



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

October 2024

Press Red presents Ruth

In October & November, we will be looking at the Book of Ruth at our evening services.

However, to give us a flavour of the book, at the evening service on October 27th, we are looking forward to welcome actor Matt Britton and singer-songwriter Emma Mould who are to give us a dramatised performance of the book. Many of you will know Matt from previous collaborations he has done with St.Mary's and his work with the 'In Yer Face' theatre company.

The book of Ruth is a live performance, blending acting and original songs - memorised from the NIV translation, word for word, this is an emotive retelling of the Old Testament classic. A 50-minute performance piece utilising the best of acting and music to reimagine scripture.

It is a performance done in collaboration with Press Red, a local charity that exists to educate, equip, and empower people on issues of violence and abuse against women and girls.

So the performance will end with a brief talk linked in with Press Red's 'Be like Boaz' campaign - looking to inspire men to engage with the issue of women's safety through looking at Boaz's behaviour.



Cheadle
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QUIZ NIGHT

Featuring the (mostly) famous quiz master, **Shell Edmonds!**

With half-time 'Pause for Thought' from guest speaker, **Rev. George Crowder**
Saturday, 26th October 2024 from 7pm - 10pm @ The Upper Room

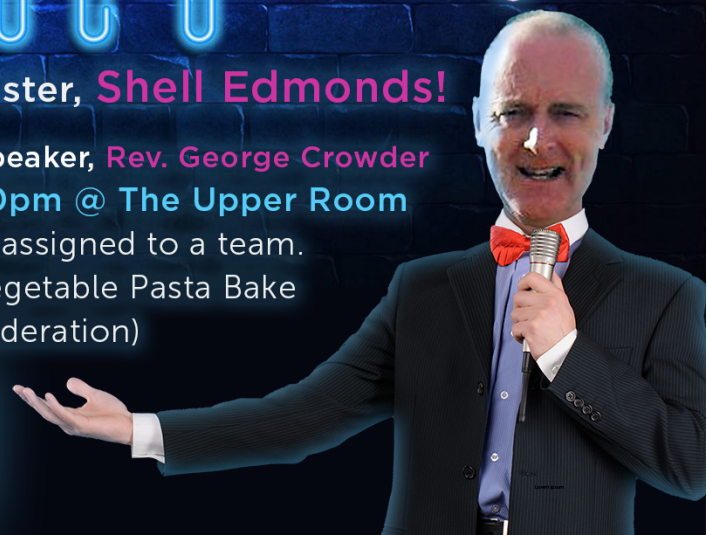
Form your own team of 6 or sign up solo to be assigned to a team.

Food by Chef Hector - Pasta Bolognese or Vegetable Pasta Bake

Bring your own drinks (alcohol permitted in moderation)

Sign up on Churchsuite, via the
QR code, or call **0161 428 8050**

Tickets cost £8.00 each



Harvest Service

Sunday 6th October 2024 | 10am

Come along to our all-age family service and join in the harvest celebration

Chelwood
Foodbank PLUS

As part of the service we will be collecting donations for Chelwood foodbank. Please bring along items to donate if you are able

Cheadle Victorian Christmas Market - 7th December

We're delighted to be re-launching our Christmas Market this year. We know this is something that is much loved in our local community, so we want to put it back in the calendar. There will be some slight differences to previous Christmas Markets, because we want to make it more manageable, but it will be a great event for all ages

We need your help to put this event on. Please consider how you might be able to volunteer your time and skills to make this day happen. It will be great fun serving our community together and showing and sharing God's love in a way that everyone appreciates.

Fill out the form [here](#) or contact the church office to let us know your availability and areas you might be able to help in. The more people that volunteer, the less each person has to do!



Filling the Gap - Children's Activity Time

Tues 22nd - Thurs 24th October - 11am to 2pm
Mornington Lounge

For more information contact the Church Office or Mark Tomlinson - mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk

NO BOOKING
REQUIRED

FILLING THE GAP CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY TIME

BIBLE
STORIES



CRAFTS

The Upper Room Cafe will be providing free meals to children every day throughout Stockport's School Holidays.

Storytime, Games & Craft activities
11am-2pm on Tuesday to Thursday
throughout October half term

GAMES



in conjunction with
**TRANSFORMING
LIVES TOGETHER**



Bring your children along to our Light Party!
A positive alternative to Halloween
With sweets, hotdogs, games and more...

Thursday 31st October
4.30-6.00pm, The Upper Room

Sign up via the QR code below
Tickets are £2.50 for ages 2 - 11
(under 2s are free)



What is the PCC?

