Autumn 2024

Lincoln

17/02

Circuit News

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"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22).

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2).



"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8).

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

"Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near" (James 5:7-8).





Circuit Letter

Deacon Helen Gardner reflects on her first year in Lincoln Circuit.

It's a well worn phrase, but time really does fly by when you're enjoying yourself. The prayers, support and encouragement of everyone around me have carried me through my first year of ministry. Lincoln is a beautiful place full of extraordinary people.

I have pastoral care of Skellingthorpe, Moorland Park and Navenby while Rev. Richard as Superintendent has Pastoral Charge and oversight because as a Deacon I am called to bring ministry with a specific focus.

That focus essentially is: on prophetic witness: seeking the will of God in my life and others, on prayer: talking to God and on service: helping others. In essence, I am here to notice where God is at work and join in, encouraging others to do the same.

The Diaconate is a religious order which is separate from but sits within the Methodist Church. It's a grouping of Ministers, each with a specific background or skill set that is useful in Ministry. I worked as a Psychotherapeutic Counsellor in private practice, specialising in Grief and Loss and a Family Worker within the Methodist Church before being called as a Minister.

This has enabled me to establish some helpful partnerships in the last few months: I work with Lincolnshire Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Transformation Programme, connecting with NHS groups. They help me to advertise our groups through the How Are You Lincolnshire network: haylincolnshire.co.uk.

Through a partnership with Voluntary Centre Services, Moorland Park now host a drop-in once a month where people can come and talk to the Lincoln Social-Prescribing Team and access the support they need.



I am a Voluntary Session Leader at a number of the Night Light Cafes run across the city by Acts Trust and love working alongside colleagues from all faiths and none on this. www.actstrust.org.uk

I am linked with the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership to support the civilian community in matters of faith and spiritual well-being, helping to ensure that all family members are recognised, represented and supported by the services offered.

All of this has encouraged me to establish some new groups from September.



Craft-ernoons will begin in Navenby on a Monday 1-3pm and Moorland Park on a Wednesday 1-3pm each week. (See poster!)

These were inspired by something that Skellingthorpe already do on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays between 2pm and 4pm.

We will offer a safe, inclusive, welcoming space to see and chat to me as the Minister and others once a week, where we can signpost to social prescribing and other helping services, where we offer company, compassionate conversation and care for one another and where the kettle is on!

People can bring their own creative activity or can learn one while they are there through a network of generous volunteers who have already offered to share. This will see people coming together from across the city to share skills, love and hope in a way that will feed back into our worshipping community. Many will know that I don't have a handicraft as such but I doodle and colour as a therapeutic tool

and am happy to show others. I detail this on my blog at moorland-park.com

Deacons generally work alongside those on the margins. But the question of where that margin begins is an interesting one! Part of my calling is to help us all to recognise and find the words to explain God at work in our lives. Often through the simplest of conversations, we discover examples of miracles and faith stories that have gone unspoken.

The future is to be a church without walls to a certain extent. We've had buildings close but through initiatives like the Methodist Way of Life and God for All there are ways of sharing our faith when we are dispersed.

Conversation and listening should never be underestimated and we have an important ministry of presence. I want, above all else, people to know that they matter not only to me and to our church but, more importantly, to God.

Prophetic Witness, prayer and service.

So, if I think I have something God is trying to say to you or through you. I'll tell you.
If you want me to pray with you I will but don't be surprised if I'm already doing it.
If there's anything I can do to help, then I am here to serve you

I look forward to seeing you soon

Deacon Helen



News from our Churches

Burton Road Methodist Church



June 15th saw the dedication service of the building project at Burton Road, what a great time was had by all, it was lovely to welcome older members back to the church and welcome those that attend regularly, also some of our ministered who have been with us in their time of ministry in Lincoln for a service of dedication, thanks and ribbon cutting.

