

Cheadle Hulme United Reformed Church

CHURC NEWS

Swann Lane Cheadle Hulme Cheshire SK8 7HU
www.churc.org.uk



Partnership Ministers: Rev Kurauone Mutimwii
Rev Stephanie Atkins

FEBRUARY 2026

Friends

‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.’ – Philippians 4:13

In January, I had the pleasure of conducting a service at Gatley URC that included an infant baptism and the ordination of two elders to the church. One of the hymns chosen by the parents of the new baby was *‘One More Step Along the World I Go’*, a favourite for many people that brings back memories of singing at the top of our lungs during primary school assemblies.

*‘One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me traveling along with you.’*

Many of the churches in our Missional Partnership are taking time this year to reflect and pray about our next steps, what our mission, worship and structures might look like in the future. We are asking some big, exciting, but also challenging questions too. We can easily become overwhelmed or burnt out by the process if we get drawn into trying to tackle everything at once or doing too much under our own steam. Let us remember it is God whose lead we are following, not asking God to follow us.

This Lent, let us take some time in prayer each day to open our hearts, our lives, and our churches to God’s nudging and leading. When things feel too much, let us focus on the next step, and let us remember that we can ‘do all things through Christ’ who strengthens us and walks beside and ahead of us.

Revd. Stephanie Atkins, Missional Partnership Minister
One More Step Along The World I Go
Words © 1971 Stainer & Bell (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

NEWS AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

We were greatly saddened by the passing of Pat Pollitt on 6 JAN. Although it had not been possible for Pat to join us for a number of years, she was never forgotten. Her funeral was held at Church on Mon 26 JAN and our thoughts and prayers are with Reg and all the family.

We are very sad to report the passing this week of Barbara Oliver, wife of Philip and mother to Stuart and Joanne. Also Michael Elsdon, husband of Heather and mother of Katie and Glyn. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all and their families.

Last month provided another occasion to celebrate joint worship with our friends from Bramhall and Heald Green led by Rev Steph. Our thanks go to her and to members of our own Worship Group for their leadership during January.

We send best wishes to all those who will be celebrating a birthday or special anniversary in February.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 7 FEB – Coffee Morning & Cake Sale

Fri 17/Sun 19 JULY – Thornleigh Weekend Away

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SOUP, SWEET & MEET

WED 18 FEB

Noon ~ 1.30pm

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MISSIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Prayer for Trinity Methodist/URC, Cheadle:

Lord, acknowledging the love you have for all people,
We pray that the Good News of your love may spread throughout the world so that those with power and influence may make decisions that enable your kingdom to grow.

We pray for the healing and mending of lives broken by war, hatred, insensitivity, anxiety, bereavement, pain, loneliness or need.

We pray for more loving attitudes in our homes, our churches, our communities and all Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

We pray for more care for one another, and a greater willingness to forgive, understand and respect each other.

Bless our Missional Partnership, our Ministers and Steering Group as we seek to share the Good News with all.

Amen.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Lent, the season in the run up to Easter...

LENT LUNCHES 2026

Saturday 21st February – Methodist *

Saturday 28th February - Grove La Bap

Saturday 7th March - All Saints CE

Saturday 14th March - Friends Qrs

Saturday 21st March - URC

Saturday 28th March - St Ann's RC *

...usually noon~2pm

*Please note changes of venue



PATRICIA LORAIN POLLITT (Pat)
2 February 1938 – 6 January 2026

You can't speak about Pat without mentioning Reg. Their love story began when they were just teenagers. They were together for over 70 years and married for 68. Even after seven decades, you could still see them holding hands, whether walking down the street or enjoying a night out at Bent's Lane Social Club. Their partnership was the foundation on which our family was built.

As a mother to Sandra, myself, Colin, and Gail, Mum was the ultimate giver of love. While Dad worked six and a half days a week to provide for us, Mum ran the home. She was the matriarch, the organizer, the cook, and the cleaner. No matter how busy life became, we always sat together and ate dinner as a family every night.

But Mum was more than just a homemaker. She was incredibly intelligent and driven. She studied hard to earn a qualification and eventually became a lab technician at Manchester University, where she was highly respected for over 30 years. She showed us that it was possible to be both family-focused and professionally accomplished.

Our family holidays were legendary. Whether it was the excitement of Pontins, a boarding house in Blackpool, or trips to unknown lands, those weeks were the highlights of our lives.

As a grandmother to Amy, Steven, Graham, Neve, Grace, and Hayley, she poured the same love into the new generation. Today, we take comfort in the thought that she may have been reunited with Hayley and is now watching over us together.

In her later years, Mum's body tried to slow her down but she was a real trooper. We often said she was as hard as nails. She stared tragedy and pain in the face and responded with defiance every single time. She fought until the very end because she loved life and, above all, her family.

