

Compiling each Circuit News is a big but exciting job. It is really important that we celebrate all the good that is happening in the Circuit and would like feedback on our newsletter. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us; we welcome your thoughts. Please address to info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk

Material for the **June 2020** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Friday, 15 May 2020. Any material received after this date will not be included in the June edition.

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CIRCUIT NEWS

LINCOLN METHODISTS

MARCH 2020

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A Week at Cliff College



Dear Friends

The season of Lent is upon us once more, a season which coincides with springtime and the rebirth of nature and new life which we see all around us. The Church also desires that each of us grow spiritually and experience a reawakening of our relationship with God during the forty days of Lent, which culminate at Easter with the Lord's passion, death and resurrection.

The purpose of Lent is not to make us feel disheartened or uncomfortable in the way we live out our faith, but it is a call to self-examination and for taking a fresh look at our attitude and behaviour towards others.

When we have travelled this journey, we can truly celebrate at Easter the love of God at work on the cross and through an empty tomb and a resurrected Lord. He did all this for us that we might be forgiven of our sins.

Jesus did exactly what he said he would. He did it for me, for you and the whole of humankind. I know it

After 4 years in the role of Circuit Administrator, it was decided that I should learn how to do the job properly, and so I spent a week in February at Cliff College on a short course entitled 'Certificate in Administrative Ministry'.

I wasn't sure what to expect, but Jane Bingham (Learning Network) and David Pickles ('retired' tutor) led a thoughtful, challenging, inspiring week of teaching and reflection on what it is to be a Circuit/District administrator. Not so much 'this is how you put the plan together' as 'this is how you use your God-given gifts to assist the smooth running of the Circuit.'

I had never thought of administration as ministry before, but what impacted me most over the week was teaching we had from Richard Teal (President elect of Methodist Conference) on our calling, and how we can bring gifts, talents, ideas and a presence to meetings, events and the Circuit in general that is unique. I came home feeling far more empowered to do my job and see my work as valuable and necessary.

The week wasn't all 'work', there were 12 of us on the course this year, and we had plenty of laughs, won the local pub quiz, and I found personal spiritual refreshment in the atmosphere of Cliff College.

I brought back various leaflets about other Cliff College short courses, and these will get out to the Churches. I would highly recommend these to anyone, whatever your area of Church work. Thank you to the Circuit for giving me the opportunity to take the week away, I just have a 3,000 word essay to write now!

Anne

Easter at Hykeham and Swallowbeck Methodist Churches



Communion

Tuesday 7 April 2.30pm Hykeham
Maundy Thursday 9 April 7pm Swallowbeck



Good Friday 10 April 2.15pm
Hykeham Methodist followed by
Village Green Act of Witness with
Churches Together 3.15pm

Easter Sunday, 12 April
10.45am Hykeham Methodist

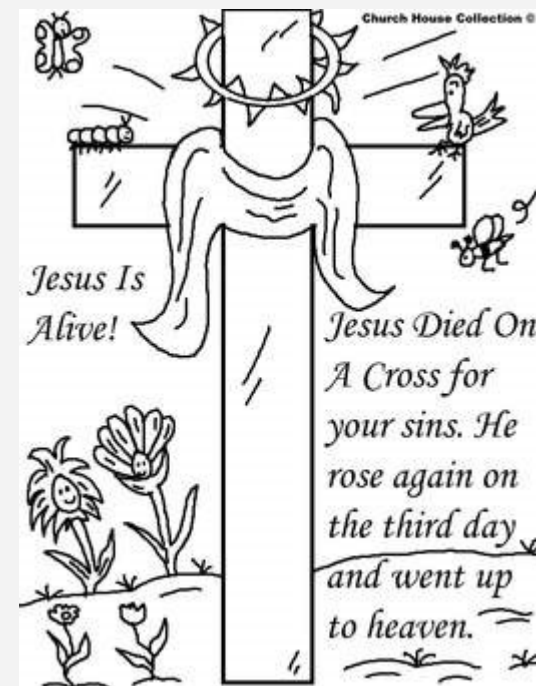
Please bring small posies of flowers to
decorate the Easter Cross



13 April Monday 2-4pm
Fun Day on Village Green
Everyone Welcome

can be difficult to comprehend but we are called to accept it in faith.

I pray that you will experience throughout this season the wonderful love of God for you.



May you be really blessed this Lent and Easter.

Rev Alan

News from our Churches

Bailgate, Central, Monks Road, and Washingborough

BAILGATE NEWS



Night Light Crisis Cafes

Providing a place of peace to those experiencing Mental Health Crisis

The Greater Lincoln Active Faith Network has enabled a new partnership between the NHS and the local Churches within Lincoln to provide Crisis Cafes for those experiencing a mental health crisis.

