



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

July 2025

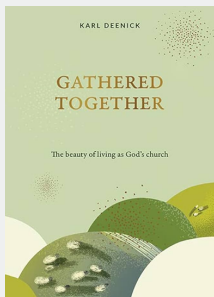
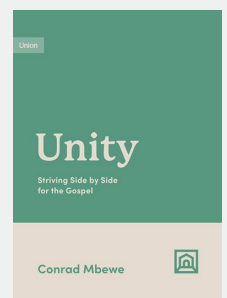
Summer Reads

Grab yourself one (or all) of our fabulous Summer Reads! They are £5 each, and available in both St Cuthbert's and St Mary's church buildings and the Upper Room Café.

Unity – Striving side by side for the Gospel

Christians most effectively serve others and advance God's kingdom when they are in biblical unity with one another. In this short, accessible guide, author Conrad Mbewe explores unity as a fruit of the gospel. He finds that biblical unity is only achieved after understanding what God has done through Christ and how it is continuously executed by the Holy Spirit. This biblically centred book encourages readers to respond to Paul's apostolic plea of "standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel" (Phil. 1:27), embracing unity as a valuable, God-given blessing.

Beth has read this one if you want to hear more about it!



Gathered Together – The beauty of living as God's Church

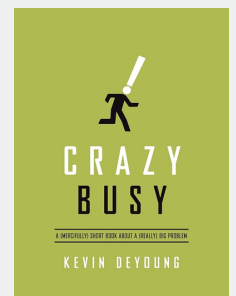
Sunday: time for church. Do you feel eager anticipation? Or has life or weariness turned church into a dutiful habit? Either way, it's useful to pause and ask: What is church, and what's it for? Why do we go? What does God expect us to do when we're together? What gifts does God give to his church, and why? How does our time together influence our time apart? In Gathered Together, Karl Deenick helps us to reflect on our relationship with church. This book is clear, biblical, honest, timely and wise. It's essential reading for everyone who wants to enjoy being part of God's people, God's way.

Jo has read this one if you want to hear more about it!

Crazy Busy

Sometimes being busy seems like the theme of our lives. This frenetic pace poses a serious threat to our physical, social and even spiritual well-being. In this mercifully short book about a really big problem, best-selling author Kevin DeYoung rejects the 'busyness as usual' mindset, arguing that a life of constant chaos is far from what God intends. DeYoung helps us figure out a better way forward, as he strikes a well-reasoned balance between doing nothing and doing everything.

Maddy has read this one if you want to hear more about it!



PCC Update

The PCC met at St Cuthbert's Church on 24th June. Here are some of the key points of discussion and decision:

- A strategy group has been set up to begin the process of implementing the parish vision. This group will meet monthly over the next six months and report back to the PCC
- Resolutions were passed to allow the progress of the church rewire project to the tender stage, as well as getting concept designs for the churchyard, and developing a specification for central heating alterations and potential solar PV installation
- There was discussion around staff training and setting up a fund to support wider church ministry such as for theological training.
- The PCC agreed to make a commitment to A Rocha UK's Eco Church award scheme. More details about this will follow

You can find an update on the finances from Jo Davids in a separate article in this noticesheet. If you would like any more information about what has been mentioned here, please ask our church wardens, Rob Navesey and Helen Gray at St Mary's or Ian Howard and Kate Cookson at St Cuthbert's, or speak to any of our PCC members.

Maddy Prescott (PCC Secretary)

St Mary's 'Filling the Gap - Children's Activity Time'

August 2025

Many of you will be aware of the impact of our Filling the Gap (FtG) initiative over the last few years. The Upper Room Café together with Transforming Lives Together, have provided free meals to children throughout August & the Stockport School half term holidays, entitling any parents, grandparents or carers who bring children into the Upper Room café to receive a free meal for the children they bring.

During the summer holidays and October & February half terms, we have supported the café staff with a 'Children's Activity Time' on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning, between 11am and 2pm. During this time we have provided table top activities, a daily craft and table football, in the Mornington Lounge, enabling children to have loads of focused fun, as we've supervised the area, and our team of helpers have been able to chat and build relationships with parents, grandparents or carers. At 11.30am and 1pm, a Bible story is presented, including a story and songs from JUICE Puppets.

If you haven't already been asked and would like to help by committing to three hours on any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, from 11am until 2pm, through August, please could you contact the office or email me – mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk or Sarah Holmes – holmes_sarah@hotmail.com with the days and dates you could do.

