

Being Church

September 2025



Dear Friends,

Listening to Uell Kennedy and his daughter in law Lily recount the origin of their business 'Chattering Classes' over a fabulous Indonesian meal cooked by Lily, I was reminded of the power of story telling and hospitality. Together they take us to another world where we can share with one another on a level that never seems to be possible at other times. We either find ourselves too busy, too tired, or too preoccupied with day to day pressures. But eating together and listening to stories builds something intangible that we take away from the occasion without even realising it. Relationships are changed, ways of thinking are different, and new bonds are formed.



The Bible is full of such stories and on many occasions people are invited to eat as they listen to the stories. Numbers were no problem when we think of the feeding of the five thousand. 'Come to my house for a meal' begs Matthew when he meets with Jesus.

The implication being that 'I need time to understand this change in me'. Whether it was changing water into wine at a wedding or leaving a lasting legacy for us all at the Last Supper, so often Jesus' teaching went hand in hand with hospitality.

The wonderful thing about his hospitality was that no-one was excluded. People are changed when they spend time with one another but often we look for our closest friends to sit next to. I have known, and been part of, the agonising decisions as to who might sit next to who at a formal dinner – trying to find the right combination. Who would dare to throw all the names up in the air and see where they landed and then call it a seating plan!

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

As we shared in the delicious meal cooked by Lily and she explained something of the dishes, our minds turned to thinking of those areas of the world we hear little about, but where people are starving. The Sudan, probably the worst humanitarian disaster in the world, but almost fallen out of our news. Ethiopia and other parts of Africa where people are uncertain of where



the next meal is coming from, and of course the situation in Gaza where people are dying of starvation. And yet we've cut foreign aid. We are rarely complimentary about our politicians but who would want to be one in this day and age?

Although statistics are clear and present an appalling picture of the number of people in our world who are starving, without good sanitation, or dying of diseases which the west have conquered, they register with us on a very superficial level. Tell the story of one person though, and that elicits an entirely different response. We feel their pain, are horrified at what they are going through and want to help. Whilst the suffering of the masses fails to move us to action, the plight of a single family can reduce us to tears. That is why telling their story is so important.

As we come to the time of harvest festivals, of enjoying all the good things around us and thanking God for them, we remember those who have none of the thing we enjoy. As we sit together at harvest meals and tell stories, make friends, learn new things and get a different perspective on others, let us value what we have, and in doing so take action for the have nots. It was through stories and parables that Jesus taught his disciples and still teaches us. Whose story will you focus on this harvest? Christian Aid, All We Can, Tear Fund, Water Aid and many other charities will provide some of these stories. Our Circuit Charity, the Millie Wright Trust also offers us a great opportunity to share together and tell their story. So let's enjoy some hospitality this autumn and be sure to tell the stories that matter to God and therefore to us.

Have a joyful and generous harvest,

Heather

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

PRAYER

Keith Hartrick 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 Keith 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

12 Sep (Fri) 1pm at Boston Methodist Church: Lunchtime Concert - Charlotte Rowan

13 & 14 Sep (Sat & Sun) at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Harvest Festival Weekend

19 Sep (Sat) 1.30pm at Tadcaster Methodist Circuit: Bible Study

20 Sep (Sat) 10.30 to 2.30pm at Tadcaster Methodist Circuit: Circuit Quiet Day

20 Sep (Sat) 2.30pm at Church Fenton Village Hall: Kippax Brass Band

29 Sep (Mon) 2pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Please be informed that we have a new date for the next Lower Wharfe Church Council meeting. We had to change the original date as a District event has come up.

10 Oct (Fri) 1pm at Boston Methodist Church: Lunchtime Concert - Emma James

District Diary

Tickets now available for Flourish taking place **13-15 Feb, 2026** at the University of York "Woven Threads"

**Busy Wednesday
Coffee Morning
at Appleton Roebuck**



Circuit News

Welcome to Paula Tweddle

We are delighted that Paula will be joining our Circuit staff team from 1 st September as our **Circuit Lay-Pastor and Circuit Safeguarding Officer**. I am sure that there will be many opportunities to meet Paula; please note that she will initially be undertaking her induction and required training sessions. Please join us in welcoming Paula into the Circuit. A special Welcome Service will be held on Friday, 5 September at Wetherby Methodist Church, 7pm, followed by refreshments.