Rev Juliet Wriglesworth did the service with Rev Adam Wells doing a short talk, also Sam Reast, Alison Bowler and Wendy Thompson lead the congregation in some time of worship before the service and throughout. Adam is the husband of Ann who is the daughter of Micheal and Dorothy Chambers, these wonderful people are truly missed at Burton Road, the new offices that have been made in what was the lounge has been given the official title of the Chambers Suite in honour of this wonderful family.

Wendy Thompson (senior steward at burton road) then thanked the management team for all the hard work that they had put into the building project, meetings and decisions being made on behalf of the church members, a card and voucher was given to each one and a special card and voucher given to Mark Thompson who has overlooked this project right from the very beginning many many years ago and as it was written in his card, not minutes, hours, weeks or days but months and years of hard work and meetings, thank you so much for everything Mark

Micheal and Dorothy's grand-daughter Hannah uses an electric wheelchair to get about in and was able to come to the front of church and cut a ribbon attached to the newly formed electric door from the church to the corridor for easy access for wheelchair users to officially open the newly refurbished part of the building, as Hannah cut the ribbon she said "for Gran and Grandpa" thank you so much Hannah and all the family for your kindness and support of Burton road methodist church may it long continue.

After the service there was an afternoon tea provided by Scrummies based in Saxilby where there was time for all to meet up for a catch up, have a tour around the building and enjoy the food and a cup of tea that was provided.

If anybody would like to look around the building then please do contact me Wendy Thompson contact details are in the plan and circuit directory.

Thank you once more for all who came and enjoyed this lovely day together and we look forward to using this amazing building to build up His Kingdom within our community for years to come.

God Bless

Wendy Thompson and all the congregation at Burton Road

Central Methodist Church



We continue to reach out welcoming the community to our Monday morning drop in where we offer refreshments and chat. Our "New to you shop" continues to be well supported. Food bank is held on a Thursday morning helping many people. You can also drop in for coffee. Citizens advice is available for the clients.

We have been holding Beetle Drives which have raised funds and are great fun. Our next one is on August 29th from 2- 4 pm.

Future plans include an ABBA tribute concert in mid-November, A snowman drive and our Christmas tree festival. Details of these dates soon.

We are again acting as a collection point for the "Link to Hope" shoe-boxes. These can be brought to Central on the 5th, 6th, and 7th November between 10am and 2pm.

Rev Margaret is holding a day of reflection on 27th November. Venue to be confirmed.
Our mission is to reach out to the community, and we pray that by holding these events people will feel comfortable to come and join in with us.

Cherry Willingham



Did the weather in Lincolnshire this spring and early summer seem like the 'warmth' had been put on hold? Certainly, many of the Church and village outdoor events in May and June were firstly postponed and then cancelled.

Reflecting on the Church outdoor BBQ in mid-June was a case in question; the day started with beautiful sunshine, the canvas was duly assembled, tables and chairs in place and the food preparations went all to plan for the expected arrivals in the afternoon. As the first guests began to arrive, the weather changed, the sky darkened, and the rain came in buckets full! Thankfully the canvas kept most guests dry, well almost! And the burgers etc were well received by all, with grateful thanks to our hosts for making the event possible.



In the Spring edition of the Circuit News, I reported of a visit by Maureen Sydney from Safe Families, and as a result Cherry Willingham now has four volunteers trained and able to offer help and assistance when called upon via Safe Families.

Looking Forward as we do to forthcoming planned events, some details are yet to be confirmed; -

Tea party on Saturday 31st August.

Joint Harvest Festival service at 'Cherry Fields' * Sunday September 22nd commencing 3pm

A film afternoon watching a children's Disney film; possibly 19th October

Church Council meeting at 3pm followed by a shared tea, November 16th

Logan a regular attendee at the national Youth event '3 Generate' (3 Gen for short) will share with us briefly his experiences in November.