The vision of the Night Light Cafes will be to provide a non-clinical out of hour's safe space, run predominantly by trained volunteers. In these places of safety, guests will receive a warm welcome and acceptance in a peaceful environment. They will be offered activities and support to help de-escalate their crisis.

Acts Trust, who oversee Restore, Energize, Foodbank and many other city-wide projects, are the lead Christian Organisation who will be facilitating this project. A coordinator is now employed to oversee the project and will be ensuring that Churches have all the necessary training needed to run a Night Light Café. This initiative is being funded solely by the NHS who are also offering ongoing support.

The aim is for the cafes to be hosted in seven different locations, seven nights a week across the City of Lincoln. Opening times will be 10pm-2am, and referrals can be made directly by professionals, or via the Crisis Line.

Suicide rates in Lincolnshire are above national average, and the statistics show a real need for help to be given when people are experiencing a mental health crisis.

This new project will have a great impact on our City, and is the result of Churches working together to identify ways in which they can combine their resources and expertise.

The first Night Light Café will be launched early March 2020. The next phase of volunteer training will also commence in March and we would love to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering at one of our cafes.

If you would like more information about Night Light Cafes or find out how you can be involved, please email stacey@actstrust.org.uk.



selves to provide a specialist mental health awareness course, probably over a two day period. This will be invaluable for equipping our chaplaincy volunteers.

Please pass our sincere thanks onto all members of the Circuit.

Abbeyfield, Lincoln at Woburn Avenue (top of Mount Street)

A supportive home for 12 residents

Are you in need of a place to live where all meals are provided, cooked on the premises by our 2 housekeepers. Lunch and Tea are taken in the Dining Room; Breakfast provisions provided for a leisurely breakfast in your single ensuite room. At the moment we have a flat for 2 available with meals.

Activities are arranged including an optional Friday Fellowship when a speaker is invited in the context of a short service. Monthly communion.

The House is set in lovely gardens. Shops, Post Office, Chemist, Doctors, Bus Stop all on Burton Road.

Some of our residents have come to live at Abbeyfield to be nearer their Lincolnshire relatives.

Phone one of the housekeepers for an initial chat.

Tel: 01522 512185

Email: p.hopcroft@abbeyfield.com

Dorothy Chambers
Long Term Volunteer
Enabler for Friday Fellowship

TUESDAY 19TH MAY: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY: 10:00am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Pick and Mix

THURSDAY 21TH MAY: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

TUESDAY 26TH MAY: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY: 1:30pm: Central Methodist Church: Bible Study

THURSDAY 28TH MAY: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

SATURDAY 30TH MAY: 10:30am to 12:30pm: Messy Church: Monks Road

Thank you from Sally-Ann Robinson, Chair of the LCHC Project

On behalf of the Executive Team, I am writing to say how much we appreciate the very generous donation from the Lincoln Circuit to the Lincolnshire Community Healthcare Chaplaincy Project.

We currently have thirteen active chaplaincy volunteers working across the county in thirteen practices. We have recently been approached by five other practices who have shown an interest in the placement of a chaplaincy volunteer.

At a recent training session the volunteers identified a specific need for training in mental health issues. There does seem to be a great need for a listening ear in this area and it can throw up serious issues. We therefore intend to use some of the donation provided by your-

We, in Bailgate, will be hosting a Crisis Café on Wednesday evenings between 10:00pm and 2:00am every week for a two year initial period . We are looking for people who may want to volunteer to be on the team; full training will be given. Further details can be obtained from Ruth Burrows tel 07876200433 or 01522 532828, email bailgatechurch@outlook.com



CENTRAL NEWS



We look forward to the beauty of the Spring with it's vitality and freshness and nature breaking out into life in harmony with Easter.

Communion Service on Maunday Thursday, commencing at 6:30pm, will be preceded by a simple meal as we remember our Lord and His disciples sharing a meal. Following our Good Friday Service at 10:30am we meet at Gaunt Street with friends from St Peter at Gowts and the Salvation Army for a Walk of Witness to the Cenotaph.

We again welcome friends of Lincoln Music and Drama Festival for a fortnight of Music and Drama commencing on Tuesday 3rd March.

On Friday 20th March the Festival Concert will be held at 7:00pm where winners from many classes will again perform. Afterwards, refreshments will be served in the lower hall.

Under the continued guidance and enthusiasm of Rev Margaret Doughty many activities and Special Services take place as we aim to serve the Community and care for each other –

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Pick and Mix | Days of Reflection; | Bible Study; |
| Services at Monson Care Home; | Luncheon Club; | Circle Dancing; |
| Food bank and Coffee morning | Craft and Chat Sessions | Table Top and |
| | | Jumble Sales. |

We look forward to welcoming all friends to join us for a United Circuit Service on 1st March at 10:30am where the preacher will be the Rev Andy Burrows.