We have seen, over the last two years, that this established initiative is having a big impact, as we look for ways to serve our community in practical ways.

Last summer we also developed our initiative further, by introducing three 'FtG Sunday Specials', in the morning during church, when we invited families to join us in church for the first 15 minutes and then head to the Upper Room for a shortened time of Bible-focused fun, similar to the Children's Activity Time during the week.

How can you help?

- Would you advertise 'Filling the Gap' for us, with people you know?
- Would you consider volunteering to help out on some of the Tuesday to Thursdays? Please let us know by emailing me or Sarah.
- Would you be prepared to be trained & supported to deliver a story?
- Would you pray for us and the café team, as we reach out to the community?

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak or email me.

Below are a number of praise and prayer items for us as a church as we prepare for the summer.

Praise God for:

- the number of children we have seen at FtG since last August
- the relationships we have built with a number of adults – parents, grandparents and carers
- the team of helpers who have helped to deliver this initiative so far

Pray for:

- a continued impact in our community this summer
- the establishing of the 'Sunday Specials'
- parents, grandparents & carers to continue to use the Upper Room Café
- increasing the team of helpers and the training of team members, in developing their involvement and roles, during the 'Children's Activity Time'

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement.

Mark Tomlinson (Children's Outreach Worker)



The Vibe

On 27th July - 2nd August, around 120 young people aged 14 - 18 will be gathering at The Vibe, a NWGP camp designed to help them grow in faith, build friendships, and have fun together. This year, we will be diving into the book of Daniel, learning what it means to stand firm and trust God no matter what.

Please pray:

- For energy, wisdom and strength for the leaders.
- For open hearts and meaningful conversations among the young people.
- That God would deepen their faith and courage, just like Daniel's.
- For safety, joy and lasting friendships.

Amy Killingbeck (Youth Worker)



A warm welcome is waiting for you at

The Upper Room Café

Monday - Saturday

9AM - 3PM

The Upper Room Café is a not-for-profit Church and Community café in Cheadle. We are run by a small team of church staff and many community volunteers. We serve fresh, quality drinks and food for you to enjoy.



- Air Conditioned
- Free WIFI
- Spacious
- Children's Play Area
- Lift access



0161 428 8050

Facebook: [upperroomcafe](https://www.facebook.com/upperroomcafe)
upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk

The Upper Room Café
 Back Massie Street, Cheadle SK8 1DW
 (Above Tesco)



strawberries & cream Afternoon tea

Come and enjoy afternoon tea in our Church and Community Café, to celebrate Wimbledon!

Cream Cheese & Salmon Sandwich
 Ham & Cucumber Sandwich
 Cheddar & Onion Chutney Wrap
 Red Pepper & Goats Cheese Tart



Scone, Cream & Strawberry Jam
 Eton Mess
 Lemon Shortbread
 Victoria Sponge Cake

£12.50

Monday 7th - Saturday 12th July

Served between 11am - 2pm

To book please follow QR code or
 email: upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk



Fiesta Fun!

On Saturday 28th June the café hosted a Fiesta Family Fun day. Celebrating authentic Latin American food made by Hector, our chef, and his wife Yahoshka. The café was decorated colourfully and over 150 people enjoyed the food and festivities. Our church and community café exists to share Jesus with our local community, especially to those who might not enter a church building. Around the café we proclaimed: 'God so loved the world that He gave his only son so that whoever believes in him may not die but have eternal life' John 3:16

Finance Updates

Kingdom Bank

At its meeting in June, the PCC agreed to open a savings account with Kingdom Bank. Kingdom Bank partners with Christians to help churches grow. Kingdom Bank allows us to steward our funds responsibly while putting them to work for God's Kingdom. By moving funds into the new account, we can earn higher interest but still retain instant access to funds. Deposits are used to help churches, ministries, and gospel workers in the UK with the funds they need to purchase, develop, or build property to facilitate their ministry.

2025

The PCC agreed the 2025 budget at a cost of £83,799 with a commitment to review the position after six months. The review is starting and will go the September PCC meeting. As a result of increases to regular giving and generous donations the 2025 position is expected to be a cost of £57,558. Praise God for this meaningful change in our position. Please pray for the teams as they start to look at how to set a sustainable budget going forward.

Jo Davids (PCC Treasurer)



St Cuthbert's Old School Nursery

50th anniversary drop-in!

