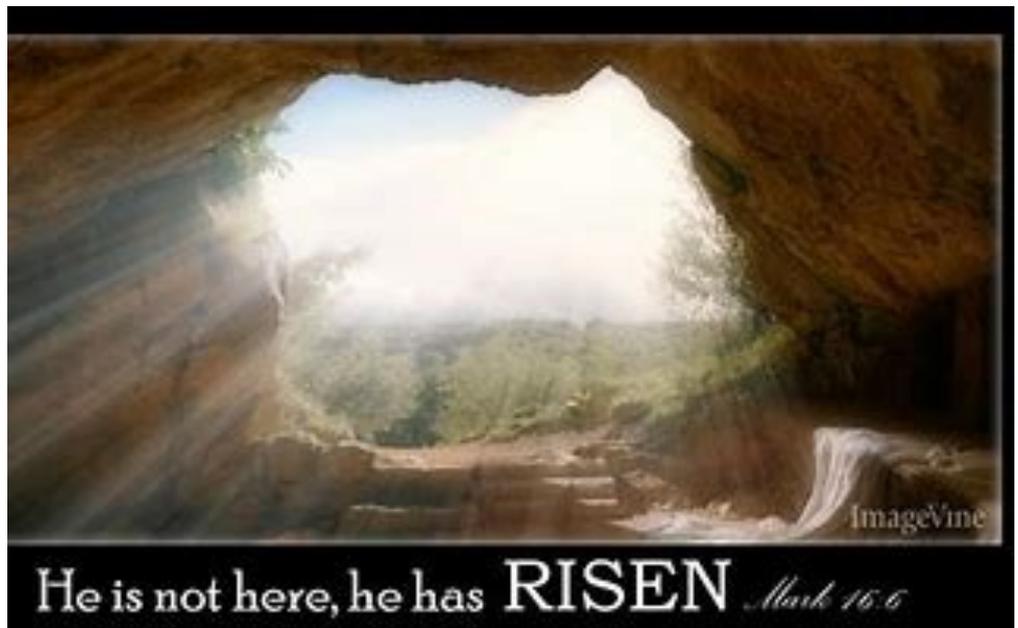


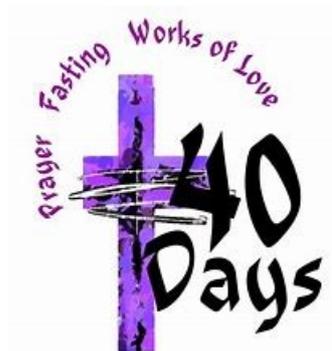
INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Superintendent's Letter	2
News from the Churches	3-4
Why not Circle Dancing?	5
Praying Together	6-7
More Church News	8-9
Christian Motorcyclists	10
Special Events	11-12

Stepping out, focused on Christ



But what went before?





A New Chapter

Following the 'Stepping out-with the Holy Spirit' day we held at Moorland Park Methodist Church God gave me a picture.

The picture was that of a book with many chapters except there was a difference from a normal book. The difference was that in the first chapter the beginning and the final chapter story had been revealed. This was from creation to death and resurrection, and the promise of a future in God's Kingdom.

At the Holy Spirit day, I believe we set out on the next chapter in the life of Lincoln Methodist Circuit. There was a real sense of the Holy Spirit moving and a real desire to seek the will of God being revealed.

It was amazing how many strands had come together and each of them important and relevant to the circuit. One that impressed me was how Val Fane had been led to bring two items. Firstly, a small wired cage with an eagle in it. Static as there was no room to spread its wings and be truly free. Secondly, a picture of an eagle. Val gave me permission to share this with you. What does this picture say to you?



It was good to hear that prophecies given on Saturday have already begun to come about. I pray that the blessings will continue as we travel through Lent and look forward to celebrating the wonderful gift of Christ our Saviour this Easter. In in may we find our hope and our future.

God Bless

Rev Alan

News from the Churches

In each edition of the Circuit Newsletter we will be exploring the different churches which make up the diverse nature of our Circuit. In this edition we will be finding out a bit more about the churches currently in the pastoral charge of Rev Dr Helen Hooley. This includes Burton Road, Saxilby with Ingham, St Giles, Welton and Dunholme.



