Summer 2022





Lincoln Methodist 17/02

Jubilee!

# Congratulations Ma'am



Picture Credit: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images

# Platinum Jubilee

On 6th February this year Her Majesty The Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth.

#### Summer 2022



Dear Friends,

At the beginning of this summer season there will be many activities celebrating her majesty's 70<sup>th</sup> year. I do hope you are able to participate in some way. There are various events planned in many communities in and around Lincoln, do try and get along to one if you can.

I want to begin by saying thank you to all those who have helped in any way over the last 2 years. I have been amazed at the effort that has been put in helping and co-ordinating many of the activities that have helped. Of course, during the pandemic many have lost loved ones and not been able to give them the send-off they deserved. They remain in our thoughts and prayers.

With Church life slowly getting back to some sort of normality it is good to see that many of our churches are looking at their future mission and ministry. It is true to say that things will not return the same. As has been said in many areas of life, 'we have a new normal'. It is not easy getting back to church and it will take an immense effort from all of us.

As we begin the summer season the beginning of June sees the last few days of Thy Kingdom Come ending with the feast of Pentecost on June 5<sup>th</sup>. We might find some parallels between the experience of the disciples behind closed doors and ourselves with the pandemic lock down.

Since the death and resurrection of Jesus the disciples had spent much of their time behind closed doors. Struggling to come to terms with life after Jesus. They had been told to wait for the power of the Holy Spirit to come upon them, and when it did what a difference it made.

In the book of Acts chapter one we hear the disciples are gathered. It says in Acts 1 verse 14 'They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women, Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers'. It goes on to say in Acts chapter 2 but on the day of Pentecost they were all together in one place. When suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. So, the time of confinement behind closed doors had come to end and a new era had begun.

We the church, after many days in isolation, now have an opportunity to step out as we move into a new season in the church and a new movement of the Holy Spirit. As we enter this new season, I want to encourage you to listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church. There are many challenges ahead for the church and we must be willing to step out in faith.

Each of us has gifts that can be used to build up the church and as we use them, we will be built up in our faith, confident to speak of Jesus and his message of love for all.

Alan

There will be a service on 5th June at 7am.

There will be a service on Bishops Palace adjacent

This will be held on Bishops Palace adjacent

This Will be held on Methodist Church

to Nettleham Methodist

## **News from our Churches**



#### **Bailgate Methodist Church**

We, like most churches, are gradually reviving our events, and yesterday had the first live organ recital at Bailgate after a two-year gap! The organist was Alana Brook, a young Aus-

tralian organist now an organ scholar at Lincoln Cathedral, and she was very good indeed. There were 19 people in the audience, a small number perhaps, but a beginning. We will be continuing the organ recitals up to October, and they will be on the first Thursday of each month from 12 noon to 1pm, free with a retiring collection.

Chris Matthews

#### **Monks Road Methodist Church**



Plans are well under way as we write for our Platinum Jubilee events:

- On Saturday 4th we are holding an open air coffee event at the front of our church, with stalls, drinks and music, and the planting of a tree for the Jubilee in the garden at the front of our building, from 10 to 11.30am.
- On Sunday 5th we have thanksgiving morning worship at 10.30am followed by a bring your own food picnic lunch with drinks provided, again outside, at 12 noon, weather permitting.

We have sent invites to both events to our neighbours in the immediate area, but visitors are welcome from further afield if anyone wants to join us.

**Terry Nowell** 

#### North Hykeham Methodist Church

We are pleased to report that we have had some excellent services and very loyal good attendance – average 24. We offer a warm welcome to all preachers. We are especially grateful to Dennis Andrews and Heather Burnett (our worships leaders) for taking our OA services this year. We are fortunate to have 4 stewards and 3 organists.

A contribution from one of our loyal members.

Anyone who likes to read might be interested in the novel written in 1859 by George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans) entitled Adam Bede. One of the main characters is Dinah Morris, a Methodist Lay Preacher, and this much can be learned about early Methodism. In the second chapter she preaches on the common standing on a hay cart. Throughout, a wonderful insight and much that must be inspirational to our present day lay preachers and church members. There is in existence a painting by Edward Henry Corbould (1815-1905) of Diana's preaching in the open on said hay cart. You can view this by tapping up Dinah Morris on your computer/iPads. You will find that the painting was commissioned by Queen Victoria, who was a great admirer of the novel.