An invitation to past and present pupils, parents, carers, staff, trustees, and volunteers



Saturday 5th July

Drop in anytime
 between 10am-12noon
 Come and say hello,
 meet familiar faces,
 and reminisce!

Councillor Lane, Cheadle, SK8 2BY
 0161 428 7682 stcuthbertsnursery@gmail.com



Quiet Day

Saturday 9th August

Stan is leading a quiet day at Foxhill, the diocesan retreat centre, in August. The theme for the day is: 'Rooted in Service' when we will be exploring Christ's humility, his love in action, and what it means to live as a "living sacrifice." Through Scripture, conversation, and prayer, we'll rediscover the beauty of a life poured out in service for Jesus and others.

As the description 'quiet day' implies – it will be quiet and reflective! There will be times of prayerful spoken worship, some talks from me but mostly plenty of space to think and pray and ponder. Foxhill is surrounded by lovely countryside (it is situated just outside Frodsham – about a 30-minute drive) and so, weather-permitting, there will be the chance to walk and pray.

The day begins at 10am (refreshments served from 9.30) and ends at 3.30pm. The cost of the day is £27, which includes lunch and refreshments (however, if the cost is too steep for you, they do have a bursary scheme available to help all to come – please contact Foxhill for more information). You can book by either contacting Foxhill directly on 01928 733777; or by booking online at:

<https://www.foxhillchester.co.uk/event-details/rooted-in-service-you-also-should-wash-one-anothers-feet>



Ladies Meal Out

Thursday 17th July, 7pm
The John Millington

Join us for food, fellowship and laughter!

You will need to book on by 9th July at the latest and let us know your food choices. 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!



Confirmation Service

Sunday 5th October, 6.30pm

At the beginning of October we will be having a confirmation service at St Mary's evening service with Bishop Mark. If you would like to be baptised and/or confirmed as part of this service, please speak to George or Stan.

The Quinta



Please pray for the 11-14s from our church and the leaders who will be going to The Quinta camp from 27th July to 1st August. This year there will be 98 children as well as 20+ young adults on the Assistant Leader programme. Pray that those who come will grow in their faith, and for energy, safety and good weather!

New Bible Study Group – By and For Neurodivergent People

Hi friends, we're excited to launch a new Bible study group created *by neurodivergent individuals, for neurodivergent individuals*! Whether you're autistic, ADHD, dyslexic, or otherwise neurodivergent, this is a space where you are welcome, seen, and valued just as you are. This group is designed with **neurodiverse minds and experiences in mind**—a space where pacing, communication styles, and sensory needs are respected. Our goal is to explore Scripture together in a way that honours the unique ways we process, feel, and connect with faith.

What to Expect:

- A safe, judgment-free space
- Flexible structure and gentle facilitation
- Encouragement of questions, stimming, silence, tangents, and everything in between
- No pressure to speak or "mask"—come as you are

We believe that everyone brings something important to the table, and that neurodiverse voices enrich our understanding of God's word in powerful and necessary ways.

If this sounds like something you've been looking for, we'd love to have you join us. We meet up on a Wednesday Night in person every 2 weeks, but we are also looking at using an online platform like WhatsApp, Zoom or Teams ASAP too. Let us know if you're interested, and feel free to share with others who might be too!

You are wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14), and your perspective is a gift.



Philip James (Evangelist-in-Training) with Church Army
and based at St Matthew's Church Edgeley, Stockport.
Phone: 07923457573 Email: philip.churcheit@gmail.com

Dates for July

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

Saturday 5th - Old School Nursery 50th Anniversary Celebration, 10am-12noon at OSN

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

Sunday 6th July - St Cuthbert's BBQ, after the morning service

Tuesday 8th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at the Parikh's house

Thursday 10th - Men's Pub night, 8pm

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

Sunday 13th - Hospitality Sunday

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

Thursday 17th - Ladies Meal Out, 7pm at The John Millington

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

Saturday 19th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

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

Thursday 24th - Men's Breakfast, 6.45am in the Upper Room Café

Dates for August

Wednesday 6th - Monthly Prayer Meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Tuesday 12th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at the Parikh's house

Saturday 16th - Creative Vision Day, 9am-3pm in the Upper Room

Wednesday 20th - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 21st - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Tuesday 26th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Save the Date: 16th August

Creative Vision Day 9am-3pm

Join us in the Upper Room for some creative time to explore what abiding in Christ looks like as we pray, rest and grow together. All mediums, ages and abilities are most welcome, and the Upper Room Café will be open for food and drink.

