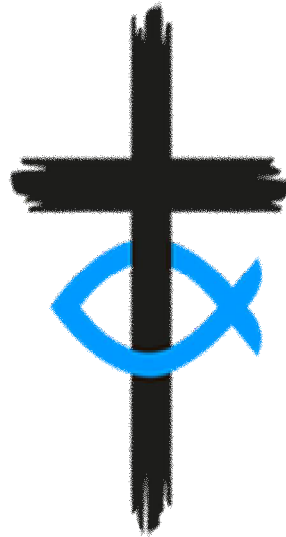


CHURCH NEWS

Swann Lane Cheadle Hulme
STOCKPORT SK8 7HU
www.cheadlehulmeurc.org.uk



The
United
Reformed
Church

Partnership Ministers:

Rev Dr Marion Tugwood Rev Jonnie Hill
swannlaneminister@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 2021

Friends,

Caring for Creation

This month sees the eagerly anticipated COP26 climate conference in Glasgow. As Christians, we need to hold together two key insights, if we are to engage with the challenge of climate change:

The world is not ours:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! If we understand this, we will rediscover the responsibility of our calling to care for God's world: *'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.'* (Genesis 2:15). This challenges our consumer mindset, that says the resources of the earth are both limitless and exist for our pleasure. As well as caring for the planet, we also need to care for its people, for it's the poorest who will suffer the most from climate change. According to the World Bank, 100 million could fall into poverty by 2030. We cannot properly address the climate crisis until we re-learn our place in God's world!

We belong to Christ:

We also belong to the one in whom: *'all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.'* (Colossians 1:16). We can look forward to the climax of history when God will restore the broken world and make everything new. We are empowered by Christ to take our proper place as stewards of the earth, as we share in this hope. We are called to love God and neighbour, and care for the planet by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

However great the climate crisis gets, as Christians, we can engage in it with faith and not with fatalism!

Canon Paul Hardingham
Parish Pump

NEWS AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

We think of friends, family and members of our congregation who are unwell, either at home or in hospital, or anxious at this time. We pray in particular for those known to us who are recently bereaved - Vera Lees following the loss of her husband Ron, whose funeral Bernie led at Stockport crematorium on 18 OCT, and Rena Lawrence after the passing of her sister Isla.

Thank you everyone who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning last month when we raised £165.

Our thanks go to Prof Chris Whitehead and those Elders who led worship last month

If you are a member and have not received any paperwork for the Church meeting on Sun 7 NOV, please let the Secretary know.

The News Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 15 DEC - Carols with the Choir at Mavis Davies' home

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

The Fellowship will be meeting again in the new year. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 5 JAN at 1.30 until 3.00.

Mavis has kindly offered her bungalow for our meetings and all our friends at church will be welcomed every Wednesday (unless Soup and Sweet is taking place). So any Wednesdays you feel like a friendly chat or discussion, including tea/coffee and biscuits/cakes, please come along, everyone is welcome.

Carole Davies

TOY SERVICE

The annual Toy Service will be on Sun 5 DEC when we hope to gather as many new and Good as New items as possible that can be taken to The Dandelion Community (URC), Wythenshawe for distribution. Under the present situation, more families are going to need to be supported in this way.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

In Cheadle Hulme we have 10 or dozen churches, depending on which you count...

All Saints, St Andrews, and Emmanuel CoE
St Ann's RC
Methodists
United Reformed church URC
Grove Lane and Chelwood Baptists
Religious Society 'Friends ~Quakers
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
New Life church

...

CTCH has both a FaceBook page and a website...

<https://ctch.org.uk/about>

@CheadleHulmeChurches



+++++

CAROLS IN THE PARK

in Oak Meadow

11 am SAT 11 DEC

ALL ARE WELCOME

+++++

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

If you would like to help raise funds for our Church charities by inserting a single, personalised greeting into the December newsletter instead of sending lots of individual cards, please just email me with your greeting, or pop it in an envelope along with a donation and hand to either Bernie or myself by **Sunday 14 NOV**. Donations in lieu of postage will be applied to the church charities.

