

Circuit News



Bailgate



Bardney



Bardney Daines



Burton Road



Carnaby



Cherry Wharfedale



Cottingham



Horncliffe



Monks Road



Moorland Park



Navenby



Nettleham



North Hykeham



Reepham



Scottern



Skellingthorpe



Wragby



Woodhall Spa



Welton & Dunholme



Washingborough



Swallowbeck



Stones Place



St Giles



St Columba

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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

Material for the **Winter 2025** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Wednesday, **12 November 2025**. Any material received after this date will not be included in the December edition.

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175 Burton Road
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Welcome to the new Lincoln Circuit

Richard Wills, Senior Circuit Steward

Each September, the Methodist Church begins afresh. Our financial year starts; ministers go and come; and this year there is a reorganisation. The churches of the previous Lincoln Circuit have joined with the bigger portion of what was the Mid-Lincolnshire Circuit to become the (new) Lincoln Circuit, serving the City and its extensive rural hinterland.

This is a real change; a fresh start; with love at the heart of everything we are. In **LOVE**, we **L**et God guide; **O**pen to the Spirit; **V**alue everyone; **E**xpect great things.

As well as his oft quoted homily on love, Paul's first letter to the Corinthians says *"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ."* (1 Corinthians 12:12 NRSV). Paul's very well illustrated point is that we all have a role to play that the body cannot do without.

With the re-deployment of our ordained ministers, we lay people will have to re-think what we can do to share in ministry. Whatever skills or spiritual gifts we have (Paul again!), how can we use them for the good of everyone else?

Also, each church needs to explore its own situation openly and honestly. Does "church" mean maintaining a building? Are we financially viable? Will we have all the people to meet our legal obligations? Is there a better way to thrive rather than survive? The answer could be different ways of being church.

At present, many feel that being church is a burden of duty and trusteeship, rather than the joy of being in Christ. So, the Circuit intends to employ two new people to help churches with some of their trustee responsibilities. The Circuit Leadership Team will be exploring how we can assist with finance, property and some of the legal requirements of being a charity.

Paul is obsessed with the idea that we're all participating in something bigger than ourselves. "In Christ" is his code phrase for this new participatory life. In fact, he uses the phrase "in Christ" 164 times to describe this organic unity and participation in Christ. *"I live no longer, not I; but Christ lives in*

me" (Galatians 2:20). "In Christ" is his code phrase for this new participatory life.¹

Maybe it's time to re-examine this concept, interpreting it into our situation. Jesus travelled around with his disciples. In Acts, we read of followers of "The Way". John Wesley was searching for God's intentions when his heart was strangely moved. "Moved". Surely God does not intend us to be static, unchanging, bound to a particular organisational form. This does not mean the church, as an institution, has no role, but it should be within something far more dynamic.

Let our Circuit show how we can become a Methodist *Movement* once again!

1: Source - "Paul: A Christ Mystic" Fr Richard Rohr



CIRCUIT

TRAVELLING GUILD 2025



Contact - Eileen 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

A varied programme is planned for Guild which returns after the summer break at 2pm on Monday 6th October

- CS** - 6th Oct - *Richard Wills* - Retired Local Govt Officer - Horncastle
- C** - 20th Oct - *Branston Potatoes* - 'Living & Breathing Potatoes' - Wragby
- D** - 3rd Nov - *Revd Richard* - 'Journeying in Faith' - Bardney
- S** - 17th Nov - *Marion M* - 'Fun With Dance Steps' - Horncastle
- CS** - 1st Dec - *Revd Ian Brown* - RAF Chaplain at Coningsby - Woodhall Spa
- D** - 15th Dec - Carol Service - **FOOD** - Horncastle

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News from our Churches



Central Methodist Church

We have been very blessed to have had Rev Margaret as our Minister. Although we will be seeing her still, we wish her every blessing at her new Churches. We look forward to welcoming Rev Juliet as our minister.

We are excited to see what the future holds as we move forward in September. We continue to hold our Coffee drop in on a Monday morning where we welcome the community. We finish with a light lunch. On Thursday mornings food bank takes place, and we are open for coffee.

Some of our members are doing a sponsored walk on September 28th after our worship.

We are once again acting as area coordinators for the Link to Hope Christmas shoe box appeal. Boxes need to be at Central in early November the exact date is still to be confirmed. Contact Val for details.