(Cherry Fields* access is on the south side of Fiskerton Road in Cherry Willingham almost opposite the Laburnum Drive turning; expect 5 minute walk approx)

PG

Monks Road Methodist Church



Times are often quieter during the Summer months at church but we have revised our schedule of Coffee Mornings so we now hold one each month. This is to raise funds, both for charity and for church funds. This means that half of our fund raising goes towards helping those in need as well as seeking to fund the raised assessments. Also, we are grateful to one of our members who, along with her family, hosts a Summer garden party, so at the end of July much fun and friendship was shared at a beautiful garden with fine weather.

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PRAYING TOGETHER

1 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.

2 Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you have called your Church to be a sign of and witness to your kingdom in the world, and through the gifts of the Holy Spirit you guide and inspire it. We give you thanks for Revd Helen Cameron and Carolyn Godfrey now called to the offices of President and Vice-President of the Conference. We bless you for the ways in which you have led them to this moment and for the gifts with which you have inspired them. Send your Holy Spirit upon them that they may build up your people in love and service, to the glory of your name. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

3 Loving God, you know us and all that we are facing. We thank you that we can come to you as we are – with all our fears and concerns, our difficulties and challenges. Please draw close to each of us and those we remember before you now. Bring to us your peace and comfort. And fill us with your Spirit that we may be bearers of your grace and hope to others. As a country protect us, encourage us and keep us. In the name of your Son Jesus, we pray. Amen

4 We pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives. We give God thanks for the sacrifice and commitment of teachers and all those involved in serving children and young people in education. We pray that all might be nurtured and cared for and that every needful resource would be made available – that all lives can flourish even in difficult times and that no-one would be overlooked. Amen.

PRAYING TOGETHER

5 We bless you, God of Seed and Harvest. We bless each other that the beauty of this world and the love that created it might be expressed though our lives and be a blessing to others now and always Amen

6 Dear Lord, I'm thankful for the changes in my life. I'm thankful for the new and different things I experience. I know Dear God, this is our lives changing all around us, and thank you that we are allowed to have these experiences. May I become more aware of the ways that it changes me and what impact it has on my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

7 Lord. We pray for all who come to church, both members and adherents. May we, as members. reflect Your love to all who visit our churches and to each other, supporting in times of stress and sorrow and rejoicing in times of happiness. Help us to remember those who, because of illness or work, are not able to attend worship. In Jesus name. Amen

8 God of misty days, we come to you with our prayer requests today and thank you for the change of seasons. Autumn is a season of new beginnings in many ways, and we ask you to bless us and make the way clear ahead of us. Help our children adjust to the new school year, prepare our hearts and minds for the winter season ahead, and help us to embrace this new beginning with eager hearts. Amen."

9 Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

10 God of autumn, as we embrace the autumn chill and misty mornings shrouded in fog, we ask you to fill our hearts with joy. Help us to navigate this transition into shorter, cooler days with joyful and thankful hearts. May joy radiate from us in the same way that the brilliant colours of the leaves radiate from the trees. Amen.

PRAYING TOGETHER

11 Pray for our Ministers, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders as they lead services every week. We ask that You will continue to inspire them and lead them by Your Spirit. Please give them time, strength and wisdom, as they plan their services to bring Your word to the congregations where they minister. As they seek to bring Your word to us and encourage us, so may we too encourage and pray for them in turn. We also thank You for those whom You are calling even now, to be Local Preachers and Worship Leaders. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

12 Creator God, thank you for harvest moon nights, the fall harvest, and red leaves all around us. You are the God of the harvest, and autumn makes us think about bearing fruit in our lives. Help us to stay close to you and abide in you so that we might glorify you through the fruit we bear. Amen.

13 Loving God, in the resources of the earth you have given us riches for all humanity. We pray for all who are involved in harvesting those resources, in agriculture and horticulture, forestry, mining and fisheries. Their work is often dangerous and, for some, beset with uncertainty through weather, pest and disease. We pray for those whose livelihoods have been ruined by disease, by falling prices, and by the shortcomings of disaster management. Help us to enable them to reflect on their future and chart their course with confidence. May they be set free from bitterness and anger. May they know that the community they have sought to serve stands alongside them in their need. Amen.