Burton Road (attendance circa 24)



Burton Road is a local church, deeply rooted in the local community, with many of its members living within walking distance of the church. The building is the only local community space, and is well used by local groups and families. It has a strong family feel, with members of all ages, and a real heart for mutual care and support, not just for members but the large extended group of people who consider Burton Road 'their' church. They have a thriving set of housegroups, for bible study and extended fellowship. The church also offers the gospel locally, through a weekly drop in for parents and carers and others! (School Gators), monthly coffee mornings which also host the local councillors drop in, and an annual Community Barbeque. There is excitement about the planned renovation for the hall, to be able to use upgraded kitchen facilities for cooking courses for parents (with the local school) for example. They are an effective presence in the community.

Sunday worship, 10:30.

The Pub Thing (young adults group) 7pm 3rd Sunday of the month, at The Vic. Check on Facebook!

Saxilby with Ingham (attendance circa 30)

Saxilby are an extraordinary congregation of deep spirituality, with a mature wisdom and a heart for mission. They have maintained strong links with the school and toddlers group, and offer a Christian presence in the community, through Get out of Church Sunday, prayers at the Christmas Tree lighting, the Good Friday walk of witness, an annual Bereavement service, and regular prayer in local cafes and many others - Christmas Angels (knitted and yarn bombing the village) saw the church full for the Christmas carol service. Most members live locally and participate in village life through U3A and other groups. This is all sustained through a strong prayer life, corporately and individually, and regular attendance at 3 housegroups. They also offer their gifts to the wider circuit, supporting the GodPod with prayer and practical support; members also attend the circuit worship at Moorland Park. Ecumenical links are good.



Members also support the cafe church at Ingham, which has grown to over 40 and meets monthly, and the Messy Church in Ingham which attracts over 50 children plus parents every month.

Sunday worship, 10:30, 6pm (or 4pm in the winter) on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Cafe church, 10:30 on the 4th Sunday of the month, Ingham village hall.

St Giles (attendance circa 22)



St Giles are a faithful congregation who have maintained a presence on one of the most deprived estates in the city. A small group of committed people offer Community Larder twice a week, host the welfare advice team, and man the GodPod - a bus which offers a mobile youth

group around the estate weekly - going to where people are rather than expecting them to come to us. This is supported by prayer - things happen when we pray! The church has welcomed some new families, and the GodPod team have welcomed some new members - all on the back of praying, around the circuit through the GodPod prayer team, for God to raise up new workers for the harvest. Kids from the church have attended 3Generate for the last few years, and brought some new music back with them. Recently the circuit have partnered with the Message Trust, to recruit a team of people to join the local church. The new Eden team leader is in place, and already we have seen that just one extra pair of hands can make a difference - the number of young people on the GodPod, sharing their stories and hearing about Jesus, has doubled since October last year! Ecumenical links are good, and engagement with the local primary school is taking off, with assemblies and a drama club in addition to the weekly Kingdom Kids in church. The local secondary school is also inviting us in for assemblies and testimony in RE lessons.

Sunday worship, 10:30
Young People's worship, 6pm 4th Sunday of the month.

Welton (attendance circa 51)



Welton sees itself as a village church in a village community. The newly renovated building is made available to and is well used by the community. The congregation work hard to offer a variety of activities, including coffee mornings twice a week, which are welcoming and open to the whole community, and a Winter and Spring Fayre. The gospel is offered through Pop Up Prayer, as well as through men's breakfast and women's fellowship meetings. The recent addition of cafe church on the plan has encouraged people to invite their friends. We are exploring a youth group in partnership with Threshold church, to engage with our young people and their friends. There is a real sense of working together as a team, as a fellowship, aiming to show the love of Jesus in everyday life.

Sunday worship, 10:30.

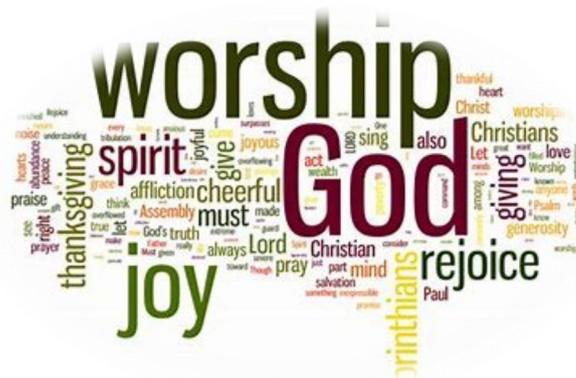
The GodPod (an ecumenical project with Lincolnshire Youth Mission)

The GodPod is a church on wheels! Kitted out with TV screens and speakers (and a couple of X-boxes and games...) the aim is to take church to where people are. Churches have partnered with the GodPod (and also the RoadHOG in Boston) to provide youth outreach, and seen young people commit to Christ and families come to church as a result.