On Saturday December 6th we are holding a Christmas event. We will have stalls and refreshments. The Church will be decorated on the theme of 'Trees and Talents'. The day will end at 4pm with carols. The Romanian children's choir will be joining in with the carol service.

Cherry Willingham

Reflecting sadly, regarding Rev Jennifer Matthews our Minister for the past few years, as we bade farewell on a mid-July Saturday with an outdoor BBQ followed by her final Church Council meeting. During the time Rev Jennifer has been with us, the Cherry W Church has grown numerically and spiritually, and we thank her for her leadership in that respect. We wish her God's blessing as she takes on a new role as a Circuit Superintendent in the London District.



The village 'Churches Together' were very much involved in the August gala day, held on a Saturday, but this year on the playing field; more central to the village. The turn-out was excellent helped the fine weather of course! The Churches Together tent was helping children and youngsters with suitable activities while the adults got involved in other things on the site.

Our Prayer Meetings continue on a Saturday morning monthly 9.30am for the early risers at the home of one of our members. Don't we just have a lot to pray about/for with all that is 'happening' around us! It is hoped the Monday afternoon prayer meet will be able to resume in the Autumn.

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

Our combined outdoor **Harvest Festival** will be held on Cherry Fields on the south side of the village on Sunday 14th September starting at 3pm.

An evening of **games** will be held at home of two of our members on Saturday 20th September.

The **Churches Together** are planning the Christian Halloween event on Friday 31st October; an outside event opposite the village library, giving away the more appropriate Halloween bags for children and young adults.

Remembrance Sunday is 9th November and all the village Churches meet at the Prembroke School hall for the 10.30am service.

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

PG

Welton & Dunholme

Summer seems to have been particularly busy for Welton and Dunholme. We ran our usual popular book stall at Dunholme Fete on a warm and sunny afternoon in June. Then in July, volunteers from chapel provided refreshments on the three evenings of the Welton Arts Festival, 3-5 July, for events held in our chapel. These were readings and conversation with Lincolnshire author, Margaret Dickinson; an evening of swing and rock 'n' roll with 40's and 50's singer, Kelly Ann Waldie; and an audience with BBC presenter, Peter Levy.



A week later we had a very successful evening, 'Duncan and the Talking Bins' made up of anecdotes, poems and stories written and performed by local preacher, Duncan Franks. There was no charge for the event but donations on the evening were given to the food bank at Moorland Park Methodist Church.

The following day, Sunday 13th July, saw our annual, very well attended strawberry tea when we enjoyed a delicious selection of sandwiches and cakes plus strawberries and cream. The tea was followed by a short service led by worship leader, David Wilson, with an address by Rev Richard.



Horncastle

A year of celebration

(and other aspects of church life)

Until further notice, please address all enquiries to

marion@mmhome.me.uk

Here, at Queen Street Methodist Church, we're still celebrating the **60th anniversary** of our Church building. The current Events Team is a group of people with varied interests and contacts ensuring that 2025 has been, and is, as busy as ever.

Since the previous edition of **Circuit News** was published we've enjoyed several more events and activities. For June the 1st Revd Ian Kemp planned a SONGS for PRAISE service, which included 14 of the congregation's favourite hymns. Our guest, Superintendent Minister Revd Richard Mottershead, gave us a brief autobiography and a concise view of our likely future joining with the people, churches and events of the Lincoln circuit.

We were pleased to welcome Revd Richard to our church community and in return he gave us (though brief) an insight into some significant aspects of his pathway through life, so far. Further to this he spoke with optimism, faith and encouragement regarding our newly forming future as a combined circuit. The service had an interval for refreshments which were, as ever, plentiful!

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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

Recent walks include:- Snipe Dales; Tennyson Country;
The Wolds; Woodhall Spa; Horncastle Heritage Trail.

~§~§~§~
☕ **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**

~§~§~§~



Strawberry Fayre - taste of an English summer. A warm July afternoon, blue sky, gentle breeze and a traditional strawberry tea (plus a choice of strawberry themed delights) on the lawn to the background sound of live music by the Swineshead Silver Band. This was the scene at Queen Street, an event thoroughly enjoyed by a happy crowd of people. It is quite likely that we will do something very similar next summer – look out for all of our dates in future issues of **CIRCUIT NEWS**.

