

Being Church

May 2025



Dear friends,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ.

In my second year of ministerial training, I had a chance to visit the State of Israel for a couple of weeks as part of a study tour. The group comprised of around twenty-five students of different Christian denominations—predominantly Anglicans, Baptists, and Methodists—studying in various theological colleges in the UK. One of my fondest memories from that trip is my visit to the site of Christ’s ascension, secluded on the side of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. Like almost all the “holy” sites in the Holy Land, the control of the site of Christ’s ascension had also been under various emperors and religious groups over the centuries, meaning that any memorial structure on this site was destroyed and rebuilt many times. Today, the site of Christ’s ascension is nothing more than a small circular chapel enclosing a slab of stone bearing a right footprint—believed to be Jesus’ footprint left here as he ascended into heaven.

While our group was in this Chapel of Christ’s Ascension, one of us, without any prompts, broke into singing the renowned song, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God.” We joined him with choruses. It sounded gorgeous. Something of the site—may be the silence encompassing the space or even the freedom we all experienced as we were the only group occupying the site at that time—urged us all to join in, eventually filling the enclosed, echoing space with our wonderful harmony.

I pondered long why this particular song dawned on us that day. Could it simply be its repetitive, easy-to-follow lyrics? Or is there something more? Something spiritual and enigmatic.

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**Boston Spa - Clifford - Collingham - East Keswick - Tadcaster - Wetherby
Lower Wharfe (at Appleton Roebuck, Church Fenton & Ulleskelf)**

Whatever it may be, that moment—that moment of us all melodiously singing “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” while standing at the site of Christ’s ascension—is one of my favourite recollections of my trip to Israel. In retrospect, however, I feel that the song conveys a message about the significance of the days leading up to Christ’s ascension.

Since the Fourth Century CE, both Eastern and Western Christianity observe the 40th day after Easter as Ascension Day or the Feast of the Ascension—a day to commemorate Jesus Christ returning to his Father after his resurrection (Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9). Just like his birth, passion, and resurrection, the ascension of Christ is mentioned in the Apostles’ and Nicene creeds, making it a significant event in the Christian calendar (This year, it falls on 29 May, Thursday). The Bible does not tell us much about what Jesus had done in those 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. But it is mentioned that He met with his disciples multiple times, proving that he was very much alive (Luke 24:13–35; 24:39; John 20:27; 21:12–13), and, importantly, teaching them about the kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). Jesus was preparing his disciples to get ready for the great transition that is about to happen to their lives. Because, as we know, soon the disciples will experience the Pentecost—the descent of the Holy Spirit upon them, giving birth to the Church. The disciples would then be required to move on, to spread the Good News to the ends of the earth. So, the days leading up to Christ’s ascension were a preparation and transition period.

I imagine you will be reading this article sometime between Easter and Ascension. So, I wonder, how has God been preparing you, especially in these days after we celebrated His resurrection? What has He been teaching you this season about life, yourself, or Himself? Has He been instructing you about the life in the kingdom of God? Perhaps my experience in the Chapel of Ascension with the quick chorus of “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” was a nod to the right direction of what God expects of us in this season. When in the mountain of jubilation or while traversing the valleys of sorrow, seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...May God give you grace and empowerment and lead you through this season and into the next.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Abi

PRAYER

Local Pastor Eileen hosts a weekly **Circuit Prayer Meeting** on **Zoom** **Every Tuesday, 9.30am – 10am (join from 9.15am)** all are invited to join us.
Please contact Eileen for the Zoom log on details.

*Plus, prayer meetings at **Wetherby** in the Quiet Room every Wednesday 10.00am
Tadcaster 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 9.15am and at **Clifford** every Tuesday 9.40am*

WORSHIP

For Sunday service see the Circuit Plan, copies are available in our buildings or [via this link](#).



