



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

September 2026

A Journey Through The Old Testament Course

Starting Thursday 24th September
Fortnightly at 7.15pm in the Upper Room



A six session training course exploring God's story in the Old Testament and how it points to Jesus. Learn together in a fun and engaging way, with simple practical tools you can use every day. See how to apply the bible in everyday life.

- **Introductory Session: 24th September** - Setting the scene: understanding the Old Testament key themes and the story that connects it all
- **1 - Genesis: 8th October** - Creation, fall, promise and hope - the beginning of God's story with his people
- **2 - Moses's Life: 22nd October** - From Egypt to the wilderness: God delivers, provides and gives his law
- **3 - Joshua to Ruth: 5th November** - Conquest, settlement, faithfulness and redemption
- **4 - Samuel to King Solomon: 19th November** - From a united people to a glorious kingdom under God's wisdom
- **5 - The Divided Kingdom through to 400 years of silence: 10th December** - Prophets, exile, return and waiting - looking for the promised king

Everyone is welcome, whether you are new to the Bible or have been reading it for years!

Sign up on [Churchsuite](#) or speak to Mark Tomlinson for more details

Disability Awareness Sunday

Sunday 27th September is Disability Awareness Sunday. All our services will be focused on the theme of 'one body, many parts', as we reflect on the church as one united body serving Jesus together.

We all have different roles, but every member is valuable, and it is together, all united under the same head, Jesus, that the church thrives. We are made to be interdependent, and we are all needed and honoured. God made each of us in His image and calls us to be members of His body together.

Do join us as we think about how we feel welcomed and how we can best welcome others and invite them to be a part of the body of the church too.

Pub Fellowship

7.30pm - 9.00pm

at the Red Lion Cheadle

A new venture for anybody, men and women, to meet and invite their friends for a chat, a pint or a coffee. Just turn up!

- Thursday 10th September
- Tuesday 13th October



Northern Women's Convention

Saturday 26th September, The Edge Wigan

The Northern Women's Convention is always a good opportunity to hear God's word explained in our context. This year we are looking at Exodus and there are also seminars to choose from. The cost is £20 per person and you can book here:

<https://www.christianconventions.org.uk/northern-womens/>

It would be helpful to know who is attending from St Mary's and St Cuthbert's so we can arrange to meet up and also share lifts. Please either let Trish Wells (trish.wells@cheadle.org.uk) or the office know if you are planning to come and whether you will need a lift or can offer to take other(s).

Trish Wells



Service of evening prayer:

2.30pm Thursdays at St Mary's

Do you appreciate a quieter, more traditional service? If so, Thursday afternoons at St Mary's are for you. We use the prayer book form of evening prayer and have appropriate readings from the bible and a short talk to explain one of them. The service usually last between 30 and 40 minutes. On the first Thursday of each month, we celebrate communion together. We even have tea and coffee after the service for those who are able to stay. If you think you would enjoy this type of service, why not come and join us one Thursday in September. For more information, do speak to Trish or Phil Wells.

Ethical Investment

Jesus taught frequently on the topic of money. So how does our faith shape our engagement with banks?

Cheadle Parish PCC recognises that choices about how we use our church's finances - including banking, pensions, and the role of divestment - have a significant impact on climate and climate justice.

As Christians, we need to ask questions about how our money is being used. Most of us 'purchase' quite a few financial products and we can ask ethical questions, just as we do when we are buying our Fairtrade bananas. Bank accounts, insurance policies, pensions, student loans, and mortgages are all financial products. In 'putting our money where our mouth is' we can encourage good practices and 'divest' (or disinvest) from companies who don't share our values.

The first thing to decide is what constitutes 'ethical' for us. If we know our values, we can then ask appropriate questions of potential and current financial suppliers - whether they are our bank, insurance company, or pension provider.

Many financial institutions are both big employers and big investors of cash. The way such companies behave should be as important to them as where they are putting the money under their stewardship. Questions to answer might be:

- Is it important to us how our bank treats its employees, how they support people on low incomes or the percentage of women on the board, even if this means a slightly lower return on your investment?
- Do we mind what our pension is invested in, provided our money is secure and will give us income in our retirement?
- Would a higher premium put us off an insurance company which has climate change and human rights high on the agenda?

As part of Eco Church we have been looking at the impact of where we invest our money and choosing to invest with those who have strong policies on ethical investment. Some of the things we have looked at are:

- CAF bank is aiming to become net zero in its operations and is working on green loan options.
- CCLA is committed to achieving net-zero emissions on the equities within it's portfolios by 2050.
- NatWest has a good ratio of funding renewable energy projects but continues to fund fossil fuel expansion. We are looking at an alternative provider for our second bank account.

