

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

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Lincoln Methodists

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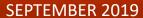
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The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



Dear Friends

I remember when our children were younger, they used to love a book called, 'Five minutes peace.' This was a story about a mum and her children and the need for her to have just 5 minutes peace. I think we all have times when we need to experience peace. Isaiah 9 speaks of the coming Messiah as being 'the Prince of Peace.' In

his book 'Living differently to make a difference,' Will Donaldson (BRF ISBN 978-0-85746-671-6) explores the beatitudes. The Sermon on the mount contains what Donaldson calls 'a kind of manifesto of Kindness.' Within it is found 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Matthew 5:9). The Christian ideal is for all to live in peace.

He speaks of the peace of God being much bigger concept in the bible than 'feeling peaceful' or having 'piece of mind.' The Hebrew word used is:



meaning wholeness, completeness and well-being, and in the old testament it is a key blessing from God through his covenant with Israel. (Numbers 25:12). This shalom means a Spiritual wholeness of a close

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

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER: 9.30 – 11.30 am (14TH DECEMBER) - INSIGHT DAY: The Insight Group led by Rev Bruce Thompson and occasional guest leaders continues to meet once a month at San Damiano, Metheringham. The group usually considers the Bible readings for the following week making it particularly appropriate for Local Preachers who are preparing for a service. However not all the group are Local Preachers or Worship Leaders. Space is limited to 22 so people always book with Alison beforehand on 01522 370126 or pa@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk, the usual group size is about 15.

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER: Central: Day of Reflection for Advent: Contact Rev Margaret Doughty, 01522 697177, for further details.

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

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

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

SATURDAY, 18TH JANUARY 2020: 10:00am: Venue TBC: Foundation Safeguarding Training - 'Create Safer Space'

Let's all go through life like a 4-year old in a Batman suit!!!

group work, communication skills, spiritual development, responding to vocation and it's all wrapped up in Methodist history, doctrine and processes. To book a place please contact Gill Thomas on thomasg@methodistchurch.org.uk

THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER: "WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?" - ISLAMOPHOBIA AWARE-NESS DAY - a role for Christian Churches and others: Event organised by Rev Bruce Thompson: Keynote speaker Akeela Gheewala Ahmed MBE: Venue to be arranged: Book now with Alison on pa@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk: Lincolnshire Methodist District Positive Prevention Strategy

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER: Faithwalkers: Donnington on Bain 6½ miles: Leader Mark Thompson: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leader know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.

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SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER is Homeless Sunday

SATURDAY, 19TH OCTOBER (also Saturday, 18th January 2020): 10:00am: Venue TBC: Foundation Safeguarding Training - 'Create Safer Space'

SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER: Faithwalkers: Edwinstowe 7 miles: Leaders Andrew and Ian Moir: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leader know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.

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

SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER: Faithwalkers: Whisby & North Hykeham Millennial Green 6½ miles: Leaders David and Elva Vandenbos: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leader know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.

relationship with God himself, as well as social well-being whereby relationships with family and friends are restored and wholesome in the wider community.

Of course, there is much more to the sermon than this but to me it seems that Jesus lived his life in such a way to bring this 'Shalom' peace to the people and communities he met. Peace was often found as a result of self-exploration and examination of one's life. Jesus' words often were tough to take on board but for many who did there was this deep sense of 'shalom.'

If we too and individuals and churches are called to bring this deep peace of shalom to our communities, what might it mean for us and how might we enable other to find it?

I believe in the unrest of the world we need to discover or re-discover this peace for ourselves and having done so display it in our lives. We need as church to be bearers of peace to our friends, neighbours and wider communities.

What the world divides, the gospel brings together. We need to revaluate what is important and just.

My God bless you with his peace.

Rev Alan



A sincere thank you to all who have been involved in the many messages I have received over the past months, they have been much appreciated through a difficult time.

Blessings as we continue our journey of faith.

Janet Mackinder

News from our Churches

Central News

As we continue our journey in serving the Lord, Central welcomes friends from the neighbourhood to share with us in the many monthly events and activities.

2 nd Monday	12:00	Lunch Club	
3 rd Tuesday	2:00 pm	Short Service, Monson	
Care Home			
1 st Wednesday	2:00-3:30pm	Circle Dancing	
2 nd Wednesday	1:30-3:00pm	Craft and Chat Group	
3 rd Wednesday	10:00am-1:00pm	Pick and Mix	
4 th Wednesday	1:30pm	Bible Study	
Every Thursday	10:30am-1:00pm	Food Bank and Coffee	
Morning			

MONDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER, 7 for 7.30 pm, in St.Hugh's Hall: "Live Simply" Evening. Mark Charlesworth will talk about this subject and there will be some input from SSPP parishioners who have already launched a Live Simply Campaign.

WEDNESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER: Estate Church Encouragement Day: St Giles Church 'Jubilee Halls', Lamb Gardens, Lincoln, LN2 4EQ: 11:00 – 15:30 hrs: Do you serve an estate parish? Do you long to see our estate parishes thrive? Join us for a day of encouragement with The Revd Andy Delmege, Chair of the National Estate Churches Network. Andy will bring us up to speed with the national scene and especially the work of the Church's Estates Evangelism Task Group and the 'Commitment to Action' initiative. We shall have time to share our own experience and to consider how we can best support one another in our mission. Arrivals from 10.30am for 11am

Sandwich lunch and drinks will be provided. Please advise any special dietary needs when booking.

start. Finish at 3pm.

Contact Nick Buck at stgileslincoln@gmail.com or 01522 519273

THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER: 1:15PM: Prayer Shawl Meeting: Central Methodist

Church: If anyone knows of someone who would appreciate a shawl please get in touch with Rev Margaret Doughty 01522 697177. A person does not need to be ill, maybe just needing to know that they are thought about and loved.

SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER: Faithwalkers: Carsington Water 8 miles: Leaders
Mark Thompson and Glenn Beaumont: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 8:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leader know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER: 12 noon – 1:00pm: Free Lunchtime Organ Recital –
Anthony Gritten: Bailgate Methodist Church. Retiring collection – proceeds to
charity. For further information, please contact Christine Matthews 01522 702428

SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER, 10 am to 4 pm, at St.Giles Church, Lamb Gardens, Lincoln, LN2 4EH: Faith & the Environment Eco Church Day "A Church for our Planet"
- The Anglican Diocese of Lincoln will launch their new Environmental Policy. The day is FREE and open to anyone who would like to attend.

SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER, 10 am to 3 pm in St. Barnabas Cathedral Hall, Nottingham "Let Earth be Glad" - Join an ecumenical and inter-religious conversation about caring for creation.

WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER (and WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER): 10:15 – 15:45: Lay Worker Induction Sessions: Syston Methodist Church, High Street, Syston, LE7

1GP: 2 days exploring the lay ministry context, basic pastoral care, confidentiality,

September to November Dates for your Diary

SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER - LINCOLNSHIRE CHURCHES TRUST "RIDE

AND STRIDE": This is a national event for walkers, cyclists or even those who drive, to visit many Churches around our beautiful county. Scothern Methodist Church has been asked to be one of the stopping points for people to sign in as they tour around, and the Church will be open from 10am to 5pm for refreshments and live music throughout the day. You don't have to be taking part in the "ride and stride" to pop in.

SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER: Faithwalkers: Culverthorpe 7½ miles: Leader Peter Butcher: Depart from outside Burton Road Methodist Church, Lincoln at 9:30am. Please endeavour to let the designated walk leader know by the Thursday prior to the walk if you intend to attend, this helps us with transport planning.

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER: 9.30 – 11.30 am (12TH OCTOBER, 16TH NOVEMBER, 14TH DECEMBER) - INSIGHT DAY: The Insight Group led by Rev Bruce Thompson and occasional guest leaders continues to meet once a month at San Damiano, Metheringham. The group usually considers the Bible readings for the following week making it particularly appropriate for Local Preachers who are preparing for a service. However not all the group are Local Preachers or Worship Leaders. Space is limited to 22 so people always book with Alison beforehand on 01522 370126 or pa@lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk, the usual group size is about 15.

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2019: Reepham Methodist Church: AFTERNOON TEA with AUCTION OF PROMISES: 3:00 – 5:00pm: As part of our Harvest Festival Celebrations we are holding an afternoon tea with an auction of promises. We invite you to join us for a quality tea, price £10 per person. We will then auction promises of services and goods) Book your place by contacting Jane (01522 752072, jane.wills11a@btinternet.com) or Dorothy Jackson (01522 595912)
This event is part of Reepham Methodist Church's fund raising for property improvements. These will help us to fulfil Our Calling to our communities and congregation by making our property more flexible by levelling the floor in our worship space.