Tadcaster Circuit Diary

- 27 Apr** (Sun) 3pm at Tadcaster, Circuit Praise & Prayer followed by faith tea, speaker Dr Alan Bell
- 3 May** (Sat) 10am to 3.3pm at Wetherby MC: Arts & Crafts Fair Book a table with Paula
- 7 May** (Wed) MWiB event at Norton Trinity Methodist Church:
There is car parking at the back of the church, some on the street parking, and a free car park on St Nicholas St. **Do not park in the library car park**, opposite, without first giving your car registration in the library, otherwise there is a hefty fine. Parking in Lidl is limited to 1.5 hours.
- 8 May** (Thu) Wetherby M.C. open for prayer from 6.30-7.30pm for prayer for VE 80 day, come and go as you wish
- 9 May** (Fri) 1pm at Boston Spa, VE Day 80th Anniversary Wartime Memories, light lunches from 12noon, tickets £6
- 11 May** (Sun) 2.30pm at Tadcaster M.C., songs with Castleford Singers, £7 on the door
- 25 May** (Sun) 3pm at East Keswick , Musical Box (The Village Voices) & Afternoon Tea
- 29 May** (Thu) 7pm at Clifford: Ascension Day (Circuit Service) all welcome
- 7 Jun** (Sat) 2-4pm at Tadcaster, afternoon tea with musical entertainment, £6
- 21 Jun** (Sat) LWP Programme, guided walk in Ripon: in the footsteps of Lewis Carol, contact Andrew Marshall for more info
- 5-6 Jul** Collingham Celebrates 100 years, a weekend of centenary celebrations
- 12 Jul** (Sat) 11.45am to 2.30pm at Boston Spa: Literary Lunch, guest speaker Milly Johnson (author of "Same time Next Week"), tickets £20 including lunch
- 24 Jul** (Thu) Save the date at Collingham: An Afternoon of High Tea

If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Jun '25** issue of **Being Church** (or the diary), please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 16 May**. Thank you.
tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

District Diary

21 Apr (Tue) Ticket Launch for Flourish taking place **13-15 Feb, 2026** at the University of York "Woven Threads"

10 May (Sat) at Manor Academy: District Synod, transport is being organised for reps.

15 Jun (Sun) at 3pm at Goole Central Methodist Church: District Ordinand's Testimony Service to hear Revd Joseph Kwallah's Testimony, all welcome



Flourish
13/02/26 - 15/02/26

**WOVEN
THREADS**

SPEAKERS | WORKSHOPS | WORSHIP
ACTIVITIES | INSPIRATION

**TICKETS LAUNCH
MONDAY 21 APRIL**

**SUPPORTER - £45
SUBSIDISED - £25**

GENERAL ADMISSION FOR UNDER 18 - £10
FAMILY TICKET - £60

For Children & Youth streams
(residential and non-residential)
see separate details on the website

Flourish
a diverse all-age festival



*plus online booking fee



Easter cross at Collingham:

Sheila (Burgess) would have loved it. I can hear her saying, "How lovely. Oh that's beautiful Eileen!" We miss her, and gives thanks to God for her life. Eileen

Vacancies

If you, or anyone you know, are interested, please speak to Rev Ann.

- Circuit Data Compliance Officer
- Circuit Steward(s) - urgent!
- Foundation Safeguarding Trainer
- Leaders of Worship & Preachers Meeting Secretary



Methodist Women in Britain Norton Trinity Methodist Church

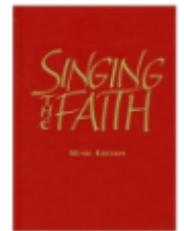
YO17 9JA

7 May 10.00/30 – 15.00



Naomi Prince

“Sing and Make Music to the Lord”



What does congregational singing look like in the modern Methodist Church?



Leonora Wassell Commission on the Status of Women 2025
POWER4Girls: Invest in Girls, Transform the World”

District Business

Bring and share lunch.



**Methodist Women
in Britain**

for women, for justice, for Christ

Would members of the Circuit group of MWiB, or those who would be interested in joining, please contact me. I would like to arrange a meeting to talk about the group, the MWiB resources, and any future plans. Thank you, Rev Ann.

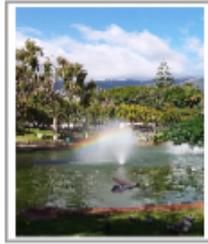
Other MWiB events for your diaries:

- 3rd Mary Bosanquet Lecture given by Kathy Galloway from Iona Community, a fringe event at Methodist Conference, Telford (date tbc)
- 18 Oct at Starbeck Methodist Church: World Federation Day, details in the Summer newsletter
- 25 Nov 10.30am to 12.30pm at Wesley Chapel, City Rd, London: Butterfly Movement Service of Affirmation & Thanksgiving
- 10-12 Apr 2026 (Save the date) - Swanwick Conference

For information about the Tree of Life and Empowerment gifts, contact your communications steward.

Celebration
Praise and Prayer
Service

Sunday 27th
April 2025



Tadcaster Methodist Church

led by Rev Ann and Pastor Eileen

Service at 3pm

Followed by Faith Tea

Speaker Dr. Alan Bell

Singing, Testimonies, and the Word
and an opportunity for

Prayer for Blessing and Healing

Want to meet God? What to be touched by God?

Come along and be blessed!