Jo Davids (Finance Officer)

Staff Changes

At the end of last month, Maddy gave her notice of resignation. Maddy is moving to OMF where she will working at their UK office. I am sad to see her go but excited for her and the next stages of her career. It has been a great privilege to work alongside Maddy and witness her growth in the job and in her faith.

Maddy's last day with us will be Friday 16th October. Please join me in wishing her well for her future and take the opportunity to talk to her about her new role. Please pray for her and the plans God has for her.

George Crowder

Eco Church

Creationtide

Observed each year from 1 September to 4 October, Creationtide is a special season in the Church calendar dedicated to celebrating God's creation and reflecting on our shared responsibility to care for it. During this five-week period, we are invited to pray, act and use our voice to advocate for creation, thanking God for his provision.

We shall awaken from our dullness and rise vigorously toward justice.

If we fall in love with creation deeper and deeper, we will respond to its endangerment with passion.

Glance at the sun.

See the moon and the stars.

Gaze at the beauty of earth's greenings.

Now, think.

What delight God gives to humankind with all these things.

All nature is at the disposal of humankind.

We are to work with it.

For without it we cannot survive.

Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

You and Your food – waste not

At harvest festivals, we remember with thanks those who labour to produce the food on which we depend. If we worship the good creator of a good creation and look forward to the whole creation being released from its bondage (Romans 8: 21), we should consider how what we eat affects God's creation and how the food we consume impacts on the lives of humans, animals, and the earth.

Around a third of the food we produce is wasted, often ending up in landfill. There are many ingenious ways to reduce our food waste such as serving smaller food portions, using up leftovers, and being content with food that is less aesthetically pleasing (many supermarkets now stock imperfect looking fruit and veg).

Check out the Love Food Hate Waste website for recipe ideas to reduce food wastage:

<https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/recipes>

JUICE Puppets



The JUICE Puppets Ministry has been in going for over 20 years and in that time, I have developed at least six different teams. Every member has started with no puppeteering experience but in a short time have developed the basic skills of puppetry and then continued to hone their skills over many years.

Potential puppeteers can start as soon as they start at Secondary School and as there is no upper age limit, can continue into adulthood. Usually, JUICE puppeteers cease regular practice when they go to University, but as we have an Alumni system almost always join in with our different bookings when they are home during holidays.

We generally meet fortnightly on Mondays between 5.30 & 6.30pm in the Upper Room (2nd Floor) during the Autumn & Spring terms, so that we can rehearse for Christmas and Easter and the many events we can support.

The puppets are also an integral part of our established Filling the Gap ministry and have become a very well loved part of the Story telling programme for the children, parents, grandparents and carers.



As we start a new academic year we are looking to recruit new members to the team. If you are interested in seeing what we do and joining our wonderful and fun ministry, both as a teenager or adult, please have a chat with me or email me at mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk

Mark Tomlinson

The Keswick Weekend

2nd - 5th April 2027

Bookings are now open for The Keswick Weekend 2027. This is the second year they have run this weekend event in Keswick for all ages. The theme is Lift Up Your Heads and Andrew Sach will be leading the main bible teaching, with music from Joyful Noise. Tickets are £50 per adult, £20 per child (4-18s, no charge for 0-3s).

There are limited spaces so make sure to book your place:

<https://www.keswickministries.org/events/the-keswick-weekend>



Cycle rides

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

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



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

The Vibe 2026

This year was a little different for us as we came not just as leaders, but as parents too, with our 5-month-old son in tow. We weren't quite sure what camp would look like with a baby, but it ended up better than we imagined!

One of my favourite things was seeing how excited the young people were to see him each day. He seemed to gain lots of friends over the course of the week! It was genuinely lovely to watch! (Also makes for a great conversation starter)

The week itself was packed. There were loads of activities, seminars, Bible studies, games, time with friends, and a brilliant day out at the water park. The Christmas theme could have felt a bit strange in the middle of summer, but somehow, it worked perfectly, and the decorations and games brought plenty of fun and laughter throughout the week.

The main teaching was from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, and I found it both encouraging and challenging. It was a great reminder of who we are in Christ, the unity we have as God's people, and the incredible grace we've been shown. It was brilliant to see young people engaging with the talks, discussing what they'd heard in Bible studies, and asking thoughtful questions throughout the week.

It's a time that you see so many different things. Young people worship together, leaders giving up their holiday to serve others, conversations continuing long after the sessions have finished, and friendships growing year after year. It's a week where people can have fun, ask big questions, learn from God's Word, and be part of a genuinely welcoming community. Seeing 120 teenagers singing praises to the Lord is always one of my highlights



For us, one of the biggest encouragements was realising that we didn't have to choose between being part of The Vibe and being a family with a young baby. We felt welcomed, included and supported throughout the week, and we're really grateful for that.

