

What's on around the Circuit

Date	Time	Location	Event
Saturday 1 December	9:30am to 2:30pm	Central	Day of Reflection (based on an Advent Theme)
Saturday 1 December	11:30am to 1:30pm	Reepham	Christmas Fair
Thursday 6 December	6:30pm	Church of our Lady of Lincoln	A Celebration of Hanukah and Advent
Tuesday 11 December	7:30pm	Bishop Grosseteste University on Newport.	Launch of Rev Bruce Thompson's book, "Echoes of Contempt"
Friday 11 January	9:30am to 3:30pm	The National Holocaust Centre	"Testimony & Trial" an Antisemitism Awareness Day
Sunday 27 January	6pm	Holocaust Memorial Day Circuit Service	Washingborough Methodist Church

For more events please check out the individual church website or the Circuit Website or alternatively you can contact the Circuit Office who will be able to help point you in the right direction.

CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Superinten- 2-3
dent's letter

Christmas 4-5
Services &
Events

News from 6-8
the churches

Action for 9
Children

Announce- 10
ments

Looking 11
Ahead

What's on 12
around the
Circuit

Lincoln Methodists

DECEMBER 2018

Stepping out, focused on Christ



So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2:16-20

A letter from Rev Alan Swann, Superintendent

Love came down at Christmas

We've just spent some time working out where and how as a family we spend Christmas and the new year. During that time, we will share, remember and have many laughs. During our family celebrations we will take time out to reflect and remember the true reason for Christmas. By Christmas day we will have travelled through Advent, sung our carols, heard the story and have waited in anticipation for the day itself.

For me I will remember the many and different ways over the years that the story of Jesus has been told and the reason for his birth. From the early memories of nativity plays to the telling of the story through readings and carols.

By Christmas day we will have welcomed many through the doors of our church. We would have had the opportunity to share not only the story of that first Christmas but also our experience and knowledge that this was no ordinary event. That



Looking Ahead

SUNDAY 3rd MARCH 2019 -

A CELEBRATION OF THE WESLEYS:

Lincoln Cathedral is the venue for this special Evensong at 3.45pm. The service will include special music from both the Cathedral Choir and our own Jonty Nowell and friends. Refreshments to follow.



Material for the **March 2019** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Friday, 15 February 2019. Any material received after this date will not be included in the March edition.

Email: info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk

Address: Lincoln Methodist Circuit Office
Burton Road Methodist Church
175 Burton Road
Lincoln LNI 2LW

Announcements

Bailgate Methodist Church's Luncheon Club is looking for a cook to prepare pudding on Tuesdays during term time. If you'd like to contribute to this valuable and busy ministry, or would like further details, would you kindly contact Christine Wilkinson at chris.wilks@me.com or on Lincoln 543024 Many thanks.

An Evening of Fun and Fellowship—with a Scottish Flavour

A warm welcome is extended to people from around the circuit to come to **Central** Methodist Church on Saturday 26 January 2019; 4pm-6pm., for a fun-filled experience - kilts optional!!!



Nosh and Knowledge 2019

Washingborough Methodist Church's annual 'Nosh & Knowledge Quiz' is due to be held on **Friday 1 February 2019** at **Washingborough Community Centre** - doors open at **7.00pm** for a **7.30pm** start. We invite you to raise a team of a **maximum of 8** people. If you can't make up a full table, but would still like to come, please let us know and we'll try to find places for you. The evening includes 'Nosh' while you provide the 'Knowledge'! The cost is **£8.00 per person, £64 per table**. Drinks will be available to purchase on the night. There will also be a raffle. Payment in advance confirms your booking. If you would like to reserve a table please contact either Rachel/Philip Davies on 794856 or Lesley/Andrew Shapcott on 790644. We look forward to seeing you!



Stepping Out: In the Holy Spirit: Encouraging our Discipleship: with Pete Atkins

Saturday, 9th February; 10:00am - 3:00pm, at **Moorland Park** Methodist Church. Drinks provided, bring your own lunch. All welcome.



the coming of Jesus was a realisation of the promise of God spoken through the prophets of the Old Testament.