Late summer 1950s/1960s themed concert

Saturday **Sept 6th** - 3-5pm

Local professional singer, Poppy - Ticketed event £10 - Refreshments

marion@mmhome.me.uk

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Harvest Festival at Queen Street

It's the festival season and ours is

4pm on 28th September with Revd Richard

~§~§~§~

Coffee Morning with Historical Presentation

Saturday **October 18th** - from 10am

"Our past, where we are and the future"

Includes our Gift Day 2025 weekend

October 19th - A special service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for 60 years

~§~§~§~

Friday **Nov. 6th** - 7pm - **Bomb Disposal, talk**

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Monks Road Methodist Church



Although our weekday activities were reduced through the Summer, we still held our monthly coffee mornings. A new addition to our coffee mornings was held in July – an Indoor Garden Party. The congregation used their artistic talents to embellish plant pots



to decorate the coffee tables and windowsills. It was wonderful to see the variety in the pots – faces, flowers, hats, stripes and dots and even a gold pot! One talented man made square 'vases' from decorated cardboard and filled them with flowers – the strap line at the top of the 'vases' was "reuse, recycle, reduce" spreading the word

about caring for God's creation. The event attracted quite a few different folk from round about the church as well as further afield. It was a happy event and raised extra funds to keep the church alive along Monks Road.

Our next two Saturday coffee mornings - 30th August and 27th September are for the benefit of the Leprosy Mission and MacMillan respectively which are advertised locally and further afield as we seek to show how Christians at Monks Road endeavour to care for God's people.

Our hall was booked for three days in August by a Children's Group, and we have several community events booked over the next few months.

September sees the usual activities begin again where again we welcome all who would like to join us – weekly Craft & Friendship, Mondays 10.30-noon followed by light lunch and monthly First Tuesday with a variety of speakers 2-3pm – everyone is welcome. Our uniformed groups meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and again these groups are open to all youngsters.



STONES PLACE

During the past 3 months, staff at Stones Place have gone beyond their normal duties in rising to the challenge of having the water disconnected during planned property maintenance. Chaplain April conducted a Sunday service during her "off-duty" time and care assistant Sean led prayers and Bible readings at short notice one Sunday when the preacher was unable to come.



Residents with landmark birthdays have enjoyed appropriate celebrations – Mary being visited by members of her family who travelled some distance to be with her for her 90th birthday and Eileen being surprised by the visit of Mr Whippy's ice cream van, to serve everyone with a 99 ice cream cone in celebration of her 99th birthday – a very welcome treat on such a hot day that made soft ice cream a competition to eat before it melted.

I would be interested to know whether any other churches, apart from Swallowbeck, used the worship resources for MHA Sunday, so that I can include it in my report to Head Office. The website is mha.org.uk which, of course, can be accessed by individuals if public worship is not possible.

Rae Perkins – Circuit MHA rep. E-mail: rae.perkins1@btinternet.com



Navenby Methodist Church

Richard Wilson has raised £80 this quarter for Diabetes Research by recycling used ink cartridges given to him from the collecting points throughout the Circuit and thanks everyone who helped.

North Hykeham Methodist Church



A large number of knitted blankets, are this week, being taken to Jacob's Well, a charity we continue to support despite having lost some of our knitters. A dedicated few continue to knit the strips, and we have a valued volunteer who sews them all together.

From Jackie Hunt –

"We saw a need, and, with God's help, we have done our best to sort it."

For some time now we have been very aware that within our aging congregation there are some very lonely people who often come early to Church on Sundays so they can chat together.

What to do about this loneliness? How could we help? We could provide extra time for the fellowship enabling people to get together more often. Thursday afternoons were free of bookings in our Hall, so we chose a time and earlier this year we held our first meeting and twelve people came – and still come.

At our first meeting we talked about what we wanted from the group and who would do things. Because of past experience with getting a treasurer etc it was agreed that no money would be involved. We do have a cup of tea and biscuit, but these are provided by donation from members.

What would we do at these meetings? It was agreed that we would choose a light-hearted subject which we would choose each time for the next meeting. Joining in was voluntary as not everyone is comfortable speaking. We meet once a month at 2pm.

Our first subject was 'My Favourite Poem' and this went very well. Surprisingly two ladies chose the same poem. We have called this group Chit Chat as this is what we do. We don't have a leader, but I usually start us going and other members say an opening prayer. Ray and Sheila make the tea, and Barbara sorts the date for the next meeting and the more able-bodied help with the washing up. It is OUR group, and we do what we can.