Social Events – Table Top Sales – Jumble Sales (next one Saturday 21st September 10:00am-1:00pm)

Day of Reflection – led by Rev Margaret Doughty. Heather relates her experience of attending.

"As someone who usually finds it difficult to keep silent; in fear and trepidation I joined with others my first 'Day of Reflection'. I found the day, 9:30am-2:30pm most uplifting. The experience has really helped me on my journey of Faith. To take a day out from my hectic life and meet with other Christians strengthened and inspired me to study more of the Bible.

I went home feeling refreshed and more prepared in taking my next step on my walk with God. I would encourage anyone to please come and join us on these very special days."

Saturday 7th September: As part of our Outreach Programme, we are already preparing a Christmas Celebration to which our friends in the Sincil Bank Area are joining us.

Saturday 14th December: A very special and eventful day. More details in the December issue.



What is Our Calling at Reepham?

A reflection by church steward, Richard Wills.

The Circuit's question "What is to be done?", prompted us to look at what we were doing; and what we might do in future. We are not unrealistic about the prospects for an aging church congregation. However, when we looked at ourselves, we realised that we were already doing much good work. Furthermore, the Circuit's question, encouraged us to ask what Our Calling might be?

In our congregation of around 25, we are fortunate to have many active, able and willing people: local preachers, supernumerary ministers, musicians and those active in Methodist Church governance. We generate activities that enrich our worship and discipleship — Methodist Women in Britain, a fellowship group (Discoverers) and a variety of Sunday services. Yet, we also reach out to our communities, directly and indirectly. We organise a fortnightly Fun Friday, which provides activities and a light lunch for older members of our community. We run occasional Holidays at Home, notably on August Tuesdays, with longer sessions of activities, entertainment and food, that attracts an even wider group of senior citizens. We have a Craft Club, a poetry group and a monthly Coffee and Chat on Saturday mornings. We raise money for other charities and make regular contributions to the Lincoln Community Larder.

Our building is a vital community asset. The chapel is the home of the Reepham Pre-school, with morning and afternoon sessions held Monday to Thursday during term time. The Parish Council, the Women's Institute and the local Arts Group also hire the hall. The Pre-school alone uses the building two and half times more than we do as a congregation.

Indeed, there is so much activity that we wish to develop our worship area to provide more flexibility. At the moment, we have a sloping floor, which limits the way we worship and restricts alternative uses. So, it is our intention to level the floor, turn the sanctuary round and provide an additional toilet and a facility to make hot drinks. We are in the process of submitting plans to get the necessary permissions, but we are moving forward in faith and raising money for the project.

Our congregation is drawn from the villages of Reepham, Fiskerton and Cherry Willingham. We have worked with the Anglican Church for many years and hold more frequent united services with the Methodist Church in Cherry Willingham. It is good to build each oth-

Launching a Bicycle maintenance workshop for the young people to learn new skills and how to fix their own bikes.

Launching 'Eden Exercise" a weekly circuit training group for 15-18yr olds to get healthy and enjoy fellowship and prayer.

If you would like to join in with any of our weekly groups, pray for this ministry or just come up for a visit, then please email our team leader John Lawson on John.lawson@eden-network.org.

"They will say, "This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.""

Ezekiel 36:35

Blessings,

John Lawson St Giles Eden Team Leader

Mobile: 07480894567







LEden St Giles

As I sit here preparing to write this, we are quickly approaching the 10-month mark since launching this incredible and unique ministry here on the St Giles estate and as part of the St Giles Methodist Church.

As I look back over the last ten months, I praise God and thank Him for opening doors and allowing Eden to grow.

Not only have new doors opened for Eden, but pre-existing ministries and church events have increased and flourished as a knock-on effect.

We've been blessed to be invited into several local schools (2 primary and 3 secondary) to lead lessons, assemblies and run after-school clubs on a weekly basis. We are excited by the further opportunities when the new school year begins.

We have been invited into HMP Lincoln on several occasions to run services and share testimony and are working closely with them still to launch a couple of choirs for the inmates and are honoured and blessed by this opportunity to share God's love through music with the inmates.

Our team has grown from 1 to 3, but we are still praying for more people to hear the call from God and decide to move sacrificially onto the estate and join the team.

This summer holidays we have supported other charities in running 2 weeks of sports-based summer holiday camps for 11 to 18-year olds, seeing over 50 young people.

We also help organise and run a week-long joint churches summer holiday club for primary school age children using Scripture Unions Guardians of Ancora material. We saw 25 children everyday who heard of Jesus' love and spent a day looking at different expressions of prayer.