Arts & Crafts Fair



Birches, Butterflies and Bees—Clare Dean

Saturday 3rd May 2025
10am—3.30pm

Wetherby Methodist Church
Bank Street
Refreshments available

To book a table email Paula Tweddle
on Paula.Tweddle2022@outlook.com

Tadcaster Methodist Church

Sunday, 11th May at 2.30pm



An afternoon of songs with:

Castleford Singers

£7.00 – pay on the door
(includes tea & biscuits)

Proceeds to be shared between the
choir & the Millie Wright Charity



East Keswick Methodist Church
invite you to a fundraising



BANK HOLIDAY MUSICAL BOX

Come and listen to our
local talented
performers....
Sunday 25th May at
3.00pm



Sue Lees and her singers,
Margaret and David
Moseley and
The Village Voices

Afternoon tea will be served
at the interval

Tickets £12 available from church members
or phone Penny 01937 573434
or Christine 07801 575102



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Boston Spa
Methodist Church

Lunchtime Concert

V.E. Day 80th Anniversary
Wartime Memories 1939-1945



Serendipity

Margaret Jowett and Kathy White

1pm Friday 9th May 2025

TICKETS £6

Light lunches served from 12 noon

ENQUIRIES: 0113 268 2041

Tadcaster Methodist Church
Saturday, 7th June

Afternoon Tea

£6.00

Served 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm

With musical entertainment



Do join us,
all are
welcome



Tickets: 01937 832437

(booking not essential)

Collingham Methodist Church
Celebrates



100 Years!

A Weekend of
Centenary Celebrations

5th – 6th July 2025

and

An Afternoon High Tea
on Thursday 24th July '25

Please keep the dates
– more details to follow



Boston Spa Methodist Church

Literary Lunch

Saturday 12th July 2025

11.45am to 2.30pm



This year we welcome

Milly Johnson

much-loved and acclaimed Sunday
Times Top 10 best-selling author.

Her latest novel "Same time next week"
was launched in February 2025

Tickets **£20 to include lunch**
available from:

Judith Hoyle on 07876 085543
or from Yeadon's (cash only)

www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk



Regular Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Monday (weekly)	10.45am	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Monday (weekly)	2.30pm	Ping-Pong	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	5.00pm	Senior Table Tennis	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	7.30pm	Badminton	Wetherby
Monday (2nd)	10.30am-12noon	Bacon Brunch	Collingham
Monday (2nd & 4th)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	East Keswick
Monday (4th)	10.30am-12noon	Coffee & Chat	Collingham
Tuesday (weekly)	9.30-10.00am	Circuit Prayer Gathering	Zoom (Eileen)
Tuesday (weekly)	9.40-10.00am	Prayer Gathering	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00-11.30am	Coffee Shop	Tadcaster
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00-11.30am	Tuesday Coffee	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00am	Flower Club	Boston Spa
Tuesday (1st)	2.00-4.00pm	Flowers & Friends	Collingham
Tuesday (1st & 3rd)	9.15-10.00am	Prayer Group	Tadcaster
Tuesday (1st & 3rd)	1.30-3.30pm	Craft Get Together	Church Fenton
Tuesday (2nd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	Ulleskelf
Tues (3rd) not Aug/Sep	7.00pm	Tuesday Meeting	Church Fenton
Tuesday (4th)	1.00pm	Community Soup Lunch	Ulleskelf
Wednesday (weekly)	10.00am-12noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	10.30am-12noon	Chapel Coffee Pot	Appleton Roebuck
Wednesday (weekly)	10.00-10.30am	Prayer Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	11.15am-12.15pm	Coffee at t' Crown	Crown Hotel Boston Spa
Wednesday (weekly)	7.00pm	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Wednesday (irregular)	contact Wetherby	House-Group	contact Wetherby
Wednesday (1st)	2.00-4.00pm	Knit & Natter	Tadcaster
Wednesday (1st)	2.00-4.00pm	Women's Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (1st)	9.30am	Communion in the Box	Box Tree Ct, B Spa
Wednesday (2nd & 4th)	contact Wetherby	Gentlemen Bootbashers	contact Wetherby
Thursday (1st)	12noon	Community Soup Lunch	Church Fenton
Thursday (2nd)	12noon	Community Soup Lunch	Tadcaster
Thursday (last)	12noon	Souper Thursday	East Keswick
Friday (1st)	10.00-11.30am	Teddy Praise	Collingham
Saturday (weekly)	10.00-12noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Saturday (2nd)	2.00-3.30pm	Charity Coffee Afternoon	Church Fenton



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