

Lincoln 17/02

Winter 2025/2026

Circuit News



Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good-
will toward men



Bailgate



Wragby



Bardney



Woodhall Spa



Bardney Daines



Welton &
Dunholme



Burton Road



Washingborough



Central



Swallowbeck



Cherry Willingham



Stones Place



Coningsby



St Giles



Horncastle



St Columba



May the **miracle of Christ's birth** bring hope and
peace to your life this Christmas and throughout the
coming year

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Monks Road



Mowland Park



Navenby



Nettleham



North Hykeham



Reepham



Scothern



Skellingthorpe

'Journey of a Lifetime' at 3 Generate 2025, 3rd-5th October

Our journey began as we left Bailgate at 5.00pm on Friday afternoon. 12 excited young people, 5 equally excited leaders. Our destination, for the third year running, was the Methodist Church gathering for Children and Young People, held at the NEC in Birmingham.

We braved the stormy weather conditions and arrived just after 7.00pm. After checking in, we were led to our camping area – proper beds (well, camp beds!) for the leaders, air mattresses for the young people. Next, was a delicious hot meal prepared for us by the NEC catering team.

At 9.00pm we went to the Orb stage for the Opening worship. This was the focus of the 30 minutes, 'Let's get everyone together to celebrate the journey of a lifetime and see where God is going to take us.' Wow – it was a great start with lively worship and an introduction to the theme for the whole weekend. Some of our group stayed on for the 'Silent Disco,' which basically means wearing earphones to listen together and dance together! DJ Jozzy led a lively, quiet, disco!

After a few hours of sleep, we were up early for breakfast. The leaders were particularly glad when 'The Well' opened. This is a haven for the leaders, where they can get fresh coffee and lots of cakes and treats! It's also a great place to meet up with friends and colleagues from across the Methodist church who are also there for the weekend.

The young people in the meantime, were free to explore the vast array of activities on offer. Rock climbing, caving, gym equipment, crafts, animal encounters and a surfboard simulator, which provided lots of challenge and laughs!

At 11am we gathered at the Orb stage for worship. We were introduced to an amazing band called 'Saintz,' who had written the theme song for the weekend, called '[Journey](#).' (Do check it out on line – the lyrics are amazing.) This is how the song is described:

"A brand-new song, Journey, created in partnership with the band Saintz, is now available to stream and share. Written for 3Generate – the children's and youth assembly of the Methodist Church – this powerful track speaks to all ages, encouraging us to keep going on our journey of discipleship, no matter what storms we face. With its uplifting message and fresh sound, Journey invites us to trust God's presence on the road ahead and to walk together in faith."



Saintz are a rising pop-dance band from Manchester, known for their infectious energy, feel-good anthems, and powerful live performances. Saintz are passionate about sharing a message of hope and purpose both on and off stage. Their heart is to promote good mental health, spread positivity, and support the next generation in becoming the best version of themselves.

Next was lunch, before an afternoon to engage in all the activities again. Some of us went to hear the 'Moses Brothers,' who led the worship last year – they are inspiring. Once again, the highlight for many of us was the Late-Night Communion at 10.30pm, led by Cliff College. Then it was off to bed!

Sunday morning was a bit frantic – some children were hard to wake up! We needed to deflate all the mattresses then roll them up small enough to be posted through a hole to the storage box. We managed to pack up and move out of the camping area by 9am, before another morning of activities. The weekend closed with a picnic lunch worship time, before we made our way home.

This year 1700 children and young people were at 3 Generate. "One long-term impact of 3Generate is on our young people who get encouraged by so many other young disciples, it shows them that they're not alone and hopefully they will stick with Church and grow in their faith, follow in their journey of a lifetime, take that next step and grow into amazing adults."

Next year, 3 Generate, runs from the 2nd to the 4th October 2026. We hope to take a group from the Circuit again. Please try to encourage any young people, aged 8-17 to come along. Big thanks again to the Circuit and District for supporting us.

News from our Churches



Bailgate Methodist Church

Bailgate continues to be a busy church with our flourishing weekly activities, various bookings and the uniformed organisations. The final organ recital of the year is a Christmas Music Extravaganza on Thursday 4th December at 12.00 midday.

At the end of September, we celebrated our Harvest Festival with Rev. Juliet and the uniformed organisations, learning how to make delicious stone soup.

We are now looking forward to celebrating Advent and Christmas. On the 22nd November at 3 – 5pm, we are holding “A sprinkle of Christmas.” An afternoon of tea and cakes, a sale of crafts and a chance to make a fresh Christmas wreath.



We will soon be decorating the church for Christmas, the first event being the Christingle service on Sunday 30th November. This year the ladies have been knitting little light bulbs which we hope to string up around the church and the Well (the front entrance). If there are enough, we may put some outside in the garden. The redesigned community garden has looked splendid and been well appreciated during the summer months and is now preparing for its winter rest.



An all-age worship Carol Service is to be held on Sunday 21st December in the morning with

Rev Juliet. In the afternoon it will be the Farmers’ Carol Service led by Rev Canon Alan Robson at 3.00pm.