There are a number of ways to support this ministry - by joining the prayer team on a Tuesday evening, and praying for us, by giving financially via the circuit, by volunteering to be part of the existing bus teams, and by sharing the vision around churches.

Currently, the bus is used by St Giles Methodist Church on a Tuesday evening, and at Hemswell Cliff (by Glenthams Methodist church) alternate Sunday afternoons. There are drivers trained across the circuit; if you have a team of people willing to work with young people, prayerfully consider if the GodPod could be the answer to providing a space that they can make their own.



Why not circle dancing?

Yes I am a keen circle dancer and yet why am I made to feel as if I am slightly mad whenever it crops up especially in a church context. Well perhaps I am slightly mad but I can tell you here and now that it is a known fact that dance and movement are very beneficial to all kinds of people. Don't just take my word for it, ask Darcey Bussell. Also even the simplest dance in worship can be very meaningful.



Dancing of all kinds is now recognized as helpful for well-being as it engages body, mind and spirit.

In circle dancing we move, we engage our brains because we have steps to remember and we are uplifted by the simple fact of working together in harmony.

There are many strands to circle dancing. We do Greek, Israeli, Rumanian among many others, as well as enjoying movement to classical music or modern dance music. There is also the strand known as Sacred Circle Dancing which can be used in worship.

There is often much laughter because no one feels threatened as we know there is no wrong way only variations.

So, don't knock it if you haven't tried it. It is not embarrassing or ridiculous, and it can be the most beautiful thing to experience. Often, when a dance concludes, we stand in total silence, and the peace that surrounds us is wonderful, no one wants to move and spoil it.

Why not give it a try? The first Wednesday of the month 2pm Central Methodist Church Side Door. Wear flat comfy shoes and come and give it a whirl. Cheapest afternoon out in town. £1 including tea and biscuits.



Lincoln Circuit

Praying Together - March to May 2019

1. Pray for children and young people and teachers looking ahead to exam season

9. Pray for all the new housing being built in the area, that we will be able to connect with the people who live there.

2. Monks Road – for the continuing growth of Young Spirits which meets each Sunday at 9:30am

10. Pray that we will all know the presence of the Holy Spirit and see the effects of his work amongst us.

3. Rev David Lawton as he continues working in our circuit. Pray that he gets to know people and churches easily

11. Bracebridge – Discussions over setting up a URC pioneer minister and through this increased ecumenical links

4. Pray for the GodPod, as it looks to expand beyond St Giles

12. Welton – that outreach work would be successful and bring people into Church

5. Cherry Willingham – Pray as we settle into a new building and for increasing impact in the village

13. Rev Alan Swann – Pray that as he leads the circuit forward he will be inspired with fresh vision from God

6. North Hykeham – Pray for us to reach out into the community and join other Churches in the area for prayer

14. Scothern – Pray that we will be encouraged and empowered to seek and pursue outreach and church growth

7. The Eden Project – Pray that God will bring the night team alongside John

15. Rev Margaret Doughty – Pray for wisdom as she supports people at Central and in her work with prayer ministry

8. Stones Place – Pray for the old people who are part of this community and the staff working to support and care for them

16. Pray for the Local Preachers as they open up God's word; we ask that they see the truth and reveal it to us

<p>17. Pray for the homeless and the charities that support them so that homelessness will be eradicated in Lincoln.</p>	<p>25. Rev Alan Robson – Pray for strength in body and spirit as he supports churches and the farming community</p>
<p>18. Rev Helen Hooley – Pray for peace within her ministry and courage to keep spreading God’s love</p>	<p>26. Pray for circuit stewards that they will lead and manage the affairs of the circuit with wisdom and integrity</p>
<p>19. Pray that we will recognise the signs and wonders of God around us</p>	<p>27. Rev Terry Nowell – Pray for fresh energy, vision and hope within his ministry</p>
<p>20. Pray for the farmers in the area as they face challenging conditions and pressures within their work environment</p>	<p>28. Bracebridge – Pray for us as we seek God for future guidance</p>
<p>21. Bailgate – all who attend housegroups will find a fuller, deeper and closer relationship with God and each other</p>	<p>29. Rev Andy Burrows – Pray for renewed courage and wisdom with his ministry</p>
<p>22. Pray for all members that cannot get to church these days because of age and health</p>	<p>30. Pray that God will break through the chains that hold s back from spreading the gospel message</p>
<p>23. Rev Melanie Greenall – Pray for empowerment to reach out to those who are struggling</p>	<p>31. Pray for the administrators that they will be able to work to support the circuit so others are released into mission</p>
<p>24. Connect sessions at Moorland Park – Pray these times bring refreshment and a move of the spirit</p>	