In the New Testament we can read of Jesus' coming and how that gives us hope and a future.

It is this hope and future that we celebrate. That we are no longer slaves to sin but as children of God are set free.

I love the hymn written by Christina Rossetti:

Love came down at Christmas,

Love all lovely, Love Divine;

Love was born at Christmas,

star and angels gave the sign.

The hope and future of God's people is found in God's love displayed in many ways; but especially through the coming of Jesus. Jesus' teaching taught us how to live the life that God desired for all of us. It seems to me that if we are prepared to live the life we should that this world would be a much better place to live.



May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you. May you experience that love of God in your life; and may you share that love with those you know and love, and the stranger you encounter on the way.

God Bless

Rev Alan



Christmas Services and Events

Church	Date	Time	Service
Bailgate	02-Dec	4:00 PM	Christingle
	09-Dec	3:00 PM	Christmas Market Carols
	16-Dec	4:00 PM	Nativity
	23-Dec	6:00 PM	Carols by Candlelight
	25-Dec	10:30 AM	Christmas Service
Bracebridge Heath	01-Dec		Coffee Morning
	09-Dec	3:00 PM	United Service at Anglican
Burton Road	16-Dec	4:00 PM	Christingle
Central	15-Dec	10:00 AM	Christmas Tree Festival
	16-Dec	10:30 AM	Nativity
	23-Dec	10:30 AM	Carols
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	Christmas Service
Cherry Willingham	09-Dec	10:30 AM	Carol Service at Grand Luce
	25-Dec	10:30 AM	United Service at Anglican
Ingham	13-Dec		Alternativity
Monks Road	23-Dec	3:00 PM	Folk Carols
	25-Dec	10:30 AM	Christmas Service
Moorland Park	23-Dec	4:00 PM	Carols in car park
	24-Dec	11:15 AM	C E Communion
Navenby	21-Dec	7:00 PM	Carol Service
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	Christmas Service
Nettleham	16-Dec	5:00 PM	Carols by Candlelight
	24-Dec	7:00 PM	Carols on the Green
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	Christmas Service
North Hykeham	23-Dec	10:45 AM	Carol Praise
	24-Dec	2:00 PM	Holy Communion
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	United Service at Swallowbeck

ACTION FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Be a Secret Santa for a vulnerable child this Christmas

For most of us, the festive season is a time of joy and family celebrations. But unfortunately, there are thousands of children in the UK right now who are facing a Christmas without food, warmth or love. Action for Children is working to change this - and they need your help.

Why should you get involved?

- ◇ Their Emergency Foster Carers are trained to ensure children in care have a safe and loving home over Christmas, with spare presents wrapped for children they need to help at a moment's notice.
- ◇ Some Action for Children centres are open over the holidays to support families who have nowhere else to go.
- ◇ They distribute food from local food banks to make sure children don't go hungry.
- ◇ Their staff call children on Christmas day to let them know someone is thinking of them.

This is why they are asking you to be a Secret Santa for a vulnerable child this Christmas to help them make a vulnerable child's Christmas safe, warm and bright. Their Santas don't have reindeers or wear big red suits. But, they're doing something very special indeed.

See how becoming a Secret Santa will make a difference to children like Lily this Christmas in this lovely animated film: <https://youtu.be/Em41wDI1cFA>.

Please sign up to become a Secret Santa and donate by texting **APPEAL to 70607** or visiting iamsanta.org.uk/appeal




Nettleham

Nettleham Methodist Church are running an **Alpha Course** at the start of next year. Is there anyone - a friend, neighbour, family - who you could think of taking along? You have a bit of time to think and pray about it! For further details, please contact Barry Chapman, 01673 860573 or 07771 755697 (Mobile); email puppacat@btinternet.com



Central

 Don't forget to visit our Christmas Tree Festival on 15th December, 10am to 2pm. Central is a joy to see when it is trimmed up for Christmas.