On Christmas day we will be celebrating the birth of Christ with Rev Canon Angie Long at 10.30am. You are welcome to join us.

We hope you have a peaceful Christmas.



Burton Road Methodist Church

It has been a busy year here at Burton Road, we are finding our feet with our new kitchen and hall, all the offices are rented and it’s all go every day

The church congregation is settled at around 27/30 each week and this includes new families which has brought in children, so we have good young people’s work on a Sunday morning mainly led by Mary Brown and a helper.

The pop-up café keeps going with regular visitors and new ones that pop in for a coffee and cake, the stalls keep coming and enjoy a time of chattering and coffee.

This year the church building has been used for rehearsals for CAODS (county amateur operatic and dramatic society) production of Annie which has just finished at the New Theatre Royal in Lincoln, if you managed to go see it what a brilliant show it was, I was part of the costume team sourcing over 400 pieces of costume and singing in the choir to support the cast under the stage!! What a year it has been for me learning about costume for the theatre and the songs that we sang. It is true the sun will come out tomorrow 😊

Harvest was good with Rev Juliet and we provided a lot of non-perishable food for the food bank

We look forward now to our Advent season where we look at the birth of our Lord Jesus and how he came to earth as a baby only to die on a cross to save us, we shall be decorating the church with our trees and decorations.

Our Christingle and carol service is on December 7th at 3pm and all are welcome to that.



From all at Burton Road, we hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Central Methodist Church

As I write this, we are preparing for our Christmas event "Trees and Talents" on 6th December from 10am. We will finish at 4pm with Carols and The Romanian Children's choir will sing for us.



We joined with our friends for St Peter at Gowts and the Salvation Army on Remembrance Sunday.

We continue to welcome guests to our food bank every Thursday morning, providing essential support for those in need. In addition, our coffee drop-in sessions take place each Monday morning, offering a warm and friendly space for members of the local community and beyond to come together and share conversation.

We are grateful to have received funding from The Darren Munnely Memorial Fund, which has enabled us to purchase tea, coffee, soup, and other refreshments for the Monday coffee drop-in. This generous support will help sustain our sessions throughout most of the winter, and we extend our heartfelt thanks for this contribution.

We have held another Beetle drive. This is great fun and includes tea and cake.

We are prayerfully considering ways in which we can engage with the community and look forward to the New Year and what it will bring.



LINK TO HOPE - SHOEBOX APPEAL - CHRISTMAS 2025

Once again Central has operated as an Area Receiver for Link to Hope. We have collected in 270 shoeboxes, several boxes of varying sizes of knitted goods and three black sacks containing a wide variety of items.

These will be collected from us on Tuesday 11th November, to start their long journey to Ukraine, Romania, Moldova and Romania.

Big thank you to everyone who purchased, packed and wrapped.



Cherry Willingham Methodist Church

Shorter days and longer nights are features of the time of the year we are in, and along with that we are actively looking forward to Christmas and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Reflecting on recent Church events, and in addition to our Sunday Worship, our combined Harvest Festival scheduled to be held open air on the Cherry Fields in mid September. However, the weather came into play and resulted in it being held in the Village Library due to inclement weather on the day. Our combined Halloween event was again held on 31st October on the grass area adjacent to the Parade in the centre of the village, offering fun and games for children and young people. Plus, hand-out take home bags for each youngster containing relevant crafts and reading. Approximately 250 of these were handed out in 2 hours or thereabouts. Having a Christian based event as we do on Halloween does not agree with everyone, however I believe the words of St Paul are very relevant; we should aim to be 'in the world, but not of the world.'



Looking Forward as we do to forthcoming Christmas events for the Christmas period: -

Our annual **Christmas Carol** service at the Le Grand Luce Court is on Sunday 21st December commencing at 10.30am.

The final **Prospects Service** for 2025 is the Christmas special on Sunday 21st December at Washingborough Methodist Church commencing at 3.00pm. The Prospects service is aimed at adults with learning difficulty.

No Church Service on Sunday 28th December 2025.

PG

Horncastle Methodist Church



Christmas plans

🎵 Friday **December 5th** - 6.30pm - Carols on the lawn with the **Salvation Army band** 🎵

(Band in the foyer if inclement weather)

Tea and mince pies - donations to be shared between QS chapel and the band's nominated local charity

See our Winter Wonderland display

(Event included in Winter Wonderland publicity and Horncastle Matters)

December 21st - **4pm** - Carol service - Rev Ian Kemp
Christmas Day - **10am** - Mrs Kate O'Flynn

A year of celebration

(and other aspects of church life)

Until further notice, please address all enquiries to
marion@mmhome.me.uk

EVENTS NEWS

Unfortunately we had to cancel the late summer concert, on September the 6th, as Poppy was taken ill. We wished her well and may invite her on another occasion.

The recent **'Through The Decades'** event marked the last event of the year of celebration.