Alison Stevens

Thank you to the donor for their recent contribution towards
CHURC News



RONALD ALAN LEES
7 SEPT 1932 - 24 SEPT 2021

When asked "What kind of funeral would you like?", he answered "A quick one"! Ron was a man of few words and not one to show his emotions, least of all with a hug from the Waddington family he married into.

You were old fashioned and yet ahead of your time. An active, well travelled man, a recycler and environmentalist. You loved walking, and rambled alongside mum Vera for 60 years. A fitting memorial would be a signpost to your beloved Peak District. Despite your best efforts, you never managed to instil your love of walking into your children, ---- and me.

Your other passions were trains, gardening and **Manchester United!** A proud Lancastrian, you were eligible to play for Ireland at Rugby. I was proud, sat by your hospital bed.

So Dad I write this letter not with grief but with gratitude. You supported us in your own way for us to become the people and family that we are. You lived a long retirement, with Mum, doing the things you loved.

A life well-lived, on your own terms.

Taken from eulogy by
ALISTAIR LEES (son)

+++++

ADVENT BUFFET

(subject to Covid regulations)

SUN 12 DEC
at Mavis Davies' home

12.30 ~ 2.30 PM
(after coffee at Church)

DONATIONS TO THE
CHURCH CHARITIES

+++++

REMEMBRANCE...

...made more poignant this year by the recent withdrawal from Afghanistan. . The following poem was written in 2009 in response to the loss of our soldiers out there.

O Gallant Youth

Through long dark years our young have fought and died,
In Freedom's name our country's foes defied;
Now in Remembrance they are glorified,
O Gallant Youth, we owe so much to you.

Though they were young, when came their country's call,
Ready they were to stand up strong and tall.
They did not flinch when asked to give their all,
O Gallant Youth, we give our thanks for you.

Rows of graves, with headstones white
Tributes to our gallant men,
From Sun's rise till it sets from sight
We'll always remember them.

Though they know well how high the price before -
Legions of men and women lost in war -
Our young today are standing firm and sure!
O Gallant Youth, we are so proud of you!

Desert sands, through wind or flame
Far flung seas, or skies of blue
Where you go in Freedom's name
We'll always think of you.

Go, in our name, to duty or to fight,
Go, with our hopes into the darkest night;
The hand of God will lead into the light.
O Gallant Youth, we send our prayers with you!

Follow your fellow men from ages past
Stand side by side with them, sincere, steadfast
Fight for the right until you come at last
Home, Gallant Youth, to those that wait for you.

By Nigel Beeton

FAITHS LEADERS DEMAND CLIMATE ACTION AT COP26 IN GLASGOW

The Glasgow Multi-Faith Declaration, signed by representatives of religious communities across the United Kingdom, calls for people to be “advocates for justice” ahead of the COP summit.

The Revd Clare Downing and Mr Peter Pay, Moderators of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church (URC) made the declaration alongside leaders of every major Christian denomination and representatives from Baha’i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, and Sikh communities.

It is also signed by Scottish church leaders including the Revd Paul Whittle, Moderator of the URC National Synod of Scotland, and the Revd David Coleman, URC minister and Chaplain to Eco-Congregation Scotland.

The declaration states: “We remind governments of their commitments made in Paris in 2015 to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees, and of Article 17 of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights to protect the environment, the biosphere and biodiversity.

“We call upon them to take the urgent action needed to avert the loss, damage, and forced migration threatened by climate change.”

It adds: “Across our doctrinal and political differences, we know that we must change our ways to ensure a quality of life which all can share, and we need to provide hope for people of all ages, everywhere, including future generations.

“To offer hope in the world we need to have confidence that those in power understand the vital role they have to play at the Glasgow COP26.”

The new multi-faith declaration builds on the 2015 Lambeth Declaration issued ahead of the Paris COP.

In the Glasgow Declaration, faith groups pledge to respond to the challenge set by the climate emergency through being “advocates for justice by calling on governments, businesses and others who exercise power and influence to put into effect the Paris agreement; to make the transition to a just and

green economy a priority; and to commit to science-based targets that are aligned with a healthy, resilient, zero-emissions future.”

