



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

July 2026

Update on



What is The Forge?

The Forge is our outreach youth group for 10-14 year olds. We meet on Friday nights from 7:30-9:00pm. It is an incredible joy to run. Leaders arrive at around 6:45pm for setup and prayer. We get almost every game in the building out, including table tennis, pool, table football, gaming consoles, board games, craft, and much more. When we open the doors at 7:30pm, the young people have around 40 minutes to enjoy everything on offer. During this time, leaders get alongside them, play games with them, and get to know them. After this, we open the tuck shop. Each young person pays £2 at the door, and at this point they can choose £1 worth of sweets. Our prices are very generous! Then they sit down with their tuck, and we have a talk. We have covered a variety of topics over the years, but as around 75% of the young people do not come to church, which is an amazing blessing, our talks are mostly evangelistic and Jesus-focused. We usually focus on topics rather than Bible passages. At the end of every year, we have a "Big Questions" session where the young people can ask any questions they have, and we do our best to answer them.

What can you pray for?

Right now, The Forge is at something of a crossroads. For a number of reasons, the amount of volunteers who have the time and passion for this ministry has decreased. Although we have been helped by many amazing people who have kept us afloat, it has been very difficult. In particular, over this last year we have dropped from 12 regular volunteers to 6, and most of these can only help once a month. Looking to the future, and after discussing this with our youth worker Amy, and George our Rector, we think there are two possible outcomes for The Forge next year. Either we completely revamp The Forge, with new leaders who have the time, energy, and passion for this type of youth ministry, or we bring The Forge to an end. Please pray for God to show us which road is the right one to walk down. Pray that it would become clear - either through new leaders coming forward, or through confirmation that this season of ministry is coming to a close. Finally, please pray for all the young people we have seen over the years. Pray that they may come to know Christ. If you are interested in knowing more, or if you would like to explore whether you could be involved, please do get in contact.

Marcus Killingbeck (Overall Leader of The Forge)



Project Sanctuary

If you would like to find out more about Project Sanctuary you can follow along on its Jovo channel. Here you will find the vision for the project, its aims and objectives and more information about what is happening. There is a podcast episode with Jason and Jon who are part of the project team and there will be the results of the Our Church, Our Place survey coming soon too!



Scan the QR code or click the link [here](#) to join

Join a Homegroup!

Following on from our Pray, Rest & Grow Together series, we are encouraging everyone in our congregation to be part of a homegroup. This is for all ages including children.

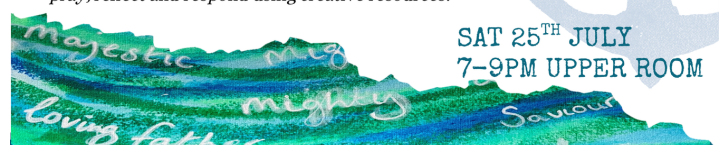
If you are not yet in a group, or would like to join a different format of group, please fill out the form [here](#) or speak to one of the church leadership team and we will be in touch!

For those who have filled out a form we will be getting in touch later in July/August about groups for September



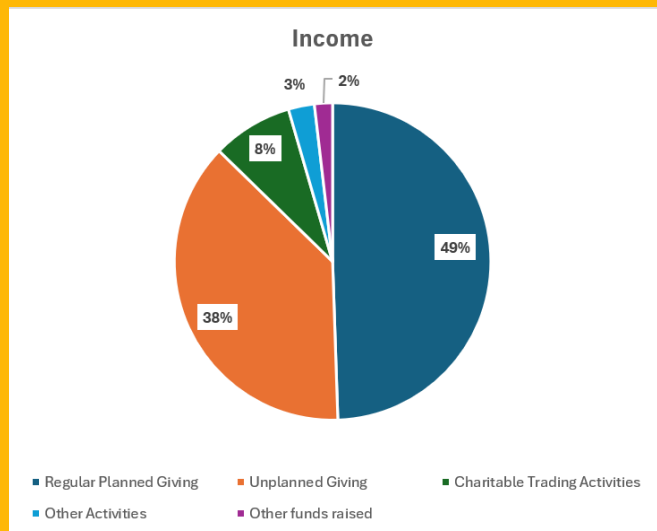
NOTICING GOD AT WORK IN YOUR LIFE

A gentle interactive session to explore our life journey, and to notice God's presence at work in our situations. We will work individually and together to pray, reflect and respond using creative resources.