The displays included the chapel's history from 1965 to now - from when the previous chapel building was condemned as unsafe; the groundworks were undertaken for the new building; the stone laying of the new chapel and opening ceremony. Other displays illustrated how all the daily activities and items we now take for granted had changed, evolved, developed through the 6 decades.



As well as the chapel memorabilia the displays included - Music, Fashion, Transport, Communications, Food and Cooking. Current activities were included and a piece about the future. We served bowls of hot stew with bread. Thankyou to all who supported the event in any way.

We've enjoyed arranging and putting on events to celebrate this milestone and now look ahead to our future.

The **Coffee Morning** on November 22nd (10am to 12noon) is themed as **"Winter Passtimes"**, eg jigsaw puzzles, books, knitting wool/accessories, and more.

2026 will see us putting on more events, including a **quiz**, more **Bikers' Breakfasts** and **themed coffee mornings**. Look for our publicity here and elsewhere.

~~~\$~~~\$~~~\$~~~

### QS Walking Buddies

Local fortnightly walks followed by refreshments where "non-walkers" join us

You are welcome to join in - email Marion [marion@mmhome.me.uk](mailto:marion@mmhome.me.uk)

Recent walks include:- Alford/Well Mill Rundle; Tennyson Country, Bag Enderby; Ruckland, Heart of The Wolds