News from other churches in our Circuit



CENTRAL

Central continues to serve the south end of the city under the leadership and enthusiasm of our minister, Rev. Margaret Doughty. As part of our Christian faith and our care for each other, much emphasis is placed on serving the community.

Rev. Margaret has met with students of the university who are supporting a community project of which central will be part. On a monthly basis it is hoped for friends in the community be invited to share time listening to music, playing games and many other activities or chatting over a cup of tea. Rev. Margaret is working hard to promote Central as we serve the Lord in our effort to help others.

We welcome friends of Lincoln Music and Drama Festival and competitors onto our premises for 2 weeks as the festival commences on 4 March.

As we prepare for Easter, Lent courses take place on Wednesdays at 2 pm on 6/13/20 March and 3 April. Day of Reflection Saturday 13 April. A time of speaking, listening and praying. Maundy Thursday, 18 April at 6.30 pm when we share a light meal followed by Holy Communion. Good Friday service at 10.30 am after which we meet with friends from St Peter at Gowts Church and the Salvation Army for the Walk of Witness to the war memorial for a short service. Easter day service at 10.30 am conducted by Rev. Margaret

Residents of Monson Care Home enjoy the monthly visits by friends of Central. Rev Margaret relates the love of Christ to them by her message and the singing of hymns.

Prayer shawl meetings are regularly held in which the shawls are blessed and prayers especially said for those in need. Over 80 shawls have been given to friends locally, to many parts of the country and beyond.

As we continue journeying together in the circuit we pray and learn much of each other and strive to become more like Jesus would have us be.

SKELLINGTHORPE

After the business of Christmas January usually seems a bit flat but this year at Skellingthorpe we are celebrating 125years of worship in the current building so have had plenty to think about.



As part of our celebrations we have invited all the village organisations which use the building during the week to host the regular monthly coffee morning to raise funds for themselves or for charity. The Parish Council hosted one in January which was very well attended and the one in February raised over £130 for the Stroke Association. The remainder of the dates have now been filled which is very encouraging. Coffee mornings are a very welcome outreach opportunity and our position in the centre of the village is a great asset.

The evening Craft and afternoon Craft 4 Charity groups continue to be well supported and we recently sent 62 small hats to the Special Care Baby Unit at Lincoln County Hospital knitted by ladies in the latter

group in memory of a supporter who died last year. Prayer shawls, hats and scarves for the homeless were also knitted as well as small garments for the Baby's Basket charity.

Since Rev David arrived 'messy church' has turned into 'pop-up All Age Worship', the next one to be held on Easter Sunday in the afternoon. The last one was very cosy it was so well supported so we are hoping for a repeat. The weekly Shell Group has been 'paused' for the moment because of falling numbers but there is talk of a reunion as the group has been running for around 35 years!

It has been a challenge considering the 'What is to be done' paper. Several meetings have been held to discuss it and we are praying about the future.

However 125 years on the same spot is not to be sniffed at and we hope to be here for some time to come!

Pat Robinson



ST GILES

This year's Easter Offering Service will be held at St Giles on Sunday May 19th @ 6pm

During the service the money raised in the Easter Offering envelopes, distributed during Lent, will be received.

This year's theme was inspired by these words "when you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a higher fence."

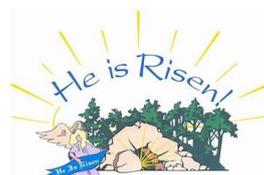
The service reminds us of God's call to show radical hospitality and outrageous generosity by reflecting on stories from around the world.

The tradition dates back to 1883, when women in Manchester collected £32 for Missionary work overseas from 'Christmas pennies' at family gatherings on Christmas Day.

In recent years, Methodist Women in Britain have taken responsibility (supported by the Methodist World Church Relationships Team) for producing resources including an annual service of dedication, often used widely around the Connexion as a circuit service.