Circuit Celebration Praise

The next Celebration Praise will be held at Tadcaster on Sunday, 12 October, 3pm, followed by a faith tea. All welcome.

Tadcaster Circuit Celebration – 200 years!!

“The Tadcaster Circuit was formed in 1826, apparently following a decision taken at the 1825 Annual Conference. The presence of a manse and the availability of more land for expansion must have been important factors for the town had been part of the York Circuit which included almost 50 villages.” Please don't forget to bring your ideas for a celebration to the Circuit Meeting – events around the Circuit and/or a big Celebration Praise. Please talk to your Church Stewards, Ministers, and Circuit Stewards. Thank you, Rev Ann.

5 Year Plan

Reminder as a follow-up to last month's item: The Circuit Leadership Team are aiming to bring suggestions for a 5 Year Plan to the next Circuit Meeting, covering staffing, buildings, financial projections, including a missional grant scheme for all churches.

Revd Ruth Gilson-Webb, District Assistant Chair – Church Development, has agreed to lead us in a Circuit Vision Day, 'What's our Future Story?'. This will be held on Saturday 1 November, 10am-2pm – please note this date in your diary. Please continue to pray about this in your churches.

Circuit Quiet Day

A Circuit Quiet Day will be held on Saturday 20 September at Tadcaster – see the poster “Our Story, Our Song”.

Circuit Bible Study

A Bible Study programme is planned at Tadcaster starting in September and all are invited – see the poster for further details.

3Generate

Our young people are getting excited now! Please pray for our group from the Circuit who are attending 3Generate on 3-5 October. We are currently exploring the programme that is set for the weekend, the kit list and travel, and fulfilling our safeguarding and risk assessment requirements. We look forward to telling you all about it on our return. Find out about it here: [3Generate 2025 - The Methodist Church](#)

If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Oct '25** issue of **Being Church** (or the diary), please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 12 Sep.** Thank you. tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

Thank you letter from Eileen

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to those of you who supported my Sponsored 24-hour silence held at the end of July. It was quite a challenge not speaking! and not responding to emails or text messages either. Indeed it was mentally very exhausting. However, I managed the silent marathon and raised the wonderful amount of £1,330. This is going to help one of my village chapels in the Goole and Selby Circuit, which (for no reason of the members' own doing), is going through a very difficult time. So again, thank you for your support.

This letter also gives me the chance to say once more, how much I have enjoyed my time as Local Lay Pastor in the Tadcaster Circuit. At the end of August my contract with Collingham and East Keswick finishes and completes my time with you all in the circuit.

With mixed emotions, sadness at leaving, but looking forward and journeying on with God and waiting to see what He has next in store - not just for me, but for all of us - I thank Him for bringing you into our lives. I say 'our' because Charlie has been by my side and has appreciated and enjoyed friendships that have grown over the years.

There is no doubt, greater my loss had God never called me to serve Him in this small corner of Yorkshire. Remain dedicated to God, blessed by His Spirit and keep flying the flag for Jesus. Love and God bless you in all you do. **Eileen xx**



Clifford Property Maintenance

Clifford are seeking someone to help with their property maintenance on an ongoing basis. If anyone is able to assist, would you please contact Rev Abi or David Mountain. Thank you.