14 Dear God, we are grateful for all that you have given to us – our food, each other and our health. We pray for those who lack these things we enjoy. Give us thankful hearts and opportunities to share your gifts with others. We lift before you this country – and pray you would protect us, encourage us and keep us. Amen

PRAYING TOGETHER

15 We pray for those who work in both the local churches and in the circuit contributing to the smooth running of the churches, and the wider circuit. We thank you for their commitment and hard work, asking for strength, wisdom and perseverance in fulfilling the roles You have given to them. We ask that You will enable each of us to encourage and to support them in their roles. We also thank You for those who may be stepping down this year thanking You for all that they have given to these roles. We pray for those taking on new roles that You will equip them for their tasks. Amen.

16 Let us be yours, O God. Let us not draw back from you, neither from your presence, nor from your cross. Touch our hearts and make them holy. Consecrate our lives.

Lucy Herbert (1669-1744)

17 We bring to God all those who suffer in body, mind, spirit or with grief. We ask that in God's great loving kindness they might know God's sustaining presence amidst their pain. Amen

18 We pray for those who are in positions of authority with responsibility for decision making at national and local level at this time. We ask that God would give great wisdom, deep commitment to all and right judgment. Amen

19 We lift to God those we hold in our hearts – praying for their health, their well-being and their sense of hope. We pray that even when loved ones cannot physically be together, they would not feel apart. We ask for God's help in our communicating, our connecting and our caring. Amen

20 We echo God's commitment to those most at risk by praying for those who are particularly vulnerable and isolated: praying for their deliverance, protection and comfort. We hold before God those who care for them – that they would be strengthened and encouraged in this work. Amen

PRAYING TOGETHER

21 We pray for those who are stretched beyond their own capacity to cope and remain hopeful – that in the roar of these waterfalls God would bring a sense of coherence, comfort and strength. Amen

22 We pray for the economic wellbeing of our country. We remember before God those who face great uncertainty in their work. We lift before God those who have lost their jobs and face an uncertain and difficult future. We pray for a renewed commitment to our common life together. Amen

23 Our God is the great healer – and the agent used more than any other is the NHS. Today we voice our gratitude for those who serve this country in the National Health Service and pray that God will prosper the work of their hands – that they will all be encouraged in their continued work of sacrifice and care amongst us. Amen

24 God of glory, touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice to sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

25 God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

26 Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

27 Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYING TOGETHER

28 God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

29 Be to us, O God, our love and our hope; our thoughts flowing from you, our life being in you and our breathing taken with you; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.
John Cassian (c. 360-435)

30 Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

31 Lord God, thank you that your love for us knows no limits. As we continue to enjoy the autumn season, we bring you our burdens and ask you to give rest to our souls. Help us to trust you with the parts of our lives that don't currently make sense to us and help us to find true soul rest in you every day. Amen.

News from our Churches continued

Monks Road Methodist Church continued …..

As Autumn comes along our usual activities will begin again with uniformed organisations in our hall three evenings a week and our Monday morning Craft & Friendship group and First Tuesday group meeting again. Needless to say, everyone is welcome to either of these friendly groups. Craft expertise is not necessary and if you aren't crafty that doesn't matter as the group is a friendship group also, so a lot of chat, coffee and a soup lunch ends the morning which begins at 10.30am.

Our First Tuesday group, as the name suggests, meets in church on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm with a variety of interesting speakers. If your church groups have closed for lack of numbers, then come and join us and enjoy circuit friendship – we'd love to greet you.

The Government has stopped the Winter fuel payment for most pensioners keeping it available for those who are on Pension Credit or other benefits. With this in mind, if the weather is cold this Winter then our Monday Craft time will also double as a warm space so if you know anyone who would welcome a friendly place to avoid putting on their own heating then direct them to us on Monday mornings, and I am sure many of our churches will be offering help where they can. We are also aware that though things slow down with our church activities there are families who still struggle with the cost of living and we continue to fill our box with groceries that regularly go to the Community Larder.