~~~\$~~~\$~~~\$~~~

☕ Coffee, 🍰 Cake & 🗣️ Chat 🗣️ At Queen Street

Tuesdays 10 to 11.30am for a donation of £1.50

Come along, feel the welcome

As well as a choice of cakes and drinks, there's lots to do
friends, quizzes, board games, crafts

~~~\$~~~\$~~~\$~~~

**Please look out for news of all of our event dates in future issues of CIRCUIT NEWS.**



## Reepham Methodist Church

This autumn has seen two joint events with the Parish Church; the Harvest Festival in September and a Christian Aid lunch in October. By the time you read this our thoughts will have turned to the village Carol Service at the Parish Church on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

We continue to share worship with Cherry Willingham, the Parish Church and Washingborough as part of our planned services, hopefully reducing the number of Own Arrangement services.

Other activities continue as normal with our monthly fellowship and Fun Friday. We also look forward to our Christmas party on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Sadly, we have lost two members of our Church family. Alec Carrotte died in September. For a number of years he ran Poets' Pantry, a group for people to share their love of poetry. He and his wife Barbara had not been able to worship much with us in recent years because of health issues. Joy Elvidge had been a member at Reepham since her marriage over 75 years ago and celebrated her 100th birthday with her family just a few weeks before she died in October. She had been active well into her 90s, baking cakes for church events and making jams and chutneys for the Farm Shop (Fenland Nursery) on Fiskerton Road. Both will be sadly missed. Several other members have had health issues recently – a knee replacement, a hip replacement, two cataract operations and another waiting for an operation. On a more positive note, Margaret Harrison celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in November.

In spite of all this our small congregation is in good heart and we look forward to 2026 in faith and hope.



## Skellingthorpe Methodist Church

Lots of things have happened at Skellingthorpe since the last edition of Circuit News!



The broken railings and supports have now been repaired and the contractors have made a very good job of the repair, everything looks as good as new and is

in full working order again, though we were nervous of closing the gate again for a while. However, it made us think about how easily such a simple memory lapse could have had much more serious consequences. (See the article in the Autumn edition of Circuit News)

The local Parish Council have been preparing plans for civic emergencies and seeking public buildings which could be used in the event of diverse potential disasters. We have agreed that the chapel, as well as other public village buildings, can be used if an appropriate need arises. As the chapel sits on a very busy and hazardous junction we can quite see the potential for further problems in the future.

On the property front, the turnout for the clean-up day on August Bank Holiday Monday was very encouraging and the chapel and environs were a hive of activity. Plans are in hand for the installation of a post box (we don't have one at the moment), and the replacement or refurbishment of the outside noticeboard which is showing signs of age.

The new church officers are settling into their posts, which has meant changes from the way things have been done in the past. This is no bad thing, a steep learning curve for some but new opportunities also. So, it is with the new expanded Circuit as the lack of ministers and local preachers available to fill appointments has made us view worship more creatively.

Craft 4 Charity invited Emma, a speaker from Baby's Basket, to the October meeting. As a result, there was a good turnout and she was delighted to depart with several bags full of handmade items to be passed on by the charity to needy families. The November coffee morning was also in aid of the charity and raised £112.50. Our next speaker, on 20 January 2026, will be Cllr Chris Goldson, Chair of North Kesteven District Council, who will tell us about his chosen charity for his year of office, Hollies Animal Re-homing Trust (H.A.R.T. for short).

As the festive season approaches the Card Craft Group has been making Christmas cards but this year Coffee and Carol by Candlelight is taking a break and there are no plans for any 'crafty' festivals. Whilst both have been very popular in the past, they take a lot of organising so a rest will enable the organisers to re-coup their energy and concentrate on the reason for the season. The coffee morning on 6<sup>th</sup> December is in aid of the Christmas Sacks appeal and hopefully will have a festive atmosphere. The annual Carol Service is at 3.00pm on 21 December. As there is no preacher planned, this is an opportunity to 'think creatively', so is a work in progress!

God bless you all throughout the festive season and into 2026.

Pat Robinson



## Monks Road Methodist Church



Our Harvest Festival at the beginning of October was celebrated with a display of fruit and flowers to remind us of Harvest celebrations in years gone by. The main focus, however, was our donations to the Community Larder. Members were generous and we were able to send a good amount to help those struggling to make ends meet. The harvest donation was the tenth contribution from our church this year. We pray that we can continue to help and that the recipients may be able to find ways forwards feeding their families more comfortably.

Our weekly Craft morning meets each Monday between 10.30am and noon followed by a light lunch where everyone is welcome. Our monthly First Tuesday meeting has started again after Summer. On the first Tuesday of the month, we welcome a variety of different speakers and again everyone is welcome. At the time of writing we are preparing for our Christmas Fair which will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> November, one of our biggest fund raisers which helps keep our church going and brings in many friends from round about.

The next event where we will welcome friends from the circuit and around is our Folk Carol service. This different carol service has taken place for several years now and has become a tradition. Please join us to celebrate our Saviour's birth on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> December at 3pm. We send our love and prayers to all our friends around the circuit for a happy and blessed Christmas.

## Navenby Methodist Church



2026 will be a big year for Navenby as the church will be 100 years old.