As Easter draws near may the light of the Risen Christ fill your mind with Joy and lead you into His Peace.



MONKS ROAD NEWS

Psalm 24: The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.



Many verses in the Bible that tell us how God made the earth and gave us dominion over it. We benefit from the earth's beauty, the earth's variety of life, the earth's bounty and yet we have used all these blessings extravagantly to the detriment of the earth which sustains us. We know about damage through climate change and the filth in the oceans because of our reckless use of plastic, particularly single-use plastic. At Monks Road we use our newsletter each month to think how we might begin to change how we live so that our lives might reflect with thanks what God has given to us. As a church we have been given a bronze award from A Roca UK for working towards this end and working to improve more. Our thinking has covered single-use plastic; illegally farmed palm oil which is in a lot of our confectionery and other foods and is destroying animal and people's habitats; how our shiny Christmas wrapping and glitter cannot be recycled; fast fashion which uses vast resources and increases landfill. These are just a few of the things we have thought about and we are

TUESDAY 28TH APRIL: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

THURSDAY 30TH APRIL: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

TUESDAY 5TH MAY: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY: 2:00PM: Circle Dancing: Central Methodist Church. Contact Rev Margaret Doughty, 01522 697177, for further details.

THURSDAY 7TH MAY: 12 noon – 1:00pm : Free Lunchtime Organ Recital – Alana Brook: Bailgate Methodist Church. Retiring collection – proceeds to charity. For further information, please contact Christine Matthews 01522 702428

SATURDAY 9TH MAY: Faithwalkers: Tuxford 6.5 miles : Leaders Andrew and Ian Moir: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leaders know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning. faithwalkers@burtonroadmethodist.org.uk

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 9TH/10TH MAY: Men's Weekend: Monks Road – Saturday, Coffee 10:00-11:00am / Sunday 10:30am

MONDAY 11TH MAY: Central: Lunch Club: 12:00 noon: Book through Margaret Houtby 01522 542172 or Carole Sharpe 01522 524285

TUESDAY 12TH MAY: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY: 1:30pm: Central Methodist Church: Craft and chat Group

THURSDAY 14TH MAY: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

FRIDAY 15TH MAY: 10:00-11:30am: Christian Aid: Monks Road: Coffee

WASHINGBOROUGH NEWS

27th January 2020

marked 75 years since Russian soldiers liberated the largest of the Nazi extermination camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau.



To commemorate the day hell was revealed, members at Washingborough Methodist and friends from St Johns, Canwick & Heighington Parish travelled to Beth Shalom, the National Holocaust Centre near Laxton, to reflect on how one of the most civilized nations of its day could butcher fellow humans deemed to be undesirable.

It was moving to hear the story of one child survivor, to follow the journey of Leo as the world descended into madness and chilling to recall how in 12 short years such horrors were allowed to happen.

Many of us were struck by the pile of stones at the entrance to mark all the children slaughtered and the fact that it has taken 25 years of visitors each laying a stone to represent but a 1/3 of the lives lost.

A sobering place but well worth a visit.

On Sunday January 26th Washingborough Methodist hosted a service to mark Holocaust Memorial Day and reflect on stories of those deemed 'righteous among the nations,' non -Jews who bravely refused to be bystanders and became upstanders, saving Jewish lives, sometimes at the cost of their own.

While the haunting theme from Schindler's List was played we laid images of these righteous folk beneath an image of a flame to give thanks for their courage.

We were reminded and challenged by the words of Sir Nicholas Winton who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Europe:

"Don't be content in your life just to do no wrong, be prepared every day to try and do some good"

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH: 9:30am-3:00pm: Skegness Methodist Church: Ruth Study Day: Keynote speaker - Rev Angy Long. This will be a great opportunity to get to grips with this amazing story of love, faithfulness and redemption. A fish & chip lunch will be provided and there is free parking on site. There is no charge for the day but there will be the chance to make a donation to LWPT if you wish. All are welcome! If you wish to attend please contact the East Lincs Circuit Office on 01507 354626 or eastlincs17.6@gmail.com by March 11th.

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH: 1:30pm: Central Methodist Church: Bible Study

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: Day of Reflection: Central Methodist Church: Gather at 9-30 for 10:00am start and finish at 2-30pm. Bring a packed lunch but drinks provided. Please book via Rev. Margaret Doughty on line revmd@gmx.co.uk or 01522 697177.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: 10:00am to 12:00 noon: Monthly Coffee Morning and Monthly Market: Saxilby Methodist Church: Conversation and companionship with a friendly atmosphere. Please come along, you will be made very welcome. Why not bring a friend? All proceeds in aid of Chapel funds.

TUESDAY 31ST MARCH: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL: 2:00PM: Circle Dancing: Central Methodist Church. Contact Rev Margaret Doughty, 01522 697177, for further details.