Moorland Park Methodist Church



As this is written at the beginning of August our Girls' Brigade company held their awards evening last month. Families of the girls and those from within the church came together to celebrate the achievements of the girls in the completion of their badge work and the activities they have taken part in during the last twelve months. They are now making the final preparations for their summer camp at Robins Hood Bay. We are grateful for the officers who work week by week with the girls. The company has formed part of our church family for over 60 years.

This November marks the 100th anniversary of the first service taking place on the land located on Skellingthorpe Road, although not in the present premises. We are going to mark the occasion with a celebratory service on Sunday 24th November led by Rev Angy Long, followed by a shared lunch. An Anniversary like this is a time for looking back and remembering those who laid the foundations for today, but it is also a time to look forward. On Saturday 5th October we are holding an "Open Day" to which we will invite those who use our premises in whatever way and the extended community to come and learn more of what we can offer in addition to sharing light refreshments with us. At present we are still in the planning stages as we look forward to what Moorland Park's future will be.

A number of new activities are planned for September with the starting of "Craft-ernoon" on a Wednesday afternoon between 1.00 p.m to 3.00 p.m. Bring your own craft knitting, card making, sewing, felting -------- whatever you want. Conversations are also taking place with the Community Connector about a community market-place each month as part of Lincolnshire Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Transformation Programme.

As we reflect on the journey of this church over the last hundred years the following is a brief timeline of Moorland Park. It started life in discussions at Hannah Memorial (located on the High Street where the Baptist Church now stands) when new homes were being built in the Boultham area. Initially, a former wooden officer's mess from RA F Waddington was acquired (known as the "black hut"). A second hut was obtained later, as the church membership grew and then it was in 1953 the present church was opened. The wooden huts were retained until the finances enabled an extension to the brick building in 1982 comprising the hall and kitchen. The latest addition being the "Connect lounge" in 2016. Through all these years and projects there has been an enthusiastic and committed group of members who have used their skills and determination to continue to build and maintain its activities and reach out to the local community.



North Hykeham Methodist Church

Once again North Hykeham have had an excellent quarter of services. We thank all the preachers and grateful thanks to our Worship leaders Heather and Dennis who have done a great job. Our congregation is averaging 25every week.

Three gentlemen have celebrated 97, 95, 94 birthdays.



Our knitters are busy with strips making blankets - Rosemary and Eileen sew them into blankets and Ann crochets round. We have taken over 70 to Jacob's Well where, hopefully, they are being used where needed. We would be grateful for any donations of wool please so that we can continue this valuable work.

Barbara

Reepham Methodist Church



In June we lost our oldest member, Margaret Middleton. She was 99 and had expressed the wish that she did not want to live to be 100. Her funeral was held on the day before what would have been her 100th birthday. The church was packed with relatives, church members, friends from the village, former members of the church and people from Scrooby where she had lived before coming to Reepham about twenty years ago to live near her daughter and son-in-law. She was fondly remembered by generations of children and young people at Scrooby as Mrs Mid, where she nurtured them through Sunday School and Youth Club. She was a farmer's wife and her other great gift was hospitality both at Scrooby and Reepham. In her eighties she started a luncheon club at Reepham for "the old folk" and frequently entertained people from church for Sunday lunch. In recent years she was less mobile but hosted Reepham's MWiB group, our house group and an ecumenical prayer group in her home. She didn't talk much about her faith but she lived it in the love she showed and the hospitality she offered.

Our now oldest member Joy Elvidge (aged 98) has recently moved to Willow Court Care Home in Cherry Willingham. She has been glad to receive visits from friends from church and the community.

Our regular Fun Friday has continued with an average of 12 attenders. The driving force behind this has been Roy Jackson, another active octogenarian offering hospitality.

We were also on the receiving end of hospitality from Jane and Richard Wills at our annual church barbecue. This time we welcomed friends from Reepham Parish Church and Cherry Methodist as well. Jane is continuing the tradition of hospitality inherited from her mother.