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Barbara



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#### **Skellingthorpe Methodist Church**

Greetings to members of our Circuit from Skellingthorpe.

Slowly we are returning to some normality after the difficulties of the past two years, with fortnightly services and monthly coffee mornings. The latter are usually organised by our own members, but the opportunity has been given to user groups to take a turn too. Fortunately these schoolroom hiring groups have now returned along with an additional two groups. Our Craft 4 Charity ladies are as industrious as ever at their monthly meetings and it is amazing how many items are completed for various charities, including baby garments, knee blankets, bed socks for the local care homes, hats, gloves, scarves etc. The Group has now decided on a programme for the 2022/2023 session which includes invited speakers to some of the meetings. Members (and other people from the village) are now being encouraged to knit, crochet or sew red, white and blue scarves to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is hoped they will be displayed at the coffee morning on the Saturday of the Jubilee celebration weekend and later forwarded on to those who are in Sneed of winter warmth. Following a donation from the closed 'Chat' village magazine committee, a garden seat (see photo) has been installed near the entrance to the chapel which we hope will be used by those who need to 'rest awhile' (perhaps after doing their shopping at the nearby Coop!). Surplus food from there is regularly collected by a member

and taken to the food bank at Moorland Park. Our next plan is to have a table at the village Gala towards the end of June. So we continue to have a Christian presence within our local community and pray God's blessing on our (and your) endeavours.













#### St Giles Methodist Church

Sunday services continue with a regular congregation of about 30. Our project to upgrade the audio-visual system is about to be implemented which should greatly enhance our worship time and will provide excellent facilities for those who wish to use our church for meetings and presentations.

We have said our good-byes to Rev Gyula Fiak with a bring and share lunch after his last service. Rev Alan Swann will be taking temporary charge until Juliet Wriglesworth arrives in September.

John Lawson, our Eden team leader, has spent a few weeks over on the Polish-Ukraine border helping with the relief effort for refugees. He is back now, thankfully in one piece. While he was away the work of Eden continued, with church members stepping in, including coffee mornings (including bacon baps), Free-4-all and free food distribution using surplus stock from local supermarkets. We are also hoping to start a mother and toddler group on Friday afternoons.

The Community Larder opens its doors on Wednesdays and Fridays and now has extra cupboard space to cope with the increased demand.

Our weekly bible study continues following the thought provoking booklet about Isaiah.

Light Night Café continues on Tuesday evenings providing welcome respite for both mental health patients and their carers in the relaxed atmosphere of the Living room or they can play table tennis, pool and table football in the sanctuary.

Boys Brigade and Scouts are regular users and the church hall has several bookings for Baby Showers and Birthdays. The church will also be open to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on June 3.

## Tomas Control

#### **Moorland Park Methodist Church**

## Moorland Park 4th Lincoln Girls' Brigade Company

#### **Our Last Year**

10<sup>th</sup> April 2021 saw the announcement that we could once again return to face-face meetings. We were allowed back with social distancing but this time didn't need to be in 'bubbles'. This enabled us to return to putting the children and leaders into their sections and badge work could return properly. We were also allowed to join together in worship, although we couldn't sing we could do the actions.

May saw us once again taking part in UNITE, Central Office and church allowed us to meet at church for the weekend, all of the children managed to join us for at least part of the weekend. The weekend included (virtual) campfire songs, scrapheap challenge, worship workout, games, magical mayhem, Great UNITE Bake Off, we entered UNITE's got talent, we did science experiments and we skipped in the car park (photos are on our Facebook page).

In August some of the staff helped at the Family Fun Day at church.

September was the start of the New Year, our first meeting was a games night. The annual Awards Night took place, this time we were allowed to invite parents. It was lovely to be able to celebrate the children's achievements in front of family. We took part in the Harvest Festival service at church. The leaders took part in Song of Praise which was recorded at the Cathedral, did you spot us in the December episode?

November saw some of the staff and children take part in the Remembrance service at church. Hayley represented GB in the Remembrance parade at the Cenotaph in London, she was very excited to see Prince William.

December, we invited family and friends to join us for chocolate bingo, which was very well supported. The staff helped with the Christmas Sack Project.

February, Hayley helped to run the Esther Generation weekend at Cliff College for the Queens Award participants. Our older girls designed a card for the Queens Platinum Jubilee competition.