We send birthday greetings to 2 ladies in our congregation who have their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays this year - Mary Oxby on September 4<sup>th</sup> and Pat Hibbs on December 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mary celebrated her birthday with a fish and chips meal.



## St Columba's Local Ecumenical Partnership

Rev Cecil White led a meaningful Remembrance Service on 9<sup>th</sup> November before retiring and moving to Norfolk. On 30<sup>th</sup> November, we attended his final service at Trinity URC, with St Columba's closed for the occasion. We wish Rev White a happy retirement.

Our Tuesday Café, 2pm-4pm, continues to be very popular providing tea or coffee (free refills) and homemade cakes, while ensuring a safe and warm place to meet friends – both old and new – have a chat and 'put the world to rights'. There're also jigsaw puzzles to solve and books to read/borrow. Please drop by sometime and give us a try, we'd be delighted to see you.

**Upcoming events** (please contact Allan and Nicole Bond [a.c.bond@btinternet.com](mailto:a.c.bond@btinternet.com) for further information):

- |                           |         |                                                                                                |
|---------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 06 <sup>th</sup> December | 2pm-4pm | Working Party to make <b>snowflake decorations</b> .<br><i>Please bring your own scissors!</i> |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December | 9am-4pm | Christmas Tree Festival                                                                        |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | 3pm     | Carol Service followed by tea                                                                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> January  | 12:30pm | Community Lunch                                                                                |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> February | 6pm     | Valentine Day Quiz (with food)                                                                 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> March    | 12:30pm | Community Lunch                                                                                |
- Please join us for any/all of the above, we would love to welcome you here.

## St Giles Methodist Church



Preparations are in place for our Christmas Fayre on November 29 with all the usual stalls etc.

At our recent Church Council Zoe Clarke was elected as a steward and will be a valuable addition to our Leadership team.

Rev Juliet Wriglesworth and several of our congregation attended 3generate in October at the NEC in Birmingham – more in a separate article.

Continental Landscapes have supplied three planters for our Community Garden which have now been filled with a mixture of soil and compost. They have also pruned nearby trees to allow in more sunlight – all free of charge.

Our coffee mornings on Wednesdays and Fridays, part of the Warm Rooms initiative, are proving popular with free bacon butties and toast provided. Community Larder is open at the same time. Jayne from the City Council offers advice as well as representatives from CAB and CAP so the church can get very busy.

Free-4-All is proving to be very popular in their new Monday and Tuesday mornings slots. They have changed their name to “Quids In” Thrift Shop.

Boys Brigade and Scouts, whose numbers are increasing, meet on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

The Indian Orthodox Church continue to be regular users of our church having their main worship once a month on a Saturday and Bible Study on a Sunday evening.

The church is also becoming a popular venue for birthday parties etc with several bookings in the coming weeks.



## Swallowbeck Methodist Church

We were sad to say ‘au revoir’ rather than goodbye to Rev Alan Robson at the end of August as we will no doubt see him around the Circuit but were pleased to welcome Rev Margaret Doughty as our Minister from September, and look forward to the work she will be doing with us. We held our OA Harvest Festival followed by a bring and share lunch in September. Nutwood Nursery once again visited during the following week and added to our Harvest donations which went to the Lincoln Food Bank. We look forward to welcoming the children and staff again in December when they will be making a pre-Christmas visit.

Ian Silk, a former vicar of St Georges, Swallowbeck, has just published 2 booklets entitled “Mission teams: what difference do they make?” and “Encouragement”, explaining its meaning and significance in the New Testament. This title is dedicated to the memory of Ian’s first wife Karin, who he describes as his greatest encourager. He records how mission teams come in all shapes and sizes and may even become communities of discipleship, but being open to surprises, working, serving, learning, and praying together is common to all mission teamwork. Ian has generously donated some copies of both titles to give to anyone with an active interest in missions.

Contact Alan Perkins Email: [alanraep@btinternet.com](mailto:alanraep@btinternet.com)

Jackie

## Washingborough Methodist Church



Our Harvest Festival in October was a wonderfully joyful occasion led by Julie Close-Mitchell and Bardney Pantry were very appreciative of our food donations.

One Tuesday afternoon in late September Rev Richard led the first of our midweek communions which will become bi-monthly from December.

Rev Juliet led a very meaningful Remembrance Service in November which was greatly appreciated.

As we move into Advent and the Christmas season we will have:

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Dec – Our annual Blokes Who sing Christmas Charity concert starting at 10.45 with refreshments from 10am.

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Dec – In the afternoon, Carol Singing at Heighington Christmas Market

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – 10.30am-Worship for All and Gift service led by Rev Sandy & Ralph Osgerby. Monetary Donations to the “Fund for Human Need”

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – 10.30am-Carol Service co-ordinated by Lesley Shapcott

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Dec -10am – A short Christmas morning celebration led by Rev Sandy & Ralph Osgerby. The congregation is asked to bring either a present they have not yet opened or one they are very pleased with.

A Prayer Day is planned for Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 9am-9pm and anyone is invited to pop into chapel for any length of time to pray. There will be Prayer Stations to help.

Keith Swann

