

Meet the Candidates

Gary - I began coming to church when Gaz, who organises the activities at Abberdale House, started to take some of the wheelchair users over on Thursday mornings. I thought, "I'd like to go, too." I enjoyed it the first time and I kept on going every week, even if the others couldn't make it. I found everyone to be welcoming and friendly, it's a nice place to be! Now, I come early every week and make myself a cup of coffee before the service and chat with Mary and Dave and the others. Each week I bring my list of people to pray for whilst the communion table is being prepared, and recently I started to read the Bible too. At Home, I pray to God and I know he is with me all the time, even though I can't see him.

Ghazal - My journey of faith began from a place of deep loneliness, anger and hopelessness. Before knowing Christ, I felt lost and empty, as if my life had no direction. But Christ found me, rescued me, and gave me a new chance at life. Leaving my home country was painful, yet along the way I felt His presence guiding and protecting me. After arriving in the UK, the kindness, acceptance and support of the church community brought me peace and renewed hope. I could see the love of Christ reflected in each of them. Now, with confirmation, I want to continue this new path with love, trust, and a faithful heart.

Khashayar - My journey of faith has been full of deep struggles. There were times when I drifted away from God—times when I was overwhelmed with anger, pain, and hopelessness. But in the darkest moment, Christ found me. He reached into my brokenness and reminded me that God still sees me, loves me, and has never let go of my hand. When I placed my trust in Christ, the weight of that anger and despair began to lift. And coming here—finding this warm, welcoming church community—has strengthened my faith in ways I never imagined. Your kindness, prayers, and acceptance have helped me feel truly held, healed, and at home again.

Cas – I was blessed to be raised by a Christian and very loving mother who passed away earlier this year. She instilled in me my Christian values and would have been so proud to be here physically today. She always found strength in God to carry on, no matter what she faced in life. I try to live my life by her beautiful example. I'm happy and blessed to be baptised today and to be joining this wonderful church community.