March saw us celebrating International Women's Day. We also had a company Day at church, this had the theme 'Superheroes'. We made superhero cuffs and shields. Decorated biscuits. Made our own pizza. Did craft and games. Katie led devotions, she talked about superheroes from comics which led to superheroes

in our community and then the bible. She then explained that we were all able to be a superhero, and not all superheroes wear capes. At the end of the day the children left through a 'spiders web' which Hayley made on the door to the connect lounge. We were also joined by our President Ann Lambert. At the end of March we held a Bunny Drive and invited family and friends to join us. This was again very well supported and we thank you.

April - we gave out Easter eggs to all members, these were kindly bought for us by church.

Besides this we have done badge work, had craft nights, games nights, cooked and baked with the children. We were lucky enough to be chosen by the CO-OP to be community champions. We are taking four children and three staff to UNITE in June. We are also taking 16 children and five staff to a camp in August.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported GB and to the staff for their hard work and devotion to our group. We have lots planned for next year.

God bless

Sally Woodhead

Captain 4<sup>th</sup> Lincoln GB



#### **Swallowbeck Methodist Church**

At Swallowbeck we will be celebrating the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** on **Saturday**, **11 June** at **3.00pm** with an **Afternoon Tea** and musical entertainment from **Lincoln Pro Musi** 



**ca**. If anyone would like tickets, £5.00, please telephone 01522 680457 or email <a href="mailto:swallowbecktickets@gmail.com">swallowbecktickets@gmail.com</a> before 5 June. We would be very pleased to welcome any friends from around the Circuit to what we hope will be an enjoyable social afternoon.

During Christian Aid Week our members have been delivering gift envelopes to homes in our community. The householders have the option to make a cashless donation which can be recorded without the involvement of a treasurer to show how much has been donated locally. This method was trialled successfully last year by other churches, raising 1 million pounds nationally during Christian Aid Week 2021. For donors without the internet, letterboxes have been set in place to receive envelopes and the account will remain open until the end of July.

Having found that the Bible Course worked well on Zoom, we have now started a Prayer Course which has a similar format. The author Peter Greig is interviewed on a different aspect of prayer each week, followed by our discussion. We have become more experienced in the use of Zoom and can now concentrate on the course material without wondering whether the technology is going to work every time.

Night Light Cafes set up as a partnership between the Churches and the NHS on a short-term trial to help isolated people struggling with mental health issues have largely achieved positive results to the point where more volunteers are being sought who would be willing to undertake training with the view of seeing whether a 4-hour volunteering role would be something they could offer on a rota. The Friday café will be celebrating its anniversary with a pizza party on July 1st and the other cafes will be looking at ways to thank existing volunteers and recruit new ones. University students who have been volunteering as work experience placements are likely to move away to take jobs elsewhere when they graduate and those who remain local may not be able to juggle paid work with volunteering. Please pray for the volunteers and guests as Night Light Cafes continue to provide a much-needed service.



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#### STONES PLACE

Having been in and out of lockdown for months, Stones Place is in the position of giving preference to outdoor events and looking forward to the Jubilee Street party in their grounds from 3pm on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>. Visitors welcome – please wear something red, white and blue if you can. Food and live music. A recent visit by dance students from Bishop Grosseteste University giving an outdoor performance was also enjoyed, and the partial lifting of restrictions on indoor visits by family members along with the return of Sunday afternoon church services is welcomed. The national date for MHA Sunday is June 12<sup>th</sup>, so I am proposing to bring posters and gift envelopes to the next Circuit meeting (June 15<sup>th</sup> at Swallowbeck) asking churches to use the worship resources from the website www.mha.org.uk/sunday when they have an own arrangement on the June-August Circuit Plan. The date of MHA Sunday services has always been flexible and extending the gap between Christian Aid Week and MHA Sunday should work better for most churches. MHA charitable donations improve the quality of life for the residents and having a batch of live eggs hatching over Easter at Stones Place was one of the little extras they enjoyed.

#### Welton & Dunholme Methodist Church

May Day Monday saw us outside our chapel bright and early erecting a marquee. We had been asked to provide refreshments for the village May Fair. Always up for a challenge, we provided refreshments (tea/coffee and a cake for £2-excellent value for money!), a cake stall, a book stall, DVD's, jig-saws, and a Teddy tomboy. Many thanks must go to Peter and Linda McCree for galvanising a merry band of chapel volunteers into action. We all worked hard and raised quite a considerable amount for our

funds. We were a very visible presence at a major village event, and we would like to thank all the villagers who came along to support us. A good day!