Mum was sensitive, beautiful, and a deeply caring woman who worried about all of us. She was our rock, Dad's best friend, and the glue that held the family together.

Mum, thank you for the meals, the holidays, the handholding, and the lessons in strength. You earned your rest. We will look after Dad and keep holding his hand, just as you taught us. We all love you and will continue to love you. Thank you for being a fantastic mum.

Extract from Eulogy by son Phillip

Members, friends & neighbours

FILM MATINEE

Sat 28 FEBRUARY

THE PUPPY

A clergyman was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, surrounding a small puppy. Concerned lest the boys were hurting it, he went to investigate. One boy explained, "We just found this puppy, and we all want him. So, we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to take him home."

The minister was taken aback. "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie? Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie." There was dead silence for a few moments. The minister thought he had got through to them.

Then the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "OK, give him the dog."...
Think about it...

Parish Pump

SUDOKU

Each row, column and 3x3 block must contain the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 only once.

A GOOD QUESTION: WHAT MAKES A CHURCH THRIVE?

One question, four answers

*'Accept change for the better,
even when it hurts'*

Thriving is more than existing or growing – for anything to thrive, it needs to be nourished, kept healthy, stimulated, and sparking with imagination, ideas and energy – three things which are self-perpetuating. Consider what makes any group of two or more people thrive: love, care, support, listening, valuing, affirming, holding common goals – and learning to continue this when holding strongly differing opinions....

*Jane Bower is an elder of Downing Place URC,
Cambridge.*

'Members belong to each other'

A good question indeed! What does a thriving church look like? Full of light, life and hope.

I believe what makes a thriving church is plainly set out in the Lord's Prayer, in Jesus' words on the greatest commandment, and in the great commission....

*Ashley Evans is Synod Evangelist for the URC's
West Midlands and Yorkshire Synods*

'Let Jesus live in the house'

This is a great question but problematic, because we should be experiencing the fruits of what the answer is and the whole world should know. I don't think we Christians know to be honest. Is it the

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

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number of attendees filling the pews, on- and offline buzz or financial prosperity accumulated post-offering? Or should it be defined by something much deeper?...

*Antony Aris-Osula is co-founder of the mentoring
company Tribe Redeem and author of Coconut
Prince: Memoir of a black sheep*

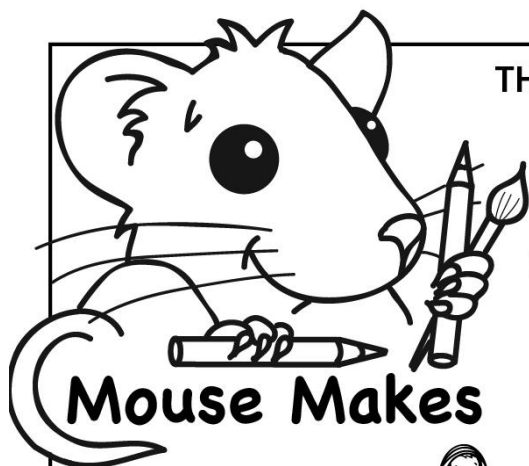
'Focus on the love of Christ'

This question was put to some of the children, young people and adults of Woking URC. Here's what they said:

- A church thrives because its members are regularly challenging, encouraging and serving one another in Christ's name, while also serving and being involved in the local community and in worldwide concerns...

*This response comes from the children, young
people and adults of Woking URC*

***This is an extract from an article published in
the May 2024 edition of Reform***



Read the story in
Luke 4:1-13

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan where did the Holy Spirit lead him to? v1

How many days was Jesus being tempted by the devil? v2

What did Jesus eat? v2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?
What did Jesus say? v3-4

What did the devil offer Jesus if He worshipped him?
What did Jesus say? v7-8

What did the devil ask Jesus to do?
What did Jesus say? v9

FIRST TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son order this stone to turn into bread."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Man shall not live on bread alone."

Read Deuteronomy 8:3

WE LEARN:

Read the Bible
Learn God's word.



SECOND TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."

JESUS REPLIED:

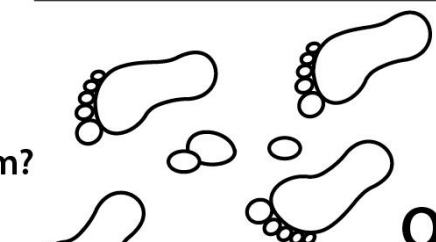
"Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

Read Deuteronomy 6:13

WE LEARN:

Put God **first**
Worship **only** Him.