It comes just 40 days before the beginning of COP26 when leaders are set to agree emission reducing plans to avert a rise in global temperatures of 1.5 degrees.

The publication of the declaration coincides with the end of both the Scottish Government Climate Week and Stop Climate Chaos Fringe Week, as well as the beginning of the Climate Coalition’s Great Big Green Week.

Find out more about COP26 and how you can add your voice to the call for action at www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/COP26.

URC website

ANY EARTHLY USE

Can the church make an effective response to climate change? asks Andy Atkins of environmental charity A Rocha UK, in the first of a three-part series

The world is now waking up, belatedly, to the fact that we are in an unfolding climate crisis. In the last few weeks, extreme weather events worldwide and the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have seen to that. According to their latest analysis we have only 10 years to cut global greenhouse gas emissions by 40% or face runaway climate change, with large parts of the world becoming uninhabitable within the next few decades.

This is an emergency, but the churches have the potential to bring great and very practical hope in this crisis.

We have a double biblical mandate to do so. First, the Bible is very clear that God created the earth and everything in it, he loves it, and gives us the honour and responsibility of loving it too. So we have a responsibility as Christians to care for God’s creation. Second, we’re commanded to love our neighbour, those who are poor, vulnerable, in need, and climate change is seriously threatening the livelihoods and lives of our global neighbours.

The churches could make a world of difference, because we have got incredible earthly, as well as heavenly, resources.

First, we have geographical spread. There are around 50,000 churches in the UK, in almost every neighbourhood. Imagine their influence if even a quarter became beacons of good practice on tackling climate change...

**extract from article in
October 2021 edition of Reform**



This year, the 'suggested' donation is £2/poppy. Last year The Royal British Legion suffered badly...

100 YEARS OF RED POPPIES

Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies grew, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write "In Flanders Fields"...

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly...*

This image inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. Exactly 100 years ago, on the 11th Nov 1921, poppies of remembrance were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries. Hostilities had actually ceased three years earlier at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

This year, on the 14th November, which is the nearest Sunday, a two-minutes silence will be kept at war memorials throughout the country, and at the national ceremony at the Cenotaph in London's Whitehall. The Queen will pay tribute alongside Members of the Cabinet, Opposition Party leaders, former Prime Ministers, the Mayor of London and many others. Representatives of the Armed Forces, Fishing Fleets and Merchant Air and Navy will be there, as well as High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries. All will wear a red poppy.

Around 30 million poppies are sold each year in the UK by the Royal British Legion. All the proceeds are used to provide serving and ex-service personnel with financial support, advice, employment, mobility, housing and mental health facilities.

Today we are more aware than ever that battles are fought mainly by young people, and many of those who survive bear scars for life. The act of 'remembering' will not only look back to mark their sacrifice, but also yearn to learn lessons for the future.

Reflecting on the poem, 'In Flanders Fields', the American professor Moina Michael, wrote:

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honour of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.*

Parish Pump

SUDOKU

Every line, every column and every small block ('9') must contain the numbers 1~9, (once only).

				1				2
8		1	5					
	3			8			6	
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© 2008 KrazyDad.com

REFUGEE CRISIS

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. (**Galatians 3 v28**)

"We are made for goodness. We are made for love. We are made for friendliness. We are made for togetherness. We are made for all of the beautiful things that you and I know. We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders. All are welcome: black, white, red, yellow, rich, poor, educated, not educated, male, female, gay, straight, all, all, all. We all belong to this family, this human family, God's family." (**Archbishop Desmond Tutu**)

This is an unprecedented global refugee catastrophe. 65 million people are now either a refugee, internally displaced or seeking asylum - one in every 113 people globally.

People are fleeing violence, conflict and poverty not only in Syria, but also in Yemen, Iraq, the Central African Republic, South Sudan and Burundi and many other places. This catastrophe has led to significant increases in population in Turkey and other countries, and to official and unofficial refugee camps even within Europe, for example in France, Greece and Italy. This is a humanitarian disaster which has been building over many years and crosses national boundaries.

JPIT

Produced by the Joint Public Issues Team: Baptist, Church of Scotland, Methodist and United Reformed Churches working together

This was one of several issues the EU was unable to solve, and may yet lead to it's demise.