Once again, one of our property stewards, John Roland, grew lots of plants from seed and sold them to members of the congregation. Any remaining ones were sold at a Saturday coffee morning. Thank you, John.

As with many other people and organisations, we are looking forward to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and we will be holding a special Jubilee coffee morning on Saturday June 4th. We hope to see all our regulars there and hopefully a few new people.

#### St Columba's

We will be holding a Jubilee Celebration Tea on Saturday 4th June at 3pm and all are welcome. The cost is £5 per person (half price for children under 12 years). There will

be a jubilee-themed raffle and all proceeds from the afternoon will go to the Ukraine Appeal.

Please feel free to wear red, white and blue if you wish but this is not compulsory.

It will be helpful for catering planning if you would let us know by 1st June how many of your members will be joining us. You can do this by contacting Allan and Nicole Bond by e-mail,

(a.c.bond@btinternet.com) or by phone on 01522 536034.

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**Advance Notice**—we hope to recommence our bi-monthly community lunches: 1st lunch due 12:30pm on 9th July.

## Calendar Dates - June to August 2022

Sunday Jun 05, 2022 Whit Sunday, Pentecost			<u> </u>
Sunday  Thursday - Sunday  Jun 02-05, 2022  Elizabeth II's 70th Anniversary Celebration  Sunday  Jun 05, 2022  Whit Sunday, Pentecost			
Sunday Jun 05, 2022 Elizabeth II's 70th Anniversary Celebration  Sunday Jun 05, 2022 Whit Sunday, Pentecost	•	May 26 - June 05 2022	Thy Kingdom Come
	,	Jun 02-05, 2022	Elizabeth II's 70th Anniversary Celebrations
Sunday Jun 12, 2022 Trinity Sunday/ Methodist Homes Sunda	Sunday	Jun 05, 2022	Whit Sunday, Pentecost
	Sunday	Jun 12, 2022	Trinity Sunday/ Methodist Homes Sunday
Thursday Jun 16, 2022 Corpus Christi	Thursday	Jun 16, 2022	Corpus Christi
Sunday Jun 19, 2022 Father's Day	Sunday	Jun 19, 2022	Father's Day
Tuesday Jun 21, 2022 Summer Solstice	Tuesday	Jun 21, 2022	Summer Solstice
Wednesday Jun 22, 2022 <u>Windrush Day</u>	Wednesday	Jun 22, 2022	Windrush Day
Saturday Jun 25, 2022 Armed Forces' Day	Saturday	Jun 25, 2022	Armed Forces' Day
Thursday Jul 7, 2022 World Chocolate Day	Thursday	Jul 7, 2022	World Chocolate Day
Sunday Jul 10, 2022 Mission to Seafarers	Sunday	Jul 10, 2022	Mission to Seafarers
Friday Jul 15, 2022 St Swithin's Day	Friday	Jul 15, 2022	St Swithin's Day
Sunday Jul 17, 2022 Rural Mission Sunday	Sunday	Jul 17, 2022	Rural Mission Sunday
Monday Aug 15, 2022 <u>Assumption of Mary</u>	Monday	Aug 15, 2022	Assumption of Mary
Monday Aug 29, 2022 Summer Bank Holiday	Monday	Aug 29, 2022	Summer Bank Holiday
Thursday Sep 1, 2022 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Crea	Thursday	Sep 1, 2022	World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation



The next Foundation Safeguarding Training will be at Welton and Dunholme Methodist Church on 25<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 10:00am.

Please book your place by sending your name and contact details to Alan Measures

(tel 07986895384, email safeguarding@lincolnmethodist.org.uk)