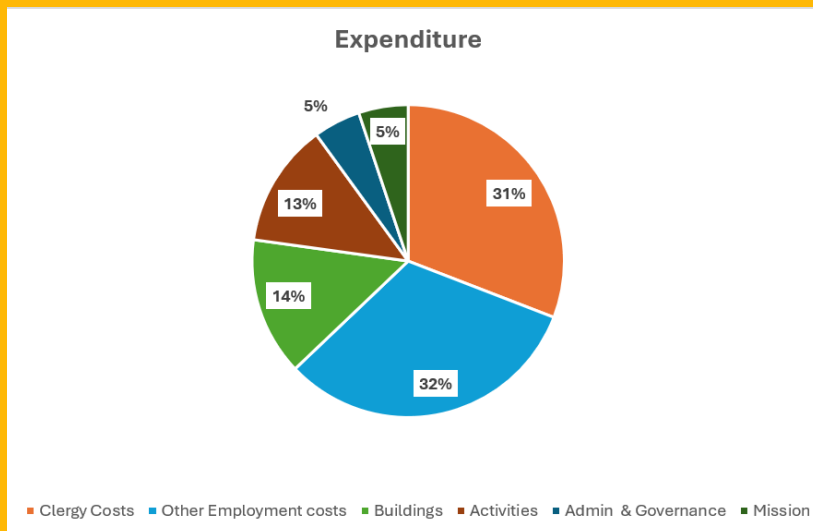


**SAT 25TH JULY
7-9PM UPPER ROOM**

Finance Update - General Funds



Total Income for January to March 2026 is £335,042.



Total Expenditure for January to March 2026 is £197,166

At the end of the first quarter the parish received £137,876 more than it spent. This includes a legacy of £124,318.

Our policy is to use gifts in wills over £10,000 to help fund projects in the parish. From this legacy the PCC has committed to £15,000 essential expenditure on Oakfield Avenue, £6215 to be spent on mission giving and £6215 to be used to bless other churches and people in ministry training through our designated training fund. Where to spend the remainder of the legacy will be discussed at future meetings as we balance our needs and vision.

What does this mean for the Parish?

The cost of living is increasing. This impact is seen most in giving patterns and the café.

Giving remains as budgeted but is not increasing at the same rate as expenditure.

Inflation is currently at 3% but rising energy prices and supply disruptions are driving this up. Suppliers are increasing costs or adding fuel surcharges to cover this. Food supply chains are affected and basic ingredients like dairy, coffee beans, and baked goods require frequent menu repricing or ingredient adjustments.

Consumer habits have changed. Customers are cutting back on the number of visits and stopping casual visits in favour of less frequent but higher spend visits. Customers expect value for money and if prices go up, they expect an increase in customer service, quantity, or quality. We need to continue reviewing our margins, focusing marketing on higher margin sales and highlight our community impact.

The cafe has adapted well to these issues in the first quarter with a total ministry cost of £5997 against a budgeted cost of £7832.

Jo Davids (PCC Treasurer)

Reflection on Giving

I think it is important that church members give regularly to both the local church and other Christian charities. We have always tithed our joint income and give to the church by standing order (adjusting the amount as appropriate).

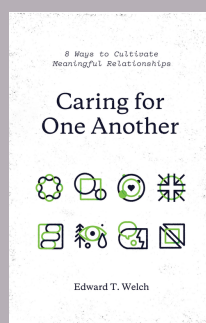
Ruth

My personal view of giving has always stemmed from a Biblical understanding and centres on being a personal act of worship, which has a blessing attached. It should be voluntary, cheerful, sacrificially generous coming from a grateful heart and a way to support the church's mission. I believe that if the vision is from God, the resources are there and so relies upon the obedience of God's people to His prompting.