## Welton and Dunholme Methodist Church



It was all change on the leadership team in September. Elaine Johnson stood down as senior steward after many years of devoted service to our church. She still remains as worship leader, and we are thankful for her continued commitment. Denise Doyle and Jill Robson have taken over her role as joint senior stewards, supported by Val Gravett. We also welcome 2 new stewards, Jeanne Goulbourne and Liz Riman and we wish them well in their new roles. We also welcomed 11 new members to our church.

Rev Richard led our Harvest Festival service on October 5th. People gathered on the Saturday morning to decorate the chapel. It really did look beautiful! All the tinned and packet goods along with the proceeds of the auction of fresh produce (ably led by Peter McCree) were donated to the Food Bank in Welton. A delicious Harvest lunch for 60 people was prepared by Linda McCree and enjoyed by all.

We were thrilled to be able to congratulate Vera and Jim Berwick on their diamond wedding anniversary at the end of September.

Looking ahead, Rev Juliet will lead our Toy service on November 16th. Linda will co-ordinate all the gifts which will be given to needy children for Christmas in the local area. This is always a lovely service, and we are always amazed by the generosity of the folk in Welton and Dunholme.

Christmas is coming and our Christmas Praise service, Christmas jumper coffee morning, Carol Service and of course, the Christmas service morning are always a highlight.

Best wishes to everyone from us here at Welton and Dunholme Methodist Church.

Jill Robson.

### WRAGBY METHODIST CHURCH

#### The Community Harvest Celebration

A large audience enjoyed an excellent concert given by Banovallum Brass Band which incorporated the Harvest theme and hymns. There was a time of reflection, a poem, bible reading and prayer. All expenses were covered leaving a surplus of £54 which was donated to Christian Aid.



### WRAGBY METHODIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 13 December 10 – 12 noon

Festive Refreshments

Tombola

Decorated for Christmas

Come along and Meet your friends

## Own Arrangement Services

The Own Arrangement services prepared by Margaret Roe are now accessible from the Circuit website, along with information about other helpful resources. Click on the 3 lines in the top right corner and under Circuit you will find a link to Own Arrangement Resources.

A number of people from across the Circuit attended a couple of sessions at Nettleham Methodist Church looking at resources for leading Own Arrangement services and ideas for putting a service together. Margaret is hoping some of them will want to do the Worship Leader training course.

## From the Centre for Reconciliation

### Taste of Unity

Sharing food and building friendship especially supporting anyone facing tough times.

A space where people can connect, share food and support each other - strengthening community across Lincolnshire.

Prepared by Lincolnshire's interfaith communities.

Every 2nd Wednesday of every month, 4 - 6 pm at Central Methodist Church Hall, Lincoln LN5 7PR

### Circle Dancing

Come and join our friendly group, led by Rev Margart Doughty on the first Wednesday of the month, commencing 3rd December 2pm-3:30pm at Swallowbeck Methodist Church.

## CIRCUIT

### TRAVELLING GUILD 2025



Contact - Eileen [e.kelsey221@btinternet.com](mailto:e.kelsey221@btinternet.com)

(TG in the subject line)

**TG meets on alternate Mondays at 2pm, unless otherwise noted**

**Key:- CS Christian Service : C Cultural : D Devotional : S Social**

**CS - 1st Dec - RAF Chaplain at RAF Digby - Woodhall Spa**

**D - 15th Dec - Carol Service - FOOD - Horncastle**

**S - 19th Dec - *Christmas dinner* at the Buzz Stop - details and booking contact Les on [les.robo@btinternet.com](mailto:les.robo@btinternet.com)**

### 2026

**S - 5th Jan - New Year's party ☹- FOOD - Bardney**

**C - 19th Jan - *Adam Butler* - Youth Offenders - Wragby**

**CS - 2nd Feb - *Sally Ann Robinson* - District Steward/Retired Solicitor - Horncastle**

**D - 16th Feb - *Ian Brown* - "Music in my Life" - Woodhall Spa**

**C - 2nd March - *Revd Richard* - "Grandma, Elton and me" - Bardney**

**S - 16th March - AGM - FOOD - Then "Name That Tune" - Horncastle, with *John***

**D - Holy Week Reflections - Woodhall Spa**

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## Calendar Dates - Winter 2025

|                   |           |                                         |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|
| Monday            | 1st Dec   | Travelling Guild - Woodhall Spa         |
| Monday            | 8th Dec   | Feast of the Immaculate Conception      |
| Monday            | 15th Dec  | Travelling Guild - Horncastle           |
| Sunday            | 21st Dec  | December Solstice                       |
| Wednesday         | 24th Dec  | Christmas Eve                           |
| Thursday          | 25th Dec  | Christmas Day                           |
| Friday            | 26th Dec  | Boxing Day                              |
| Wednesday         | 31st Dec  | New Year's Eve                          |
| Thursday          | 1st Jan   | New Year's Day                          |
| Monday            | 5th Jan   | Travelling Guild - Bardney              |
| Monday            | 5th Jan   | Twelfth Night                           |
| Tuesday           | 6th Jan   | Epiphany                                |
| Monday            | 19th Jan  | Travelling Guild - Wragby               |
| Tuesday           | 27th Jan  | International Holocaust Remembrance Day |
| Sunday - Saturday | 01-28 Feb | Black History Month                     |
| Monday            | 2nd Feb   | Travelling Guild - Horncastle           |
| Saturday          | 14th Feb  | Valentine's Day                         |
| Monday            | 16th Feb  | Travelling Guild - Woodhall Spa         |
| Tuesday           | 17th Feb  | Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day            |
| Wednesday         | 18th Feb  | Ash Wednesday                           |
| Sunday            | 1st Mar   | St David's Day                          |
| Monday            | 2nd Mar   | Travelling Guild - Bardney              |
| Monday            | 16th Mar  | Travelling Guild - Horncastle           |
| Sunday            | 29th Mar  | North Hykeham Chapel Anniversary        |
| Monday            | 30th Mar  | Travelling Guild - Woodhall Spa         |

**Travelling Guild** - All are welcome at the fortnightly meetings which commence at 2pm in the respective Methodist Church.

For further information contact Eileen: e.kelsey221@btinternet.com

Compiling each Circuit News is a big but exciting job. It is really important that we celebrate all the good that is happening in the Circuit and would like feedback on our newsletter. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us; we welcome your thoughts. Please email: [lincolnmethodist1702@outlook.com](mailto:lincolnmethodist1702@outlook.com)

