

St Matthew's News

The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath



June 2016
Issue 47

Sunday Service Times

Sunday 5th June

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship

All Other Sundays

9:30^{am} Formal Service

11:15^{am} Less Formal Service
(with children's groups)

Last Sunday of the month:

signed service at 11:15^{am}
and Taizé Service at 6^{pm}

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ParishEdgeleyCheadleHeath

Twitter: twitter.com/ParishEdgeleyCH

Website: www.edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk

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The consistent Holy Spirit

Sometimes I think we could miss that the Holy Spirit is part of our day to day life as Christians. Perhaps because we associate it with certain types of feeling or with special days such as Pentecost or special seasons of prayer. But if God is faithful and consistent, then so is his Spirit, working in our lives each day.

The Spirit makes Jesus real to us, bringing us to faith, and bringing a directness, a closeness into our relationship with God. Not to be flippant but I've done a long distance relationship without direct trains or mobile phones (when I was engaged to Jon) and it's hard going. I don't want my relationship with God to be like that. I want God to be close to me each day whatever I'm going through. The Holy Spirit makes that possible.

Someone once told me that the Spirit is not a feeling. God comes close by his Spirit to people of all personalities and temperaments, experiencing all sorts of life experiences and emotions. I find it helpful to reflect that there is no particular "right" way for a Christian to feel.

Sometimes we may experience the Spirit as the wind of God lifting us and making us feel like we are floating on air. Other times it may be the "puff of wind that enables us to keep toiling at the oars".

The breath of God, faithful and consistent, making every day a Holy Spirit day.



Heather

Get walking for Christian Aid

Following our Whole Parish Worship on Sunday 3rd July we will be holding a sponsored walk to Didsbury and back in aid of our Deanery Christian Aid Project. The project aims to *increase access to reproductive health information and services to vulnerable women in Southern Ethiopia*.

We have pledged to raise at least £5,000 between us in two years



(about £350 per church) the EU will then fund match at 5:1, which makes a total of £30,000. It will make a huge difference to people living in poverty.

The walk will be split into several different routes ranging from around 2-10 miles. With a picnic at Fletcher Moss for everyone. Please put the date in your diary and pick up Sponsor Forms from the back of Church.

have many exciting projects coming up this year and want to make sure that everyone is being kept informed, so we are asking all supporters and those interested in praying for the work of CiST to subscribe to our email updates.

Please go to our website www.cist.org.uk/subscribe to complete the process. If you run into any problems follow the subscription instructions or contact me directly at emma.hinds@cist.org.uk or by phone – 07510136094.

If you know someone who might still

need a paper copy of the newsletter because they don't have online access, just get in touch directly and we will try to accommodate.



We rely as always on your support and prayer as we increase our schools work throughout the Stockport Borough. You are a huge part of our continued work with the schools in Stockport, and we hope this year will be a fruitful one for all of us as we work to make Christ known in our schools and town. Many Blessings, Emma Hinds (Senior Leader)

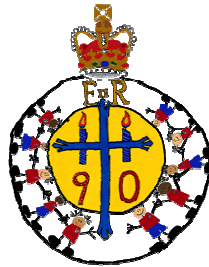
The Queen's 90th birthday

will take place in June and we want the whole community to come and celebrate with us! Our *Community Open Day* will be held on Saturday 11th June, 11^{am} - 3^{pm}, and will be an exciting way of bringing church, community groups and local people together. There will be around 30 different groups and activities on offer, including *Life Leisure*, a martial arts display, *Scouts*, face painting, charities and much more.

Previously known as the *Fun Day* and held in September, we have re-named this event to better reflect its aims.

We want to show everyone the special place that St Matthew's church has in the local area - a place where people can come together to find support and guidance, friendship, prayer and find out more about Jesus.

Please come along to help on the day, maybe running a stall or simply chatting to people - or just come along and have fun!



Rose Walker Community Centre

Annual
General
Meeting



will be held on Tuesday 28th June, 6:30^{pm}. All are welcome to attend.