If you have any art or craft resources you would like to donate to this, please contact the church office.



Stories of Hope

We've now finished the current term and already had some great feedback, plus seen people grow over these last three months. We ran two groups and are planning to increase that to three in the autumn, so room for more and so everyone can get involved.

We looked at Being Disciples; what that is, how to grow as a follower of Jesus, and how to share what the Bible says about God's plan for people. Do pray over the summer about either coming yourself, or bringing a friend who would appreciate learning what faith in practice means today.

Dave & Iris Challis & team

Mission Partners

As a parish we have been supporting the work of The Message Trust since its inception – it has grown from very small beginnings to what is now a worldwide organisation! Please give thanks that the “Cross Brazil Cycle Challenge” has now been completed raising funds totalling over £200000 and still increasing towards the work of the Trust – Give thanks that Andy and Daniel are recovering from “incidents” and were able to complete the course with the other participants. Give thanks for all those students who have recently graduated from the Message School of Evangelism many from outside of the UK and for those who are now applying to join in the next course beginning in the Autumn.

The work of the Trust continues to grow in lots of different areas – please pray for the continuing expansion of “The Message Community Grocery Stores” as more and more locations are beginning this work in their locality – give thanks that through this initiative many have made the first steps of finding out more about Christ who can give far more abundantly than just groceries.



Bruce Willis and Heavenly Glory

‘O quam cito transit gloria mundi’. You can’t beat a bit of Latin to start off a church article! If your knowledge of Latin is a bit rusty, (and, let’s be honest, why should it not be!) it translates as ‘how quickly the glory of the world passes away’; a statement that first appeared in the 15th century book ‘The Imitation of Christ’ by Thomas à Kempis.

It was a phrase that came to mind the other day as I found myself re-watching the 1980s film ‘Die Hard’. For those who don’t know of it, it’s an action thriller. Very silly but very enjoyable if you like that sort of thing.

Its star is Bruce Willis, and it was thoughts of Bruce that came to mind. He was probably one of the world’s best-known movie stars through the 1990s and early 2000s, starring in numerous very popular films.

He came to mind particularly because he had been in the news recently for a very different reason. Now in his late 60s, it was reported last year that he is suffering from a form of dementia, and last month the family issued some photos of him to raise awareness of the condition.

And it was as I was thinking about all this that the centuries-old phrase came to mind. Not that I wish to laugh about it in any way. In my teens and twenties he was definitely one of my favourite movie stars and I was really sad to hear what had happened to him. But then it struck me that, even though he had been, at one time, probably one of the most recognisable people on the planet, only 20 years later, it has definitely become a case of ‘you remember Bruce Willis, don’t you?’ How quickly the glory of the world passes away!

In Philippians 1:21, the apostle Paul writes: ‘for to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain’ – which, I have to admit, for me, is probably one of the boldest and most challenging verses in

the whole bible – because in this verse Paul is pretty much undermining the whole way our world views the whole of life and death itself. As someone once put it: ‘once you’ve died, you’re a long time dead’

But, says Paul, as a Christian, that should not be our view of things. For we have eternity set in our hearts – we do not believe that this world, this life, is all there is. Indeed, we believe that this life is but a fleeting momentary thing compared to the vastness of eternity yet to come; an eternity in which there will be no more pain, sadness, sorrow or death for these things will have all passed away. The Christian response should be ‘once you’ve died, you’re a long time living in the presence of God, praising his name, and glorying in his presence and in his blessings’.

Which is something I believe so few Christians ever really get their heads around. How long is this life – 70, 80, 90 years? And how long is eternity? 10,000; 100,000, 1,000,000 years? You see the difference? But if we truly believe that is the reality of the situation – then why do we so often live as if what happens here and now, in the midst of this fleeting, transitory world, is the most important thing about us?

And we do, don’t we? I know I do so much of the time – believe me, I’m preaching to myself here far more than I’m preaching to any of you. In which case, the question is: what would it look like for us to live less for earthly glory now and with more with an eye on the glories to come?

Let me leave you with that one to ponder.....



Rev Stan Tomalin <><
Associate Minister (St Mary's)

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)

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Associate Minister	Stan Tomalin	0161 491 6939	stan.tomalin@cheadle.org.uk
Associate (St Cuth's)	Ian Chidlow	07475 004360	minister@stcuthberts.org
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