



The **Methodist** Church

Stamford Circuit

Registered Charity :1160930

March to May 2026



She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: “You are the God who sees me,” for she said, “I have now seen the One who sees me.”

Genesis 16:13

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The Circuit Newsletter exists to build up fellowship across the Stamford Methodist Circuit. Items for inclusion in the Circuit Newsletter should be: Inspiring, encouraging of faith and discipleship to promote the growth of church relationships within the Circuit.

Could you please send any articles for the June to August 2026 Circuit Newsletter by Friday 15th May 2026 to Email: admin2322@gmail.com

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Stamford Methodist Circuit or the Methodist Church in Great Britain

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I drive a bright yellow car. That causes quite a bit of discussion and comment from people who see her for the first time. The most common comments are along the lines of “you must like to be seen” or “you must like to be centre of attention” and I must admit I have wondered about that at times.

In fact, the reason I bought her was nothing to do with what other people think, it was purely to do with what I need. When the time came to buy a car, I did not care about the make or model, but I did know that I needed the new car to be yellow. I wrestle with anxiety daily and I wanted a car that would make me smile when I saw her, bringing me joy each time I moved from one place to another. The colour does make me smile and I have even called her Jester Lavourre, after a joyful character in a Youtube series that I love (Critical Role).

Buying a yellow car was not about me trying to be seen by the people around me but was about me trying to see myself, especially at the times when I am finding that hard. Jester is not about the image of myself I want to show to other people, it is about the image of myself that I want to remind myself of.

The quote on the front cover of this newsletter is from the story of Hagar in the book of Genesis. She has been a slave in the household of Abram, she has been used by Abram to bear him a son, and now she is pregnant. Abram’s wife, Sarai, is upset by this and because Hagar has little value as a person in the eyes of either Abram or Sarai, Abram gives permission for Sarai to treat Hagar however she wants. Sarai treats her badly, to the point where Hagar cannot take anymore. Heavily pregnant she flees into the wilderness and there, alone, and away from anyone, God meets with her and Hagar finds for the first time that she is seen and known, she is precious.

Hagar is the first person in the Bible to give a name to God, without God first telling her what that name is. She calls God “the One who sees me.”

We are about to enter the period of Lent. A time where we journey through “the wilderness,” reflecting on who we are and how we live our lives of faith. We do this because we are travelling with the story of Jesus as he heads towards Jerusalem and his death. There will be resurrection and new life after that, but let us not rush to that point.

This year journey with “the One who sees you” and try to see yourself through God’s eyes; the gifts and the beauties, the things that make God smile, as well as those parts of yourself that you need to work on, to improve, or to drop altogether. Not focussing on what other people say or think about you but keeping firmly focussed on what you know about yourself and what God tells you about you.

God sees you. God knows you. God is with you.

Blessings

Rev’d Bekkie

PSPA: a brief introduction to one of our Circuit charities for this year

Looking back, Eileen had perhaps been quietly suffering with PSP for a long time. The balance difficulties and increasingly frequent falls backwards left local health professionals without a clear path of investigation and diagnosis. Eileen's journey to diagnosis was a distressing battle and only eventually came after seeking and funding Neurology expertise ourselves. The skills of the team at Addenbrookes eventually diagnosed PSP on July 19th 2021. By this time the illness had developed so much. We contacted PSPA at this moment and they promised us that they would be 'with us all the way'. Sadly, Eileen's death came not long after that, September 11th 2021, but it is our priority and privilege to support PSPA as much as we can.

What is PSPA?

The Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Association is the only UK charity dedicated to creating a better future for everyone affected by PSP and CBD.

Our Goals are to:

- Enable people living with PSP & CBD and their families to live their best lives possible with high quality support and information
- Improve the quality of life of people living with PSP & CBD through research, education and awareness raising
- Put the voice of people living with PSP or CBD at the heart of what we do.

Our Commitments apply to everything we say and everything we do:

- To be **courageous** in making sure the voices of people living with PSP and CBD are heard. Standing up for a better life for people and having a tenacious commitment to change, even in the face of setback
- To be **ambitious** - to be the leaders in the field of PSP & CBD in the UK. To be willing to listen and learn to strive for excellence and impact
- To work **collaboratively**, to inspire people externally and internally, to bring their individual talents together to improve outcomes
- To **respect**, value and recognise everyone's contribution, empowering people and building a team which champions Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Interested to find out more?

We are incredibly thankful to the circuit for choosing PSPA as one of the charities to highlight and support this year. Please come along to the following event to listen to Matthew Whitby from PSPA, learn how the charity uses funds donated and help us to raise awareness of this rare neurological disease.