As we look and pray for the next few months, listening to God to guide us, we'll be launching a new weekly youth club for 11 to 18-year olds.

Celebrating Eden's 1st Anniversary with a BBQ and party on October 20th and an opportunity to pray for the team and the work already going on.

Hosting Exploring Eden, an opportunity for those interested in joining this team to find out a little more.

er up; yet the church has to look beyond its own number. A church is its people, not a building. However, we recognise that to be church in Reepham we must provide a building that we can share with others.

What is to be done? We may not be able to do everything, but we are sure that we must serve our local communities in the spirit of social holiness. We aim to:

- enhance people's experience of Worship.
- provide more opportunities for learning and caring.
- offer our building for community use; encourage our volunteers to meet local needs; and support charities and good causes through our monetary giving.
- to support evangelism, in our local communities and further afield.

These aims are Our Calling.

Monks Road

Welcome to our church. If you are a visitor you are most welcome. We pray that everyone worshipping with us will receive encouragement and feel uplifted. We are surrounded by others who want to reflect the glory of God; we are being built up to give our lives in service and are trying to develop the fruits of the Spirit to benefit each other and those around us.

"What's to do?" A new Methodist year, new activities to get involved with, new ways to welcome folk into church. What would God have us do in our community? What will you be able to do to keep our church alive and welcoming? What will you do, try, pray? The new homework club might be something you could help with;

maybe you could help with the Friday coffee drop in. Don't think these are things you can't do, just get involved, even once a month, and God will honour your efforts. Our craft and friendship group is another occasion where we open our church to anyone who would like to share friendship – bring your own craft or not – it is a way of sharing and welcoming. Our men's group and Women's Circle meet once a month so if you know of anyone who would like to be part of these meetings, then please don't hesitate to invite them, we would love to welcome them. We also have Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meeting on our premises. Do you know of a family whose children would like to enjoy their activities – tell them. All the above activities and invitations are ways we can show friendship and love. Moreover our church services can be a real life-changer. Invite someone to get to know Jesus and tell them the difference being His friend makes in your life. That would be the most wonderful invitation and could result in a life changed which again could change another when they tell the story too.

Dates for your Diary

Mon. 16 Sept – Women's Circle - 7pm Tues. 24 Sept – Homework Club – 3.30-5pm Fri. 27 Sept – Coffee Drop-in – 9.10-30am Sat. 28 Sept – Messy Harvest – 10.30-lunch Mon. 30 Sept – Craft & Friendship group – 10.30am Mon. 30 Sept – Bible Study 10.30am Sun. 06 Oct. - Harvest Festival followed by Lunch Sat. 19 Oct – Jumble Sale

Family News – To all our friends who are unable to worship with us we send our love and prayers. If you are unable to attend church please pray for God's work here, that we will be a beacon of God's love in our community. Welcome to Eliana Rose, first Granddaughter for Rosemary & congratulations to the whole family.

God's love speak to you as you read your Bible and pray for His world and His people with thanksgiving, with penitence and intercession, asking God that we take responsibility for our actions and participate in the healing of creation. Here is a prayer from this year's handbook and most appropriate for our new initiatives with the Coffee Drop and Homework Club.

Lord of the Harvest, we pray for more harvest hands. We come to you knowing that the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. We pray for willing harvest hands to join in your work in our communities so that all might come to know they are loved and cherished. As we commit ourselves to pray, renew our hope and restore our passion so that we might welcome your guidance and influence. May your kingdom come and your will be done. Amen



This space could contain interesting information about your church.

Please feel free to forward your contribution to the Circuit Office for inclusion in a future edition.

paper tissues also, did you know you can buy tissues made from sugar cane? Much sweeter than cutting down virgin forest!

Women's Circle – Monday, 16th September, 7pm in the hall. When we hold our September meeting we have our very short AGM looking back and looking forward to what our speakers will have to tell us. Please join our easy-going group, we'd love to see you and welcome your input. Women's Anniversary Celebration Weekend will be 15th and 16th October when we have our Coffee Morning on the Saturday and welcome our visiting preacher, Vicki Valow.

Men's Group AGM - 24th October. All men are welcome at 7.15am when a variety of speakers are invited through the year. Thank you to everyone who supported our Coffee morning, we raised £63.30.

Messy Harvest – Saturday, 28th September. 10.30am – noon Come and share a fun morning with us as we think about the world God has given to us and how we can protect and cherish it. Crafts, singing and lunch will fill our morning. Everyone is welcome.

