

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

MARCH 2026

Friends

Lack as an opportunity for potential (Mark 6:36-38)

36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat; for they have nothing to eat. 37 But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" 38 "How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."

As people, we sometimes are in deep distress. We become frustrated because we lack basic needs for life and we cannot fulfill our aspirations. We feel time is running out especially for generations who are heading into the twilight of our lives. People out there lack justice, equity, equality, peace, voice, economy, progress, dignified humanity, opportunities, and hope. The sun is going down, and these are likely never to be addressed in their life time. They are hungry, feeling let down and deserted. They cannot trust anyone, or Church because they have waited but without anything meaningful coming their way.

Then Jesus challenged his disciples to give them something to eat, perhaps something to reignite their hope and aspirations. He challenges the Church which underestimates itself to audit what it has and investigates its potential and the possibilities that can be achieved. God works wonders, more with what we have than what we do not have. Christ teaches us to give what we have than worry about what we do not have. Christ, we have is more than what we actually think we need in realizing what God can do to change our world. There are people who still trust that God is the solution and we have God who desires to see those people go home fully fed and satisfied. As disciples, in obedience to Christ, there are opportunities to explore what potentials are still within the people, though they look so desperate. Five loaves and two fishes were enough for God to spark something satisfactory for the people. As long as there is still a piece of bread or fish, or a droplet of an idea, small as they may be, hope is still on. Christ is in our midst; therefore, people must not be sent away hungry but be rallied around those specks of hope. He encourages us to take stock of what little positives we still have in our politics, economy, spirituality, and relationships so that he ignites aspiration for people because with God, it is not about quantity but potential.

Rev Kurauone Mutimwii

NEWS AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP

Our thoughts and prayers are with those in our congregation who are unable, for whatever reason, to join us socially or in worship.

We have a number of people especially in our prayers namely Reg Pollitt, Philip Oliver, Heather and Glyn Elsdon and all their family members following their losses. Mike Elsdon's funeral will be on Tuesday 10 March – short Committal service at 10.45am at Macclesfield crematorium followed by Celebration of Life service at Church at 12pm.

Our worship last month included a combined service at Cheadle Hulme led by Alison Pope when we welcomed friends from Bramhall and Heald Green so our thanks go to Alison, and to Liz Delafield and Rev Peter Sharp for their support in leading worship last month. On 15 Feb, we took the opportunity to watch a YouTube live service from Wilmslow URC when Rev Tony Burnham, a past Gen Secretary of the URC, was leading worship.

Our thanks go to all who supported the February Coffee Morning & Cake Sale in aid of The Leprosy Mission when £128.30 was raised (see letter of thanks).

Best wishes go to all those who will be celebrating a birthday or special anniversary in March.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CONCERT IN SUPPORT OF
CHRISTIAN AID
SATURDAY 9 MAY
POYNTON BRASS BAND
7.30pm
Cheadle Hulme Methodist

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MISSIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Prayer for our Mission Mentor
LIZ DELAFIELD

Wise and guiding God, you have never left us to navigate your mission alone. You gave us your Word, Holy Spirit, and people you have called to guide and help us. We are grateful for the role and work, Liz Delafield, our South

Area Mission mentor does. We thank you for the presence, wisdom, time and gifts she invests in the programs, facilitations and trainings on how we can discern God's mission and do it efficiently and effectively. Help us to listen, learn, and grow our Church mission through utilizing the support and knowledge she offers to us. Lord, may your Spirit walk with her, and encourage and constantly guide her in her work. In Jesus name we pray.

Amen

CHURCHES TOGETHER

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

LENT LUNCHES

~donations for Christian Aid

Saturday 7th March	- All Saints CE
Saturday 14th March	- Grove Lane Baptist
Saturday 21st March	- URC
Saturday 28th March	- St Ann's RC
...usually noon~2pm	



**OAK MEADOW
EASTER SERVICE
11am
SATURDAY 28 MARCH**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

2.15pm ~ FRIDAY 6 MAR 2026
at

United Reformed Church
"I will give you rest, come"

~ Nigeria

All Are Welcome – men, women & youth

ALISON

The Leprosy Mission

My name is Kathryn Lamport and I am the Leprosy Mission community partnerships manager in the Northwest of England. I am contacting you to say a personal thank you for the kind gift of £128.30 received at our head office from a fundraising event at Cheadle Hulme URC. Your heart for supporting people affected by leprosy is such a blessing and I can't thank you enough for your continued support over the years.

As you may already be aware, the community partnerships team are available to visit our supporters and share more about our current mission focus. I would love the opportunity to visit you and thank your church in person. During a visit, we simply hope to:

- thank your church family for their faithful support
- share an encouraging update on the difference your partnership is making for people affected by leprosy
- offer to give a sermon, lead part of a service, or provide a shorter update—whichever best suits your context
- give the congregation an opportunity to support the work financially, if this is appropriate within your usual service pattern

If this is something your church might welcome, I would be grateful if you could put me in touch with the appropriate person to arrange it.