We thank God especially for the Overall Leaders who work all year round to make it possible! We took 16 youth and 5 leaders to camp and would love to see this number grow!

Amy Killingbeck

Filling the Gap - August 2026

August 2026 was our fourth summer of Children's Activities during the 'Filling the Gap' programme supporting the Upper Room Café. I hope you managed to visit the cafe during this time and saw how God continues to bless our Café and Children's Outreach Ministry.

This amazing initiative, partly supported by Transforming Lives Together, is part of our Café ministry's initiative throughout the year during school holidays to help parents by providing free meals for children, when the Children's Activity slots are being delivered.

This ministry entitles any parents, grandparents or carers, who bring children into the Upper Room café, to receive a free meal for the children they bring. Although the funding we receive is limited to us as a church, we are still managing to provide free meals on Tuesdays through to Thursdays throughout the August period.



As in previous school holidays our plan to support the café staff with a 'Children's Activity Time' running on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning, between 11am and 2pm, has continued to grow in terms of visitors to the café.

One of our aims is to be able to chat and build relationships with parents, grandparents and carers. Then at 11.30am and 1pm, daily, we would do a Bible presentation, including a story and songs from JUICE Puppets.

As with previous school holidays, this August has continued to build on the foundations laid over the last three years. We have continued to strengthen the strong relationships built with so many people in our community and have seen loads of new families, who are seeing our initiative as a life saver over the long summer break.

As with the last two summers, we have also continued with the Filling the Gap Sunday Specials initiative, which has been a shorter version of the weekday Filling the Gap programme, but where we all meet in church first at 10am for the first part of the service and then come over to the Mornington Lounge for the same Filling the Gap format but for a shortened time.

Throughout August this year we have continually seen more than 40 children every day we have run and some days we have had more than 60 children, particularly during the second week of the summer.

I'm sure you will be aware that to run this ministry requires a large team of people, both in supervising the area and chatting to people, and also in developing a number of Story Tellers. We have had more than 20 different volunteers throughout the summer. I have also been working on developing the storyteller's team, through training and support. This year we have had 7 different storytellers involved during the week or on a Sunday. They have all been amazing, this had been a HUGE encouragement to me personally as we seek to look to establish a long-term sustainable plan. We will be continuing to build on this for the future.

Thank you so much for your prayers, but please would you continue to pray for this important ministry to our community, not only for myself, Sarah and the team of volunteers we have, but also for the Café staff and volunteers, who have done such an incredible work.



If you would like to know more or would like to join our team of volunteers for the future, or would like to consider developing the skills to present a Bible-focused slot, please let me know by chatting to me or emailing me - mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk

Below are a number of praise and prayer items.

Praise God for:

- the number of children we have seen at FtG during August
- the relationships we have built with a number of adults - parents, grandparents and carers
- new relationships that have developed this summer
- the team of helpers who have helped to deliver this initiative so far
- the new storytellers who have been AMAZING
- 'Sunday Specials' becoming established

Pray for:

- a continued impact in our community throughout the year
- Parents, Grandparents & Carers to continue to use the Upper Room Café
- The training of team members, in developing their involvement and roles, during the 'Children's Activity Time'
- October half term - our next FtG week

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement.

Mark Tomlinson (Children's Outreach Worker)

GAMES



**TRANSFORMING
LIVES TOGETHER**

CAFE NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2026



Cheadle's Church & Community Cafe



THE BRIDGE

FRIDAY 1-3PM

Every Friday The Bridge meet on the carpet area of the Upper Room. A friendship group who play games, have refreshments, celebrate seasonal events and enjoy spending time together.



Welcome Sarah



We are delighted to let you know that Sarah Ashworth has joined the team as a new supervisor. Do pop in and say hello to her!

MACMILLAN CAKE SALE

HAVE YOUR
CAKE
AND EAT IT

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT
FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
10.30 - 12.30

In September...

- 5th - Stop & Rest (live piano music 11-2)
- 12th - Cheadle Boardroom
- 25th - Macmillan Cake Sale 10.30-12.30
- 26th - Dinosaur Day 11-3

Further ahead...

Thursday 26th November - Christmas Wreath Making

Volunteer Voice



Fiona
'I have been working at the cafe for over ten years. Its good to feel part of the team'.