Summer Read

Part of our 'Pray, Rest Grow - Together' series focuses on connecting to one another in times of need. All of us can play our part in supporting each other when we are finding life difficult. To help with this we are encouraging all church members to read 'Caring for one another' by Ed Welch.

This little book gives 8 simple ways in which we can be agents of God's grace in the lives of others when they are experiencing suffering or struggling with something that is causing distress.



Copies will be available to buy at a discount price of £5 in both St Cuthbert's, St Mary's and the Upper Room Cafe. This will be our summer book recommendation, but it is also a brilliant resource for our fellowship and a great way to follow up on the 'Pray, Rest, Grow - Together' teaching series.

George Crowder

Evangelism

I recently had the privilege of spending a week on a residential training course on evangelism run by CFAN at a Christian centre just outside Cardiff. I thought I was attending a personal evangelism course but it turned out to be rather more than that. George asked me to do a podcast- which you can watch if you want to and it's on the St Marys website (if you click on resources then podcast and then you tube you will find it there) - which will tell you more about my week and my response to it. What I did see was the power of the gospel in action as described by Paul in the book of Romans.

*Romans 1:16 says "For I am not ashamed of **the gospel**, because it is **the power** of God that brings **salvation** to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."*

On the Friday afternoon at the end of the week and also on the Saturday morning we, there were about 40 of us on the course, had to go into Cardiff City Centre in the busy shopping precinct and preach (which means proclaim/herald - as in shout out) the gospel. None of us had ever done it before and we all had to rely in the Holy Spirit to help us, which of course he did. What I saw amazed me, which I'm ashamed to say it shouldn't have done, in that with 40 amateurs having their first attempt at preaching the gospel (we had a microphone and loud speakers so that we could be heard) on the streets of Cardiff the Holy Spirit took our feeble words and 18 people were saved and came to know Jesus on the Friday afternoon and there were more on the Saturday morning. This has inspired me to believe that we, both churches in Cheadle, should be doing the same in our own parish in response to Jesus own commission to us in the gospel of Mark:-

*Mark 16:15 "He said to them, "**Go** into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation"."*

If we do respond to Jesus commission to us all I truly believe that we will see many souls saved for Christ in our own parish - which I'm sure is what we all want.

So what next? Well, we should first get together to pray, for as Jesus also tells us in Matthew 9:37 and 38 "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

I would ask you all to please prayerfully consider your response to this as Jesus commission is to each and everyone one of us and as St Paul reminds us in Romans 10:13-15

"for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

As we had in our reading on Sunday at St Marys from Isaiah 6:8 my hope and prayer is that we will all respond as Isaiah did to Jesus commission to us.

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I **send**? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. **Send me!**"*

We haven't yet set a date and time, or venue, to meet to pray about this but will include this in one or both the weekly updates or in the church service announcements in due course so please look out for them over the coming weeks and come and join us.

Nigel Tate



We are looking at three aspects of our lifestyle this month as our responsibility to take action in our daily lives so that we tread lightly on the Earth and use our voices to speak up for nature.

It's **Plastic Free July** and the focus this year is on getting us to think about laundry, a top source of microplastic pollution. Fibres from synthetic clothes (polyester, nylon, and acrylic for example) shed tiny fibres during washing and drying. These enter the sewage systems and are hard to filter out.

You can learn more about reducing plastic pollution in the laundry process at

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/plastic-free-laundry/> and more about this year's campaign at <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

Sustainable Food As God's representatives, we contribute to the flourishing of the whole earth community, so will want to think carefully about what we consume. This is not just about the nutritional value of food but also the ethics of production and the carbon footprint involved in its delivery to our church events. Jesus often shared meals with his followers. As Christians we are encouraged to offer hospitality and to find joy in doing that. This may be to our friends and family or as a demonstration of God's care for the homeless or to host a community celebration. Food production and its preparation are basic human activities as we all require daily nourishment. Thinking about how we produce and prepare food to glorify God and nourish us, whilst leaving a sustainable legacy for future generations, is high on the agenda for Christians who care about the planet.