1



T W L D G
R O G L O R Y L O
I B A P T I S E D
V O F O O T H D
S E R V E B T I
J O R D A N J E G



F O R T Y D A Y S S O N K L O R D N H
T D O W N O N W O R S H I P
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T H O L Y S P I R I T Y M D
I M J E R U S A L E M F S J
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JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • HOLY SPIRIT • LED
WILDERNESS • DESERT • FORTY DAYS • HUNGRY • DEVIL
TEMPTATION • STONE • BREAD • WRITTEN • SON • WORLD
KINGDOMS • GLORY • WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • HIGH
JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • SON • JUMP • DOWN • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST • LENT

THIRD TEMPTATION

THE DEVIL SAID:

"If you are God's Son throw yourself down, the scriptures say God will take care of you."

JESUS REPLIED:

"Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Read Deuteronomy 6:16

WE LEARN:

God cares, **trust**
Him do not test Him.



SERVICE DETAILS & DUTIES

Readers: Please double-check your bible references upon arrival at church.

Elders: If you are unavailable do a duty, please arrange your own swap and mark it up on the master copy on the Foyer noticeboard, which should always be checked for last minute changes.

Date	1 FEB	8 FEB	15 FEB	22 FEB
Service	Morning Worship	Combined Worship	Morning Worship	Morning Communion
Time	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am	10.30 am
Leader	Liz Delafield	Alison Pope	In House	Rev Peter Sharp
Duty Elder	A Stevens	S Smith	P Oliver	B Stevens
Reader & Door	G Elsdon	P Grieve	M Smith	J Hodson
Flowers	Silk	A Stevens	Silk	Silk
Coffee	M Hardie	M Smith	B Stevens	H Elsdon
Notes		JOINT SERVICE		HOLY COMMUNION

CHURCH REGISTERS – Funeral

PATRICIA LORAIN POLLITT, who died on 6 January 2026 aged 87 years, at Church and Manchester Crematorium on Monday 26 January 2026.

LECTIONARY FOR FEBRUARY

1 FEB: Micah 6.1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1.18-31; Matthew 5.1-12
8 FEB: Isaiah 58.1-9a,(9b-12); Psalm 112; 1 Corinthians 2.1-12,(13-16); Matthew 5.13-20
15 FEB: Exodus 24.12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1.16-21; Matthew 17.1-9
22 FEB: Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11

MEET THE MP

MP? Military Police? No! Member of Parliament! Which MP?

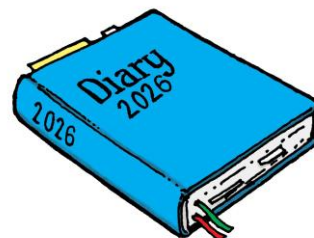
Our MP of course. The Member for Cheadle, Cheadle Hulme and Bramhall, **Tom Morrison MP**. Churches Together have reached out to him 4 times now to meet and answer questions. Before the election an open (to the public) meeting held in Bramhall (Meths) with all the parties invited, each to speak for a few minutes, followed by questions: it was received very well and quite lively.

After the ballot where Tom was elected, I heard him speak in Cheadle's Upper Room (St Mary's CofE) where he described his working class up bringing (I think he is a minister's son) and he answered questions on the **Liberal Democrat's** policies and his down-to-earth views on the current issues. He looks fairly young for an MP and has a young family.

Allowing him some months to settle in, Rev Dr Ruth Gouldbourne (Baptists) approached him and arranged small group meetings of church people at Grove Lane on two occasions. The first was so respectful that he came again, in mid-January. This time, I noted the subjects discussed, in the order of the questions... EU, proportional representation, Lib Dems, Mi5, Mi6, Stepping Hill, buses, bed blocking, social care (Royal Commission?), pavement parking, trains & Great British Rail, privatisation, regulators, Iranian communications, Ukraine, Greenland, Venezuela, Chinese steel, green energy, foreign aid budget, the military, diplomacy, nurseries, Hillsborough, tariffs. He also acknowledged a couple of times, a good working relationship with Lisa Smart, Lib Dem MP for Hazel Grove.

Bernie

CALENDAR



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

FEBRUARY 2026

Wed 04		7.30pm	MP Steering Group meeting on Zoom
Fri 06	2pm		Choir Rehearsal
Sat 07	10.30am		COFFEE MORNING & CAKE SALE in aid of the Leprosy Mission
Wed 11		7pm	Elders' meeting
Fri 13	2pm		Choir Rehearsal
Tues 17			Shrove Tuesday
Wed 18			Ash Wednesday
	12-1.30pm		Soup, Sweet & Meet
Fri 20	2pm		Choir Rehearsal
Sat 21	12-2pm		CTCH Lent Lunch - Methodist
Tues 24		7.30pm	Joint Elders meeting at Bramhall
Fri 27	10am		Management meeting
	2pm		Choir Rehearsal
Sat 28	12-2pm		CTCH Lent Lunch – Grove Lane
	2.30pm		Film Matinee

DISTURB US LORD

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.
We ask You to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.

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

SUDUKO Answers

Attributed to Sir Francis Drake, 16th Century

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