Thank you again for your support and for your heart for people affected by leprosy. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warm regards, **Kathryn Lamport**
Community Partnerships Manager (Northwest)

Film Matinee
2.30pm ~ 28 Mar 26
Bring your friends

EARTH HOUR 2026

A time to turn off your lights...

The Earth Hour 2026 takes place on Saturday 28th March, when at 8.30pm in their local time millions of people worldwide will turn off their non-essential lights for one hour.

Organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the 20th anniversary of this global initiative will aim to raise awareness of the earth's climate crisis, and to encourage environmental action through sustainable, actionable lifestyle changes.

The first Earth Hour was held in Sydney, Australia, on 31st March 2007, and has since become a global movement. The 2025/26 theme is 'Giving an Hour for the Earth' is encouraging people to adapt sustainable habits in their daily lives.

And while our lights are off for an hour, Earth Hour will encourage us to spend the time in nature, or stargazing, or engaging in environmental, educational, or sustainable activities.

More info at: <https://www.earthhour.org>

Parish Pump_

BARBARA OLIVER

Barbara was born on 22 May 1940, at home in Stockport, the second of five children and, of those five, she is survived by Keith and Lorraine. Barbara was an intelligent youngster who qualified for grammar school, subsequently passed GCE 'O'-Levels who went on to train for a teaching career, but eventually felt more fitted for work in the tax office, which suited her better.

Barbara and Philip met at the wedding of Malcolm, Philip's brother, and were married in 1967. Children came along: Stuart and Joanne in that order, and family holidays were enjoyed, caravanning in a number of places in the UK. Barbara loved tending the garden. She led a quiet life and is remembered as being a kindly lady, proficient on her computer, curious to work out for herself how to solve problems.

Barbara's other interests were sewing, knitting jumpers, creating dolls, doing puzzles, jigsaws. Barbara doted on each of her grandchildren - Harry 21, Jaidan 19, Zak 18, and Grace 13. She found a career later in her working life as a dinner lady at Cheadle Hulme School, so she clearly had an affinity with children,

This is a service of thanksgiving for Barbara's gentle life, a lovely life. Keep the good memories always close to your heart and live your best life - as Barbara assuredly lived hers.

Extracts from Eulogy read by Rev Peter Sharp

CROSSWORD

with BIBLE CLUES

Across

1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)

4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)

8 “They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!” (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)

9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)

10 Jewish (7)

11 Dirge (anag.) (5)

12 ‘A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies’ (Proverbs 12:17) (9)

17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)

19 ‘Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature’ (Galatians 5:13) (7)

21 ‘As you can see, he has done nothing to — death’ (Luke 23:15) (7)

22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)

23 ‘All the people — — one man, saying, “None of us will go home”’ (Judges 20:8) (4,2)

24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham’s side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

Down

1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)

2 ‘In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea’ (Acts 27:30) (7)

3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)

5 ‘But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!’ (Luke 12:50) (7)

6 ‘Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ’ (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)

7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)

9 ‘For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings’ (Hosea 6:6) (9)

13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob’s well (John 4:5) (7)

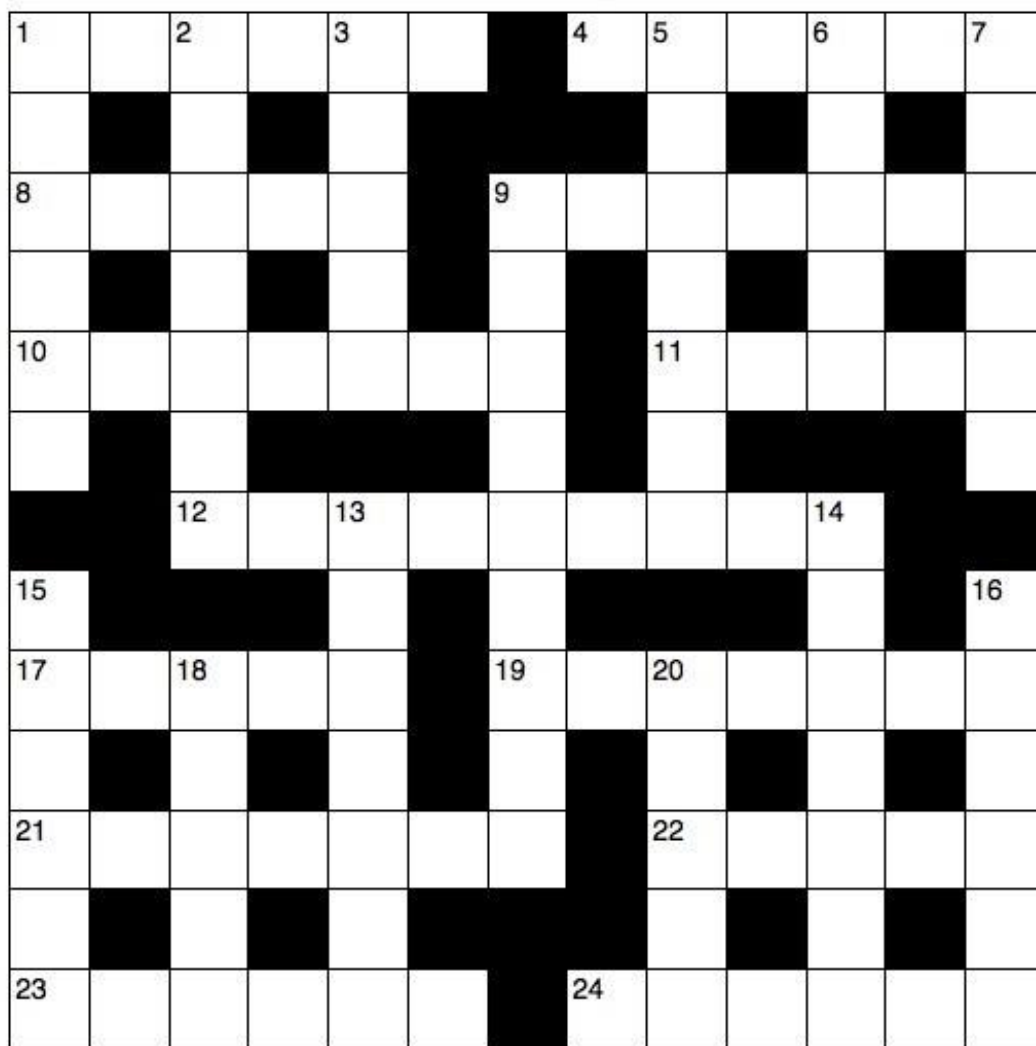
14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)