0161 4288050

facebook: upperroomcafe

Upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk

Dates for September

Wednesday 2nd - Monthly Prayer Meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 5th - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am in the Upper Room

Saturday 5th - Wedding of Luke Morley and Natalie Robinson, 1pm in St Mary's Church

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

Thursday 10th - Pub Fellowship, 7.30pm at the Red Lion

Saturday 12th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 12th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Tuesday 15th - Ladies Coffee and Cake evening, 7.30pm in the Upper Room

Wednesday 16th - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 17th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 19th - Men's Breakfast, 8am

Tuesday 22nd - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Thursday 24th - Old Testament Overview course starts, 7.15pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 26th - Dinosaur Day in the Upper Room Cafe

Monday 28th - PCC meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Dates for October

Saturday 3rd - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am in the Upper Room

Saturday 3rd October - Wedding of Lee McGuinness and Sophie Jarman, 12.30pm in St Mary's church

Wednesday 7th - Monthly Prayer meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 10th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room, *with Magical Athlete tournament ([sign up here](#))*

Tuesday 13th - Pub Fellowship, 7.30pm at the Red Lion

Tuesday 13th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at Trish Wells' house

Thursday 15th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 17th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's church

Monday 19th - PCC meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Wednesday 21st - The Big Read, 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 24th - God, the Bible & Everything (in 60 minutes) with James Cary, 7.30pm in St Mary's Church

Tuesday 27th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

**GOD,
THE BIBLE &
EVERYTHING
(IN 60 MINUTES)**



**Cheadle
PARISH**

...with James Cary



Saturday 24th October 2026 @ St. Mary's Church, Cheadle

Get ready for the ultimate one-man comedy show about God, the Bible, and Everything! BBC sitcom writer James Cary hilariously unpacks the entire Bible in one hour—jokes, props, a big screen, and maybe a song. From Adam and Eve to Moses, David and Goliath, it's fast, funny, and insightful. With over 20 years writing hit sitcoms like *Miranda* and *Bluestone 42*, James Cary delivers unforgettable laughs for all ages, faiths, and none!

Trusting God's Plans

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails."

- Proverbs 19:21

I have a love/hate relationship with this proverb. On the one hand, it's a real comfort that whatever people might plan to do in the world, whether good or bad, nothing happens outside of God's sovereign plan. All that happens is under his care and his control. Great news!

On the other hand, this proverb means that I often find myself having to acknowledge that God is God and I am not, and I can't just do whatever I want in his world!

Christians are supposed to be patient, to wait on the Lord, to bring him our petitions and requests and to trust him with the answers and the timing of those answers. This, in my experience, is one of the hardest things to do as a Christian in a culture that encourages us to have it all NOW.

In a world where I can order something from Amazon and receive it 20 minutes later (true story!) it's difficult to sit and wait for an answer from God, which may take a lot longer to materialise, especially when you're in a hard situation.

It is difficult to submit to his plans, his authority, his path for life, when you're fairly convinced that you know best, thank you very much, and God should just 'green light' what you want to do.

It's here that we need to remember the goodness of God. God isn't just good when he wants to be, or because he decides to be. God is good because that is just who he is. "But God's plans don't always feel good." Well, no. But once again, God is God and I am not. God has the bird's eye view. God sees the end and the beginning of everything, and everything in between. God knows what's best for his world and his people. I don't.

And in the end, God promises to work, in all things, for the good of those who love him (Romans 8:28).

So, the plans in your heart might seem brilliant to you, and maybe in God's goodness they will come about in good time. But even if they don't, and God takes you in a different direction, he is just as good. You may just need a bit of time to see it.



Rev Ian Chidlow
Associate Minister (St Cuthbert's)

Mission Partners

This month we are focusing on Simon and Abigail Donohoe - some in the parish will remember Simon when he was a curate here some years ago. Since returning to Ireland, Simon has served as a Vicar in several parishes and they have now moved to a large housing estate on the outskirts of Dublin called Cherrywood - this estate is very new and properties are still under construction - there was no Christian church there and over the last year or so Simon and Abigail have been forming a team to set up a new church plant - this is gradually coming to fruition and will be known as Trinity Church



This will be officially commissioned by the Church of Ireland on the 13th of this month with the first service being held on the 20th and as they have no building as yet this will be held in a school which many of the residents will already know and feel comfortable in going to with some already expressing their intention of attending.

Please pray that this new venture will continue to be blessed by God, thanking Him for what has been achieved thus far, and for the future growth of this church in Cherrywood. More details can be found in their latest prayer letter which is available in the Brereton Chapel of St Mary's by the Mission board.

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
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Admin/Assist. to Rector	Maddy Prescott	0161 428 8050	maddy.prescott@cheadle.org.uk
Upper Room Cafe		0161 912 5352	upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk