

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

April 2022 Newsletter

Sunday 3rd 10:00 – Family Church @10

Sunday 3rd 11:00 – Rev R Patta Communion

Sunday 10th - no service here

Friday 15th 2pm – Rev R Patta Communion

Sunday 17th 10:45 – Rev D Clowes Communion

Sunday 24th 10:45 – Rev R Patta

Circuit Service Palm Sunday 10th April

Led by Rev Andrew Lunn at noon in St. Peter's Square, Stockport Town Centre (St Peters gate, SK1 1NZ). This is an open air service with limited seating and you are welcome to bring folding chairs. The two nearest car parks (2-minute walk) are at Piccadilly Car Park, SK1 1DY (£1.80 for 2 hours) Mersey Shopping Centre Car Park, entry via St Petersgate SK1 1HL (40p for 2 hours). Toilets will be available within St Peter's Church.

Prayer meetings are held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, to get the log-on details please email: whitejepson@gmail.com

Children's Corner

Sun 3rd April: Family Church at 10am.

Sat 9th April: Easter Gardens at 11am.

Sat 16th April: Easter Egg Hunt at 11am.

Sun 1st May: Family Church at 10am

Minister

Rev Raj Patta

Minister@hmmc.org.uk

Phone 0161 432 2925

Day off Monday

Church & Community Worker

Sarah Rose

Sarah@hmmc.org.uk

Phone 07708 653714

Day off Thurs/Fri

Office Administrator

Christine Hufton

admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk

Tel 0300 0110015

Mon & Wed – Fri: 10am – 4pm

Tuesday afternoons Fellowship

A time of bible study and discussion meeting at 2pm - 3pm on Tuesday afternoon.

If you would like to find out more, please speak to Chris or Anne.

New for Old

Can you help us to reduce our carbon footprint? We are working to replace our old fluorescent lights with new LED fittings.

Donations however small will be gratefully accepted through

our Aviva Community Fund Page

<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/low-energy-lighting-for-community-activit>

OR they can be given to any of the Church Leadership team in an envelope marked 'New for Old'.

Designated Gift Aid envelopes are available if you would like to use them. Closing Date is 9th April 2022.

Thankyou

For up-to-date information check out these websites:

www.hmmc.org.uk

www.StockportCircuit.org.uk

And follow us on Facebook

Spot an error on the website? Email admin@hmmc.org.uk

Easing of restrictions

As a reminder the Leadership Team have put the following in place:

- Face masks are still to be worn whilst in the building and moving around it.
- Singing can take place in services, sitting or standing, whilst wearing a mask.
- Still socially distanced seating.
- Tea/Coffee available after the service.

Yurt Project

From the 6th – 9th April United Stockport Circuit is running an exciting storytelling project in Mersey Square, Stockport town centre SK1. This project will centre a yurt – a flexible, mobile, intentional safe space for listening. The symbolism of the Yurt is powerful within a Christian context which is rooted in telling stories, crossing borders and healing. Whilst the core of the project will be storytelling sessions– an opportunity for people to come and share their stories we will complement these sessions with other activities and workshops to suit all ages.

Email events@stockportcircuit.org.uk to receive the monthly newsletter from the Circuit.

If you would like to put something into the May newsletter, please email whitejepson@gmail.com by 18th April.

Lent and Easter Services around our Circuit

Thursday 7th April 7pm final session of Lent series on Zoom “And can it Be?”

Meeting ID: 975 5542 1560

Passcode: 238018

Palm Sunday 10th April

Circuit Service in St. Peter's Square, Stockport Town Centre (St Peters gate, Stockport SK1 1NZ) at noon. This is an open air service. Seating is limited but you are welcome to bring folding chairs. The two nearest car parks (2-minute walk) are at Piccadilly Car Park, SK1 1DY (£1.80 for 2 hours) Mersey Shopping Centre Car Park, entry via St Petersgate SK1 1HL (40p for 2 hours). Toilet facilities will be available within St Peter's Church. *Please note there will be no other services in our circuit.*

Maundy Thursday 14th April

3pm Service at Davenport Church

6pm Service at Heaton Moor United Church (Stanley Road, Heaton Moor, SK4 4HL)

7.30pm Tenebrae 'A Service of Shadows' at Dialstone Lane (161 Dialstone Lane, Offerton, SK2 7LQ)

7.30pm Service at Woodley (Chapel St, Woodley, SK6 1NF)

Good Friday 15th April

10.00am Walk of Witness with the Heaton churches. Starting at St Thomas' (Wellington Rd N, Heaton Chapel, SK4 4QG) and walking to St John's, (8 St Johns' Road, Heaton Mersey, SK4 3BR) for a service.

Circuit services:

10.30am Service at Davenport Church

10.45am Service at Romiley (Hill Street, Romiley, SK6 3AA)

12 noon to 3pm (drop-in at any time) Reflections in word and music on the Last Words from the Cross at Hazel Grove (Wesley Street, Hazel Grove, SK7 4JQ)

7pm Service at Edgeley (Edgeley Road, Edgeley, SK3 9NB)



Saturday 16th April

11am Heaton Mersey Methodist Church an Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Day Sunday 17th April

05.30am Dawn Service at Dialstone Lane followed by breakfast (Covid permitting)

08.00am Breakfast service at Heaton Moor followed by breakfast

10.45am Heaton Mersey Methodist Church Communion Service



“Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me.”

Have you seen the blossom on the trees recently? Or a cluster of crocus and daffodils emerging from the grass? Spring is here again, and it is time for these plants to decide about opening up again after the winter shut-down. But it isn't just the natural world that has to make tough decisions at the moment. With the end of Covid-19 restrictions in England, it can sometimes feel very difficult to know what to do for the best. As we watch the news, and hear about the daily struggle that is now life for the people of Ukraine, or the impact of the rises in the cost of living, many people will ask: where is God in all of this? Well, recently the children and I have been looking at the theme of God's presence with us, even in the difficult times.

At Family Church, we thought about the parable of the Lost Sheep, particularly about the character and role of the shepherd. A shepherd searches out nourishment for the sheep, so we planted some cress seeds to remind us of how God provides. The shepherd knows that it won't always be easy for the sheep. Sometimes they have to travel across empty, desert spaces,



but the shepherd leads them through. Sometimes, there is the threat from other animals, like lions and bears. But the shepherd keeps his flock together, even sleeping with them, to make sure that they are safe. He also employs some rather unusual looking dogs to move in amongst the sheep without being recognised by the predators. So, we made our own flock of sheep, huddled together under the protection of the shepherd.

We had great fun looking for sheep, and re-telling the story, but at the centre of everything was one question. If we are the sheep, and God is our shepherd, then what does all this mean for how God cares for us?

The theme of God being with us carried on into our March Creative Space as well. As it was close to the 17th March, we looked at the prayer of St Patrick, which begins with the famous words above. A saint who was captured by pirates, and then sold as a slave, probably knew quite a lot about trusting in God to take care of him. We went out to explore the area around the church and look for places where God might be (everywhere!) We even made our own badge using items that we found outside.



As we move in to April, it will be time to celebrate Easter, when we remember Jesus ultimate victory over death on the cross. There is nothing so terrible that He cannot conquer it, and as we have seen: Jesus walks with us always.

Easter Egg Hunt

Where: Heaton Mersey Methodist Church.

When: Saturday 16th April, 11am-noon.

Join us between 11am and 12 noon to hunt down Easter eggs and win prizes. Part of the hunt will be outside, so please bring weather-appropriate clothes. Open to all ages.



Heaton Churches Partnership (HCP) Easter Cards

In April there will be an Easter Card Exhibition in the Heaton Library of the 4 winners and the commended pictures from the 4 schools that entered the competition.

The winning cards have been printed and we would like your help please in delivering them to our surrounding area in the 2 weeks before Easter (from Friday 1st April).

To help plan the deliveries we have the following:

- Easter Card street lists by area with number of houses per street
- Map of the areas covered with allocated streets highlighted
- Easter Cards divided into batches of 50

Please write your name against each street that you will be delivering cards to.

Many thanks, cheers and God Bless -

Phil Speak (HMMC and HCP Schools Worker Support Team)