Circuit Gathering:

When: Sunday, 1st March at 4 pm, followed by chat with coffee and cake

Where: Thurlby Methodist Church, PE10 0ED



EVERYONE WELCOME

Ernest and Janette Fytche

If God Went on Strike

I read this poem at the Thanksgiving Service for the life of Mrs. Joyce Lucas BEM, twice Mayor of Oakham. which was held at Oakham Methodist Church on 3rd December 2025. Joyce gave me the poem when I met her at one of the Easy Access Worship services at Oakham Methodist Church. Joyce said that she had discovered it whilst clearing out the loft at home around fifty years ago. After the Thanksgiving Service, several people suggested that the poem should be shared more widely. So, here it is! (Rev. Andrew Hollins)

It's just a good thing God above
Has never gone on strike
Because He wasn't treated fair
Or for things he didn't like

If He had ever once sat down
And said, "That's it I'm through
I've had enough of those on earth
So this is what I'll do

I'll give my orders to the sun
"Cut off your heat supply
And to the moon give no more light
and run the oceans dry

Then, just to make it really tough
And put the pressure on
Turn off the air and oxygen
Till every breath is gone

Do you know, He'd be justified
If fairness was the game
For no-one has been more abused
Or treated with disdain

Than God-----and yet He carries on
supplying you and me
With all the favors of His grace
And everything for free

Men say they want a better deal
And so on strike they go
But what a deal we've given God
To whom everything we owe

We don't care whom we hurt or harm
To gain the things we like
But what a mess we'd all be in
If God should go on strike.

Anon

Circuit Trivia Quiz

The Circuit Trivia Quiz on Saturday 24th January was enjoyed by around 100 people, members and friends of all ages, from across the Circuit; an evening of sharing food, fun, fellowship and friendly competition.

We started with a delicious hot main course, kindly prepared and served by Second Helpings, which was followed by the now legendary 'pudding table' groaning under a huge variety of sweet treats brought by the quizzers.

The quiz itself, under the careful questioning of Heather Ormston, Phil Jones and Julia Husbands, was keenly contested, with rounds ranging from music to film, people to history and the Bible to general knowledge. The eventual winners were the 'House of Stewards' team from Barn Hill.

Financial donations were generously made and, after expenses, just under £600 was raised for our Circuit charities.

Many thanks to all who attended, and particularly to those who helped set up beforehand, served and washed up, brought puddings, or helped put everything back afterwards.



Poem ~ From Uppingham

I recently had the honour of sharing in the funeral service of Mary Chadband from Uppingham. Mary was an extremely talented cross-stitcher and, as we shared this hobby, I wanted to focus on that in the prayers I was asked to offer.

Whilst searching for the words I wanted to say, I realised that they had already been said by Corrie Ten Boom, a Dutch Christian watchmaker who, along with her family, rescued hundreds of Jews during World War II by hiding them from the Nazis in their home. Corrie was arrested in 1944. She survived the Ravensbrück concentration camp and later became a renowned author and public speaker, sharing messages of forgiveness, faith, and reconciliation.

Several people have asked me to share this poem through the circuit newsletter:

“Life is but a Weaving” (The Tapestry Poem) by Corrie ten Boom

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me.
I cannot choose the colors
He weaveth steadily.

Oft' times He weaveth sorrow;
And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I the underside.

Not 'til the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Will God unroll the canvas
And reveal the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned

He knows, He loves, He cares;
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to Him.

Contributed by Rev'd Bekkie Wright

Friends,

3Generate is the national youth weekend run by the Methodist Church for all of our young people around the country. The successor to MAYC (The Methodist Association of Youth Clubs) it is an energetic, worship and activity filled weekend where young people can explore their faith and get to meet thousands of other young people who also love God.



This year it will be held from the **2nd to 4th October** at the **NEC in Birmingham**. We want to take a group of young people from our circuit. Can you please pass this information on to the families in your church, to your own families and to anyone who might be interested in attending.

The weekend is open for anyone between the ages of 4 and 18. 4-7 year olds attend for the day on Saturday 3rd October, 8-18 year olds for the weekend.

We will be asking for adult volunteers to attend with the young people and for the younger age group each child will be able to bring a parent or carer with them.

Please look out for more information which will come out during the year ahead.

In the meantime if you want to see what 3Generate 2025 was like search for "3 Generate: a journey of a lifetime" and you will see the link.



News from Bourne Methodist Church

Although Christmas is now long past, we had a very successful Christmas Tree Festival with almost twenty beautifully decorated trees in church.

Bourne Methodist Church would like to thank all those who came to support this special day and enjoyed a sausage roll and mince pie in the hall.

In excess of £200 was raised for Crisis at Christmas.



On a more "up to date note" a successful Pancake and coffee morning was held on February 14th when £280 was raised for MHA (<https://mha.org.uk>)



Prayer before Easter:
**Excerpts from John Pritchard's prayer handbook
for Eastertide.**

Give us Lord the blessings of a Holy Lent, true journeying in Holy Week,
and give us a holy and glorious Easter.