I recently gave a brief introduction to new members of the PCC to explain what it is they have just joined, and I have been asked to share that with the wider church through In Touch, just in case you were wondering too. This is not exhaustive, but just a bit of an introduction.

Short Answer

The PCC is a registered charity and the members of the PCC are Trustees of that charity.

Slightly Longer Answer

The full name of the charity is “The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary, Cheadle” and its charity number is 1134783. St Mary’s and St Cuthbert’s and all their activities are part of the same charity. The PCC members as trustees are responsible for the running of that charity, ensuring it is properly run and fulfilling the purpose for which it was set up.

What is the purpose of the PCC?

A charity is a body set up to fulfil a **charitable purpose** for **public benefit**. The charitable purpose of the PCC is under the umbrella of “Advancement of Religion”. Every charity set up to advance religion has to define what it believes and for the PCC it is the Christian faith, as set down in particular in the Church of England doctrine. All PCCs are governed by the “PCC Measure 1956” which is like a constitution that sets out what a PCC is for and how it is run. The measure states that the purpose of a PCC is to act **“in cooperation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical”**.

The fact that it must pursue the whole mission of the Church for Public Benefit, by law, is a great positive. Public benefit means that we have a duty to outward looking, accessible and avoid putting up unnecessary barriers to access. So, ringing bells to declare that we are open for public worship is exactly fulfilling that requirement! A closed sect would struggle at this point.

What is the PCC Responsible For?

The PCC is primarily to work in cooperation with and alongside the minister (i.e. George) by ensuring that the work and mission of the church is resourced. This includes raising funds, setting and monitoring budgets, looking after our buildings and paying the parish share to the Diocese of Chester, who in turn pay the clergy. All other staff, including those of the café are employed directly by the PCC. In discharging these responsibilities, the PCC have to set policies and ensure that we are complying with the law. In addition, the PCC have a “consultative role” in terms of “the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church”.

How does it work?

The PCC is a Council and is set up to be representative of the Church. So, it includes Clergy. Wardens, the Deanery Synod members and elected members from both churches. It is currently 23 members (their names are on our website) so is most effective when proposals are presented that have already been discussed and considered in more depth by smaller sub-committees or support groups, of which we have a number, such as Children and Youth, Mission support, Finance and Communities. Non PCC members can be invited to join these groups. But, at the end of the day, responsibility for decision making remains with the PCC as a whole.

Some Jargon Busting:

- **F&S** – This is the Finance and Standing Committee, a sub-committee including the Rector, wardens, treasurer, secretary. Can meet to transact business between meetings, but is accountable to the PCC
- **SCC, SMC** - St Cuthbert’s Committee, St Mary’s Committee. Discuss matters that are only relevant to each church, but again are accountable and feed into the full PCC.
- **Restricted Fund** - This is where money is given for a particular purpose and the PCC need to ensure it is only applied for that purpose. Compare with Unrestricted Funds, which can be used at the trustees’ discretion for any purpose within the objects of the charity.
- **Designated Fund** - This is where unrestricted funds are set aside by the trustees for a particular purpose, or for use in the future. The trustees can “un designate” funds at their discretion
- **Ultra Vires** – “beyond the powers”. This would be if the trustees did something outside the powers or limits put on their actions by the constitution, which is contrary to charity law and so should not happen.

Hope that helps a little, but if you have any queries, do let me know,

Phil Wells



A Day in the Life of The Upper Room Café

8.45 and the coffee machine is on! And we pray.

Whilst setting up the café Becki and Beci, joint managers, are discussing who is on shift today and where they are best placed for their experience and needs. There has been a big shift in the volunteer population lately and although we have many faithful church members serving, there are many who have joined us in recent months from Growth Company, Pure Innovations and Sea Shell Trust. We have also had a number join us through the TESOL group. There is a real ministry opening up amongst these unchurched volunteers, many of whom are getting back on their feet or are struggling with being in employment. The Upper Room Café is a safe place where many feel like they belong.

9.00 Hector, our new chef, arrives and chats about an idea he has had for a new recipe to try as a special in coming weeks. He gets to work prepping the kitchen for the day. He is full of good ideas for parish lunches, supper clubs and social evenings. Chatting to kitchen volunteers and gently showing them how to do new things. Hector has been such an amazing asset and having been trained at The Message Mess Café, he is totally on board with the vision and purpose of the café. He also makes a mean burrito!