We share and support each other in Christian love, and it is interesting to learn how we are all very different but similar.

Next month's subject is "A person who has been a big influence in our life". I am looking forward to hearing these stories.



Reepham Methodist Church

The summer months have been fairly quiet. Our monthly fellowship took the theme of Resurrection in May. In June we discussed Worship, with conversation centered round our feelings about united services (at the Parish Church, Cherry Willingham and Washingborough) and Own Arrangement services. Several people expressed that they appreciate time in the services for quiet reflection and opportunity to pray for our particular concerns. Something perhaps for preachers to note.

Our July gathering took the form of a barbecue at Richard and Jane Willis's. The heatwave had subsided, and the forecast rain held off, so we had a good time. It was our opportunity to say goodbye to Rev. Jennifer and present her with a token of our appreciation. We have valued her ministry, particularly her pastoral care and her attendance at the various activities in the community.

Numbers at Fun Friday were low for several weeks but we were nearly back to full strength for the last one before the summer break. We hope that we will be able to attract some new members in the autumn as we know there are many lonely people in the community who would appreciate the company.

In June a funeral service was held at the Crematorium for Dr Donald Harrison. He and Margaret attended Reepham when they first moved to Fiskerton but ill health has prevented their active involvement in recent years. He was a lovely man with a dry sense of humour. He had been a GP in North Hykeham before his retirement.

Help for Own Arrangement Services

Don't forget that Margaret Roe has prepared some services for use when you have an Own Arrangement service. These are based on the meditations in her books of women of the Bible telling their stories. They have been well received by several churches that have used them. Four are currently available but more are being prepared. Please contact margaret.roe@methodist.org.uk if you would like me to send them to you.

Worship Leader Training

If you lead Own Arrangement services in your church or are willing to use your gifts and skills in this way, then please come along to share in a conversation on Tuesday September 16th at Nettleham Methodist Church at 7:30 pm about Worship Leading. You will also find out more about the Worship Leader Training course which we hope to run in the autumn. Attending this gathering does not commit you to doing the course although we hope you will be encouraged to do the training.

Skellingthorpe Methodist Church



When church life returned to normal after the Covid pandemic ended, Skellingthorpe made the decision to alternate weekly services between mornings and afternoons. This proved to be a wise decision as we have benefitted from having preachers who can then travel to us for a 3pm service after they have been preaching in the mornings. We also benefit from having two Local Preachers in our church and both have stepped in to take services at short notice. (We ensure they receive first choice of the biscuits during coffee and chat after the service.)

The new Church Officers are settling into their roles and gradually working out and planning priorities. A church Tidy Up Day will have taken place by the time you read this report and hopefully by then the damage to the railings and gate will have been repaired too.

The damage was due to a work's van parked in the car park opposite the church not having its handbrake fully engaged. The driverless van then slid slowly down the car park and across the road, narrowly missing a skip lorry and a following car before coming to a stop in the middle of the road after bumping the gate post and railings. Fortunately concerned friends and neighbours nearby were able to alert a Steward to the damage and by evening CCTV evidence was received showing how the damage had occurred. The firm concerned has engaged a stone mason and a blacksmith to repair and restore the gate and railings to their original condition. Skellingthorpe High Street is an extremely busy road, and it was definitely a modern miracle that no one was injured that day.

Our craft groups decided to take a break during August, but other groups booking our hall continued to meet. The monthly Coffee Mornings are very popular and although we sometimes feel the amount raised for charity might be disappointing, we are greatly encouraged by the fact that so many people come through our doors to experience and enjoy the friendship and interaction with the other people there.

St Columba's LEP



Community lunches: September 6th and November 15th at 12.30 pm
£6 per person for a 3-course meal, followed by tea or coffee. Raffle.

Murder, Mystery evening: October 4th, Bring and share food, Mystery raffle at 6pm

Harvest Festival: October 5th at 11 am

Coffee/Tea and Cake Cafe continues each Tuesday at 2 pm

Christmas Tree Festival December 13th



St Giles

Our Summer Fayre took place on July 19 and despite the inclement weather there was a good attendance with £610 being raised for Church funds.

Our Sunday School, otherwise known as Cre8, is doing well with up to 12 children attending on Sunday Mornings. Joan Todd and Lynda Ward lead the class using Roots material. Prashant Rosario and Anisha Matham are helping too.

