

Being Church

November 2025



Listening as much as speaking...

My first few weeks in role...

It has been a busy few weeks since I began my role as Circuit Lay-Pastor and Circuit Safeguarding Officer here in the Tadcaster Circuit. I have so much to be thankful for. Stepping into this role has been both humbling and uplifting, and I am grateful to God for the warm welcome I have received.

My experience....

One of the greatest joys so far has been meeting people across the circuit — listening to their stories, sharing in worship, and being part of a community that seeks to live out the love of Christ. Each conversation has reminded me of the words of Paul: ***“Encourage one another and build each other up” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)***. The kindness, encouragement, and fellowship I have experienced already show me how God works through His people.

Lessons learned...

These early weeks have taught me that ministry is as much about listening as it is about speaking. Listening to God in prayer, and listening to others in their joys and struggles, has reminded me of James’ wisdom: ***“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry” (James 1:19)***. I am learning that the call to serve is not about having all the answers, but about walking alongside others as we seek Christ together.

Revd Ann Fox

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

Looking ahead...

I would like to continue building relationships and exploring new ways of sharing the good news of Jesus. I look forward to seeing how God will shape me and the congregations I serve in the weeks and months to come. God is at work here in Tadcaster Circuit, and I am thankful to be part of His mission in this place. Please continue to pray for me as I grow in this role and be assured of my prayers for all of you. May we walk together in faith, hope, and love, trusting in the One who calls us. ***“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)***

Paula Tweddle

Flourish Reflections

As we enter the run up to the Flourish event in February 2026, our reflections are based on the four ‘threads’ or themes that will run through the weekend. Find out more at: www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/flourish26/

Rediscovering curiosity at the heart of faith

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Psalm 119 v105

Do you welcome the opportunity to learn more about the Christian faith, to explore stories from the Bible or the experiences of other people and reflect on what they might teach us? Where do you practice curiosity in your day to day life? Maybe in what you read or watch or spend your time on? Do you seek out the stories of others from different backgrounds and experiences to enrich your understanding? Do you notice things when you are out and about? What might God be encouraging you to be more curious about?

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.

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

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

Annual Returns to be completed online, please would the relevant contacts do this for your churches

1 Nov (Sat) 10.30am to 2.30pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Circuit Vision Day

14 Nov (Fri) 7pm at East Keswick Village Hall: Charity Quiz

21 Nov (Fri) 1.30pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Bible Study

30 Nov (Sun) 10am to 3pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Shoebox Nativity Display

12 Dec (Fri) 1.30pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church: Bible Study

12-14 Dec at Boston Spa Methodist Church: Christmas Tree Festival

Please check the regular events page is up to date for your church (last page)

District Diary

Flourish **13-15 Feb, 2026** at the University of York “Woven Threads”

Circuit News

Circuit Celebration Praise

It was good to share in worship, although there were few numbers at the last Celebration Praise. The next one will be after Christmas – 11 January, 3pm at Tadcaster Methodist Church. All are welcome to come and meet friends from the Goole & Selby Circuit who join us. Thank you for those who take part, and to those who come along to hear a message and have a good sing!

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.”

A date for your diary: There will be a Circuit Celebration Service on Sunday 19 July, 2026, 10.30am at Boston Spa, followed by lunch. The preacher will be Revd Leslie Newton, Chair of District. At the Circuit Meeting, each church will be/has been asked to consider holding an event (concert/afternoon tea/special service...the choice is yours) to which we can invite the whole Circuit to attend. Please check with Juliana, the Circuit Administrator, before booking the date. We would like these events to be spread out throughout the year if possible. Thank you.

Has your church discussed any ideas for an event that you can invite the rest of the Circuit to? Ideally, it would be good if churches' events were spread out throughout the year. There are already some dates booked in, so please do check with Juliana before your church finalises a booking.

So far we have:

January:	Nothing
February:	LWP celebration at Tadcaster
March:	Music Concert at Collingham
April:	Tadcaster banner event
May:	Nothing
June:	Nothing
July:	Circuit Celebration Service—venue tbc
August:	Nothing
September:	Nothing
October:	Nothing
November:	Nothing
December:	Nothing

If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Dec '25** issue of **Being Church** (or the diary), please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 14 Nov.** Thank you. tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

5 Year Plan

Copies of the 5 Year Plan have been circulated to the churches. If you have not seen a copy and would like one, please email Rev Ann. The plan includes this information:

- **November:** Circuit Vision Day 'What's our Future Story?' 1st November 10.30-2pm, led by Revd Ruth Gilson-Webb, District Assistant Chair - Church Development (bring lunch)
- **February 2026:** Discuss at Church Councils in February (prepare a discussion paper to circulate prior to Church Councils? and say in the Circuit Meeting and Vision Day that we will do this, so that they know)
- **March:** Bring to Circuit Meeting in March. Arrange a meeting in May.
- **April:** Hold another Vision Day and streamline ideas
- **May:** Hold an extra Circuit Meeting in May
- **September 2026:** Bring to Circuit Meeting and ACTION.