9.15 Some mums come after the school drop off. Pleased to have somewhere their pre-schoolers can play in our play area and be welcome whilst drinking a much-needed coffee! They are invited to Mustard Seed and the Meet and Greet session.

9.30 The café starts to fill with people wanting breakfast and meeting friends. A bible study is taking place in one corner and someone is working from 'home' on another table.

9.45 A regular homeless man comes in for a latte and to charge his phone. He uses the Pay-It-Forward scheme and feels welcome here.

10.00 Someone buys a Christian gift card to encourage someone unwell, along with their coffee. They think the verse on the front is just perfect for the circumstance.

10.15 A church volunteer comes in and starts baking. She has become confident in the kitchen, knowing her way around. She feels valued and able to contribute in this way. Her lemon drizzle cake is amazing! She has gotten to know many new people and regularly chats with other volunteers about faith. She even invites them along to 'Stories of Hope' in the café.

10.30 A group of special needs students comes into the café. We patiently serve them whilst their carers help them to order and pay as independently as possible for their drinks and snacks. We practice our sign language and try to help them feel welcome. One of the support staff thanks us for having them as not many cafes have so much room for as many wheelchairs or are as understanding about different diets and various allergies.

10.45 Sonya, our new café supervisor, arrives and takes over the coffee machine and is chatting to customers. One of our daily customers, a lonely older gentleman, wants to tell her all about something he read in the news. She listens and takes time to make sure he feels heard and cared for. He calls her 'an angel'. Sonya is studying Applied Evangelism at Emmanuel College Manchester. She has fitted into the team in an amazing way and has so many gifts sharing love and faith.

11.00 Two customers are sitting with a pot of tea for two doing a bible study.

11.15 George is meeting someone in the café for a chat. Ian and Aled, from Emmanuel Church, are deep in conversation over bacon butties. We find a number of other local ministers use the café to meet people and support their ministry too.

11.30 An exercise class from the sports hall comes down and starts ordering their lunches. One of the ladies asks about the Café Crafters notice on the board and wonders whether they would be able to come along.

11.45 A customer is writing a prayer to add to our prayer tree. God hears their prayer. It will go to the prayer group on Tuesday to pray over too.

12.00 A man with dementia and his daughter, regular customers, come in for their regular order on their regular table. The daughter says it's the only place her father feels safe to come. He doesn't go anywhere else but his home. They feel cared for in the café.

12.30 The lunch rush is on. We have such a range of customers. Honestly a cross section that wouldn't be seen many places! From people referred to us from Trinity Foodbank, to celebrities from the BBC, a local group of dentists, a charity hosting a weekly team meeting, families, people on their own, all walks of life. Everyone is fed delicious, made-from-fresh meals and top ups of tea and coffee are supplied.

1.00 Jon comes to fix a leaking tap!

1.15 An experienced volunteer is training two new volunteers on the coffee machine. Showing them how to make the perfect latte! The skills they are learning will hopefully not only benefit the café but also be useful to them to gain future employment.

1.30 A customer shares that she has had a lot going on personally lately and was just popping in for some late lunch before going to the opticians. She read a bible verse on the window 'Do not worry: but pray'. She has prayed to God for the first time over 40 years.



1.45 Maddy comes down from the office for a chat about the rota. She has brought some posters down to put up around the café about a church event coming up. All are welcome.

2.00 A group from a local walking group join us for tea and cake after their walk. They chat and laugh whilst sitting under the banner on the wall 'The Lord bless you and keep you'. We pray He does.

2.15 A volunteer comes in to share some sad news. We sit and listen, pray with her and get support from the clergy team upstairs. She has come here, a place of acceptance, love and care.

2.30 The café is starting to wind down. The mountain of dishes is slowly going down whilst our faithful older church volunteer chats to an anxious younger volunteer reassuring and encouraging her that she is doing a great job.

2.45 Amy is sitting with a young person doing a bible study over luxury hot chocolates.

3.00 And the flags come in and the doors are closed for another day. The team clean down the kitchen and café whilst chatting about what has happened during the day, the challenges faced and how good God has been.

Beci Boyd

GFA World

Renew Your Passion Conference



Those of you who attended one of the services at St Mary's on 29th September, will have been inspired by the message that Bishop Daniel Yohanan brought to us – asking us to consider how our lives impact for eternity. His message is very straight forward: to know Jesus and to make him known. It is a simple message to remember, but anything but easy to put into practice.

If, like me, you have been a Christian for a long time and been committed to evangelism and mission, there are always times when we become discouraged or distracted and our initial passion begins to cool. Hence the title of the GFA World conference – a call to renew our passion.