Rev Juliet Wrigglesworth and several of our congregation will be attending 3gener-ate in October at the NEC in Birmingham.

The fencing and storage container have been erected behind the back of the church. We are now in contact with Continental Landscapes who are helping us with some of the ground work for our Community Garden and hope to have the first phase up and running shortly. The local Tesco store is also providing free compost.

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 a representative from CAB so the church can get very busy.



Free-4-All has now moved to Monday and Tuesday mornings with local schools coming to recycle school uniforms.

Boys Brigade and Scouts, whose numbers are increasing, meet on Wednesday and Friday evenings. They have broken up for the summer but will return in September.



The Indian Orthodox Church are now regular users of our church having their main worship once a month on a Saturday and Bible Study on a Sunday evening. They had 150 attending their first service in June of which 50 were children.

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



Washingborough



It was good to see the Church full to overflowing for the Circuit farewell service for Rev Jennifer at the end of July.

We, like you, await with some anxiety the publication of the new Circuit plan which will show us how many gaps we need to fill between now and Christmas. Some creative thinking over those "own arrangements" will be needed.

We welcome Ian Hardcastle onto the Steward's team which now comprises Lesley Tyreman, Ralph Osgerby and Ian.

Shortly we will be meeting our local Anglican friends to renew the working relationship between us now that "Father Yuce" is in post.

Our monthly Worship for All services led by Rev Sandy & Ralph Osgerby continue to be very popular and our best attended services.

Rev Sandy Osgerby has taken over our liaison with Washingborough Academy as they plan their scheme of visits to us by each year group over the academic year.

If you are ever around on the first and third Saturday mornings of the month or the second and fourth Tuesday mornings, please call in for coffee and cake – no charge. 10am-12noon.

Keith Swann

COMMUNITY HARVEST CELEBRATION

Sunday 5 October, 2.30pm

Wragby Town Hall

Music by - Banovallum Brass Band

We will be very grateful for any

Gifts of non perishable food.

These will be donated to The Lincoln Food Bank

Refreshments - Drink and biscuits

Donations towards costs will be appreciated

Organised by Wragby Churches Together

Reader's Letter



I would just like to say that I was very interested in the article by Mary Chambers - "Daughter of the Manse" Reflections of life in a Lincolnshire Methodist Circuit on page 18 of the Summer Circuit News.

I was born in 1941 and brought up in Bardney where her father, The Revd Frank Sidaway, was the Minister at the Methodist Chapel there. When I was about 8-12 years old, the Revd Sidaway taught me to play the piano as he did for several children in the village. My name then was Winifred or Winnie Holland and am now known by my second name Josephine or Jo. I've often thought about those times, and it was lovely to read about it.

I have been a member of Central Methodist Church since 1991 and currently reside in a flat near Boultham Park, Lincoln. Last October, I was invited to give a talk to fellow residents about my childhood on a farm in Lincolnshire during the 1940s and 50s. The farm was Manor Farm, located off Horncastle Road.

The talk and this article brought back many happy memories. I enjoyed reading it.

Many thanks,

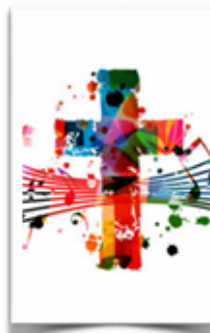
Jo Sharpe, Mrs.

Historical Note (as per Google 21/08/2025)

In the 1940s, Bardney had at least two Methodist chapels: the Primitive Methodist Chapel, which opened in 1858 and was empty after Methodist Union in 1932 but suffered damage in 1944 from a Lancaster aircraft crash before being sold for use as a barn by 1947. The second was the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Bardney Dairies, which was active during this period, though it was a Wesleyans chapel built in 1857 and added a porch in 1957.



SEPT
16



We are hoping to start a fortnightly course (ten sessions) to offer support for those in the circuit who share responsibility for leading worship in our churches.

Are you a Steward, a Worship Leader who trained a while ago?
Are you a willing leader who brings their gifts and skills from your profession outside the church?
Do you read and contribute regularly but have never 'labelled' it?

WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

We all learn from each other. Please do come and share your wisdom and insight, bring your questions and concerns as we re-shape how we do things.

