uk

Team Information

Church Administrator – Sharon Heginbotham 0161 431 0262

office@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Community Worker – JoAnne Roy 07340 269 354

community@heatonmoorunitedchurch.org.uk

Office Hours

Monday 10-2

Tuesday 10-2

Wednesday 10-2

Leadership Team

Michael Ball : michael@map-mail.co.uk

Valerie Evans : valsk42lx@yahoo.co.uk

Fran Parker : transformation@icloud.com

Katy Rowe : Katyrowe@gmail.com

Alan Scott : alanfscott@virginmedia.com

Deborah Symmons: deborah.symmons@btinternet.com

Anne Wilde : annewilde2002@gmail.com

Safeguarding Officer : Sharon Heginbotham