Bishop Daniel was the keynote speaker. He spoke about how the great commission in Matthew 28 is for everyone. Jesus says to each one of us "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations." He said four things:

- Because our life is short and finite, we should value it and have purpose
- We must make our decisions in the light of eternity
- Our number one passion should be to know Christ – everything else follows from this
- We must love one another as this is the greatest testimony to the world around us

In the afternoon, Bishop Rob Munro joined us to share with us the impact visiting Asia had on his life and Rev Brian Kirirk spoke to us about one of GFA World's core values which is to know Jesus more fully and intimately.

In the final session the director of missions shared stories from the field and we prayed together. Some of us returned in the evening for a longer time of prayer ministry, praying both for the work in Asia; the work also now beginning in Rwanda and for the support staff in nine countries in the more developed world providing finance and administrative support.

It was so encouraging to meet and talk to Christians from all over the UK and a team of GFA staff from different countries including USA, Germany and Asia. The GFA World UK office is based in Sharston and our churches have long standing connections with the staff. J P Dao is the CEO who works alongside his wife Angie. Dr Natasha Fraser, who many of you will remember from her days at St Mary's, retired from her GP practice two years ago and now works full time for GFA World developing the medical ministry – particularly the current project to construct and equip a hospital in Kigali, Rwanda together with a medical school to train doctors from all over Africa.

Please pray for:

- The indigenous missionaries who take Jesus into areas which are often dangerous and always unreached by the gospel; pray for safety and stamina
- The medical ministry, particularly the new hospital and training centre in Kigali
- For people to sponsor missionaries
- For more staff and volunteers for the UK office

Trish Wells

Meet and Greet

Meet and Greet takes place in the Upper Room at 10am on Thursday mornings. We meet together to support one another, to share skills, to pray together and to discuss and reflect on God's word. This time gives us the opportunity to reach out into the community, welcoming families and children coming into the café whilst also providing them with activities in the play area



A GOOD NEWS EVENT for Everyone!

Hosted by :
Cheshire North, Manchester, Stockport & Trafford

Featuring:



AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOVER HOW YOU MIGHT SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF
GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE.

An afternoon of worship and encouragement with an update
on the work of Good News for Everyone in our areas.

Saturday 19th October 2024, | Emmanuel Community Church,
1.45pm - 4.30pm | Houldsworth Mill, Reddish,
Stockport, SK5 6DA
Light Refreshments.

For those with mobility issues park at the front of the mill.
Large car park at rear of mill (step access only)

Questions? Contact us on word4u1@outlook.com

The Big Read

"St Cuthbert's Big Read" is a group open to any who has been meeting for many years. We meet in St Cuthbert's Church on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7-30pm. We discuss a book we have read the previous month which we obtain from Stockport library service. If you are interested in joining us and would like more information please ring Tricia Berry on 0161 4853250



Stockport Walkaday

Hayfield gentle walk: Tuesday 8th October 3.6 miles. Meet at Stockport bus station 12.35pm for 358 bus, or at Hayfield bus station at 1.25pm

Cheadle walk: Thursday 31st October 4 miles gentle. Meet Cheadle Library.

Further information online at
<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/ways-to-get-walking/walkaday>



Mental Health Day Service

Thursday 10th October is Mental Health Awareness Day. Mental Health struggles are very much on the rise, no doubt accelerated by the pandemic. 1 in 4 people struggle with their mental health, that's a lot of people!

Aled, the minister at Emmanuel Church sits on the Diocese mental health forum. This year, instead of one service for the whole diocese, each deanery is putting on their own church service on Mental Health awareness day, to shine the hope of Christ into the struggle of life. This quiet service will feature hymns, prayers, testimonies and a short talk from the Bible led by members of the deanery and the mental health forum.

This is open to everyone, and any churches in the local area are welcome to attend as well.

Mental Health Day Service

Emmanuel Church Cheadle Hulme, on behalf of the Deanery of Cheadle and the Chester Diocese Mental Health Forum

Thurs 10th October, 7:30pm



THE UPPER ROOM CAFE

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
1.30-3PM AND 7-8.30PM
TICKETS £20

Join us for a festive workshop at the Upper Room Cafe. All the materials will be provided and refreshments will be available to purchase on the day.