Bernie Stevens

SERVICES

Elders' wish to keep everyone safe, so please wear masks (especially for singing) and understand our plans may change with little notice.

We may sometimes have a speaker and sometimes a simple in-house led service. Video conferencing continues and Leaders or readers may Zoom in or speak in church, from one of the lecterns.

Duties are performed by a small team on a rota.

Date	7 NOV	14 NOV	21 NOV	28 NOV
Service	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Morning Communion
Time	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am
Leaders	Sandy Smith	Prof Chris Whitehead	In House	Bernie Stevens
Reader	D Green	H Elsdon	M Smith	B Platt
Elder Duty	S Smith	B Stevens	D Phillips	P Oliver / A Stevens
Flowers	Remembrance	Remembrance	P Grieve	Scottish Dancing
Coffee	D Green	B/A Stevens	C Davies	M Hardie
Notes	CHURCH MEETING	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY		HOLY COMMUNION

CHURCH REGISTERS - none

LECTIONARY FOR NOVEMBER

7 NOV: 1 Kings 17.8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9.24-28; Mark 12.38-44

14 NOV: Daniel 12.1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10.11-14(15-18)19-25; Mark 13.1-8

21 NOV: Daniel 7.9-10,13-14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1.4b-8; John 18.33-37

28 NOV: Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm 25.1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13; Luke 21.25-36

HOLD HER HAND

While out in the town, I saw an elderly couple holding hands while they were walking. As they approached, I commented on how romantic it was.

The man replied, "We have been holding hands when we go out in public for over 30 years. I have to. If I let go, she shops."

FAMILY TREE

At a drinks party at a wealthy golf club, the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. "Of course, we trace our family back to coming over with William the Conqueror," observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman, who was new to the club, and asked, "What about you dear? Can you go back very far?"

"Not very far," came the reply. "You see, all the early family records were lost in the Flood."

OUTREACH -PART 3: INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT THE CHURCHES

The NEED that the Christian Groups I am working with have is for a database that allows the reporting of outcomes from the services, events, clubs and activities that demonstrates how the churches do support the themes of Mental Health, Loneliness, Food Poverty, Homelessness and Digital Inclusion

Additionally they need CONTENT that can be added to websites and channels of communication such as Facebook, YouTube and Google to draw the world's attention to our faith and our Lord's work in our lives.

Our Church is in the relatively unique position to be able to fund the software licenses for databases and membership systems and technology such as cameras that would allow groups such as Chelwood Foodbank Plus, Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme, Renew Stockport and the Greater Manchester Movement for Recovery and show them how to apply the internet to showing Faith in Action.

We can use a combination of our Church facilities and money we are generating through our giving and the usage of the buildings to make a significant presence on the internet.

As Cheadle Hulme United Reformed Church and Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme and the URC centrally the following are the websites and facebook pages that have been built so far.

Websites:

- Cheadle Hulme United Reformed church website: <https://cheadlehulmeurc.org.uk/>
- Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme website: <https://ctch.org.uk/>
- Local Council webpage: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/groups/cheadle-hulme-united-reformed-church>
- I Love Cheadle Hulme: <https://ilovecommunities.com/cheadlehulme/cheadle-hulme-urc-150th-birthday/>
- United Reformed Church: <https://urc.org.uk/>
- Walking the Way: <https://urc.org.uk/our-work/walking-the-way.html>
- Stepwise: <https://urc.org.uk/stepwise.html>
- Moderators Blog: <https://assemblymoderators.urc.org.uk/olderpost/moderators-blog/>
- North West Synod: <https://nwsynod.org.uk/>
- North west Synod Safeguarding: <https://nwsynod.org.uk/safeguarding/>
- Chelwood Foodbank Plus: <http://www.chelwoodfoodbankplus.org/>

FaceBook Pages:

- Cheadle Hulme URC <https://www.facebook.com/CHURC19/>
- URC Daily devotions: <https://www.facebook.com/URCDailyDevotions/>
- Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme: <https://www.facebook.com/CheadleHulmeChurches>

Don Phillips

SUDOKU answers

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