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL: 12 noon – 1:00pm : Free Lunchtime Organ Recital – Chris Brown: Bailgate Methodist Church. Retiring collection – proceeds to charity. For further information, please contact Christine Matthews 01522 702428



Dates for your Diary



TUESDAY 3RD MARCH: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH: 12 noon – 1:00pm : Free Lunchtime Organ Recital – Members of Lincolnshire Organists Association: Bailgate Methodist Church. Retiring collection – proceeds to charity. For further information, please contact Christine Matthews 01522 702428

MONDAY 9TH MARCH: Central: Lunch Club: 12:00 noon: Book through Margaret Houtby 01522 542172 or Carole Sharpe 01522 524285

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH: Faithwalkers: Tetford 6 miles : Leaders Andrew and Ian Moir: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leaders know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.
faithwalkers@burtonroadmethodist.org.uk

SATURDAY, 14TH MARCH: 12:30pm: St Columba's: Saturday Lunch, £6:00 per person. All welcome. Contact Sue Anderson, 01522 851170 for further details.

TUESDAY 17TH MARCH: 2:00 – 4:00pm: St Columba's: Tea (or Coffee), Cake and Chat: Everyone welcome to come along to meet friends and have a cuppa and cake: £1.50 including drink refill.

WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH: 10:00am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Pick and Mix

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH: 10:30am to 1:00pm: Central Methodist Church: Coffee Morning and Food Bank

Cleverness and power do not equate with humanity: a stark warning for our present age where hate speech and hate crime are on the rise and respect for difference is declining.

'Am I my brother's keeper?' Cain asks God. God's answer 'yes you are.'

Prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all as we remembered in this act of commitment, written by a colleague of mine, Deacon Angie Allport

In the face of the classification of people as 'other',

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of people being singled out by labels,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of discrimination

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of human beings being treated as less than human,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of extremism,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of the polarisation of cultures with the intention of creating opposition,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of incitement to hatred,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of persecution,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of genocide,

Jesus calls us to stand together

In the face of denial of such atrocities as the Holocaust,

Jesus calls us to stand together

We stand together with Jesus, who came into the world so that everyone might have life in all its fullness. Amen



LINCOLN CIRCUIT

Praying Together — March to May 2020

1. Pray for all creation throughout the world and all those who work towards a sustainable environment.	9. Pray for Rev Margaret Doughty as she supports people at Central.	17. Pray for Rev Bruce Thompson, Chair of Lincolnshire District, and other District Officers	25. Pray for our Emergency Services who work tirelessly for our welfare
2. Pray for the Methodist Connexion that it continues to sustain our mission.	10. Pray for Rev Dr Helen Hooley and the churches under her pastoral care.	18. Pray for Circuit Stewards that they will lead and manage the affairs of the circuit with wisdom and integrity	26. Pray for those who work to bring hope and restoration to the lives of the most vulnerable people in the community.
3. Pray for your local Methodist Church, that it may continue to nurture your endeavours.	11. Pray for Rev David Lawton and the churches under his pastoral care.	19. Pray for ourselves, that we may become closer to God	27. Pray for those who are involved in creative activities that they may show God's love through their work
4. Pray for our Lincoln Circuit and the new pioneer ministry at Bracebridge Heath	12. Pray Rev Dr Terry Nowell as he supports the people at Monks Road	20. Pray for all members that cannot get to church these days because of age and/or poor health. Give them strength, courage and hope.	28. Pray that The Methodist Forces Board continues to deliver reliable and compassionate Christian pastoral care to all people in, or connected with, the military regardless of religion or belief.
5. Pray for Rev Alan Swann that he continues to lead the circuit forward with wisdom and the Holy Spirit	13. Pray for Rev Canon Alan Robson and the churches under his pastoral care; also his demanding Agricultural Chaplaincy.	21. Pray for the homeless and charities that support them so that homelessness will be eradicated in Lincoln	29. Pray for the President, Revd Barbara Glasson, and Vice President, Clive Marsh, of the Methodist Conference.
6. Pray for the Churches under Rev Alan Swann's pastoral care.	14. Pray for Geoff Gilbert and Stones Place, Alan Measures (Safeguarding Officer) and John Lawson (Eden Team Leader).	22. Pray for the farmers in the area as they face challenging conditions and pressures within their work environment	30. Pray for the organisers of the 2020 Methodist Conference as they prepare for this year's event.
7. Pray for Rev Melanie Greenall and the churches under her pastoral care	15. Pray for all Supernumerary Ministers, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders.	23. Pray that we will recognise the signs and wonders of God around us	31. Pray that God will break through the chains that hold us back from spreading the gospel message
8. Pray for Rev Andy Burrows and the churches under his pastoral care	16. Pray for the Circuit Administrators that they will be able to work to support the circuit so others are released into mission.	24. Pray for those who risk their own lives to save others	