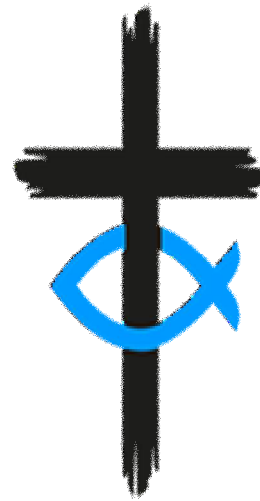


CHURCH NEWS

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



The
United
Reformed
Church

Partnership Minister:
Rev Kurauone Mutimwii
swannlaneminister@gmail.com

154th Anniversary

JUNE 2023

Friends,

Celebrating Fatherhood

'What is a Christian? The richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father. If you want to know how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child and having God as his Father.' (J I Packer, *Knowing God*)

This month we celebrate fathers on Father's Day. Unlike Mothering Sunday, this doesn't have a distinctly Christian origin. However, it does provide an opportunity to celebrate God's fatherhood and what it means for us.

At His baptism, as Jesus came out of the water: *'heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.'* (Matthew 3:16,17). What can we learn about Jesus' relationship with His Father, the role of fathers and our relationship with God?

The Father's presence

When Jesus was baptized, the Father made His presence real by the Holy Spirit. It's the Spirit who enables us to call God *'daddy'* (abba, Galatians 4:6). God is with us and knows our joys and sorrows, fears and trials. In this way, dads can relate to their children.

The Father's love

The Father described His Son as *'beloved'*, who like us, is subject to His unconditional love. Dads should be constant in assuring their children of their love.

The Father's pleasure

The Father tells Jesus that He is *'well pleased'* with Him. We also need to hear this, if we feel that we are disappointing God or letting Him down. This can arise with harsh words spoken by our parents. Fathers should use every opportunity to demonstrate their pleasure in their children, especially when things go wrong.

Canon Paul Hardingham

NEWS AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

We were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Rev Sandy Mailer on 6 JUN aged 90yrs and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Mary, who is now resident in a nursing home, and Fiona, David, Kathleen and Morag and their families. The Mailers were a major part of the life at Cheadle Hulme for many years and we last saw Sandy & Mary when he led our worship on two occasions early in 2020. His funeral was held on 26 MAY in Accrington and a number of us were able to join those attending the service via a Webcast from the crematorium.

We remember, in our prayers, those in our congregation, friends and family who are bereaved, unwell at home, or in hospital, those who are lonely or depressed, those who are housebound and unable to meet with family and friends and we think especially of Mavis Davies.

Our very grateful thanks go to Linda Rayner, Morag and Sandy Smith and Margaret Dexter-Brown for leading our worship in May. We also joined Wilmslow URC, via YouTube, on 14 May when Rev John Grundy and Rev Dr Kirsty Thorpe conducted worship.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christian Aid Soup lunch after Morag & Sandy's service on 21 May when we were treated to 'Pigeon Pea soup' - and very tasty it was too.

Our best wishes to everyone who will be celebrating their birthday in June, no matter what age, and many congratulations go to Norman and Rena Lawrence who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 8 JUN.

The News Team

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Sun 25 JUN - Anniversary & Gift Day

Fri 7 JUL - Summer Open Day, for our charities

CHURCH MEETING - SUN 4 JUNE

A letter regarding the meeting is included in the magazine for members along with a copy of the Minutes of the last Church meeting.

The letter also includes details of our Anniversary and Gift Day when we are pleased to say that Rev Alison Smith will be leading worship and there will be an opportunity to catch up with her at a simple lunch after the service.

Alison Stevens

CHURCHES TOGETHER...

Last month, the Cheadle Hulme churches stepped out of their comfort zone and took part in a community litter pick together. About 2 dozen black bags were collected by volunteers on the coronation Monday, when The King had asked there should be a 'big help'.



We are also trying to re-establish the pattern of meetings from before the pandemic.

Bernie Stevens

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

We had our first meeting following Soup and Sweet which we very much enjoyed. We followed it with a quiz to see how much we knew about King Charles. Between us we knew quite a bit.

We finished the month with a meeting in the church lounge when we just chatted generally over our coffee and biscuits then tried to remember what we had actually discussed!

Unfortunately we missed Mavis who is in hospital and we pray that she will make a good recovery and join us again soon.

Carole Davies

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

SOUP, SWEET & MEET

Wednesday 14 JUNE

12 pm

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

ECO TIPS FOR JUNE

Taste the benefits of seasonal and local food. Make plans to source locally grown foods that you can add to your diet/ shopping list throughout the seasons. Produce grown locally is picked at the peak of its ripeness and will be full of flavour, tasting better than the produce that has been imported and travelled thousands of miles.