You can find out more as we gather together for conversation on **Tuesday 16th September at 7.30pm at Nettleham Methodist Church**

Rev. Richard & Margaret Roe are the facilitators.
margaret.roe@methodist.org.uk or 01522 751596.

ONLINE SHORT COURSE

John Wesley and the Church Fathers: Ancient Wisdom for Today's Ministry



Organised by the Centre for Global Wesleyan Theology,
Wesley House, Cambridge

This course, led by the Rev'd Canon Dr Jason Radcliff,
offers participants the chance to become more familiar
with the sources of John Wesley's Theology and
Ministry and appreciation of other Christian traditions.

**Tuesdays 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th October 2025
between 7pm and 9pm (UK Time)**

Early bird offer: £100 until 15th August (then £120)



Wesley House
Cambridge

For information email office@wesley.cam.ac.uk
www.wesley.cam.ac.uk

ONLINE SHORT COURSE

John Wesley and the Church Fathers: Ancient Wisdom for Today's Ministry

Tuesdays 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th October 2025, 7-9pm (UK time)

Organised by the Centre for Global Wesleyan Theology, Wesley House, Cambridge

This course offers participants the
chance to become more familiar with
the sources of John Wesley's Theology
and Ministry and appreciation of other
Christian traditions.

This online short course encourages a deeper
understanding of the Wesleyan tradition's rootedness
in early Christianity. Participants will learn about how
the Methodist movement, which Wesley founded as a
prophetic revival within the "one, holy, catholic and
apostolic church", was shaped by these sources. It is
ideal for laypeople, scholars, theologians, clergy,
students, and anyone passionate about exploring the
sources of John Wesley's theology and ministry.

Through a close study of both Wesley and the
Fathers, this course will help students to further
understand the Methodist Church and Wesleyanism
as rooted in the church fathers and, as such, will help
students to read the Fathers and Wesley in this context.

The course is led by the Rev'd Canon Dr Jason Radcliff,
who has published widely on the Church Fathers,
Orthodoxy and the Oxford Movement.

Early bird offer: £100 until 15th August (then £120)

For more information contact Daniel Pratt Morris-
Chapman via office@wesley.cam.ac.uk



The Rev'd Canon
Dr Jason Radcliff



Wesley House
Cambridge

For information email office@wesley.cam.ac.uk
www.wesley.cam.ac.uk

Circuit Service

at

Bailgate

16th November 2025

15.00

For everyone to come together
from the mid to the centre of Lincolnshire

to give thanks for the past
celebrate the present
& look to the future

Refreshments afterwards

Calendar Dates - Autumn 2025

Monday - Saturday	1st Sept - 4th Oct	Creation Time
Friday	5th Sept	Food Bank Day
Monday	8th Sept	Fairtrade Fortnight begins
Monday	22nd Sept	September Equinox
Saturday	4th Oct	Feast of St Francis of Assisi
Sunday	26th Oct	Daylight Saving Time ends
Friday	31st Oct	Halloween
Sunday	1st Nov	All Saints' Day
Monday	2nd Nov	All Souls' Day
Wednesday	5th Nov	Guy Fawkes Day
Sunday	9th Nov	Remembrance Sunday
Tuesday	11th Nov	Remembrance Day
Sunday	30th Nov	First Sunday of Advent
Monday	8th Dec	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
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	Twelfth Night
Tuesday	6th Jan	Epiphany

Sunday 19th October
County Harvest Festival
Lincoln Cathedral

Sunday 21st December
Lincolnshire Farmers' Carol Service
Bailgate Methodist Church

Praying Together



1 Lord, you love justice and righteousness. As we quench our thirst for you in prayer, refresh our commitment to doing your will. In Jesus' name. Amen.

2 Gracious God, the earth lies polluted. We have failed to care for your world. Forgive us. Give us the strength to raise our voices and challenge the powerful. May we work together for the healing of creation. Amen.

3 Holy Lord, feed our determination, and nourish our spirit. Send us out to share your proclamation of Jubilee. Sustain us as we put our faith into action. Amen.

4 Jesus, give us tender hearts, make us encouragers. Fill us with compassion for our global neighbours. May we be inspired by passionate changemakers. Spur us on to do your work of love. Amen.

5 Jesus, you love us beyond measure. Help us to grow into your likeness, showing love to one another. Bless those facing an uncertain future. Open our eyes to the challenges our global neighbours face each day. Amen.