Give us time to receive your teaching and to amend our lives, give us
faith to be open to the graceful filling of your Holy Spirit, and
finally give us leave to come to your eternal joy.

Holy God,
Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal,
Have mercy on us.

Lord of our stricken world, there is nothing we can do to redeem our
blindness in sending you to your death. You only can redeem. But keep
us in touch with the pain of the world. This we ask in sadness and
hope, for your sake and for ours - Amen.

Eternal Spring

I do not wait for heaven;
I enjoy it all along.
It is there in sun and shade
In work as well as song.

I do not wait for heaven
I rest there all the way
It is not seen, it is not heard
Yet, present in each day.

I do not wait for heaven
When the birds begin to sing,
God's love is all about us
As we celebrate the Spring.

I do not wait for heaven
Or for winter to go by
I trust in God's eternal Spring
I need not fear to die.

By David Adams

Spring – The Grand Performance

Suddenly birdsong
competed in disjointed harmony

butterflies emerged from the wings,
their frantic dance a prelude

oak and ash lightly tipped,
stood to attention

cotton wool clouds paraded
as daffodils bowed their heads

paintbox colours splashed
the bare earth

green shoots sprang from dry roots
and stretched for the sky

buds exploded
like fireworks.

Beryl Teasdale 2011



A Poem ~ Submitted by Lynda Connellan, Bourne.

I am no longer young and youthful
I am no longer energetic and vibrant as before
I am not so strong and powerful as I used to be
I even forget what happened yesterday.

But I am still filled with gratitude because I know God
has given me more than enough grace and has always been with me.

Thank you, Lord.

Amen.

Wednesday Fellowship 2pm at Stamford Methodist Church

Date	Speaker	Subject	Devotions
4th March 2.30pm Priory Court	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	Tea and Cake
11th March	Miss Olive Ruzvidzo	The Power of the Small; Finding Purpose in Every Day	Nina
18th March	Rev Dr Rhona Knight	Praising God in Later Years	Jenny
25th March	Holy Beetle Drive		Maurice
15th April	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	
22nd April	Sharing Meeting	Holidays to Remember	Hazel
29th April	Mr Neville Favel	Modern Music Recital	Judith
6th May	Circuit Easter Offering Service in the Church		
13th May	Rev. Nigel Coke-Woods	Faith Journey	Jenny
20th May 2.30pm	Outing to West Deeping Church	Talk	Afternoon Tea
27th May	Mr Richard Bailey	Poetry	Nina
3rd June	Rev. Andrew Hollins	AGM	Rev. Andrew Hollins



Stamford Concert Singers

Bourne Methodist Church

Friday 10th April

At 7.30pm




Tickets £10 each

Including light Refreshments

Tickets available on the door

The Stamford Circuit Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Monthly			
Every Tuesday	8.30/45am	Circuit Staff Team Meeting	Via Zoom or in person
MARCH 2026			
Tuesday 3rd	4.30pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	Empingham MC
Wednesday 18th	10.30am	Circuit Safeguarding Officers Meeting	Ketton MC
Saturday 21st	9.30am	Online Prayers/Worship Meeting	Via Zoom
Wednesday 25th	10am-3pm	Presbyteral Synod	
APRIL 2026			
Tuesday 14th	4.30pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	Empingham MC
Thursday 19th	7pm	Circuit Pastoral Visitors Event	Empingham MC
Saturday 25th	10am	District Representatives Synod	Irthlingborough MC
Thursday 30th	7pm	Church Stewards Sharing	Stamford MC
MAY 2026			
Wednesday 6th	2pm	Circuit Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering Dedication	Stamford MC
	7.30pm	Circuit Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting	Ryhall MC
Saturday 9th		Circuit Farm Day	Normanton Lodge Farm
Saturday 23rd	10am	Circuit Property Officers Meeting	Stamford MC
JUNE 2026			
Tuesday 16th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting	Empingham MC
Thursday 25th – Wednesday 1st July		Methodist Conference	Telford Conference Centre
JULY 2026			
Saturday 11th	2pm	Circuit Local Preachers Tea	Empingham MC
SEPTEMBER 2026			
Thursday 10th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting	Stamford MC