St Giles

Lindum Ladies Choir will be presenting a concert at St Giles Methodist Church on Saturday, 15th December, 7:30pm. Musical Director—Nick Perry; Accompanist—Anne Osborne. Tickets £5, including light refreshments. Proceeds for church funds.



Burton Road



Burton Road will be holding a Carol Service/Christingle, led by Mrs Wendy Thompson, on Sunday 16th December., 4:00pm. All invited and welcome.

Faithwalkers

Faithwalkers have a New Year walk for us to look forward to:

Tuesday 1st January 2019 , 1:15pm -The Turkey Buster Walk. Meet outside the Co-op, Village Green, Nettleham
Contact : Mark 07976938581; email faithwalkers@burtonroadmethodist.org.uk



Church	Date	Time	Service
Reepham	25-Dec	9:30 AM	Christmas Service
Saxilby	01-Dec		Christmas Tree Lighting
	23-Dec	4:00 PM	Carols
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Service
Scothern	05-Dec	7:00 PM	Advent Service
	24-Dec	4:00 PM	Crib Service
Skellingthorpe	04-Dec	7:00 PM	Coffee and Carols by Candlelight
	23-Dec	3:00 PM	Carols
St Columba's	16-Dec	2:00 PM	Crafts followed by Christingle
	23-Dec	3:00 PM	Carol Service followed by Tea
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	Holy Communion
St Giles	23-Dec	10:30 AM	Carols
	25-Dec	9:30 AM	Christmas Service
Swallowbeck	23-Dec	10:30 AM	Carol Service
	23-Dec	6:00 PM	Carol Service
	25-Dec	10:00 AM	United Service with North Hykeham
Welton & Dunholme	25-Dec	9:30 AM	Christmas Day Service



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 what is happening in the following churches: Monks Road, Moorland Park, Nettleham

Monks Road



After our initial Halloween Event last year, we thought you may be interested to learn how this has been further developed for this year.

We made up 100 treat bags, with sweets, glow sticks, stickers, and a small flyer advertising our Sunday breakfast club for kids and our next Messy Church event. We also organised two craft activities - paper pumpkins, and a flame display.

Flame Display The latter involved visitors writing their name on a flame, cutting it out, and sticking it on the display. We hoped that it would help visitors feel like they were a part of our church, and will make a great display as we head towards Christmas, reminding us of how many people visited and shared their joy with us on Halloween.

Finally, we set up squash bowling, using butternut squashes as skittles and a small, round squash as a ball. This was very popular with the youngsters.

We advertised the event as a “safe spot” to visit whilst out and about, sharing it on Facebook and with the local school. When we opened our doors

at 6pm there was already a queue to get in, and we had run out of treat bags just over an hour later. It was wonderful to welcome so many from our community into the church, from families with babes in arms right through to a group of teenagers who popped in and did some of the craft activities.

We handed out hot chocolate and biscuits, as well as the treat bags, and got to speak to so many people, many of whom were surprised we were open on Halloween! We wanted to meet our community where they are, and that’s exactly what we did.



Welcome Table with Treats

Amanda Shortman

Moorland Park

Sunday 23rd December – 4.00 p.m. Pop-up Nativity followed by Carols and mince pies with mulled fruit punch/teas/coffees

Monday 24th December – 11.15 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion

Tuesday 25th December – no Service

Advance information item relating to an event next year :-

At the [Weekend of 30th/31st March](#) Justin Thacker, who is a lecturer, at Cliff College will be visiting Moorland Park. The topic for the weekend is “How we make our Churches welcoming for all people”. Details have yet to be finalised. The current plans being that on:

Saturday afternoon it is hoped to have two one hour teaching sessions followed by a bring and share meal.

Saturday evening to have a further teaching session and a time of worship and praise.

The intention is to enable people to come for all or part of the day.

Justin will be leading worship on Sunday morning at Moorland Park.