6 God of justice, pour out your Spirit, that we may abound with hope. When we feel defeated, give us courage, and remind us that nothing is impossible with you. Amen.

7 Loving God, help us to serve one another, sharing our gifts and talents. Fill us with generosity and compassion. Amen.

8 Gracious and loving Lord, thank you for the seasons we can count on, find routine in, and that will never cease while the earth remains. As we enter autumn, when the cooler winds drift in and the days grow shorter, draw us closer to you. Let us feel your warm and loving presence. May we

imagine ourselves in your arms, close to your heart, surrounded by your light, and find comfort in your consistency when the world around us seems to be constantly changing. Thank you for your loving kindness that engulfs us and your light that drives the darkness away. We praise you for being a God who loves us and takes care of us. We are grateful you are with us in all circumstances and seasons. Amen.

9 Lord, we praise you when the harvest is plenty. We thank you for the abundance and overflow of goodness and blessings you give us. How humbled we are at your favour in our lives. As we find ourselves in a season of richness, may you cause our hearts to remember others. As your word instructs us, guide us to be helpers to those in need, givers to those who have less, and generous with our time, talents, and resources. We want to be obedient and faithful to you by giving to others the overflow of what we have, so that you would bless the work of our hands. We ask to be cheerful givers and to be representatives of your love in this world. Amen.

10 Merciful God, we praise you because you know all things, see all things, and remember us. Thank you that we can depend on your presence with us in every season and situation, that each time has purpose and meaning. We are grateful that each season is orchestrated by you, even the harder ones. Help us to see your hand and guidance in our lives as we go through changes, the highs, and the lows. May we grow in trust and persevere in the valleys. How great you are, oh God, for being so intentional to care for us in every season. For even when things seem glum, your light continues to shine on us in mercy and grace. Amen.

11 Heavenly Father, this time of year feels hard. Harsher weather rolls in, the days feel shorter with less light, and it seems that loss and tough changes are prevalent. Help us not to grow idle, or weary, or give up hope. Let us work hard to bear fruit and to bring glory to your kingdom. We ask for the strength and guidance to be diligent and good stewards of our time and resources. Let us not be like the son who sleeps during the harvest, but rather, we pray you would use us now, keeping our eyes open and alert to the work you have for us. Bless the fruit of our labor and help us to bring glory and honour to you in all we do. Amen.

12 Faithful God, we come to you with a thirst for your presence and real connection with you. This time of year, the flowers do fade, the leaves do wither and die, and even the bright sun will shine less. But oh, we praise you, for your faithfulness. That your truth, that your good and honest words and promises will stand forever. Though the seasons change, we know you do not. We lift up our voices in gratitude for your righteousness that we can always depend on. We thank you for being our rock and firm foundation, and that your word is a lamp unto our feet. Give us hope this time of year and remind us that though the season is changing, and the unknown journey lies ahead, we can trust in your unfailing truth and presence. Amen

13 Heavenly Father, what an honour it is to know you, to follow you, and to be used as a vessel you work through. Empower us by your Spirit to do the necessary work for your kingdom; being sent as the workers into your harvest field. This time of year, serves as a reminder that we not only harvest the fruits of the land, but also, for your kingdom, God. Embolden us to share the Gospel, to be a witness, to share our testimonies, and to encourage others to come to know you as their Lord and Saviour. Let the words we say and the things we do be a witness to who you are. Send us out to fulfil the great commission with excite-

ment and courage. Thank you, Father, for giving great meaning and purpose to our lives. Amen.

14 Good and gracious God, You know what each of us is going through. You know our hardships, you know what we're waiting for, you know what we are asking, and you know the good we do in our best efforts to be obedient and righteous. Help us not to become weary doing good, help us not to give up, so that we will reap the promised harvest for pursuing righteousness. We are so grateful that by Your might all things are possible. Help us lead lives that are pure and holy, pleasing in your sight. We thank you for strength and wisdom each day to keep moving forward in hope and trust. This time of year, teaches us that we will reap the harvest of our good efforts because you fulfil all your promises. Thank you, Lord, for being just and faithful. Amen.