Craft Group – 30th September Our Craft and Friendship group meets on Monday mornings from 10am. Our new term will see us creating items ready for the Shoeboxes which provide items for those in Eastern Europe who have very little. We shall also be making and wrapping things for our Christmas Fair. Please come and join us, bring you own craft, help us wrap Shoeboxes and prepare for Christmas Fair; or just come and share friendship with us. We have soup and a roll at the end of the morning before we head home and everyone is welcome.

Responding to the Gospel is the title of this year's Prayer Handbook – a resource which helps us think about God's world and God's people. However, the title is something all Christians try to do day by day. Let

Worship at 10.30am for September - 1st – Revd T Nowell HC; 8th – Mr K Chester; 15th – OA; 22nd - Revd T Nowell Cafe; 29th Revd T Nowell, Baptism

Jam Jars – If you bought jam from church recently, please could you let me have the empty jars ready for another batch of jam!

Thanks, Irene

Shoeboxes will need to be collected at the end of October so please remember to get your items ready.

Environmental Concerns – Do you look round your house and wonder where changes could help protect our environment. One room which often has lots of plastic bottles and tubs is the bathroom. Plastic toothbrushes from decades ago have been dug up and they have not degraded and so one small item millions of times over polluting our earth. Bamboo toothbrushes with degradable bristles are widely available now. Holland & Barratt sell bio-degradable heads for electric toothbrushes. Have you looked at the toothpaste you use? Is it's tube recyclable and are the ingredients natural? Look further afield and find a natural product without chemicals – it will clean your teeth just as well and help our environment. Do you turn off the tap while cleaning your teeth? We can waste six litres or more of water by leaving the tap running. Fill a small cup with water and use this to rinse your brush and mouth. The toilet too uses lots of water - 15-20 litres – reduce your consumption by placing a brick (carefully) in the cistern or fill a plastic bottle with water, cap it and place in the cistern; as well as helping our environment your water bills will be reduced. Lastly save trees. On average families use 110 rolls of toilet paper over a year and less that 10% are made with recycled paper which means virgin forests in Scandinavia are used. With regard to

LINCOLN CIRCUIT

Praying Together — September to November 2019

Pray for Rev Alan Swann that he continues to lead the circuit forward with wisdom and the Holy Spirit	9. Pray for our Emergency Services who work tirelessly for our welfare	17. Pray Rev Dr Terry Nowell	25. Pray for the Leaders of this country
2. Pray for all children, young people, teachers and lecturers as they commence their new academic year	10. Pray for Rev Margaret Doughty as she supports people at Central and in her work with prayer ministry	18. Pray for Rev Bruce Thompson, Chair of District, and other District Officers	26. Pray for Alan Measures
3. Pray for Moorland Park, Bailgate, Burton Road, Navenby and North Hykeham	11. Pray for Washingborough, Welton and Dunholme, Skellingthorpe and Monks Road	19. Pray for ourselves, that we may become closer to God	27. Pray for those who are involved in creative activites that they may show God's love through their work
4. Pray for Rev Melanie Greenall as she goes forward with the Pioneer Minister for Bracebridge Heath	12. Pray for the homeless and charities that support them so that homelessness will be eradicated in Lincoln	20. Pray for Rev Canon Alan Robson	28. Pray for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders as they open up God's word; we ask that they see the truth and reveal it to us
5. Pray for Nettleham, Central, Cherry Willingham, Saxilby, North Scarle and Swal- lowbeck	13. Pray for Rev Dr Helen Hooley	21. Pray for the farmers in the area as they face challenging conditions and pressures within their work environment	29. Pray for Circuit Stewards that they will lead and manage the affairs of the circuit with wisdom and integrity
6. Pray for the Circuit Administrators that they will be able to work to support the circuit so others are released into mission	14. Pray for the GodPod as it continues to expand it's horizons	22. Pray that we will recognise the signs and wonders of God around us	30. Pray for Supernumerary Ministers
7. Pray for Rev Andy Burrows as he seeks God's guidance for the future	15. Pray that God continues to bless The Eden Project	23. Pray Geoff Gilbert and Stones Place	31. Pray that God will break through the chains that hold us back from spreading the gospel message
8. Pray for Scothern, St Columba's, Reepham, St Giles and Thorpe on the Hill	16. Pray for Rev David Lawton	24. Pray for all members that cannot get to church these days because of age and health	For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1.7;**