This month let us all consider four things - food that is *locally produced, organically grown, animal friendly and fairly traded*.

Our cars Transport accounts for a fifth of all global CO2 emissions, with passenger vehicles contributing to nearly half of that figure.

This month think about how we use our cars - What changes could we make to our travel that will bring benefits to the climate, our health and our communities? Could we walk instead? could we share our trip with someone? Could we use public transport?

Cycle rides

Using quiet, flat Cheshire country lanes, each ride is approximately 25-30 miles (40-50km) in length.

Dates: Saturdays 18th July, 12th September, 10th October, 7th November



For more details, contact Jonathan Crossland:
jcrossland1@btinternet.com, 07518041420

CAFE NEWS

JULY 2026



Cheadle's Church & Community Cafe

Strawberry Cream Tea

Scone
(sultana, cherry or plain)
Clotted Cream
Strawberry Jam
&
Strawberries

£6.50

Tea
(Breakfast, Earl Grey, Very Berry,
Peppermint or Lemon & Ginger)
or **Filter Coffee**

Monday 6th - Friday 10th
July

Served between 9am - 2pm



Next to Massie Street West
Car Park, Cheadle SK8 1BP

WORK & SKILLS NAVIGATORS



The first Friday of each month 10-12pm the Work and Skills Navigators from Stockport Council come to The Upper Room Cafe to host a drop in. They help local residents to acquire skills, gain work experience or employment opportunities. Do pop along and say hello if they could be of help to you or someone you know.

Stop & Rest

The first Saturday of each month we have live piano music 11am-2pm. Why not come and Stop and Rest in the cafe.



FOOTBALL WORLD CUP

JUNE 29TH - 4TH CROQUE MONSIEUR
JULY 6TH - 11TH GYOZA
JULY 13TH - 18TH EMPANADA



In July...

1st - 18th World Cup Specials
3rd - Work and Skills Navigators
4th - Stop and Rest
6th- 10th Strawberry Cream Teas
11th - Cheadle Boardroom
21st - Visiting Angels

Further ahead...

Saturday 26th September
- Dinosaur Day!



Volunteer Voice



Jean

'I like to start my week at The Upper Room Cafe. There are so many lovely people. I've met lots of interesting people from all over the world'.

Dates for July

Wednesday 1st July - Monthly Prayer Meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 4th - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am in the Upper Room

Sunday 5th July - Parish Fellowship Day

Saturday 11th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Monday 13th - PCC meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Tuesday 14th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at Trish Wells' house

Wednesday 15th - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 16th - Ladies Meal Out, 7pm at The John Millington

Thursday 16th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 18th - Men's Breakfast, 8am

Saturday 18th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 18th - Wedding of Jake Wilson and Libby Webb, 1pm at St Mary's Church

Tuesday 28th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Dates for August

Wednesday 5th - Monthly Prayer Meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 8th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Tuesday 11th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at Trish Wells' house

Wednesday 19th - The Big Read, 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 18th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Tuesday 25th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house



Ladies Meal Out

Thursday 16th July, 7pm
The John Millington

Join us for food, fellowship and laughter!

You will need to book on by 10th July at the latest and let us know your food choices and any allergies. The menu is available online at <https://www.thejohnmillington.co.uk/>

For more details speak to Jude Wheatley or contact the church office.

Hope to see you there!



FILLING THE GAP

NO BOOKING
REQUIRED

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY TIME

BIBLE
STORIES



PUPPETS

CRAFTS

Children's activities (for 0-11s) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11am - 2pm throughout the Summer beginning on Tuesday 4th August.

Free children's lunches will be available in the Upper Room Cafe whilst these activities are running

GAMES

Special Sunday "Filling the Gap" during August!
Beginning on Sunday 9th August

Meet in St. Mary's Church building at 10am for the first part of the church service then we'll head over to the Upper Room for all the usual Filling the Gap activities!



in conjunction with
**TRANSFORMING
LIVES TOGETHER**



Hard of Hearing Support Group



What: A chance for anyone who has any kind of hearing loss to meet and chat.

Where: In the Upper Room (top floor where it is quiet!)