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at:

arocha.org.uk/wild-christian

arocha.org.uk

SUDOKU

1	5							
					6	4		
	3	6		2	9	1		
	7			1	2			
8	9						4	1
			3	9			2	
		7	9	4		2	3	
		5	7					
							8	6

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OPEN DAY for CHARITIES

from 11am ~ 3 pm

Friday 7 JUL 2023

at Swann Grove,
Cheadle Hulme



Coffee, Tea & Cakes
and BUFFET
Bring & Buy, Bric-a-Brac
and Plant stalls

All proceeds to

Francis House, Lifeshare, Mary's Meals,
Suk Jai orphanage & Transform Trade

LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOXES

Thank you for the donations last month. In June, we would like to concentrate on candles and holders, sweets/chocolates (packets).

Bernie

LIFE IS CHANGING

A wise farmer rotates his crops. No plant should always be grown in the same place too often. In fact, change and diversity are the key to long-term farm health. It is the same for us: for us to be at our most productive, we must not be surprised if God suddenly rests us from 'growing corn,' and gives us something else to do instead. Often it is something we would never have imagined!

Life is lived in seasons: in each of our lives, there is a time to do this, a time to do that. Too many of us lose our sense of self-worth and direction because we don't understand when we're leaving one season and entering another in life. We struggle and want to hang on to what we had.

But sometimes God wants to give us something *new*, to make us productive at every stage of our life.

God will never put you in a place too small to grow. You may be asked to grow in ways that seem uncomfortable at first, but He is out to develop you fully, in every aspect of your being – not just the ones at which you are already good!

Parish Pump

EVERYTHING WE NEED TO KNOW... LEARNED FROM NOAH'S ARK

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're very old Someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job needing to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

Anon

WHAT MAKES JUNE SO SPECIAL

June is the month of light – the month of the summer solstice, when millions of people in northernmost Europe stay out late to enjoy the sight of the midnight sun. To have light and glory where there is usually darkness is something we celebrate, we welcome.

In John 9 Jesus said: “I am the light of the world.” He wasn’t comparing Himself to the summer solstice, but preaching at a Jewish occasion which celebrated light every bit as much. It was the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:14), which was a celebration not only of God’s provision of water, but also of the light of God’s presence with the Israelites in the wilderness.

During the Feast of Tabernacles there was a joyful celebration. The priests would light four huge lamps in the Court of Women. The flames would reach as high as the temple walls and would provide a light that could be seen all throughout Jerusalem. Men of deep piety would dance throughout the night for the entire week of celebrating. A choir, accompanied by an orchestra of instruments, would sing psalms like Psalm 27, which declare “The Lord is my light and my salvation.”

At the height of this grand celebration, the Lord Jesus had the temerity to stand and say that HE was the light that was foreshadowed by the light for the Israelites in the wilderness.

The Jewish leaders were furious, and tried to stone Him to death. Jesus did not fight back, He simply illustrated His claim to be the Light of the World by immediately giving sight to a man born blind. (John 9).

In the 20 centuries since then, the Word of God, when it is proclaimed, has drawn people out of the darkness and into the light of Jesus. The Word is, as the psalmist said, “a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105). David said, “In your light we see light” (Psalm 36:9b). Today, by the light of the Word of God, we can see Jesus as He is: truly the Light of the World.

Rev Dr Roger Roberts
International Baptist Church
Brussels

'Breakfast Before'

9.30am ~ 11 JUNE

[& every 2nd Sunday]

Typical menu:

drinks, bananas

toast, cereal, pancakes,

~ croissant or pain au chocolat?

REFLECTING FAITH

THE LECTERN (PART 2) Why not have a good look at the lectern in your church, to see what is was made from and if it has a particular design.

There seem to be two distinct styles for lecterns, either a 'simple' plain book holder or one in the shape of a bird. Both styles are usually made from either wood or gilt metal (brass).

The bird is an eagle - often holding the world in its talons. The intention being that the eagle is known as the most powerful bird, which can fly the highest and longest without pausing and so carry the Word of God - the Bible that it holds - to all the places in the world.

There are 44 mentions of eagles in the Bible, but just two to include here:

In Exodus after the Israelites have left Egypt and crossed the Red Sea they camp in the wilderness, where they are not surprisingly worried about what will happen next. Shall we say 'there's a bit of grumbling and groaning' going on?

So God calls to Moses with words to encourage them, *'The Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.'* (Ex 19: 3- 5)

And the second is one to uplift us all when we are in need of support:

Isaiah in chapter 40 is trying to describe how awesome and powerful God is and concludes that even our youth will grow weary in comparison. However, *'those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow*

weary, they will walk and not be faint.' (Is 40: 30 – 31)

So perhaps as we hear the words of the Bible passage read to us from that symbolic figure we are reminded to both trust in the Lord and to gain inner strength.

