

# St Matthew's News

The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath



February 2015  
Issue 33



## Sunday Service Times

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February

10:30<sup>am</sup> Whole Parish Worship

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

11:15<sup>am</sup> All Age Signed Service

### All Other Sundays

9:30<sup>am</sup> Formal Service

11:15<sup>am</sup> Less Formal Service

(with children's groups)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ParishEdgeleyCheadleHeath](http://www.facebook.com/ParishEdgeleyCheadleHeath)

Twitter: [twitter.com/ParishEdgeleyCH](http://twitter.com/ParishEdgeleyCH)

Website: [www.edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk](http://www.edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk)

Telephone: 0161 480 5896

## All We Need Is Love

I started to think about this article just before the attacks in Paris. It is hard to see where God fits into such atrocities, especially as the perpetrators say they are acting on His behalf.

But don't be disheartened - God is there in the acts of kindness of the complete strangers, people of all faiths, who come forward to help at such times, even at the risk of their own safety. This is God's love in action.

It is hard to identify God's love at work at first, not just in such public atrocities, but in the troubles and problems that we meet in our everyday lives. We often ask, "Why did God let this happen?" and then fail to look for His hand in the events that follow on; we fail to see how God shows His love for us in the way He cleans up after us.

I can think of several people who, if some misfortune that had a profound effect on their lives had not happened, would like as not be working to raise funds for good causes - and I don't mean by buying a Lottery Ticket. St. Ann's Hospice, Christies, Macmillan Nurses, and Marie Curie, to name just a few, have all benefited as a result of some sad event in the lives of people I know. God continues to put us on the right path; a path that enables us to show others how much

He loves all His children, even those that don't know or accept Him.



But we mustn't shirk our roles and responsibilities in bringing His love to those we meet in our everyday lives, people we pass in the street, meet at the bus stop or in the checkout queue at the supermarket; those we work or socialise with and yes, those we don't like very much or find it hard to relate to.

St. Paul said there is faith, there is hope, but greater than these is love. We cannot heal the whole world with love but we can make a start here in Edgeley and Cheadle Heath.

With much love, Janet.

## Got Questions About Life?



You can still join us for Alpha, a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. It will be of interest to anyone who is curious about what it is to be a Christian. The talks are designed to encourage conversation in a friendly, informal environment.



## *I Wish I'd Tried...*

Have you ever wondered how to Zumba? Perhaps you loved netball or football at school? Is your goal this year to learn how to swim?

The good news is that Life Leisure, Stockport, have launched a new campaign called *I Wish I'd Tried*....

They have a programme of dozens of sports you can try for as little as £1 per session. It is open to anyone aged 25+ and sessions are held across the local area.

Posters and a time table are available in church or go online to: [www.lifeleisure.net/enterprise/I\\_Wish\\_I'd\\_Tried](http://www.lifeleisure.net/enterprise/I_Wish_I'd_Tried)

## ***Helping Children and Families Grow in Faith***

St. Matthew's will host a series of evenings for anyone involved in planning activities for children or families in a Christian setting.

- Grow expertise in making activities effective
- Develop teamwork and creativity in planning
- Try out new ideas and share your own
- Explore Biblical insights
- Browse and borrow resources

**Session 1** Opening up the Bible: exploring our place in God's story.

**Session 2** Connections: linking to life and responding to God.

**Session 3** Working together better: roles and teamwork.

**Session 4** Planning for ages: working with different age-groups of children and adults together and apart.

**Session leader:** David Bell, Diocesan Adviser for Ministry among Children.

The evenings are free, but you need to book. For more information contact: [sandra.james@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sandra.james@chester.anglican.org) or call 01928 718834 Ext 223

Each session stands alone so you can book into as many or as few as you like: Tuesdays 24<sup>th</sup> February, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 7:30pm (drinks from 7:15pm)

## **@Saturday Cafe**

Church isn't just for Sundays!

We are open every Saturday morning for tea and toast. It's a chance to meet with friends and to welcome our community.

We host regular police surgeries, where you can pop in and have a chat with your local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO).