Material for the **Spring 2026** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Wednesday, **11 February 2026**. Any material received after this date will not be included in the March edition.

Email: [lincolnmethodist1702@outlook.com](mailto:lincolnmethodist1702@outlook.com)

Address: Lincoln Methodist Circuit Office  
Burton Road Methodist Church  
175 Burton Road  
Lincoln LN1 3LW

Website: [www.lincolnmethodist.org.uk](http://www.lincolnmethodist.org.uk)

# Praying Together



**1** Tree of Calvary, send your roots into our hearts. Tree of Mercy, enfold us in your branches. Tree of Life, overshadow us with your presence. Amen.

*A prayer from India*

**2** Blessed be God, for the glory of a grace never ending, for the gift of a love never changing, for the depth of a peace never failing. Amen.

*Isabella Wilson, Methodist class leader (1765-1807)*

**3** Teach us, O God, to trust your providence, ordered and sure, to accept your wisdom, unerring and true and to rejoice in your love unbounded and eternal, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Charles Simeon (1759-1836)*

**4** Grant us grace, O God, to be interpreters of your beauty, narrators of your glory, confessors of your purpose, preachers of your mind and teachers of your works, through Christ our Lord. Amen. through the

*Odes of Solomon (late 1<sup>st</sup> Century CE)*

**5** Gracious God, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate on you and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Benedict of Nursia (c.480-550)*

**6** Shine on us, O Son of God, with grace unfailing, granting us the gift of wisdom, the power of faith and the endurance of hope. Amen.

*Ethiopian Orthodox*

**7** "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful"  
*Hebrews 10:23*  
(Breathe in) Lord, you are faithful,  
(Breathe out) I hold fast to hope.

**8** God of compassion, comfort our loneliness. God of tenderness, confirm our faith. God of the Cross, strengthen our endurance. Amen.

*Prayer of a Ugandan Christian*

**9** Let us love the constancy of your light, O Lord, and rejoice in it. Let us walk in brightness of your light, O Lord, and be blessed by

it. Let us live in the glory of your light, O Lord, and be judged for it. Amen.

*Margaret Fox (1614-1702)*

**10** Lord Jesus Christ, in times of loneliness may we be comforted by your presence. In days of affliction may we be fortified with your strength. In hours of despair may we be raised up through your love. Amen.

*Marie Bernarde Soubirous (1844-1879)*

**11** Christ of the awesome desert, grant us victory. Christ of the raging storm, grant us peace. Christ of the waiting tomb, raise us to life. Amen.

*Prayer from East Caribbean*

**12** We offer you our hands, O Lord, to do your work, our lips to sing your praise, our life to proclaim your glory and our heart to serve you in our neighbour, for Jesu's sake. Amen.

*Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)*

**13** We commend to you, O Lord, our waking and our sleeping, our going out and our coming in, our souls and our bodies, our words and our deeds, our life and our death, our household and our companions, our world and our neighbours.

*Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626)*

**14** "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching" *Hebrews 10:24-25*  
(Breathe in) Fill us with abundant love  
(Breathe out) That we might build each other up.

**15** Each day and each night, may the wisdom of the Wonderful Counsellor guide us, the strength of the Mighty God defend us, the love of the Everlasting Father enfold us and the blessing of the Prince of Peace rest upon us. Amen.

*Based on Isaiah of Jerusalem (eighth century BC)*

**16** Receive, O God, our sacrifice of praise, that of thanksgiving for your mercies, that of prayer for your grace, that of penitence for our sins, and that love for your love, being the only gift that you seek or desire.

*John Donne (1572-1631)*

**17** Grant us, O Lord, your rock for our shelter, your wounds for our sanctuary, your pathway for our safety, your lowliness for our soul and your cleansing for our heart. Amen.

*Susannah Design, Bristol Methodist Band Leader (c. 1740)*

**18** Be to us at all times, O Lord, our joy, our bliss and our comfort. Be light in our darkness, strength in our temptations and refreshment in the desert. Penitent may we know your peace, faithful may we behold you in glory. Amen.

*Margery Kempe (c. 1373-1433)*

**19** Grant us, O Lord, purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no passion may hinder us from knowing your will and no weakness from doing it. In your light we may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)*

**20** To our calling, O God, grant your blessing, to our souls your strength, to our suffering your fortitude, to our darkness your light, to our faith your joy. Amen.

*Benjamin Rhodes, Methodist Itinerant (1743-1815)*

**21** "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, great is your faithfulness" **Lamentations 3:22-23** (Breathe in) New every morning is your love (Beathe out) Great is your faithfulness

**22** Plunged in the ocean of your love, O God, and walking by faith, let us rest in your promises and receive your Holy Spirit Amen.

*Phoebe Palmer, American Methodist Evangelist (1807-1874)*

**23** God of love, awaken our souls. God of power, protect us in temptation. God of forgiveness, cleanse us by the blood of Christ. God of saints, let us share in their inheritance. God of rest, let us be yours for ever. Amen.

*Mary Gilbert, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Gilbert (died 1768, aged 16)*

**24** Be the beginning, O God, of all our good, the well-spring of all our love and the source of all our freedom. Let your grace work in us, your will be done through us and your protection be over us. Amen.

*Mary Ward (1585-1645)*

**25** O Christ, the Bright and Morning Star, when the night of this world is past bring us with your saints to your promised light and to that life which opens into everlasting day. Amen.

*The Venerable Bede (c. 673-735)*

**26** Grant us the grace, O God, to surrender the grievance that separates and the forgiveness that is withheld. Assure us that no sin is so great that it cannot be healed, and no sinner so lost that grace cannot bring them home.

*William Booth (1829-1912)*

**27** O most gracious Sovereign and Redeemer, come and dwell within us and reign where you have the right to reign. By your Holy Spirit take possession of our souls and lead us in the ways of righteousness and peace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*John of Kronstadt (1829-1908)*

**28** "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." **Isaiah 40:31** (Breathe in) I place my hope in you. (Breathe out) Lord, renew my spirit.

**29** Preserve us, O God, our whole journey through; that we may live in your love, die in your favour, rest in your peace, rise in your power and reign in your glory, in the joy of Christ and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

*Nicholas Ferrar (1592-1637)*

