



The Churches of  
**STANTON-BY-DALE with  
DALE ABBEY & RISLEY**

Saint Michael & All Angels, Stanton-by-Dale | All Saints, Dale Abbey | All Saints, Risley



[www.sdrchurches.org.uk](http://www.sdrchurches.org.uk)

**26th January 2025**

## Welcome to our service today, especially if you are a visitor

- Crèche facilities are available throughout the Benefice. Please ask one of the church wardens or welcomers where these can be found. Please also feel no embarrassment if your little ones make noise—we are a church family of all ages!
- There is no collection taken during the service but you are welcome to give towards the work of the church on the plate at the back or through the bank (bank details are on the back of this news sheet). If you do wish to give and are a tax payer please think about completing a Gift Aid declaration which are in the pew or next to the offertory plate at the back.
- If you know of anyone sick or in any sort of need, please pass the details on to one of the church wardens or clergy.
- Refreshments are served after our services. Please do join us for a chat; we are also happy to pray with you after any service.
- JAM Club (Jesus and Me) for children aged 3 to 11, takes place during our services (not All-Age Services) at Stanton and Risley. Details will be given during the service.

### Special prayer or collect - The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

For latest updates, please regularly visit our website: [www.sdrchurches.org.uk](http://www.sdrchurches.org.uk) or find us on: [facebook.com/SDRChurches](https://facebook.com/SDRChurches) or YouTube [youtube.com/@SDRChurches](https://youtube.com/@SDRChurches)

#### This week: 26th January

9.00am Communion, Dale  
10.45am Morning Worship with JAM Club, Stanton (livestreamed)  
4.00pm Risley@4 Communion with JAM Club  
Passage: 1 Corinthians 3  
Talk: The Cross and Christian Ministry 3:  
The Cross and Division

#### Next week: 2nd February

9.00am Traditional Communion, Risley  
10.45am All Age Morning Worship, Stanton (livestreamed)  
4.00pm Risley@4 All Age  
Passage: 1 Corinthians 4  
Talk: The Cross and Christian Ministry 4:  
The Cross and Leadership  
*No service at Dale*

## Gardening and the church— how do they go together?!

This week we're continuing to look at 1 Corinthians and how the cross of Christ should shape our Christian ministry in the year ahead. To help us with this, Paul uses a gardening analogy. Have you ever grown anything? Even just cress? We can plant the seed, and water, but we can't actually *make* things grow! In 1 Corinthians 3 Paul says this: <sup>5</sup> *What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants...* <sup>6</sup> *I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.* <sup>7</sup> *So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.* As the Corinthian church wrestled with whether to stick with the message of the gospel, Paul was teaching them that all Christian ministers are just servants of Jesus Christ—and it's only Jesus who can bring growth. The point for us is this—we mustn't give up on the message of the cross, even if we don't see much growth. Making things grow is not our job! Instead, we are to be faithful in preaching Christ and Him crucified. This is the power and wisdom of God, and in His timing, God will bring the growth! So, as a Benefice, we'll stick to preaching Christ! Come along this Sunday and find out more! *Phil*



### 8. Sagas—Finding faith after fifty

At the back of church you will find copies of the book, 'Sagas –Finding faith after fifty' by D J Carswell. 'Sagas' is a collection of real life stories of mature people who have come to faith in their later years (50 and over!). They all have different stories to tell but they have all discovered something that has transformed the rest of their lives. Do please pick up a copy for yourself (especially if you are 50 or over) and take some inspiration from other peoples stories! If you are able to contribute either £1 or £2 for the copy that you take, then we would be very grateful if you would leave your donation in the collection plate. But, please don't worry if you don't have anything with you to make a donation; we would rather you had a book than not.

### 9. Compassion update for Risley

Jahangir who lives in Bangladesh and who we have been sponsoring since 2014 has now graduated from the Compassion Sponsorship Programme. We are pleased to know from Compassion that Jahangir plans to continue studying in formal education, and that through our support Jahangir has been able to receive regular health-checks, nutritious food, access to education and life-skills training. Through the care of the local church, Jahangir has also had the opportunity to hear the gospel and participate in prayer and Bible study, and he has attended a programme where loving and serving others is valued. At our PCC in January we discussed sponsoring another child and we have selected **Jonathan who lives in Uganda.**

Jonathan is 10 years old whose parents are farmers. Jonathan loves dancing, reading, running, singing and toy cars. At school he is in the UK equivalent of Year 2.

On Saturdays he attends the Compassion project where he receives a nutritious breakfast and lunch, receives teaching on healthcare, including how to brush his teeth and tips on preventing malaria as well as time to play games and sing songs together.

Please pray for Jonathan and his family, that the help and support he receives from Compassion gives him a brighter future by helping to break the cycle of poverty, provides him with valuable life skills and he has the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith through the local church.

Thanks for praying, and do ask me for more details about how to write letters to Jonathan. Thanks Rachel.

# This week's news

## 1. Church Office

The office is open Mon to Fri 9.30am to 1.30pm. To contact the office, call 0115 9440609 or email: [elaine.warren@sdrchurches.org.uk](mailto:elaine.warren@sdrchurches.org.uk)

## 2. SDR Churches Livestream - Stanton services

Our YouTube page can be accessed by clicking on the YouTube logo on our website or visit [www.youtube.com/@sdrchurches](http://www.youtube.com/@sdrchurches) – click the 'Live' tab for livestreamed services. Remember, you won't see the livestream until we start streaming (at 10.45am).

## 3. DISCOVER

The DISCOVER course continues tomorrow (27th January) 7.00pm to 8.00pm in the church office.