We also look forward to Jane's cakes when we meet for fellowship at Richard and Jane's and are planning to make this a monthly event in the autumn.

With more Local Arrangements on the plan, we often have united services with Cherry Willingham and on a fifth Sunday, we go to Washingborough.

Skellingthorpe Methodist Church



The summer months have been busy ones in Skellingthorpe. Rev Canon Angy Long started our 130th anniversary celebrations by preaching at a service on Sunday, 2nd June. This was followed by a Bring and Share buffet with a huge chocolate cake for dessert.

Later in the month we had a stall at the village Gala. Setting up and packing up proved somewhat onerous, but it highlighted the need to think carefully about the amount of help required next year. Deacon Helen was able to talk to lots of people and many worries and concerns were addressed and added to her Prayer Tree. A World Cup football goal scoring game for younger children was extremely popular with the talented winners ensuring that the World Cup may well 'come home' in 2032 or 2036. The Chapel, Craft and Charity group had bagged up surplus wool and craft kits to tempt the many friends and crafters with and, of course, many succumbed! Financially, we didn't make a great deal, but outreach and Mission was the most important factor.

Our Property Committee members power-washed the paths and strimmed all the weeds, along with help from a Church member who kindly pulled up weeds on arrival each week. The Stewards have attended a Church Safeguarding training and a Data Protection session. The Bible Study Group decided to take a break during the sum-

mer months and is likely to change the format of its meetings in the autumn.

Several Own Arrangement services have taken place with church members choosing hymns and prayers and welcoming the opportunity to explain their reasons for their choices. Our ancient CD player finally admitted defeat when it came to playing Charles Wesley's wonderful hymn 'And Can It Be', but a delighted a Steward found a replacement for only £8 in a charity shop shortly afterwards. It is still working at the time of writing this report! One of our members is determined that we shall sing a variety of different hymns and has provided an initial list of around twenty for us to work our way through.

Our Harvest Festival Service is on Sunday, 20th October and we are delighted that Rev David Lawton has agreed to return to take this.

Our anniversary celebrations end in December with a Festival of Wreaths and all village residents, clubs and organisations have been invited to take part in this. Ideally, we should love to have 130 wreaths on display, and this could be achieved, but only with your help. We should, therefore, like to invite each Church and member in the Lincoln District to make a wreath, too! There is no particular them; wreaths may be any shape and size and made from any material. Wreaths may reflect a particular season or subject, but should definitely be fun, and colourful! Contact Deacon Helen for further details.

St Columba's LEP



14th September	12:30pm	Community Lunch
5th October	Harvest Supper - will include Uganda Presentation by Janet Turner-Harrison	
6th October	Harvest Festival	
26th October	12:30pm	Community Lunch
16th November	Quiz	
7th December	Christmas Tree Festival	

St Giles Methodist Church



Our Summer Fayre was a great success in July when we raised £853.10 for church funds. Organiser Zoe Clarke and her team are already planning our Christmas Fayre due to take place in November.

Our quarterly combined service with our friends at St Giles Parish Church was rearranged in June so that we could attend Rev Sandy Gould's first communion as she was ordained at the Cathedral the previous day. Our next combined service will be at the Methodist Church on September 29.

It is still our aim to erect a Community Sensory Garden behind the back of the church, this being a joint venture between ourselves and St.Giles Nursery. We have submitted an application for funding from the City Council with other funding streams being looked into. Lots of interest and ideas – still waiting for the City Council to approve our application.

Cay Sherlock and Andy Yaboah have now completed their Chaplaincy course. They have both received placements and are settling into their new roles.

Our coffee mornings on Wednesdays and Fridays, part of the Warm Rooms initiative, are proving popular with free bacon butties and toast provided. The Free-4-All and Community Larder are open at the same time so the church can get very busy. Our Monday coffee mornings when visitors come to into the more relaxing lounge for coffee, games and chat are also proving to be more popular.

Boys Brigade and Scouts, whose numbers are increasing, are enjoying their summer break before restarting on Wednesday and Friday evenings. The Night Light Café on Tuesday evenings continues to prove a great help for those with mental health issues and some respite for their carers.