All the money raised through the Easter Offering goes to the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain to be allocated for work in our 65 Partner Churches around the world. In 2018 the Easter Offering service raised over £355,000

This money has been used by overseas partners to fund such work as enabling young women in North India to undertake nurse and midwifery training and supporting Brazilian women to work in their churches with vulnerable women and children, developing women's leadership roles and integrating culture and art into worship.



Christian Motorcyclists

A Bike Group With A Difference



People often think of the Christian Motorcyclists Association as just a bike group, they could not be more wrong! We are from our foundation a worldwide mission organisation with a specific remit that of supporting bikers and their families wherever they might be found.

We are in 28 countries worldwide including countries such as Albania and Bulgaria countries that you would not normally associate with a Christian presence. Within the UK we have 25 branches nationally and a membership of around 1500.

We try to meet bikers on their natural meeting places such as bike rallies and shows, locally we go to Barton Bike Night and also do the rallies at Sledmere and Helmsley where we will do our 'Holy Joe's' tea tents 24/7 for a full weekend, and typically supply up to 12000 cups of tea and coffee over a weekend.

We also have links with Youthbike working with teenagers to teach them basic skills, MAG (Motorcycle Action

Group) and NABD (National Association of Biking for the Disabled). In the past we have helped repair a scooter stolen from a disabled biker in Scunthorpe and helped prove CCTV to stop it being stolen again. We also support Help For Heroes and the Christmas Tree Festival at Scunthorpe.

Throughout the year we can be found at events all over the county and beyond. A witness that many people don't hear about is our mission supporting bikers who are ill, injured or in prison. We have also led services in prison and conducted wedding blessings on rally fields. Some of our members are actually recognised ministers.

You can easily recognise any of us when out on the road as we usually have either a large white cross on our waistcoats or a large yellow national logo. Be aware some Satan's Slave outlaw groups wear a large Red Cross upside down on their jackets.

We produce the 'Biker Bible' through the Bible Society it costs us about £2.50 per copy to produce and has 20 testimonies and prayers as well as a really modern new testament from the New Contemporary Bible. Nationally we distribute 10,000 minimum every year. We also produce versions in French, German, Swedish and Afrikaans. These are distributed to the respective areas by the bible society on our behalf.

We would like to build a branch within the local area particularly Lincoln it has always proved a difficult nut to crack in terms of attracting riders and supporters, if interested please contact yours truly.

We are always willing to come and give talks to any church willing to have us, we never make a point of forcing ourselves on people. If anyone would like a speaker contact – Russell 01724 337895 or

russell.boyce@ntlworld.com



Christian Motorcyclists

Special Events (March to May 2019)

SUNDAY 3RD MARCH - A CELEBRATION OF THE WESLEYS: This special service is to be held at Lincoln Cathedral at 3.45pm, to celebrate 350 years since the birth of Susanna Wesley. I have copies of posters and flyers here at the office, or I can email you copies (sent out in a previous DFYD email) if you need them. Rev Bruce Thompson is speaking and Jonty Nowell will be contributing to the music. Refreshments follow the service.

MONDAY 4TH MARCH - 'PANCAKES! : 6:30pm at Burton Road Methodist Church. No charge for pancakes, but donations welcomed for renovation fund. **Vegan** and **Gluten**-free available on pre-request. Please contact rabudd1@gmail.com In aid of the church hall redevelopment fund

TUESDAY 5TH MARCH - 'WHAT IS TO BE DONE' MEETING: The follow up meeting to all the discussions held in the Churches will be held at St Giles Methodist Church at 7.30pm. This meeting is open to everyone from across the Circuit. Please make sure it is advertised in your Church.

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: This year the Circuit Ash Wednesday service will be held at Welton and Dunholme Methodist Church. At the moment this is just a date to put in your diary, there will be more details closer to the time.

SATURDAY 9TH MARCH – CONVERSING WITH COLOSSIANS: This is a day long event (10am – 3pm) at Skegness Methodist Church. Speakers include Rev Bruce Thompson. The day includes a free fish and chip lunch for those who book in.

WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH - TALKING JESUS COURSE: Nettleham Methodist Church, along with the local Parish Church, are hosting the next Talking Jesus course, on a Wednesday evening, from 7pm for a 7.30pm start. The course is six weeks long, which takes it up to Holy Week, so maybe your Church could consider joining Nettleham as a Lent course? (If you can't make a Wednesday evening, All Saints Parish Church in Nettleham is running the course on a Thursday morning from 10am). To book your place on the course please contact me here at the Circuit Office, either via email or phone

WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH – AWAY DAY (Methodist Women in Britain, Lincolnshire District): Gainsborough Methodist Church; 10:30am to 3:00pm “Prayer and Creativity” Leader Rev Louise Carr
Please bring a packed lunch

Thursday 14TH March: Action for Children Fundraiser Each year I hold an event to raise money for this very worthy cause. This year it will take the form of a ‘Soup, Sandwich and Stalls’ lunch. It will be held in Welton Methodist Chapel on Thursday March 14th from 12.00 – 2.00pm. There will be a varied menu of snack items all homemade and reasonably priced. All proceeds going to Action for Children, please come along and support. If you wish for more information on the event or the charity please contact Linda McCree 01673 860998

Thursday 14TH March: “Quiet Day for Lent” The Community of St Francis, ‘San Damiano’, Metheringham. “Francis and Julian of Norwich: kindred spirits” led by Sr Maureen CSF. The quiet day will start with coffee at 10am and end at 4pm. Hot drinks will be provided. Please bring a packed lunch. A suggested contribution of £15 per person for the day is requested. *It is essential to book a place if you would like to come:* Tel: 01526 321 115,
38 Drury Street, Metheringham, LN4 3EZ Email: metheringhamcsf@franciscans.org.uk

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH – A CORNISH TEA (Washingborough Methodist Church Chapel Anniversary): This will include Cornish Pasties and Cornish Cream Teas. There is no charge but entry is by ticket only due to numbers. RSVP essential (by 8th March). Donations appreciated. Gluten free options, produced in a safe environment, will be available. This will be followed by Rev Sandy and Ralph Osgerby sharing their time on “Living in Cornwall”. Sandy and Ralph will also be leading worship at 10:30am on Sunday 17th March.

WEEKEND 30TH/31ST MARCH – Dr Justin Thacker, Academic Dean of Cliff College will be visiting Moorland Park Methodist Church. Saturday: Arrive 2:30pm for refreshments; Teaching sessions 3:00-4:pm and 4:20pm -5:20pm; Bring and share tea; 6:30pm to 8:00pm Cliff College Festival Style Evening Celebration. Sunday: 10:30am morning worship, preacher Dr Justin Thacker.

THURSDAY 11TH April : Welton Film Club. We have a monthly meeting providing an afternoon tea and a film. We are holding a special session on April 11th. and would like to invite anyone from the circuit to come and join us. If you have read 'The Shack' you will probably be interested in this film. The showing will start at 2.00pm followed by afternoon tea at a cost of £4. Please ring 01673 860998 for more information or to reserve a place.

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL: DAY OF REFLECTION – Central Methodist Church. 9:30am arrivals; 10:00am start until 2:30pm. There will be full group sessions interspersed with periods of quiet. Bring your favourite Bible. Drinks will be provided but please bring a packed lunch. Come and enjoy a little time out from your busy days. Numbers will be limited and participants must be present for the opening session as latecomers upset the balance of the group. Please book by ringing Rev Margaret Doughty 01522 697177

MAUNDAY THURSDAY 18TH APRIL: A candlelit vigil form 7pm to 9pm at Bailgate Methodist Church. A time for prayer and readings from Matthew's gospel in the peace and quietness of the church. Come and go as you please. Stay for 10 minutes or longer if you wish. Everyone welcome.

GOOD FRIDAY 19TH APRIL – Service at 10:30am at Bailgate Methodist Church followed by the Walk of Witness to the Cenotaph in the centre of town. We join with many uphill churches to walk in silence from the north of the city to meet with those who have walked from the South, East and West for short service of witness together in the city centre. Everyone welcome to both the service and the walk.

SUNDAY 19TH May : Longer Tables, Lower Fences - 6 pm at St Giles This year's Easter Offering Service will be held at St Giles on Sunday May 19th @ 6pm During the service the money raised in the Easter Offering envelopes, distributed during Lent will be received. This year's theme was inspired by these words "when you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a higher fence." The service reminds us of God's call to show radical hospitality and outrageous generosity by reflecting on stories from around the world.



Material for the **June 2019** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Friday, 10 May 2019. Any material received after this date will not be included in the June edition.

Email: info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk

Address: Lincoln Methodist Circuit Office
Burton Road Methodist Church
175 Burton Road
Lincoln LN1 3LW

Website: www.lincolnmethodist.org.uk