You can also find out how the new *Aurora Industrial Park* and road are progressing by visiting the centre between 4^{pm} - 6^{pm}, when the developers will be on hand to answer questions.

Vision Statement

Each month we are asking a member of church to reflect on a part of our vision statement to tell us what it means to them. We have got several people lined up, but please feel free to pass your thoughts on to David for inclusion in a future magazine. For now, over to Steph...



Family, not Acquaintances

We have written a new vision statement, and the first sentence challenges us to be "family, not acquaintances".

What does this mean?

We each have a different understanding of family, and sometimes don't seem to have very much in common. Yet, through our shared faith in the love and sacrifice of Jesus, we choose to spend time together.

And it's through togetherness that we experience the best and worst of humanity, the heroic and the mundane. Learning that each and every one is broken and struggling,

yet God still chooses to place His spirit within us.

So we come to know what it is to belong and be accepted. By God and by each other.

This can be a difficult journey. Part of responding to the call of Jesus in my life is recognising that belonging and acceptance bring both freedom to love, and commitment to serve. And remembering to live this day by day.

Thanks to Pam and Mike for helping me with these ideas. *Steph*



News

Smarties Challenge 2016

Through Lent the Church family tried to fill as many Smarties tubes as they could with 20p's. We managed to collect an amazing £800 which was presented to the *Alzheimer's Society* at an event we held in Church where we were all encouraged to be Dementia Friends.



In the week before *Pentecost*, as part of the Archbishops' of *Canterbury and York* call to every church in England to join a week of prayer for the evangelisation of the nation, St. Matthew's held an hour of prayer each evening in church.



We prayed for our neighbours and friends to find Jesus. We prayed for ourselves and every Christian to receive new confidence and joy in sharing our life-transforming faith.

Adding up all the people that came together there was forty seven hours of prayer over the week.

Prayer Bookmarks including spaces to pray for five members of family or friends are still available from David.

Gracious God,
we thank you that you have
brought us to know and recognise you
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
We thank you for those who
shared the Gospel of Jesus with us.
We ask that in turn we may
pass the Good News on to others.
Give us confidence to speak of you,
sensitivity to walk
with others on their journey, and love
to inspire us to reach out to others.
Most of all, give us
a passion to see your Kingdom come,
that we might take risky steps
to be your witnesses to your world.
Through your Son, our Saviour,
Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Don't stop now, keep praying.

Time for God Volunteer

Sára Bozsoky will be joining us from Romania in September.

For many years St. Cuthbert's have shared their volunteers with us, but we thought it was time that we had one of our own. So together with *Stockport Baptist Church* we applied to *Time for God* and we were matched up with *Sára*.

She'll be staying with the Brewsters,

and sharing her time between the two churches.

She'll introduce herself in the magazine later in the year, but for now please pray for her as she prepares for this momentous move and that she will have a good year of service and growth.



The Archdeacon's Visitation

The Archdeacon's Visitation was held this year at St. George's Church, Heaviley.

This is the annual service when our churchwardens are admitted into office. And both Churchwardens and Welcomers (sometimes called Sidespeople) promise to faithfully and diligently perform their duties.

There was quite a crowd, with 10 of us from St. Matthew's to support Mary and Graham.

Ian Bishop spoke of how, when faced with challenges, we gain strength and clarity from being a faithful disciple; listening for the Spirit of God, who will give perspective when all around appears disorientating.

Hymns included "Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven" and "Shine Jesus Shine". And a collection was taken for *The Boaz Trust*: a Christian charity working with refugees and asylum seekers in the North West.

The service included a prayer asking God our Father "may your Holy Spirit guide our minds and order our wills, so that all our concerns and endeavours may be directed to the strengthening of your work and the furtherance of the Church's mission in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord". Amen



Community Development

As you know, we have secured funding to pay for a full time Community Development post for 3 years. Pam Robinson is actively working on our behalf across the community and forging some strong links, some of which you may have seen in church on a Saturday morning, with computers and crafters, others may not be as visible.