### **PRAYING TOGETHER**

	Pray for Queen Elizabeth II, that she may continue to reign with wisdom and serenity.	9) Pray for our children, young people and all workers in education as they look forward to their summer vacation.
	2) Pray for the work of the Methodist Church World Mission Fund that they may continue to support projects and individuals around the world.	10) Pray for all involved in our local care industry that they may continue to care for the vulnerable in our society.
	3) Pray for your neighbours regularly, by name if you can. Ask God for opportunities to talk to them about Jesus, and possibly invite them to events at your Church.	11) Pray for Rev Alan Swann, as he leads the Circuit, as well as pastoring his own Churches. Pray for God's guidance for his future.
	4) Pray for the Mission to Seafarers that they may continue to provide help to seafarers in over 200 ports around the world.	12) Rev Margaret Doughty – Pray for wisdom as she supports people at Central and in her work with prayer ministry.
	5) Pray for MHA as they continue to provide specialist support and care to bring hope and support to people in later life.	13) Pray for the Circuit Stewards and Denise as they work to support the Circuit, and the Ministers. Pray for wisdom and servant hearts in all they do.
	6) Pray for your fellow members of your Church that they may continue to grow in God's likeness.	14) Pray for all families who have children going through the current exam season. Pray peace into homes where there would be stress.
	7) Pray for the Lincolnshire Rural & Agricultural Chaplaincy that they may continue to bring comfort and support to all agricultural workers.	15) Pray for our Local Preaching team, that they would be used by God to spread His message around our Circuit.
	8) Lord Jesus, you owned so little. Help us to recognise what is valuable in this life and the next, and to live as those with hearts raised to heaven. Amen.	16) Pray for the older members of our Circuit, who maybe cannot get to Church on a Sunday. Pray that they would be cared for and still feel like they belong

#### **PRAYING TOGETHER**

	17) Pray for Rev Terry Nowell as he leads the congregation at <b>Monks Road,</b> and for the work they do in the Monks Road area.	25) Pray for Rev Canon Alan Robson as he works tirelessly for our agricultural workers as well as looking after North Hykeham, Swallowbeck and St Columba's churches.
	18) Pray for uniformed organisations that meet in our Churches. These may often be the only connection a family has with Church, so pray for opportunities for mission and ministry with these groups.	26) Pray for Rev Gyula Fiak as he looks forward to the next stage in his career.
	19) Pray for the Circuit Stewards as they oversee the work of the Circuit. Pray for wisdom and God's guidance. Pray that more would step up to join the team and spread the workload	27) Pray for the homeless and charities that support them so that homelessness will be eradicated in Lincoln
	20) Pray for volunteers, without whom society would grind to a halt	28) Pray for the many religions of the world, who each seek peace through their own traditions
	21) Pray for our Ministers as they go about their pastoral businesst	29) Pray for worldwide leadership, as they work towards peace and harmony
	22) Pray for Rev David Lawton as he serves the needs of Moorland Park, Navenby, Thorpe on the Hill and Skellingthorpe.	30) Pray for the whole of humanity throughout the world as we come together to defeat the evils we encounter.
	23) Pray for John Lawson and his team giving vital help and aid to Ukraine in it's hour of need.	31) Commend our world, our church, our community to our God, knowing that he is at work in them and through them
	24) Pray for Rev Jennifer Matthews as she continues to settle into our Circuit	15

## **District Update**

**Advanced Safeguarding** – bookings are being taken for any <u>local preachers</u> or <u>worship leaders</u> needing to update their training.



This course is comprises three parts:

- Advanced Module (online) e-learning referred to as Theology X this takes between 4 and 7 hours, depending on your learning style, to complete. It can be completed in smaller sections over approximately 3 weeks. The accompanying Workbook is for your personal use and is not assessed.
- **Handbook** to support learning during Advanced Module (online) and for further study and resources.
- Advanced Module (online) Gathered Session a 2-hour group session via Zoom to consolidate learning from the e-learning.

#### **To book onto a course** you need to:

Select a suitable date on which to attend a Gathered session – see the list above. This session must be booked at least **3 weeks** in advance.

Book onto a course via Eventbrite, using this link <a href="https://advancedmoduleonlinelincolnshire.eventbrite.co.uk">https://advancedmoduleonlinelincolnshire.eventbrite.co.uk</a>

Please note that you will need to use some form of computer and have reliable Wi-Fi access throughout this training. You will also need to register for the course using the email address which you will use throughout the training programme.

Once registered, you will receive more details, via email, from the District Office then from Connexion. Please note that Eventbrite is only being used for collecting registration details. Subsequent emails from Eventbrite following booking can be ignored. It may take a few days to process your booking but if you have not been contacted within a week of registering, please contact <code>pa@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk</code>

**For further information**, please contact Howard on 07758 239286 or Alison on 01522 370126

#### NB:

- ✓ You need to have attended Foundation training BEFORE attending this course;
- ✓ You only need to do this course if you have not done Advanced or Leadership within the last 4 years;
- ✓ All training has to be completed before September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.
- ✓ For those who do not have access to the Internet, other provision is being considered.