15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)

16 One of Paul’s first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)

18 Donkeys (5)

20 Raked (anag.) (5)



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SOUP, SWEET & MEET

WED 18 MAR

Noon ~ 1.30pm

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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 MAR	8 MAR	15 MAR	22 MAR	29 MAR
Service	Morning Worship	Themed Worship	Morning Communion	Morning Worship	Joint Worship
Time	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am	10.30am
Leader	Rev Steph Atkins	Sandy & Morag	Rev Kura Mutimwii	In House	Rev Kura Mutimwii
Duty Elder	D Phillips	A Stevens	P Oliver	S Smith	CHEADLE HULME CLOSED Service at Heald Green
Reader & Door	M Hardie	TBA	TBA	P Grieve	
Flowers	Daffodils	Silk	Arrangement	Silk	
Coffee	A Stevens	S Smith	M Hardie	M Smith	
Notes		FAIR TRADE	MOTHERING SUNDAY	PASSION SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY

FUNERAL - BARBARA OLIVER, who died on 28 January 2026, aged 85 years – at Stockport Crematorium on Thursday 26 February 2026

LECTIONARY FOR MARCH

1 MAR: Genesis 12.1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4.1-5,13-17; John 3.1-17

8 MAR: Exodus 17.1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5.1-11; John 4.5-42

15 MAR: 1 Samuel 16.1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9.1-41

22 MAR: Ezekiel 37.1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45

29 MAR: Matthew 21.1-11; Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16; Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew 27.11-54

NAUGHTY MUMMY

A mother asked her young son, as they waited for the bus, to tell the driver he was five years old, because then he would ride for free. As they got into the bus the driver asked him how old he was. "I am five years old," said the little boy proudly.

The driver had a son of his own at that age, and so he smiled. "And when will you be six years old?" he asked.

"When I get off the bus," answered the boy.

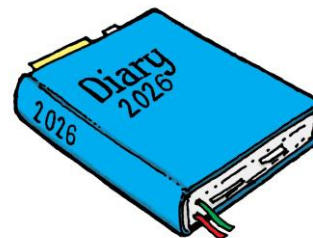


POLITICIANS WELCOME

At the pearly gates, St Peter greeted a church minister and member of Parliament and gave them their room keys. "Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nice single rooms. But for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite."

"This is unfair!" cried the minister. "Listen," St Peter said, "ministers are a ten a penny up here, but this is the first MP we've ever seen."

CALENDAR



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

MARCH 2026

Wed 04	7.30pm	MP Steering Group on Zoom
Thu 05	7pm	Elders' Meeting
Fri 06	2.15pm	World Day of Prayer service - URC
Sat 07	10.30-12pm	COFFEE MORNING & CAKE SALE in aid of Transform Trade
	12-2pm	CTCH Lent Lunch – All Saints
Sun 08	3-4pm	OUTDOOR CHURCH – The Church Garden, Heald Green URC
Wed 11	7.30pm	CTCH Business meeting - Methodist
Fri 13	2pm	Choir rehearsal
Sat 14		N W Synod meeting – Media City
	12-2pm	CTCH Lent Lunch – Grove Lane Baptist
Wed 18	12-2pm	Soup, Sweet & Meet
Fri 20	2pm	Choir rehearsal
Sat 21	12-2pm	CTCH Lent Lunch – URC
Fri 27	2pm	Choir rehearsal
Sat 28	11am	CTCH Easter Service on Oak Meadow
	12-2pm	CTCH Lent Lunch – St Ann's
	2.30pm	Film Matinee

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.

DOWN: 1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

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swannlanesecretary@gmail.com

swannlanebookings@gmail.com

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