Pam's role is in four parts:

First, networking. Pam has built up a wide range of partnerships between St. Matthew's and groups such as our local Councillors, Stockport Homes, police, charities, community groups and our local schools.

Second, supporting. In developing these links, Pam has supported smaller groups to successfully apply for funding bids as well as develop new websites and social media sites.

Third, managing: Pam helps to manage the Socially Yours group, as

well as pulling together large scale public events such as the Community Open Day and our fairs.

Fourth, shaping values and influencing: it is really important that our Christian values are taken out into the community and Pam, on behalf of St. Matthew's, is a Trustee for two local charities - *Olive ROC Centre/Cafe* and the *Rose Walker Community Centre*. Pam is about to go onto the committee for the *York Street Community Centre* and regularly attends the *Northgate Road Resident's Association*.

Pam's role is funded through to summer 2017 but it is our intention that further funding is secured to continue this role, which is recognised as a vital part of the local community.



Our *Deanery Fund Raising Day* will be held at St. Thomas', Norbury on Thursday 9th June, 2-4^{pm}. Colour scheme Red, White and Blue. Have you any articles to sell in these colours?

Strawberry Tea tickets are £2.50 from Audrey.

May Baptisms

Harriet Watkins, George Beal,
Jude Blackburn, Hattie Unwin,
Rosie Clews, Summer Wickens

May Funerals

Trevor Shannon, John Morgan.

What's on in June

All events (except Home Groups) in church unless otherwise stated. Please check with group leaders for up-to-date information.

Weekly

Monday

6:30^{pm} **Brigade** (30th & 6th)

Tuesday

8:30^{am} **Home Group** (31st & 7th)

1:30^{pm} **Socially Yours**

Wednesday

10^{am} **Holy Communion**

7:45^{pm} **Home Group** (1st & 8th)

Friday

9:30^{am} **Toddle Time** (3rd & 10th)

7^{pm} **Choir Practice**

Saturday

10^{am} **Saturday Café**

Other Services and Events

Saturday 4th

8:30^{am} **Prayer Breakfast**

Sunday 5th

10:30^{am} **Whole Parish Worship**

Lead & Preach: Julie

Thursday 9th

2-4^{pm} **Mothers' Union**

Fund Raising Day

At St. Thomas', Norbury.

7:30^{pm} **Mothers' Union**

with Ann Thomson a Midwife in Africa

Saturday 11th

11^{am} - 3^{pm} **Community Open Day**

Please speak to group/event leaders for more information; or check the website and Facebook page.

Sunday, 12th

9:30^{am} **Holy Communion**

Lead: David & Lucy ~ Preach: David

11:15^{am} **Holy Communion**

Lead: David Brown ~ Preach: David

200 Club – Subs Due

Friday, 17th - Sunday 19th

Learning the Healing Ministry

Training with Bishop Graham Dow

For information see the website

Sunday, 19th

9:30^{am} **Holy Communion**

Lead: David ~ Preach: Bishop Graham

11:15^{am} **Morning Worship**

Lead: David ~ Preach: Bishop Graham

Tuesday, 21st

7:30^{pm} **PCC at St. Matt's Vicarage**

Sunday, 26th

9:30^{am} **Holy Communion**

Lead: David ~ Preach: David Brown

11:15^{am} **All Age Signed Service**

Lead: Heather ~ Preach: David

6^{pm} **Taizé Service**

Wednesday, 29th

8^{pm} **Cursillo 4th Day Gathering**

@ 10 Park Road, Gatley

Looking Ahead

Saturday, 4th July

8:30^{am} **Prayer Breakfast**

Sunday, 5th July

10:30^{am} **Whole Parish Worship with Holy Communion and Healing Prayer Followed by Sponsored Walk.**

Tuesday, 5th July

7:30^{pm} **Ministry Team Meeting**

at St. Matthew's Vicarage

Wednesday, 25th July

8^{pm}

Cursillo 4th Day Gathering

@ St. Matthew's Vicarage