

CHALICE

December 2018 & January 2019 50 pence



STALYBRIDGE UNITARIAN CHURCH

And

SUNDAY SCHOOL

(A Free Christian Congregation)

Forester Drive, Stalybridge



**Stalybridge Unitarian Church is a
Free Christian Congregation.**

**A member of The East Cheshire Union of Unitarian
and Free Christian Churches.**

**A member of The General Assembly of Unitarian
and Free Christian Churches.**

**A member of The North Cheshire Unitarian Sunday
School Union.**

A member of The Unitarian Christian Association.

THE CHALICE

STALYBRIDGE UNITARIAN CHURCH

**This issue of Chalice is sponsored by
Mrs Eileen Thompson IMO Daughter Tricia
and
Mrs N. Caton IMO Mr & Mrs Harold
Bullock Snr.**

WARDEN'S NOTES



Once again, we find ourselves looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. Jesus is an important part of Unitarianism and Free Christianity and this congregation has always looked to the message of Jesus as a wonderful example of how we should conduct our lives. “The Sermon on the Mount” is probably the most important and most inspiring part of the New Testament. It truly is a wonderful message for people of all faiths and none.

I feel we must thank all those people who have found the time and inspiration to conduct services for us during the past year. We have been fortunate to enjoy a variety of services conducted in so many different ways. Hopefully we are now at the stage where we can appoint a “Lay Person in Charge”. All the details of this will be explained at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 2nd December. Please make every effort to attend.

Stalybridge Unitarian Church is still moving forward, importantly we are doing this without diluting our core principles of Unitarianism and Free Christianity. We should all, young and old, be very proud of ourselves.

Sue and myself would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Ken Howard

JUVENILE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

Anybody under the age of 16 can become a juvenile member of church. The certificates to recognise this will be presented during the Family Carol Service on Sunday 23rd December. If you wish your children to be a member of church, please see Clare Bullock.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY 2nd DECEMBER AT 12.15PM

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE CHURCH COMMITTEE AS PER ITEM 8.0 (EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS) OF THE CONSTITUTION OF STALYBRIDGE UNITARIAN CHURCH.

THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED AN APPLICATION FROM MR LEN ELIAS TO BE APPOINTED AS “LAY PERSON IN CHARGE” OF STALYBRIDGE UNITARIAN CHURCH.

THE COMMITTEE HAS DISCUSSED THIS APPLICATION AND UNANIMOUSLY AGREES THAT MR ELIAS WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT APPOINTMENT.

THE COMMITTEE NOW SEEKS THE APPROVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION TO GO AHEAD WITH THIS APPOINTMENT. (AS PER ITEMS 8.0 AND 10.0 OF THE CONSTITUTION).

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE GIVEN AT THE EGM.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This will be held in church on Saturday 8th December starting at 3 pm. Come along to play games, eat and have a fun time. We hope Father Christmas will be able to visit us to distribute presents.

UYPG Members – Free. Visiting children £5. Adults £6. Please put your names on the notice on the board.

CHRISTMAS TREE

Once again, our thanks to Martin Arnold for providing our wonderful Christmas tree. We are very grateful

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This will be held at The Waggon and Horses, Mottram Road, Stalybridge on Wednesday 12th December at 12.30pm. All the information is on the notice board. Please put your name on the list if you want to attend. You will need to pay a £5 deposit to Margaret Hallsworth, who also has details of the menu.

KITCHEN UPGRADE

As a result of a legacy from Anne Holden we can arrange an upgrade of our kitchen. Anne stipulated in her will that a certain amount of money should be spent on this improvement to our facilities. The committee has accepted a design and quotation from Blackwood Kitchens. Work will start on 7th January 2019.

FAMILY CAROL SERVICE

This will be held on Sunday 23rd December at 4pm. It will consist of readings and carols and be conducted by Len Elias.

During the service the UYPG members will be presented with their Juvenile Membership Certificates.

This is a very special service and I urge as many people as possible to attend.

THANKS

Thanks to Julie Brown for donating a laptop computer to church for the use of our Sunday School children. The children have sent Julie a “thankyou” card.

TAMESIDE FOOD BANK

AS you know we have a container for Food Bank donations in the church entrance hall. At this time of year could we please ask members of the congregation to donate suitable items which will be particularly useful over the Christmas period.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Due to moving to Saddleworth and work travel timings, Nicola Tann has regrettably had to stand down from her duties as a committee member. We would like to thank Nicola for her work.

Margaret Barber has kindly agreed to be co-opted on to the committee until the AGM in May 2019.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The arrangements for Advent, Christmas and New Year services are as follows:

2rd December 11am First Sunday in Advent

Jennifer Price

9th December 11am Second Sunday in Advent

Margaret Barber

16th December 11am Third Sunday in Advent

Ken Howard

23rd December 4pm Family Christmas Carol Service and presentation of Juvenile Membership Certificates

Len Elias

Christmas Day Service 11am

Jennifer Price

30th December 11am

Ken Howard

FUND RAISING AND SOCIAL GROUP

It feels like we are really well into the festive season now with many plans for celebrations in December being made.

Thanks to all who attended the 'Learn a Craft Evening' both to show people how to do things and to learn to do things. It was a good night and we intend to hold another similar night early next year, hopefully to inspire us to enter more in the Arts and Crafts next year. After Andrew's very meaningful Remembrance Day service, we stayed on for a hot beef sandwich and custard tart which also seemed to be enjoyed by all and probably worth doing again in the not too distant future. Look out for notices on the board.

Our most important forthcoming event will be the Christmas Fair starting at 11am on 24th November. Please do come along to this hopefully big fund-raising event bringing your friends and neighbours with you. I am sure there will be something for everybody whether it be a homemade gift or cake or just the chance of winning a raffle or tombola prize or even chancing your luck on one of the children's games. If you are unable to attend, a small donation would be very acceptable.

Following this, we have our Christmas party on Saturday 8th December starting at 3pm. This is not only for children, but for adults as well at a cost of £6 each. Any visiting children would be very welcome and the cost for them would be £5. We do need to know how many people are coming, so please make sure your name (and ages for children) are put on the notice on the board. We hope to have our usual special visitor to meet all the good boys and girls.

Following this, there will be a Christmas lunch at the Wagon and Horses in Stalybridge on Wednesday 12th December which Margaret Hallsworth is again kindly organising. You should have paid Margaret by now and made your menu choices. If not, please do so as soon as possible.

We will not be holding a fund-raising meeting in December, but will be back on 14th January 2019 at 7.15pm at church to which anybody is welcome to attend. We always need new ideas for fund raising, so please come along if you feel you could help.

May you all have a joyous and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to more social and money making events in 2019.

Sue Howard



**Rev Andrew Parker Leading The Remembrance
Day Service**

FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

DECEMBER

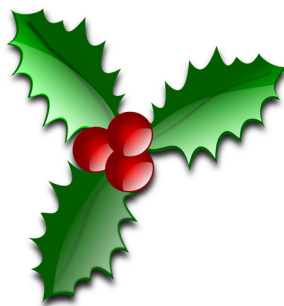
2 nd	Brenda & Sheila	IMO Anne Holden
9 th	Jennifer & Ian Price	IMO Frank Price & Ashley White
16 th	Janet Pearson	IMO Her Mother Mary Dagnah
23 th	Margaret Hallsworth	IMO Olwyn Murphy & Past Women League Members & Friends
30 th	Jean Thomas	IMO Her Husband Mr Glyn David Thomas

JANUARY

6 th	Mrs Margaret Bennett	IMO Past YPL Members & Friends
13 th	Mrs Nora Caton	IMO Mr & Mrs Elson Caton
20 th	Mr & Mrs Stuart Hinchcliffe	
27 th	Men's Guild	IMO Past Members & Friends

STEWARDS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

2 nd	December	Jennifer Price
9 th	December	Wendy Maher
16 th	December	Ken Howard
23 th	December	Bill Atkin
30 th	December	Jennifer Price
6 th	January	Wendy Maher
13 th	January	Ken Howard
20 th	January	Bill Atkin
27 th	January	Jennifer Price
3 rd	February	Wendy Maher



MUSIC DURING THE SERVICE

2 nd	December	Pastorale	B. Roe
9 th	December	Adoro Te Devote	J. Nixon
16 th	December	Choral Prelude	J. Pachelbel
23 th	December	Christmas Pastorale	J. Lemmens
30 th	December	Noel	N.L. Beque
6 th	January	Morning Song	N. Warren
13 th	January	Elegy	J. Jordan
20 th	January	Across The Bridge	A. Moore
27 th	January	A Quiet Piece	A. Gant