15 Loving Lord, this season reminds us to wait. To slow down and to wait for your good and perfect timing. Father, help us to wait. We do not want to rush into something that isn't part of your plan. We don't want to force open a door that you have closed, rather we desire to wait for your perfect will to unfold in our lives. This season reminds us that the wait will be worth it, and that the harvest will come. We lift our hearts in gratitude to you for guiding our steps, giving us wisdom, and helping us be disciplined and obedient to your ways. Thank you for your promises and the hope we have in your return. No matter what we face here, we know that you have prepared a place for us, Jesus. Help us to be patient now and patient for your return. We praise you, oh God, for your goodness and love. Amen.

16 Dear Lord, we recognize the dedication of our teachers and other school staff as they start this school year. May they be supported with patience, wisdom, and compassion. May they find the resilience to nurture young minds and impart knowledge. Grant them the ability to inspire and motivate their students, igniting a passion for

learning. May their efforts lead to success and fulfillment in shaping the next generation. Amen.

17 Dear Lord, as our students begin a new school year, I pray that you will keep them in your care. Send your Spirit to open their minds to all that is true, and beautiful, and good. Help them to see the gifts and talents you have given them and to use them well. Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Help them to be kind to others and lead others to be kind to them. Amen.

18 God, you are my help and comfort; you shelter and surround me in love so tender that I may know your presence is with me, now and always. Amen.

19 God, it's hard to let go of our children and send them out into a world that is so unstable and so volatile. But you are bigger than all our worries. You are bigger than our worst fears. Send your Holy Spirit to quicken in our hearts, as we seek you in your word and pray to you for comfort. Amen.

20 Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by you, always follow your plans, and perfectly accomplish your holy will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever you require of me. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of your grace, so that I may be your trustworthy instrument for your honour. May your will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen.

— *St Teresa of Ávila*

21 God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

— *The Serenity Prayer, Reinhold Niebuhr*

22 Protect me, today, in all my travels along the road's way. Give your warning sign if danger is near so that I may stop while the path is clear. Be at my window and direct me through

when the vision blurs from out of the blue. Carry me safely to my destined place like you carried Christ in your close embrace. Amen.

— *Prayer to St. Christopher*

23 Dear God, Farming is a journey that tests one's mettle, both in body and spirit. We entreat you to be the unwavering source of strength for our farmers, sustaining them through long days and sleepless nights. When weariness threatens, bolster their resolve. Grant them the resilience to overcome every challenge that dares to cross their path. Let them take solace in the knowledge that your boundless strength flows through their very veins. Amen.

24 Heavenly Father, As our farmers pour their hearts into the land, let them find warmth and support within their own families. Bless these farming households with unbreakable bonds forged in love, understanding, and shared purpose. May they stand together, unwavering, as they navigate the unique challenges and joys that farming life bestows. Amen.

25 Gracious God, we lift up all those who work in agriculture around the world—from those who sow seeds to those who process and sell food. We give thanks for their laborious work, which provides for our physical needs. May they be blessed with good health, safety in their travels, and success in their endeavours. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

26 O God, Creator of all people and things, be with your people in the global supply chain, who you created in your likeness and whose work contributes to our comfort. Give us the courage to fight against systems of oppression and help us raise up the voices of the oppressed, who already have the right and the power to speak for themselves. Keep us ever mindful of the inextricable link between us. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, whose first disciples were marginalized wage workers. Amen.

27 Jesus, thank You for Your peace. Help me to rest in it even when the world seems chaotic. Calm my fears, clear my thoughts, and steady my heart. Let me walk in faith and confidence, knowing You are always near. Amen.

28 Lord, bless and protect all emergency responders who rush into danger to save lives. Keep them safe, strong, and wise. Surround them with Your angels and give them courage and skill. May your hand guide every action and decision they make. Amen.

29 Heavenly Father, thank You for the emergency services that You have placed here on earth. We are thankful for their abilities, knowledge and expertise. We ask that You continue to cover and bless them because at times, their jobs can be very challenging, risky and demanding. So Father, we pray Psalm 121:8 over them; "the Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore", Amen.

30 Dear God, In a world filled with division, we beseech you to foster unity among our government leaders. Help them set aside their differences and work together for the common good of our nation. Bless them with hearts that are open to listening, understanding, and cooperating. May your spirit of harmony guide their discussions and decisions, leading to a brighter future for all. Amen.

31 Heavenly Father, we lift our church leaders before You today. Fill them with Your wisdom and discernment as they guide Your flock. Let every decision they make be led by Your Spirit. Amen.



Fair waved the golden corn
in Canaan's pleasant land,
when full of joy, some shining morn,
went forth the reaper-band.