We would like you to think about these questions prior to the Circuit Vision Day.

- Who are we?
- What do we want to be?
- What are our Strengths and Weaknesses?
- What are the Opportunities and Threats?
- Where would we like to go?
- Where can we go?

Staffing

- 2025-2026 Appointment of Circuit Lay-Pastor and Circuit Safeguarding Officer
- 2025-2026 [Ordination of Rev Abi subject to Conference]
- 2026-2027
- 2027-2028 Reinvitation process for Abi / Stationing profile
- 2028-2029 Rev Abi stays or moves on (if Abi moves on, it is not guaranteed we will receive a Presbyter or Probationer - this could be a one Minister Circuit)
- 2028-2029 Stationing profile for Superintendent Minister
- 2029-2030 Rev Ann 'sits down' in August 2030

What would you do if you didn't have the building?

Options: For Trusteeship, Membership and Governance:

- Merge churches on [x] sites into 3 hubs with Wetherby/Boston Spa/Tadcaster
- Merge churches on [x] sites into one Church
- Merge with another Circuit
- Merge into the Bridge Circuit

These options will free up resources and enable Mission

3Generate – A Journey of a Lifetime

Thank you very much to the Circuit for paying for the tickets for our young people to attend 3Generate, the Methodist Church's Children and Youth Assembly, and to Wetherby Methodist Church for paying our travel expenses. It was held at the NEC in Birmingham and was a large event, with lots of activities held in the 3Generate Town, and we were camping in ready-set up tents in a camping Village. There were around 2000 people, mostly young people and their leaders. We had a group of 6 with four leaders. Sadly a 7th member was unable to be with us as she was unwell.

So, what is 3Generate? It's "an inclusive and diverse space for the prophetic voice of children and young people to emerge and be heard. They were challenged to reflect on the Journey of a Lifetime (which was the theme throughout the event). Whether they are thinking about starting a journey with Jesus, or wondering what the next step will be."

There were fun activities to do such as crafts, painting, recording their own music, being involved in tech equipment, guitar and keyboard playing, drama and dance. They took part in 'Big Worship' with contemporary Christian bands on stage, who were amazing, and hosted by the Methodist Youth President. They were able to vote for the next Youth President and heard three speakers who were candidating for the role. They also had learning activities which included environmental issues, exploring nature, and including a planetarium to look at the stars and planets. For those who were brave enough and energetic there were climbing walls and sports in the leisure centre. The event was at times overwhelming, there was so much to see and do, with a different timetable every evening, morning, and afternoon.

The young people were encouraged to think about how they will commit themselves to Jesus and where that leads them on the next step of their Journey of a Lifetime.



Circuit Bible Study

A Bible Study programme is being held at Tadcaster and all are welcome. We are studying "An insight into the letter of James" and the sessions began in September and are held on Fridays at 1.30pm – 21 November, 12 December.

Circuit Plan

The December to February Circuit Plan has been circulated. Please note that Appleton Roebuck have changed their service time to 4.30pm over the winter months.

Advent Resources

Advent??!! Yes, Advent will be upon us at the end of the month! There have been some Advent liturgy resources provided by the District and these have been circulated, along with a link to the Advent resources on the Methodist Church website. Please feel free to use whichever form you prefer. Do remember to let the preachers know!



1826 2026

All are Welcome
to join us at a

Circuit Vision Day

facilitated by
Revd Ruth Gilson-Webb
District Assistant Chair for
Church Development

on Saturday 1 November at
Tadcaster Methodist Church
10.30am – 2.30pm

*Please bring a packed lunch
Tea, Coffee & biscuits will be provided*



LOWER WHARFE METHODIST CHURCH
TADCASTER METHODIST CIRCUIT

EXPLORE THE BIBLE TOGETHER

Join us for a friendly Bible study over
Coffee and Cake.