**30** Let our faith in you, O Lord, be ever stronger, our life with you ever deeper, our praying ever more awake to your glory, our hold on you ever firmer and our love for you ever increasing. Amen.

*William Bramwell, Methodist itinerant preacher (1759-1818).*

**31** Be a light, O Lord, to our eyes, music to our ears and contentment to our heart. Be sunlight in our day, food at our table and rest in our night. Receive into your protection our body and our soul, our freedom and our life. Being about your business and let us live to your glory. Amen

*John Cosin (1594-1672)*



## FORTNIGHTLY PRAYER CYCLE: LINCOLNSHIRE DISTRICT

Each day you are invited to pray for the churches, lay staff and volunteers, and ordained ministers, active and supernumerary, of the appropriate Circuit as well as the specific prayer requests which follow:

### MONDAY: Barton, Brigg and Wolds

- ◇ OpenTable: establishing an LGBTQ+ community [new]
- ◇ Living Later Life Well Project engagement and hope for those 60+
- ◇ Oikos-Brigg: food bank, community meals, prayers, town shop
- ◇ Sustain: engagement with local schools
- ◇ Youth Work at Brigg, Broughton, Kirton Lindsey, Market Rasen, St John's-Brigg (CoE)
- ◇ Bible Studies at Barton Trinity, Broughton, Caistor
- ◇ Advent Courses at Market Rasen, Circuit based
- ◇ Lay Pastoral Work and Pastoral Visitors
- ◇ Open the Book teams across the circuit
- ◇ Caistor and New Holland Methodist/Church of England Primary schools

### TUESDAY: Boston

- ◇ A new youth club at Swineshead
- ◇ New neighbourhood work in the community around Zion.
- ◇ those whose Christian witness has been expressed through Centenary for many years; giving thanks for the wisdom of the years and the tireless hearts for service among the faithful in their multiple roles
- ◇ our colleagues from Boston's Wellbeing Hub, Scott House's 'Shop for Good', the CAB and our vibrant volunteer network around the café and community meals outreach, that that we may find love, laughter, purpose and fulfilment in what we do together for your glory.
- ◇ sisters and brothers who worship at Centenary in diverse languages and styles, bringing families through the doors, and building your peaceable kingdom in a town which is often troubled and needs the light of Jesus to shine brightly
- ◇ for the holy stones that make up this precious place at the heart of our town, undergoing refurbishment in faith so we that we can continue to be living stones, serving Boston with energy and excitement as our Church's future story unfolds.

### WEDNESDAY: East Lincolnshire

- ◇ The churches in the circuit each facing their own challenges in the newly shaped circuit as they grow together.
- ◇ The Circuit Leadership Team as it continues to seek to encourage the churches in the Circuit to discern the implications of being 21st Century Methodist people - a discipleship movement shaped for and engaged in mission outreach.
- ◇ We ask for your prayers for the continuing work of the caravan chaplaincy as they seek to reach out to those isolated communities. Also for the communities along the coast where there is a higher-than-average poverty, especially as the circuit seeks to implement support for those struggling with their financial situation by setting up a Christians Against Poverty hub in the Circuit.
- ◇ We give thanks for those areas of growth across the circuit, where there are signs of the spirit at work. For the churches as they continue to support food banks.
- ◇ Wainfleet Methodist/Church of England Primary School

### THURSDAY: Epworth, Scunthorpe and Gainsborough

- ◇ Seeds of new life and hope across the circuit – for example, the new members recognised and 4 day children's summer holiday club at Ashby Wesley, the Sponsored walk at Winteringham, Warm Spaces projects & Coffee Mornings such as Chatterbox, links being made with local schools at Crowle & Epworth's children's work via Jack in the box toddler group, Messy Church, 'Open the Book' school assemblies.
- ◇ Links between neighbouring chapels and also ecumenical partners.
- ◇ The work of the Forge Project – supporting people with housing issues in central Scunthorpe.
- ◇ The work of Epworth Old Rectory – connecting the story of the Wesleys with local children and a variety of schools, with an asylum seeker and refugee group in Scunthorpe, with those with Dementia and their carers, as well as visitors and pilgrims from around the world

### FRIDAY: Grimsby and Cleethorpes

- ◇ Flottergate homes
- ◇ Work with children, young people and the wider community
- ◇ Foodbank and other support offered from Sidedoor

### SATURDAY: Lincoln

- ◇ For the reshaped Circuit which now includes churches from the Mid Lincs Circuit, and the new responsibilities of Circuit Ministers.
- ◇ Youth and Children's work
- ◇ Community outreach including the Nightlight café at St Giles.
- ◇ Ecumenical and Interfaith relationships
- ◇ Bardney and Brant Broughton Methodist/Church of England Primary schools.

### MONDAY: Sleaford

- ◇ Warm spaces, coffee mornings and lunch clubs.
- ◇ Toddler groups and childrens' activities
- ◇ Work with older people and the lonely

### TUESDAY: South Holland

- ◇ Youth and Community work, especially at Broad Street, Spalding.
- ◇ Opportunities for food and fellowship across the Circuit reaching out into their communities.

### WEDNESDAY: Lincolnshire Community Healthcare Chaplaincy

### THURSDAY: Agricultural chaplaincy

### FRIDAY: Queen Victoria Seamans' Rest, Immingham

### SATURDAY: The District

### SUNDAYS:

- |                                             |                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st in the quarter: Barton, Brigg and Wolds | 9th: LCHC and chaplaincies based in hospices and care homes |
| 2nd: Boston                                 | 10th: Agricultural chaplaincy                               |
| 3rd: East Lincolnshire                      | 11th: QVSR and Capella                                      |
| 4th: Epworth, Scunthorpe and Gainsborough   | 12th: The District                                          |
| 5th: Grimsby and Cleethorpes                |                                                             |
| 6th: Lincoln                                |                                                             |
| 7th: Sleaford                               |                                                             |
| 8th: South Holland                          |                                                             |