## Lay Weekend Away at Launde 2023

Details are now available and bookings open for the next lay weekend at Launde Abbey, Leicestershire, which will take place Friday 17th to Sunday 19th March 2023 starting with an evening meal on the Friday.

The weekend away will be led by Rev Bruce Thompson, Chair of District. Further details are available from the District Office on 01522 370126 or by selecting chair/chair's PA via pa@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk

#### Homes for Ukraine— links to useful Methodist guidance:

https://www.lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk/whats-on/news/homes-for-ukraine.html

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### Methodist Tapestries Project — volunteer stitchers wanted

https://www.lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk/whats-on/news/volunteer-stitchers-wanted.html

#### **Lincolnshire Community Healthcare Chaplaincy**

Did you know that Lincolnshire Methodist District runs a chaplaincy project in GP surgeries and that Alan Measures (member at Skellingthorpe) and Lynda Bickley (member at Washingborough) are chaplaincy volunteers at the Nettleham practice? They are amongst a group of 7 others who visit practices as far away as Stamford, South Killingholme, Boston and Scunthorpe.

Since Covid many consultations have taken place by telephone, but some surgeries have recently agreed to the re commencement of face-to-face appointments. Most volunteer chaplains will say that there is nothing quite like sitting down with someone in person to offer a listening, hopeful and caring ear. Patients can self-refer but mostly the GP or another member of the practice staff will make a referral. Each practice has an appointment system and a session with the chaplain can last as long as an hour, but the average time is less. The chaplains collect data on the type of problems they encounter, and the results show that many people want to talk to the chaplain because of bereavement, loneliness, mental health difficulties, worries about illness or concerns about the family. The chaplains see people of all faiths and none and are happy to discuss faith and to pray with clients/patients if it is helpful for them. In 2021 alone the chaplains across Lincolnshire had 253 appointments with 87 new patients being referred. They spent a total of 8120 minutes in these appointments.

Alan and Lynda undertook initial training in 2017 with the Lincoln School of Theology and in recent years have participated in follow up training on bereavement, mental health first aid and listening skills. Chaplains meet at regular training and coffee and chat sessions and continue to be supported by Howard Smedley, the project Manager, by their mentors and by the management team. Plans for the future include the development of a new train-

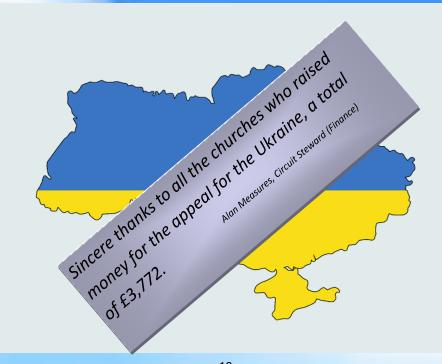
ing programme and the introduction of chaplaincy into more practices.

To make the project sustainable we would like to recruit and train some more chaplaincy volunteers. If you would like to know more, then please do contact Sally-Ann Robinson, Project Chair

(<u>districtsteward@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk</u> / 07747042849) or Howard Smedley (<u>safeguarding@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk</u> 07758239286).

We would also really like volunteer chaplains to be known and supported by our chapels and embedded in the community. If your church would like a talk or more information, then we would be delighted to give them a greater insight. We would also ask for your prayers for all involved.

Alison Godfrey, District Officer



**Methodists share Rogation Sunday with Church of England** 

### **Rev Canon Alan says**

Rogation Sunday isn't only for rural communities — it's deeper truths are for us all to revisit and learn for our own times, whoever we are, whatever our life. It is more than discovering that to spend time in nature heals the soul.

From the pandemic to Cop-26, we're hearing the wake-up calls that we must save our planet to save ourselves, by doing things differently, by seeing things differently: seeing as God sees, letting his redeeming love flow in us. Will you do this?

Dating back to 470 AD, Archbishop Mamertus instituted the Rogation Days – the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before Ascension Day – after a period of natural disasters had ravaged the people of Vienne, France. He proclaimed days of fasting and processions of prayer around the freshly-sprouted fields, asking God for mercy in the growth of the crops.

#### **A Prayer**

Remember, Lord, your mercy and loving-kindness towards us. Bless this good earth and make it fruitful. Bless our labour, and give us all things needed for our daily lives. Bless the homes of our parish and all who live within them. Bless our common life and our care for our neighbour. Hear us, good Lord. Amen.