Our new initiative, *Comfortable with Computers*, is proving a big hit with all of those who need a little help to get the most out of their laptop or tablet. It has been exciting to have people from our community coming in to ask if they can volunteer to help us run these sessions!

On the second Saturday of the month, we invite a different community group along so you can find out more about what is on offer in the area. Healthy Stockport and Life Leisure came along in January and our programme for this year already includes FLAG (For Local Advice And Guidance) as well as local magistrates.



Tell your friends and neighbours and pop in to find out more.

The New Year brought some of us a new way of looking at things. Sue Clare, Kay Kelley and Tetley the guide dog visited from Walthew House one Saturday in January to demonstrate **the difficulties of living blind in a seeing world.**



Sue, who became blind as an adult, brought *sim specs* for us to wear, to see the different types of blindness which can occur. The visually impaired see - or don't see - anything from white light to pinpricks. Only 4% of Britain's one million registered blind people are completely blind. Sue discussed the role of the guide dog. It is important to ask permission before fussing a working dog; they should not be distracted.

We took turns being blindfolded and guided, or guiding others. The key - as in so much of life - is communication. Don't assume you know best: ask. Talk, talk, talk and talk some more. Describe where you are going, what you are doing. Don't manhandle the person you are guiding - imagine your feelings if someone grabbed you and steered you in the direction *they* wanted to go.

The workshop was a huge success and we are grateful to Sue, Tetley and Kay for making us see briefly the world through their eyes. *Linda Cosgriff*

## ***Change, Change, Change...***

St. Matthew's Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade (CLCGB) are one of fourteen groups to have been successfully awarded funding to develop youth work within the United Kingdom. CLCGB have got a new team of development workers to work with existing and new groups to retain, restart and regenerate youth groups. We have an exciting programme including crafts, camps, music, bands, Duke of Edinburgh awards, life skills, and many more social activities.

If you are interested in joining the Brigade as a member and are aged 5 or above, or are interested in becoming a voluntary leader, please contact the North West Development Worker: Suzanne Rainford on: 07908401509 or: [suzannerainford@clcgb.org.uk](mailto:suzannerainford@clcgb.org.uk)

The team are aiming to double the membership by 2016. There will be a major redevelopment of the organisation centrally, which new development officers are bringing to your region and local company. There will be reinvention of the existing badge work, website layout and branding. We will be promoting existing strengths, such as camp sites, Duke of Edinburgh awards and National Band. We will be working closely with clergy, church, school, other youth groups and community. Funding is from the Social Action Fund, Youth United.

In local news, it is with great regret that June Dean and Pam Ogden are retiring from St Matthew's CLCGB.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their great service to St Matthew's CLCGB. They will be missed dearly by both members and fellow leaders.

This does mean that there are two openings for new leaders who can bring new skills and talents towards St Matthew's CLCGB. Suzanne, the North West Development worker, is working closely with David Wood, Commanding Officer of St Matthew's CLCGB and Rev. David Brewster to ensure not only the continuation of St. Matthew's CLCGB but also the expansion of both members and leaders.

If you are interested in finding out more please feel free to contact Suzanne Rainford or visit Church Lads and Church Girl's Brigade's website: <http://www.clcgb.org.uk/>

### ***Wanted!***

Jam jars wanted - clean jam jars with lids, preferably with labels removed.

Please leave in the kitchen area and they will be collected as soon as possible.



Dear Friends at St Matthews,

Greetings from Cheadle! I do hope you had a lovely Christmas and will have a peaceful and happy new year.

As you know, last August the vicar from All Hallows Church in Cheadle left. All Hallows is the church where my daughter Jenny and I became Christians and they were my 'sending' church when I went forward for ordination. When I heard that their second vicar had left within the space of a few years, my heart went out to them, and I felt I should offer to help. The Diocese gratefully accepted my offer and I started ministering there when I came back from my holidays in September.

Since then, we have had many ups and downs, not least the sudden and very sad death of our friend Fay. But there have been some great times too, including our Halloween alternative 'Frozen' party, themed to the wonderful Disney film. 'Let it Go!' we all sang at the tops of our voices and we heard the wonderful news of the Christian gospel and God's offer to set us free forever. A couple of families came to church after the event which was great. Some others returned who had left to go to different churches too and we've seen a modest growth in numbers attending church over the last few months.