Methodist Women in Britain

Haxby Methodist Church YO32 2JJ

In the Sanctuary and Mountain Room

19 September 10.00/30 -15.00



Singing our Faith

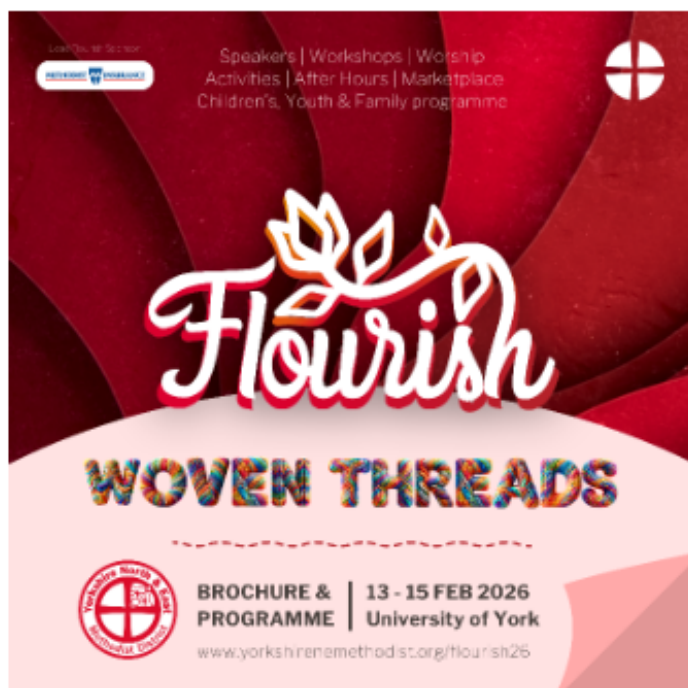
"I've never sung that one before!"

**A chance to learn new music
and words**



Bring and share lunch





Hi everyone

As your 'Flourish Champion, I've had a sneak preview of the programme (it pays to have influence!). Copies will be widely available from mid-September but for now, just a couple of 'teasers':

- There is a full daily 'Children and Youth' programme however everything else is aimed at the likes of you and me!
- Each day is split into segments and, to take Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:00 as an example, there are 8 (yes, 8!) options to choose from, including worship, song, sustainable churches and crafts. There really is something for everyone and you are free to dip in and out, as you choose.

As I think I might have mentioned before, all

you have to do now, to keep your options open, is to **put the dates in your diary!**

(If you need anything more, just contact me on 07966 289937, or donaldmilne53@gmail.com)

Donald



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

An insight into the letter of James

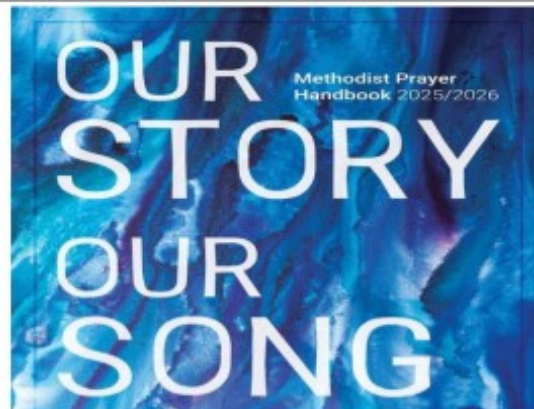
with Revd Ann Fox
and John Kimmer

at Tadcaster Methodist Church
Friday 1.30pm:

19 September
17 October
21 November

12 December – an introduction into the next study
session
more dates to follow

All are welcome



Circuit Quiet Day at Tadcaster Methodist Church

Saturday, 20 September 2025

10.30am – 2.30pm
with
Revd Ann Fox

2025-26 Presidential Theme

*"O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day"*
Psalm 96:1-2 (NRSVue)

Bring your lunch

Light Refreshments served



Boston Spa
Methodist Church

Lunchtime Concert



**Friday 12th
September
at 1pm**



Charlotte Rowan, violin
with Charlotte Stevenson, piano

TICKETS £6

Light lunches served from 12 noon

ENQUIRIES: 0113 268 2041

Lower Wharfe Methodist Church, Church Fenton
Presents

An Afternoon with **Kippax Brass Band**



Church Fenton Village Hall

**Saturday,
20th September 2025**

2.30pm

Light Refreshments & Raffle

Tickets £10

Available from Chris 07712 332204
Or Margaret 01937 557039

TADCASTER METHODIST CHURCH Harvest Festival Weekend

Saturday 13th September

Donations of produce to be gratefully received
between 10am-12noon



Open Door Café

Bacon rolls, tea and coffee
served throughout the morning

Sunday 14th September

Harvest Festival Service - 10.15am

Preacher: Revd Ann Fox

[This year we are supporting the Farming Community Network



Boston Spa
Methodist Church

Lunchtime Concert

Friday 10th October, at 1pm



Emma James Entertains

TICKETS £6

Light lunches served from 12 noon

ENQUIRIES: 0113 268 2041

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 Stop	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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