Some parishes sometimes still walk the parish boundaries and pray for the crops and shops and wider community of businesses-Times gone by a young person was 'lightl'y beaten at each key marker point for the parish for them to remember where they were born and belong? It would be a very long walk now as parish boundaries have grown!



## Securing Rural and Agricultural Chaplaincy for the Future <a href="https://www.lrac.org.uk">www.lrac.org.uk</a>

In the past month or two a Board of Trustees and myself have been working to secure a bigger team to serve the farming community as they are facing a 'generations worth of change within 8 years". There are now 4 Anglican colleagues and myself.

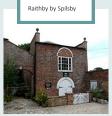
The intention and vision is to raise £1.5m endowment, the interest of which will pay for a lead chaplain and the expenses of colleagues and projects initiated by the chaplains.

I have also been collaborating with ecumenical partners to create a Chaplaincy Training course at BGU (Bishop Grosseteste University). The good news is that we have secured circa £100K in a short period—a long way to go—but there is such good will!!

If churches or individuals would like to contribute please look on the website and or send a cheque made out to LRAC to my address 41 Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG any gift given in love will be treasured and received with gratitude.

You can also see our collaboration with the other charities LRSN ( I founded in 1999) and the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society education committee) in the following video <a href="https://app.wipster.io/Review/CVgBPAB\_MwjK5VEOvM\_h2-sfGkRZgkAUb5JQvzWFdT5dBc6n\_A">https://app.wipster.io/Review/CVgBPAB\_MwjK5VEOvM\_h2-sfGkRZgkAUb5JQvzWFdT5dBc6n\_A</a>

## WESLEY DAY –Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022



Did you know at Raithby by Spilsby we have one of very few Grade 1 listed chapels in Methodism (one of three I think?) opened by John Wesley in 1779 built for him by Robert Carr Brackenbury squire, local landowner who became a friend to John Wesley (built a library at Raithby Manor for the travelling preachers) and became an evangelist himself.

He travelled with Wesley to Channel islands and Portland Island and founded Methodism there. After his death his widow funded one of the first Methodist missionaries to South Africa Rev Samuel Burnet ( who bought a parcel of land just outside Cape town and called it Brackenbury Valley ( now Somerset West) and a mission station called Raithby with a school and houses with gardens for the local 'coloured' workers to earn extra by selling their own produce. ( He was a Minister at Little Steeping I went to Raithby SA celebrate their 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1995.

She also contributed to Rev John Hunt a pioneer missionary to Haiti "with noble liberality Mrs Brackenbury of Raithby Hall offered to pay all the expenses of the Rev John Hunt .In addition the lady offered to pay £50 per year towards his annual expenses for three years" conditional that the Missionary Society sent a further two missionaries which they did! (Memorial Chapel Thorpe on the Hill to Rev John Hunt)



Hykeham Moor nr Lincoln

Rev Canon Alan J Robson lead the Wesley Day service 7pm this year -- this is a celebration that happens every year at Raithby.

#### A PRAYER FOR RURAL MISSION SUNDAY

Creator God,

there is so much that is strange in our lives at present. Help us to pay attention to your creation, so that we may see you in the common and everyday.

Shepherd Jesus,

as we walk through this rapidly changing world, help us to know you walk with us.

If our path runs through the valley of the shadow may we see your light and know your comfort as you lead us.

Comforting Spirit,

as we go about our ordinary lives, surprise us with glimpses of holy ground.

Blessed Trinity, Creator, Shepherd, Spirit, surround us with your love, now and always. Amen

#### Hi everyone

I am Christian author and poet; I am also a trainee Methodist Local Preacher. (Lincolnshire District)

Along with my books (at discounted prices), I am a seasoned speaker at fellowship, friendship, and charity groups. I share prayerful poetry from my collection "In the Palm of His Hand" as well as anecdotal humorous poetry from my memoir "His Guiding Hand". I do not charge church or charity groups.

If you'd like to book a talk, please feel free to give me a ring on 01652 654435. https://www.facebook.com/events/371591158049127?ref=newsfeed Kate Brumby



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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 <a href="mailto:info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk">info@lincolnmethodist.org.uk</a>

Material for the **Autumn 2022** edition of **Circuit News** must be with the Circuit Office by Wednesday, **17 August 2022**. Any material received after this date will not be included in the September edition.

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