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH | 2 PM

Ulleskelf Village Hall
Main St, Ulleskelf, Tadcaster
LS24 9DU

For information, contact Revd Abi Alex
Tel: 01937 364489
Email: abi.alex@methodist.org.uk



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



Charity Quiz

On Friday 14th November
7pm at East Keswick Village Hall
Collecting for

The Red Cross Ukraine Appeal –
bringing hope and support to those in need and

The Cancer and Pisces Trust –
enhancing lives of cancer sufferers and carers
through the therapeutic pastime of angling

Teams of 4-6 or we can help find you a team
£10 per person to include pie, peas and pud
Bring your own drinks and cash for the raffle

Tickets in advance from Charlotte:
meekfamily@hotmail.co.uk
or Penny: 01937 572434

Tadcaster Methodist Church

Sunday 30th November 2025
10am to 3pm



**Shoebox Nativity
Display
Open Door Café
Christmas gift stall**

As part of the Town's Christmas Market we are inviting individuals, local schools, businesses and groups to create a Shoebox Nativity Scene using craft, paint, stitch or paper.

The only requirement is that the Nativity must be presented in a shoebox: it will be part of a Christmas display. Traditional, contemporary or something different, we will be delighted to display the scenes.

Exhibits can be left at Tadcaster Methodist Church on:

Sunday 23rd and Tuesday 25th November 10am - 11.30am

Friday 28th November 10am - 11.30am and 3pm - 5.30pm

For further details contact:

Hazel Smith

tadmethodist@gmail.com





Boston Spa
Methodist Church

Community Christmas Tree Festival

We are delighted to announce that we will be running our ever-popular Community Christmas Tree Festival once again this year. The dates are:

Friday 12th December, 10am – 5pm

Saturday 13th December, 10am – 5pm

Sunday 14th December, 12 noon – 6pm

As well as the stunning display of beautifully decorated trees, there will be visits from Santa, donkey rides, entertainment, and lots more. Refreshments available throughout.

If you are interested in sponsoring a tree, please get in touch by emailing: bostonspamc@gmail.com

Please see our website for further details:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk



Upper-Intermediate French Lessons

with Guillaume

PGCE Qualified French Teacher
& Native Speaker
Fully DBS checked

Join an established & welcoming
group in Clifford Methodist Church

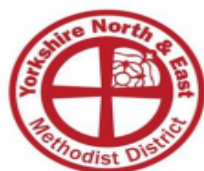
Thursdays 10am-12pm

Contact Guillaume for further
information on **07969846444** or email
begaudguillaume@gmail.com

Boston Spa MC is holding its annual Christmas Tree Festival 12th -14th December.

If anyone is able to offer a few hours' help, especially in the kitchen, we would be delighted to see you. Please contact me if you are able to help, or would like more information.

Val Woodhams val1.woodhams@btinternet.com 01937 541497



Methodist Women in Britain
Lidgett Methodist Church York, YO26 5NH
Friday 21 November 10.00/30 – 15.00



Orange the World

16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence

a.m EVA – Women's Aid, Redcar

Richinda Taylor, former CEO

**p.m Leonora Wassell's report on the Commission
for the Status of Women, followed by communion**

Bring food to share for lunch.

6 reasons not to go to Flourish !!

There are quite a few reasons why you shouldn't go to Flourish :
I've listed a few of them below:



I can't get there

The easiest way to get there is by car and there is ample free parking. According to Google maps it is 16 miles from Wetherby, 13 miles from Tadcaster and 9 miles from Appleton Roebuck. If you don't want to drive or don't have a car we'll be organising lifts – just let your local contact or Donald know.

I can't commit to the whole weekend

No problem, just go to the bits you can. Saturday has the fullest programme, Sunday is when we all come together to worship.

It's too expensive

The base cost is £25 for the whole weekend (though you're asked to pay the full cost of £45 if you can). Alternatively, if you volunteer (e.g. directing people to workshops), you can go for FREE. I did this, met a whole load of new people and didn't miss any of the sessions that I wanted to go to.

I won't know anyone

Yes you will – folk from around the Circuit, and anyway, a stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet!

There's nothing for me

I'll accept this one only if you have no interest in – worship, the climate, social justice, comedy, new ways of being Church, music, crafts, politics, meditation, meeting new people.

I'm trekking across the Sahara Desert that weekend

Fair enough – but, even then, some of the sessions will be recorded and can be seen afterwards – not the same as being there, but better than nothing!

It's time to start booking your tickets, but if you still have questions, speak to your local contact, or Donald (donaldmilne53@gmail.com) or check out the Yorkshire North and East website at www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/info-and-questions/

Hope to see you there!

Donald

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 (1st)	2pm	Bible Study & cake	Ulleskelf village hall
Monday (1st & 3rd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	East Keswick
Monday (2nd)	10.30am-12noon	Bacon Brunch	Collingham
Monday (4th)	10.30am-12noon	Coffee & Chat	Collingham
Tuesday (weekly)	9.30-10.00am	Circuit Prayer Gathering	Zoom
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)	2.00-4.00pm	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)	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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