## 4. Tea & Company

Tea and Company will meet again on Tuesday 4th February, 2.40pm to 4.00pm at the Old School, Stanton. Everyone is welcome.

## 5. Jackson Goodrich and Nick Jackson's Ghana Trip—A Message from Jackson with thanks

On the 7th of April, Nick and I will be flying to Accra and travelling onwards to The King's Village in Tamale. The King's Village is a vibrant community where incredible work is being carried out to improve education, healthcare, and livelihoods. If you'd like to learn more about their efforts, please visit their website: <https://tkvg.org.uk>

We will be in Ghana for 10 days, engaging in various charitable and mission-related activities to support the village and church in Tamale. Some of the work we hope to undertake includes:

- Visiting the 6th Form Centre to deliver talks and interact with students.
- Meeting with the local entrepreneur community to explore their ongoing projects and ventures.
- Connecting with the Tamale Rotary Club to learn about their initiatives and determine how we can contribute.
- Visiting nearby villages to share the *Jesus Film*, helping communities explore Christianity and the Gospel.

Assessing non-operational water pumps in the area, where I hope to use my engineering knowledge to propose solutions or assist with repairs (resources permitting).

These are only rough plans currently as needs will change up until the time we are there so we will remain flexible to support the village's needs and take on any other tasks required during our stay.

To make this trip possible, I am aiming to raise £1,000 to cover flights, accommodation, visas, vaccinations, and the resources needed for the work we'll carry out. Your support would mean the world to me, and I'd be incredibly grateful for any contribution toward this goal.

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity as we prepare for this meaningful journey!

You can visit my JustGiving page by scanning the QR code below or using this link:

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jacksontoghana?utm\\_term=BPBk6myVN](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jacksontoghana?utm_term=BPBk6myVN)

The PCCs have been keen to support Jackson in this project, and have given £250 towards Jackson's total, for which Jackson is very grateful.



## 6. Mo Tolson—Funeral Service

Mo's funeral service will take place on Thursday 6th February, 2.30pm at Risley Church, followed by a committal service at Bramcote Crematorium at 4.00pm.

## 7. All Together Prayer Meeting

Our next All Together Prayer meeting is on Wednesday 12th February, 7.45pm at the Old School, Stanton. Everyone is welcome.

## Dates for your diary in the coming weeks:

**Tuesday 4th February—2.30pm to 4.00pm Tea & Company, Old School, Stanton**

**Thursday 6th February—2.30pm Mo Tolson’s funeral service at Risley Church**

**Wednesday 12th January—7.45pm All Together Prayer meeting, Old School, Stanton**

**Sunday 16th February— 10.30am Benefice Communion Service, Risley**

**Friday 21st February—3.30pm to 5.00pm Tea & company, the Gateway, Dale Abbey**

**Monday 10th March—7.15pm Joint PCC Meeting, Old School, Stanton**

**HOME GROUPS are an important part of our ministry. They run in various places around the Benefice—please speak to Phil to find out more, we would love for you to be included.**

Do you need someone to chat to, or pray with? If so, get in touch, we’d love to help! Email: [elaine.warren@sdrchurches.org.uk](mailto:elaine.warren@sdrchurches.org.uk)

**See and Know (Toddlers)** - Tues mornings during term time, starting at 9.30am, The Old School, Stanton.

**Heroes (7-11s)** (6-7pm) and **Impact (11-16s)** (7-8:15pm) on Thursdays, both at The Old School, Stanton.

**Ignite (14-18s)** - (6.30pm-8.00pm) Sunday evenings. Speak to Phil, Nick, Ali or Holly for further details.

**Bank Details- Giving:** Thank you to all who continue to support the gospel work and ministry of the Benefice financially, your support is *much appreciated*. If you would like to consider giving your donation direct to a church bank account, or passing on a cheque to either Phil, James or the church office, the account details are below:

**Risley:** Bank: NatWest; Sort code: 60 13 23; Account number: 96350199; Account name: PCC All Saints Risley (please make cheques payable to the account name)

**Stanton:** Bank: NatWest; Sort code: 60 11 37; Account number: 96512067; Account name: Stanton by Dale PCC (please make cheques payable to the account name)

**Dale:** Bank: NatWest; Sort code: 60 11 37; Account number: 96529903; Account name: Dale Abbey Church (please make cheques payable to the account name)

## Mission Partner Prayers– Open Doors

Praise the Lord that 102 MP's attended the parliamentary launch of the World watch list 2025, which means that many MP's have heard how crucial it is to respond to escalating religious persecution.

Thank you that about half of MP's who attended were newly elected last year.

Number one on the list again is North Korea, the most dangerous country in the world to be a Christian. We pray for many women who, when escaping across the North Korean border fall into the hands of people smugglers. The reality for many of these women is that they are sold into marriages to someone whose language they don't understand, separated from loved ones in a foreign country'

We give thanks that some of these women find their way to Open Doors safe houses where they are fed and cared for and introduced to Jesus.

Pray for individual women who meet up with those women and lead them to the safe houses. A very risky task because they never know if they are being watched.

**Street Prayers** Pray for businesses and residents on Pepper lane, Ladywood Road and Bridge Cottages.

**The Sick** Jane Geary, Ian Hill, Ian Howarth, Audrey Sims and Marion Barnstall.

**Bereaved** Families and friends of: Frederick Perry, Barry Cross, Philip Brown, Jean Chamberlain , Mo Tolson and Rita Yates.

## Contact Information:

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Safeguarding: Contact 07398 609343 Jess Davidson-Egan; Childline: 0800 11 11; Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01332 388678