In December, I heard that the Reverend Paul Cumming had been appointed as vicar and I assumed that I would soon be coming back to St Matthews but God has had different ideas! I soon realised as I prayed and thought things over, that God was asking me to stay at All Hallows and minister with Paul. David and Julie gave the plan their blessing and just this week I've heard that the Bishop will license me in March. I'm going to be at All Hallows until at least September when Paul and I will review things again.



Rev Sue Mayo

The hardest part of all this is not seeing you, all my dear friends at St Matthews, every week. I miss all your smiling faces, big hugs and encouraging words so much. I've been so very happy with you and it's been a wonderful privilege to be a member of your clergy team. But I'm not far away and maybe David will ask me to come and preach one of these days (hint, hint!).

I send you warmest Christian love and assure you all of my ongoing prayers for you. **Sue x**

 **Service** - come and share an evening of reflection and song Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 6-7<sup>pm</sup>. For more info, speak to Lucy

## What's on this Month

All events (except Home Groups)  
in church unless otherwise stated

*Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup>*

**10:30<sup>am</sup> Whole Parish Worship**  
*with Healing Prayer*  
**Lead: David ~ Preach: Lucy**

**2<sup>pm</sup> Alpha at St George's**

*Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**12:30<sup>pm</sup> Stockport Sling Meet/Library**  
**6:30<sup>pm</sup> Brigade**

*Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**7:45<sup>pm</sup> Home Group**

*Friday, 6<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir Practice**

*Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Prayer Breakfast**  
**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: the Davids ~ Preach: David**  
**11:15<sup>am</sup> Baptism**  
**Lead: Lucy ~ Preach: David**  
**2<sup>pm</sup> Alpha at St George's**

*Monday, 9<sup>th</sup>*

**6:30<sup>pm</sup> Brigade**

*Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**7:45<sup>pm</sup> Home Group**

*Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup>*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Mothers' Union**

*Friday, 13<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir Practice**

*Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: David ~ Preach: Heather**

**11:15<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: David ~ Preach: Heather**

**2<sup>pm</sup> Alpha at St George's**

**6<sup>pm</sup> Taizé Service**  
**200 Club – Subs Due**

*Monday, 16<sup>th</sup>*

**6:30<sup>pm</sup> Brigade**

*Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion with Ashing**  
**7:45<sup>pm</sup> Holy Communion with Ashing**

*Friday, 20<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir Practice**

*Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: David ~ Preach: Julie**

**11:15<sup>am</sup> All Age Signed Service**  
**Lead: Lucy ~ Preach: David**

**2<sup>pm</sup> Alpha Holy Spirit Day**  
*at St Matthew's*

*Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup>*

**1<sup>pm</sup> Twins and Multiples Group**  
**6:30<sup>pm</sup> Brigade**

*Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Lent Course**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**  
**7:15<sup>pm</sup> Skills & More 2**

*Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**11<sup>am</sup> Lent Course**  
**7:45<sup>pm</sup> Lent Course**

*Friday, 27<sup>th</sup>*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir Practice**

*Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup>*

**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**  
**1<sup>pm</sup> Refugee & Asylum Seekers' Support Group**

## Looking ahead to March

*Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup>*

**10:30<sup>am</sup> Whole Parish Worship**  
*and Healing Prayer*

**Lead: David ~ Preach: Ian Rumsey**

**2<sup>pm</sup> Alpha at St George's**

*Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup>*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> PCC at St. Matthew's Vicarage**

*Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup>*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Prayer Breakfast**

*Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup>*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Skills and More @ St. Matt's**  
*Children's Leaders Training*

### January Funerals

Norma Young, Kenny Edge, Beryl May,  
Annie Murch, Elaine Kendall,  
Rose Hedgecock

### January

**Reaffirmation of Marriage Vows**  
Paul and Ruth Trafford

All details correct at time of going to press

*Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.  
It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

**1 Corinthians 13: 6-7**