This month

As you hear the Bible passage(s) read from the lectern during this coming month, listen not just to the words themselves but reflect on their intention to encourage you.

*Rev Dr Jo White
Parish Pump*

A Power operating out of time
That has a greater story to be told.

Our Universe defies all understanding,
Its vastness reaching endlessly in space,
Eternity - we find it hard to fathom
Or of One perhaps who set it all in place.

A Deity beyond the realms of time?
We do our best to try and understand -
Of a mighty hand that flung the stars to flight
Could be the hand still beckoning to man.

By Megan Carter

CHILDREN AT THE ORPHANAGE



ATTRACTION

Several years ago, when I lived in California, I taught Sunday School at a somewhat rural church. One Sunday morning the minister texted me. "Come down to the sanctuary quick, and bring a net." As I was a biology teacher, I guessed he figured that I could deal with nature.

Expecting some kind of wild animal, I entered the church cautiously. I was greeted instead by the sight of an excited congregation watching a hummingbird fly around. Rather than use the net, I suggested they hang red paper by an open door. The bird would be drawn to it, I explained, and eventually fly out.

After teaching the Sunday School lesson, I went back up into the sanctuary. The minister saw me and interrupted the service. "Your idea about the red paper has worked," he said. "Now we have two hummingbirds flying around the church."

Parish Pump

THE WONDER OF CREATION

The rising sun that streaks the sky with colour,
Each day we see more marvels that unfold,
Nature has a palette like no other -
Creation is a wonder to behold.

And can it be this happened all by chance,
Or did some cosmic force become involved?

This year at the orphanage we have a total of 24 children from kindergarten all the way to college. This is also including the two new boys that have just arrived. We thank God that all the children are doing well and healthy. The children have been on summer vacation for about two months now and they are now ready to go back to school. Their schools will resume on May 15. We have three high schoolers and they attend a different school from the children in elementary because the elementary school does not have high school education, so it takes about 30-40 minutes to drive them to school.

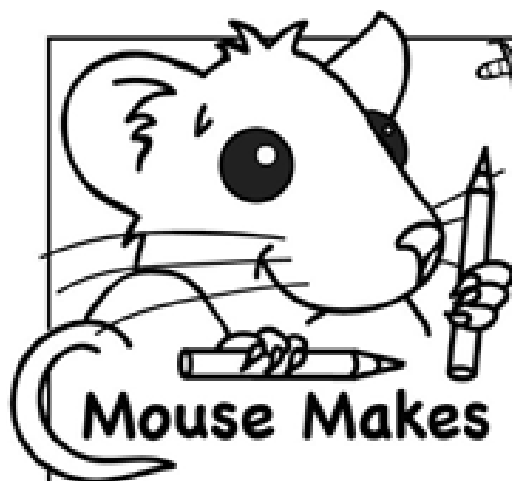
This is one of the reasons we have to have a pickup truck that is in good condition to transport the kids. We recently bought a new pickup truck for the purpose of transporting the children due to this we owe \$5,000 to the car dealership. Please pray that there will be enough budget to pay off the orphanage's truck debt.

Abel & Ruth Sairattanyu

~members, friends and neighbours...

FILM MATINEE

Sat 24 JUNE 2.30 pm



The Lord said to Moses,

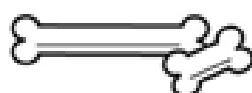


"Your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh
to let the people of Israel go out of his land...
The Egyptians shall know that I AM the Lord
when I stretch out my hand against Egypt..."



As Pharaoh's heart was hardened against the
Israelites, God sent ten plagues upon him...

1



Water turns to Blood
Which water turned
to blood?
Read - Exodus 7:19

D F G B O I L S L
L S O O T O P I B
A W D P E O P L E
N A N I M A L S A

2

A Swarm of Frogs

In which
places were the
frogs found?

Read - Exodus 8:3-4



D R S N G N A T S
U M I D N I G H T
S S T A F F U U O
T A A R O N E N O
D E B K D F S D G
T M A N W A T E R

3

A Plague of Gnats

When Aaron struck his
staff on the ground
what became Gnats?

Read - Exodus 8:16-17



M O S E S R W R O
C R F S N I L E U
F I R S T B O R N
I V O K N L C F D

4

Swarms of Flies

In which land were the
flies not be found?

Read - Exodus 8:22



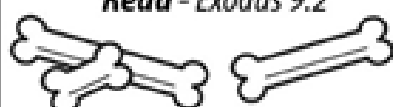
R E G H W O U I E
E R S A K O S S A
H W I N D T H T
I L F L I E S E H

5

Death of Animals

Which animals that belonged
to the Egyptians died?

Read - Exodus 9:2



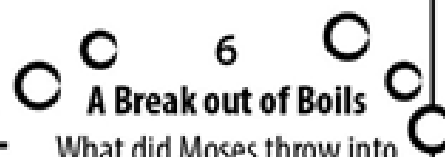
GOD • PLAGUES • MOSES • AARON
WATER • BLOOD • STAFF • RIVER • NILE • FISH
FROGS • SWARM • GNATS • DUST • FLIES
GROUND • DEATH • ANIMALS • SOOT
BOILS • PEOPLE • HAIL • THUNDER • FIRE
MAN • BEAST • LOCUSTS • WIND • LAND
DARKNESS • FIRSTBORN • MIDNIGHT

6

A Break out of Boils

What did Moses throw into
the air before boils appeared
on people and animals?

Read - Exodus 9:10



7

A Rain of Hail

What also rained
down with the hail?
Where did it not hail?

Read - Exodus 9:24-26



8

A Swarm of Locusts

Where did the wind
come from that brought
the locusts to the land?

Read - Exodus 10:13



9

Darkness over the Land

How many days did
it remain dark?

Read - Exodus 10:21-22



10

Death of the Firstborn

At what time would the
firstborn in the land die?

Read - Exodus 11:4-6



SERVICES

Elders' wish to keep everyone safe, so please stay home if you are ill.

You may wear masks (perhaps for singing). Also, 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.

Duties are performed by a small team on a rota. Please check the board for swops.

Date	4 JUN	11 JUN	18 JUN	25 JUN
Service	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Morning Communion
Time	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am
Leader	Bernie Stevens	Chris Whitehead	Live Link to Wilmslow URC	Rev Alison Smith
Elder Duty	S Smith	P Oliver	D Phillips	A Stevens / B Stevens
Door	C Davies	J Hodson	M Hardie	M Smith
Reader				
Flowers	Silk	D Phillips	R Lawrence	Silk
Coffee	H Elsdon	M Morton	S & M Smith	B & A Stevens
Notes	TRINITY SUNDAY			Holy Communion ANNIVERSARY & GIFT DAY

CHURCH REGISTERS - FUNERAL

PATRICK JOHN ASTON BUTTLE, who died on 18 April 2023 aged 86 yrs, at Adlington Memorial Park and Cheadle Hulme URC on Tuesday 23 May 2023

LECTIONARY for JUNE

4 JUN: Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13.11-13; Matthew 28.16-20

11 JUN: Hosea 5.15-6.6; Psalm 50.7-15; Romans 4.13-25; Matthew 9.9-13,18-26

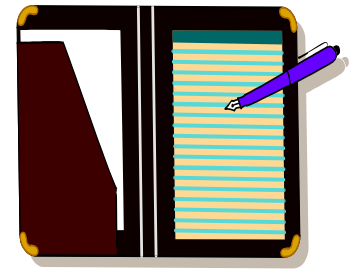
18 JUN: Exodus 19.2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5.1-8; Matthew 9.35-10.8(9-23)

25 JUN: Jeremiah 20.7-13; Psalm 69.7-10,11-15,16-18; Romans 6.1b-11; Matthew 10.24-39

SODUKO ANSWERS

1	5	8	4	3	7	6	9	2
7	2	9	1	8	6	4	5	3
4	3	6	5	2	9	1	7	8
3	7	4	8	1	2	5	6	9
8	9	2	6	7	5	3	4	1
5	6	1	3	9	4	8	2	7
6	1	7	9	4	8	2	3	5
2	8	5	7	6	3	9	1	4
9	4	3	2	5	1	7	8	6

CALENDAR



.....to the best of the editor's knowledge, unless you know better.....

JUNE 2023

Thu 01		7.30 pm	Worship Group meeting on Zoom
Fri 02		2.30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat 03	10 am ~12 noon		Coffee Morning in aid of Francis House
Sun 04		11.45 am	CHURCH MEETING
Mon 05			
Tues 06			
Wed 07		1.30~3 pm	FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE
Thu 08			
Fri 09		2pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun 11	9.30 am		Breakfast Before
Mon 12			
Tues 13			
Wed 14		12pm	SOUP, SWEET & MEET ~ coffee lounge
		1.30~3 pm	FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE
Thu 15		7.30 pm	Steering Group ~ Altrincham
Fri 16		2pm	Choir Rehearsal
Mon 19			
Tues 20			
Wed 21		1.30~3 pm	FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE
Thu 22			International Day of Prayer for the Emergency Services.
Fri 23		2pm	Choir Rehearsal
			REFUGEE WEEK 23 ~ 27 JUNE
Sat 24		2.30 pm	FILM MATINEE
Sun 25			CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND GIFT DAY
Mon 26			
Tues 27			
Wed 28	10.30am Elders' ~Coffee Lounge	1.30~3 pm	FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE
Thu 29			
Fri 30-2 JUL			THORNLEIGH WEEKEND AWAY

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