When: 1st Saturday of each month, 11.00am - 12.00pm

Free! Tea/Coffee provided.

No obligation - come when you like!

If you are hearing but are supporting a deaf family member, do come along.

Encourage

one another and build each other up.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

sharlafritz.com

Missions Far and Near

At the July Prayer Meeting at St Mary's, OMF Mission Director Irene McMahon challenged those gathered to think differently about Christian missions. Cheadle Parish has long had a relationship with what was once called China Inland Mission and is now called the Overseas Mission Fellowship. Irene showed how, over the years, not only has the name changed, the whole paradigm for overseas mission work has changed.

OMF and other mission agencies still send people to the mission field to share the gospel with people who have never heard it and plant churches where there is no Christian witness. Nevertheless, massive global population movement and the decline of Christianity in the West has resulted in a complex situation. The place where frontline cross-cultural mission happens could be anywhere.

Churches and mission agencies alike have realised with the influx of people from other countries, local churches need to be doing intercultural mission with a similar attitude to missionaries who are sent to other countries. OMF have significant resources they offer to help with this, and they encourage local churches to consider how they can reach everyone in their community whatever their ethnicity. How can we in Cheadle Parish take this seriously?

You might be aware that, for the most part, traditional churches in the UK are declining. But that is not the whole picture - overall the church is growing and the fastest growing churches in the UK are global majority heritage churches. African Pentecostal churches are burgeoning, but also East Asian churches are in demand. Yet there is an even more intriguing phenomenon. OMF have had few requests from traditional churches to use their intercultural resources.

Yet global majority churches have been asking for help to become more multicultural, because they recognise that diversity is part of being church. They are seeking to evangelise the white British population!

Irene spoke about the mission pioneers of the modern world being 'polycentric hyphenated people working in liminal spaces.' I love words, so I loved this phrase! Polycentric means that people don't have one place that they belong. So they are hyphenated like British-Ghanian, or Irish-Filipino. And they are passionate about their faith and want to share it in the space they operate in, which is often in the margins, or in new arenas. There are many Filipino Christians in the National Health Service.

Does all that mean we are not qualified for mission? Does it mean our rather staid and traditional church setting is doomed? Not at all! With an eye on the book of Ephesians, Irene said that all Christians are 'polycentric hyphenated people working in liminal spaces'. We belong to the kingdom of heaven as well as living in Cheadle. And we all have places we live and work in that are changing and evolving fast. Perhaps we are alarmed by the fluidity of the situation around us. But Irene asks us to see it as an opportunity, to testify to our hope and faith in a new situation. Jesus made this possible, exemplified it and calls us to follow him in it.

He came and proclaimed the good news of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. (Ephesians 2:17-18).



Rev George Crowder
Rector



Mission Partners

Please pray for Daniel and Emily Eduardo working with Message Brasil - there have been some problems on the Santa Marta favela where they work and there was some anxiety about the others on the team and their safety. Hopefully things will have calmed down a little.

It has been an extremely busy term for both of them and they are looking forward to being home in the UK for a family wedding coming up at St Mary's shortly.

Contact Information

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Church Office, The Upper Room, 11 Wilmslow Road, Cheadle, SK8 1DW
churchoffice@cheadle.org.uk 0161 428 8050 (Open weekdays 9am-3pm)

Rector	George Crowder	0161 428 8050	george.crowder@cheadle.org.uk
Associate Minister	Stan Tomalin	0161 964 0854	stan.tomalin@cheadle.org.uk
Associate (St Cuth's)	Ian Chidlow	07475 004360	minister@stcuthberts.org
C.O.W.	Mark Tomlinson	07940 567046	mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk
Youth Worker	Amy Killingbeck	07375 709477	amy.killingbeck@cheadle.org.uk
Operations	Jon Drayton	07973 134815	operations@cheadle.org.uk
Finance	Jo Davids	0161 912 5355	jo.davids@cheadle.org.uk
Admin/Assist. to Rector	Maddy Prescott	0161 428 8050	maddy.prescott@cheadle.org.uk
Upper Room Cafe		0161 912 5352	upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk