

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 MAGAZINE**

JULY/AUGUST 2011

**THIS ISSUE OF
CHALICE IS
SPONSORED
in loving memory of
Eda & Frank Kilroy**

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends

I am writing this just a couple of days after our Summer Fair which was, once again, a most enjoyable and successful event. It is always good to welcome friends old and new to church on such occasions and as well as having a very enjoyable time we also manage to raise a good amount of money for church funds. Thanks are due to everyone who contributed in any way to make the day a success.

The weather was not as good as we might have hoped but it was certainly better than some days we have had recently. At least the heavy rain seems to have stopped now but there is still no sign of the nice summer weather we have been promised! When we do get a nice day it is a real pleasure to spend some time outside whether in the garden, going for a walk in the countryside or even just an amble around the shops in a town.

The changing seasons bring us an infinite variety of sights, sounds and smells. Each time of year has its own beauty but late spring and summer is the favourite of many people. Here is a prayer for summer which sums up much of what most of us feel when we approach this time of year.

Let us thank the God of Summer.
For this time of blossoming,
For this time of delight and refreshment,
For this time of relaxation and re-creation,
For the display of colour in our gardens and fields,
For wild flowers and garden flowers,
For strawberries and gooseberries,
For fresh lettuce and onions,
For the magic of bird song,
For the long hazy days,
For the smell of new mown hay,
For time with family and friends,
For the stirrings of the Spirit in our hearts,
For the development of our own lives,

For our joys and our delights,
For the moments when we are aligned with the stirrings of the earth,
For the fragrance of the flowers in our hedgerows and in our hearts,
For the blossom that hangs from our trees,
For the blossom that awakens in our hearts,
For all the possibility that is Summer.
Amen.

Every blessing.

Andrew.

FORTH WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 27th July at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for a time of quiet prayer and reflection.

FUNERAL

1st June. Joyce Clayton. Service in church followed by committal at Dukinfield Crematorium, the Minister officiating. Contributions to the service were made by Joyce's sons-in-law Anthony and Ian who gave the readings and reminiscences of Joyce were given by Wendy Maher and Peter Matthews. The closing words of the service were given by Joyce's grandchildren Leah, Adam, Evie and Keira. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Derek and all Joyce's loved ones.

Music during the service

July

3rd Invocation	A Guilment
10th Meditation	J Patten
17th Rejoice Greatly	J Marsh
24th Morning Light	A Moore
31st To a wild rose	E MacDowell

August

7th Ricercare per organo	Floriano Arresti
14th 2 Short pieces Dialogue & Trio	J Boyvin
21st Fugue (Magnificate Primi Toni)	J Pachelbel
28th Hymnus "Jam Lucis Orto sydere"	C H Trevor

FUND RAISING

First of all, many thanks to everybody who helped make the Summer Fair a success. Despite the weather being not so good, we had a good turn-up and managed to make in excess of £840. It is appreciated that many people do a lot of work before the actual day and they must be especially thanked – we seem to have an excellent group of workers – so thanks everybody.

Our next Whist Drive will be held on Friday 1st July. It is held at church and we start at 7.30 pm, so please come along even if you don't know how to play as you can soon be taught. Refreshments are served and a raffle held and a charge of £2 is made to cover these costs. Prizes are awarded for ladies, men and booby! We would very much like to see a few new faces as our numbers seem to be dwindling.

As mentioned last month, we hope to hold another Craft Evening on the 14th October at church. If anyone knows anyone 'crafty' and you think they might like to share their skills with others, please get in touch so we can invite them on the night. Please look on the board for further details in due course. Refreshments will be served and a charge of £5 made.

We also have Glenys Marshall who will be coming on Friday 11th November to give us a talk on the Oberammergau Festival. Please look out for a notice about it later in the year so you can put your name up if you wish to attend. Further details will be given then, but just put the date in your diaries, as I am sure it will be very interesting.

We also hope to have a lady come and give us a talk on Collecting Family History sometime in September, so look out for further details.

As people go away in the summer, we won't have a lot going on over the summer holidays. We hope to arrange a drive out in July or August and perhaps a Summer Afternoon Tea but no details have yet been decided. Please look out for notices on the board for further details.

Our next fund raising meeting will be held on Monday 11th July at 7.15 pm before our main committee meeting. Please come along if you feel you have anything to offer, either physical help or just some fund raising ideas if you have any!. You would be very welcome.

See you next month.

Sue Howard



DEAR CONGREGATION...

Would anybody consider joining the Choir? You can always come up and see me after the morning service. I promise I don't bite

Thank you

Barry (Organist & Choirmaster)

149TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AND UYPG PRIZE GIVING

The 149th Anniversary Service will take place at 11.00am on Sunday 10th July.

The service will be conducted by the Minister.

During the service the members of the Unitarian Young People's Group will receive their attendance prizes. Please come along to support our young people.

Happy 90th Birthday



We would like to congratulate Margaret (Peggy) Whitehead who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on 23rd August.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

In July we will meet on Wednesday the 6th at 3pm when the hostess will be Mrs Julie Mather.. There will be no meeting in August.

WARDEN'S NOTES

Many thanks to all of you who took part in the Procession of Christian Witness on Whit Sunday. The weather was terrible but it was good to see so many people take part and it certainly makes me proud to walk behind our banner through Stalybridge knowing that we have a strong fellowship.

It was kind of Rev Tom Parker to invite us into Holy Trinity to conduct the joint service out of the rain but it was ironic (to say the least) that Andrew gave the address in Holy Trinity Church after our recent problems with their previous vicar.

I am very concerned about the future of this event as it appears that not all churches are in favour of it continuing in its present form. I will keep you informed of any developments.

Thanks are also due to anyone who helped in any way to make the Summer Fayre a success. The £840 raised is a great achievement in itself, but just as important is the opportunity to get together, meet old friends and hopefully make new ones in a social environment.

The social side of our fellowship becomes a bit quieter during the summer months when people are on holiday etc., but I know there are quite a few things planned for the autumn so please keep an eye on the notice board.

For anyone who is going on holiday we hope you have a good time and are blessed with good weather.

Please try to attend the Anniversary Service on 10th July.

Ken

Calendar July 2011

Friday	1 st	7.30pm	Whist Drive
Sunday	3 rd	11.00am	Morning Service and UYPG (Conducted by Ken Howard)
Monday	4 th	7.15pm	Women's Institute
Wed	6 th	3.00pm	Ladies Congregational Society Monthly Tea
Sunday	10 th	11.00am	149 th Anniversary Service and UYPG Prize Giving
Monday	11 th	7.15pm	Fund Raising Meeting
Monday	11 th	8.00pm	Church Committee Meeting
Saturday	16 th	2.30pm	Unitarian Christian Association 20 th Anniversary Service and buffet tea at Oldham Unitarian Chapel
Sunday	17 th	11.00am	Morning Service and UYPG
Sunday	24 th	11.00am	Morning service and UYPG
Wed	27 th	7.00pm	Fourth Wednesday Prayer Group
Sunday	31 st	11.00am	Morning Service and UYPG

COFFEE MORNINGS

Our usual monthly coffee mornings are cancelled for July and August due to several people being on holiday. All being well, we will be back in September.

Calendar August 2011

- Monday 1st 7.15pm Women's Institute
- Wed 3rd 3.00pm Ladies Congregational Society Monthly Tea
- Sunday 7th 11.00am Morning service and UYPG
(Andrew on holiday –preacher TBA)
- Sunday 14th 11.00am Morning service and UYPG
(Andrew on holiday –preacher TBA)
- Sunday 21st 11.00am Morning Service and UYPG
- Wed 24th 7.00pm Fourth Wednesday Prayer Group
- Saturday 27th 2.00pm Bring and Buy and Cream Tea afternoon
at the home of Derek Clayton
- Sunday 28th 11.00am Morning Service and UYPG



BRING & BUY AND AFTERNOON TEA

Derek Clayton is holding a bring and buy at his home on Saturday 27th August at 2pm. This is a fabulous opportunity to see Derek's lovely garden, enjoy the sunshine (hopefully) and afternoon tea. The date is extra special as it marks Joyce's 70th birthday, who sadly passed away last month.