Sign up via the QR code below, spaces are limited



Dates for October

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

Saturday 5th - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11.30am in the Upper Room, Ashfield Room

Sunday 6th - Harvest Sunday

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

Wednesday 16th - The Big Read, 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's

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

Thursday 17th - St Cuthbert's Men's Drinks, 8pm

Saturday 19th - Men's Breakfast, 8am at the Upper Room Café

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

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

Saturday 26th - Parish Quiz Night, 7pm at the Upper Room, sign up on [ChurchSuite](#) by Monday 22nd

Thursday 31st - Light Party, 4.30pm in the Upper Room

Dates for November

Saturday 2nd - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11.30am in the Upper Room, Ashfield Room

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

Saturday 9th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Saturday 9th - Northern Women's Convention, at King's House Conference Centre

Sunday 10th - Remembrance day

Saturday 16th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 16th - Ceilidh, 7pm in the Upper Room, Moseley hall

Wednesday 20th - The Big Read, 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 21st - Men's breakfast, 6.45am in the Upper Room Café

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

Thursday 21st - St Cuthbert's Men's Drinks, 8pm

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

Thursday 28th - Christmas Wreath Making, 1.30pm and 7pm at the Upper Room Café

Saturday 30th - Parish Supper Club, 7pm at the Upper Room Café (more details to follow soon!)



Asia Link Event

On Thursday 10th October at 7.30pm, AsiaLink are holding a 25th anniversary celebration event at Beacon Church in Ashton-in-Makerfield. Partners from Asia will be coming to share first-hand how the Lord is growing His Kingdom and how we can support gospel progress. All are welcome!

To book your free place, talk to Caroline Abblitt or email info@asialink.org

You can find out more information at: www.asialink.org/events



Chelwood food bank



Chelwood foodbank are asking churches to pick specific items off their essential food items list to donate regularly. Our items are:

St Mary's: UHT Milk

St Cuthbert's: Rice pudding

The Upper Room Café: Tinned tomatoes

If you are able, please consider adding these items to your weekly shopping list and bringing them into our donation points at each church.



The Rest Project

I recently spoke at a men's breakfast on the topic of rest. In the creation story, God rested on the seventh day as a statement of purpose for all creation. God made us to rest with him forever, and he established the Sabbath to remind us of that.

It was immediately obvious that the idea of rest touched a nerve, early on a Thursday morning before a working day. Whilst it is every speaker's delight to see earnest conversations on the topic, there were no easy answers to the questions being discussed.

The world we live in never stops, and definitely never stops to remember God.

Rest is vital for our wellbeing, but it's also a command of God and an act of worship and faith. In establishing the Sabbath, God directed us to do something truly wonderful and that testifies to something even better yet to come. Why do we find it so hard to do? What drives us to think that we can't stop? It's not God.

Over the summer, I finally read John Mark Comer's book, *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*. I loved it and I want to be like that. But like many of the church family, I feel that there are forces beyond my control demanding constant attention and activity. Everyone else is in a hurry, even if I try not to be.

Personally, I have only reached the point of resolution and not solution. But I am deeply convicted about it, and I believe that this is a journey we need to go on together as a church family. I've chatted with some church family members already about it, but I think it's a big conversation we need to have going forward.

When we gather together as a church family it should be a haven of peace and contentment. There might be lots of noise and it might look like chaos, but anxiety should evaporate in the warmth of God's presence and the immovable assurance of eternal hope in the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

That prospect is enormously attractive isn't it? Praise God if it is your experience. For many, it might seem like a dream when we consider all the pressures and demands we carry around with us. Imagine how it would feel for people who encounter it for the first time. What a witness that would be. Amazingly, God in his grace is leading people through our doors and they do feel like that, and they want to know more of God.

I think that the more we know of God, the more we come close to him in prayer and depend on him in faith, the more we will experience rest in him together.

I pray that we do, because I think it will be so good.

Rev George Crowder

Rector



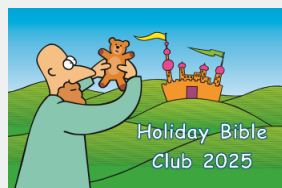
Save the Date!



Restored Lives Course 2025

Thursday 30th January – Thursday 6th April – 7 to 9.30pm; Upper Room Café

For more information contact the Church Office or Mark & Helen Tomlinson – restoredlives@cheadle.org.uk



Holiday Bible Club 2025

Monday 15th – Thursday 18th April 2025 [Setup: Sat 13th – Sun 14th April]

Upper Room Hall & Mornington Lounge

For more information contact Mark Tomlinson – mark.tomlinson@cheadle.org.uk

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 491 6939	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
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Upper Room Cafe		0161 912 5352	upperroomcafe@cheadle.org.uk