Swallowbeck Methodist Church



Greetings to all our friends around the Circuit. Summer has been a quieter time for us with various folk away on holidays, but we continue to serve tea and coffee after our services with most of the congregation staying for a chat. Our Harvest Festival service will be on 22 September when we look forward to Rev Alan Barker leading our worship followed by a Bring & Share Lunch, donations of tinned and packet food will be given to the Lincoln Food Bank. Lunch Club continues to be well supported and we are blessed with willing helpers to enable this to continue. Our zoom Bible Study sessions on Monday evenings will resume in September, subject still to be decided.

We have heard from Richard Wilson at Navenby that the last box of used ink cartridges which he recycles on behalf of Juvenile Diabetes Research raised £44, bringing his overall total from all his collection sites to £6,031.51. He started his recycling project 15 years ago and looks forward to receiving more from anyone who can bring cartridges to the Circuit Harvest Festival at Farmer Brown's LN13 9RL on September 29th at 3pm.

Jackie



Washingborough Methodist Church

On a hot summer's evening on Saturday 20th July the chapel was full for a fund-raising concert given by Lincoln Hospitals Band which raised £ 450 for chapel funds. Thanks to all involved in organising the event, running it, suggesting it, setting out the seating, providing refreshments, selling tickets, publicity – so many people to thank. The idea came from Jim O'Hara, one of our members who is a member of the band. We hope to hold another one next year perhaps in the Spring/early Summer.

At the end of August Keith Swann stepped down after 10 years as Steward and his place was taken by Ralph Osgerby. For now, Keith remains as a representative to the Circuit Meeting and he remains as Church Contact until the end of 2024 when Joan Bennett will take over as Church contact. Keith remains as contact re- music.

Our warm and welcome space coffee mornings continue on the first and third Saturday mornings of the month from 10am to 12 noon. Do pop along if you are free, No charge. Donations only. The Tuesday coffee mornings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 10am -12 noon are a joint venture with our friends from St John's. Discussions are underway with a view to changing the first one each month into more of a community event.

Our plan of services for the Autumn will include a joint Harvest Festival service with our friend's from St Johns on 22nd September and a service on 29th September led by the Prospects Team (Count Everyone In) who usually lead a service on the third Sunday afternoon of the month for adults and young people with additional needs.

We continue to receive enquiries from the local community about use of our premises.

Keith Swann



Welton & Dunholme Methodist Church

At the beginning of July, we were very pleased to support the four-day Welton Arts Festival and host *An Evening at the Opera.* Overall, the various events were well supported and enjoyed by many people in the village.

Some groups at chapel have taken a summer break but the regular Wednesday and Saturday coffee mornings and Tuesday evening table tennis have continued. Film Club with afternoon tea will resume in September, as will the men's group, *Tremendoes*, with Ladies Fellowship starting again in October.

Ingham cafe church on the fourth Sunday of each month continues to be well supported. Their congregation, along with friends from across the circuit, are warmly invited to our Harvest Festival on Sunday 29th September, followed by an auction of the produce and a harvest lunch.

Worship Leader Training

Are you enthusiastic about worship?
Would you like to help lead worship in your church?
If you are already helping with Own Arrangement services, would you like help in your preparation for these?

In the Autumn we are starting a ten-session course (meeting once a month) to train people in the circuit to lead worship in their church.

If you would like to know more, please contact Margaret Roe margaret.roe@methodist.org.uk or 01522 751596.

REEPHAM METHODIST CHURCH

present a

C O N C E R T

featuring Jonty Nowell and friends

on

Saturday, 5th October 2024 at 7.15 pm

Varied Programme of Music

Followed by Light Refreshments

Tickets, price £10 available from Jane Wills (752072) or Roy Jackson (595912) or available on the door (number restricted)



Booking Secretary's Lament

I find my role as booking secretary full of ups and downs
Very much a love hate situation starting with the positives
When the church is full of happy children and ringing with laughter
Little ones enjoying being in Gods house learning to play together and learning
Good Lessons for life especially the Guiding groups
All this makes me happy
The down days when our building isn't respected and not left as we would like to find it left untidy and our
lovely kitchen left untidy with dirty wet tea towels left draped around this is upsetting and saddens me
Balancing heating costs against income always a challenge
But I feel I am helping to keep our church alive and still on the map in North Hykeham
And as there is no one to take on the task I'll keep going remembering the good times



DISTRICT UPDATE

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TRAINING

Saturday 7th September 2024, 10.30am – 2.30pm at Nettleham Methodist Church, Lincoln – bookings to PA@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk or 01522 370126
Monday 16th September 2024, 12.30pm – 3.30pm at Ashby Wesley Methodist Church, Scunthorpe - bookings to 077886 90238
Online: Register at https://mcb.theologyx.com/courses/ The course is listed as "Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Module

This course should be completed either online or face to face by all active ministers, local preachers, worship leaders, circuit stewards, church stewards, circuit safe-guarding officers and lay pastoral workers. Lots of people have now completed the course but these are opportunities for those who haven't yet. Anyone can do the course for interest even if they are not one of the above office holders.

ADVANCED SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Saturday 12th October 2024, 10am – 2.30pm - hosted by Grimsby and Cleethorpes Circuit – details and bookings to PA@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk
More dates to be announced soon.

COAT OF HOPES – https://www.coatofhopes.uk/story

The Coat of Hopes is travelling through the District in the coming week. It is a col-lected story of environmental concern but also a fantastic embroidery project!

15th Aug – leaves Winterton
16th Aug – Barnetby
17th Aug – Caistor MC
18th Aug – Market Rasen MC – chapel open 3.00 - 5.00 to view, try on and hear the story of the coat.
19th Aug – Wragby Parish Church
20th Aug – 2nd Sept – Lincoln Cathedral
2nd Sept – North Hykeham
3rd Sept – Bassingham
6th October – Gosberton
7th Oct – Holbeach
8th Oct – Long Sutton

Calendar Dates - September to November 2024		
Sunday - Friday	Sep-01 to Oct-04	Creation Time
Sunday	Sep-08	Education Sunday
Monday	Sep-09	Emergency Services Day
Monday	Sep-09	Fairtrade Fortnight Begins
Saturday	Sep-14	Holy Cross Day
Sunday	Sep-22	Peace Sunday
Sunday	Sep-22	September Equinox
Friday	Sep-27	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Sunday	Sep-29	Michael and All Angels
Sunday	Sep-29	Circuit Trip to Farmer Brown's
Thursday	Oct-03	National Poetry Day
Friday	Oct-04	Feast of St Francis of Assisi
Thursday	Oct-10	World Mental Health Day
Sunday	Oct-27	Daylight Saving Time ends
Thursday	Oct-31	All Hallows Eve
Friday	Nov-01	All Saints Day
Saturday	Nov-02	All Souls Day
Sunday	Nov-03	Lincs County Harvest Festival at Lincoln Cathedral
Tuesday	Nov-05	Guy Fawkes Day
Sunday	Nov-10	Remembrance Sunday
Friday	Nov-15	Children in Need
Sunday	Nov-24	Christ the King
Thursday	Nov-28	Thanksgiving
Saturday	Nov-30	St. Andrew's Day
Sunday	Dec-01	Advent- First Sunday

A Reminder that Unicorn Books - have a good range of Christian books and will order any required. Also if you knit for charity visit the wool lady (who was in the market hall for many years) as she shares the same space, Find them at - Unicorn Tree Books, Wool Box and Comic World. St. Benedicts Church, St. Benedicts Square, Lincoln LN5 7AR

Open Monday -Saturday (excluding Wednesday) 10am to 4pm unicorntreebooks@gmail.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 address to info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk

Material for the **Winter 2024** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Wednesday, **13 November 2024**. Any material received after this date will not be included in the December edition.

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