		1 st March	8 th March	15 th March	22 nd March	29 th March	5 th April	12 th April
		Lent 2	Lent 3	Lent 4 & Mothering Sunday	Passion Sunday	Palm Sunday	Easter Day	Easter 2
Lectionary (Year A)	Prayers	Deepings Meth. Church	Uppingham Meth. Church	Bourne Meth. Church	Ryhall Meth. Church	Empingham Meth. Church	The Holy Land	Local Preachers
	Bourne	10.30am Cappitt	Fytche	Wright HC	Cameron	Local Worship	Atwell-King	Pocock HC
Deepings	10.30am	Cameron	Atwell- King	P Jones	Cockburn	Fytche	Booker HC	Local Worship
		4pm Circuit @ Thurlby	3.45pm Wright TTC	6.30pm DMG				3.45pm Wright TTC
Empingham	10.45am	Sworn		Booker Cafe	Wright HC		Wright HC	Coke-Woods
		4pm Circuit @ Thurlby	4pm P Jones TTC			3pm Local Worship		
Ketton	3.00pm	4pm Circuit @ Thurlby	Ruzvidzo T	Hollins HC	Wright	1030 @ St. Mary's CT/ HC		
	6.00pm						Hollins HC	Local Worship
Oakham	10.45am	Gent	Sworn	J Allen	Hollins	Wright	Hollins HC	C Allen
		4pm Circuit @ Thurlby	3pm Hollins EAW			6pm @ Quakers CT		3pm Local Worship EAW
Ryhall	10.30am	Wright GCM	Coke-Woods HC	Hensman	Local Worship Café	Gent	Cockburn HC	Cappitt
		4pm Circuit @ Thurlby						
Stamford	10.30am	Cockburn HC	Law	Hollins A	P Jones	Pursehouse	Local Worship A	Hollins HC
	6.00pm	4pm Circuit @ Thurlby						
Thurlby	10.30am	P Jones	Wright GCM	Pursehouse	Pocock HC	Cappitt	Hensman	Wright HC
		4pm Circuit Service					6.30am Wright HC @ The Manor	
Uppingham	10.45am	C Allen	Hollins HC	Collins	Love	J Allen	Gent HC	Cameron
		4pm Circuit @ Thurlby						
Sunday Prayers online	10.30am	Wright	P Jones	Henman	Law	Atwell-King	Cockburn	Wright

REFERENCES

A = All Age Worship Café = Café Church CA = Church Anniversary CT = Churches Together
EAW = Easy Access Worship GCM = General Church Meeting HC = Holy Communion
T = Transport may be required (Church Stewards to please check with preacher) TTC = Tea-Time Church
U = United Service
Local Worship is intended to be planned, prepared and led using the gifts of local church members.
(Church Stewards are responsible for coordinating these arrangements)

		19 th April	26 th April	3 rd May	10 th May	17 th May	24 th May	31st May
		Easter 3	Easter 4	Easter 5	Easter 6	Easter 7 Ascension 1	Pentecost	Trinity Sunday
Lectionary (Year A)								
	Prayers	Ketton Meth. Church	Oakham Meth. Church	Northampton Meth. District	Stamford Meth. Church	Christian Aid Week	Methodist Church of GB	Thurlby Meth. Church
Bourne	10.30am	Wright GCM	Local Worship	Cockburn	Cappitt	Coke-Woods HC	Booker	Hensman
Deepings	10.30am	Bailey	Wright GCM	Coke-Woods CA/HC	Pursehouse	Local Worship	Love	Wright HC
		6.30pm DMG			3.45pm TTC	6.30pm DMG	6pm @ St Guthlac's CT/U	
Empingham	10.45am	P Jones Cafe	Hollins	Law		Hensman Cafe	Pocock HC	
					4pm P Jones TTC			3pm Local Worship
Ketton	3.00pm							
	6.00pm	Hollins	Wright	Hollins HC	Collins	Cameron	Local Worship	1030 Hollins T/HC
Oakham	10.45am	Collins	P Jones	Hollins GCM	Local Worship	Ruzvidzo T	Gent HC	Law
					3pm Hollins EAW/HC			6pm Hollins CT/U
Ryhall	10.30am	Roberts	Local Worship Café	Pursehouse	C Allen	Wright HC	Local Worship Cafe	Cameron
Stamford	10.30am	Love	Ruzvidzo T	Booker HC	Hollins GCM	P Jones A	Bailey	Mackrill
	6.00pm		2.30pm Hollins Scouts A					
Thurlby	10.30am	Local Worship	Atwell-King	Cameron	Fytche	Local Worship	Wright HC	Collins
Uppingham	10.45am	Hollins GCM	Local Worship	Hensman	Atwell-King	Hollins HC	Local Worship	Pursehouse
Sunday Prayers online	10.30am	Hollins	P Jones	Wright	Cockburn	Pursehouse	Law	Hollins

VISITING PREACHERS

Rev Bob Mackrill, c/o All Saints Church, Stamford

Sunday 1st March Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	Sunday 19th April Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35
Sunday 8th March Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	Sunday 26th April Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10
Sunday 15th March 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Sunday 3rd May Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14
Sunday 22nd March Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Sunday 10th May Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21
Sunday 29th March Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 21: 1-11 Matthew 26 26:14-27:66	Sunday 17th May Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14;; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11
Sunday 5th April Acts 10:34-43 Or Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Or Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18 Or Matthew 28:1-10	Sunday 24th May Acts 2:1-21 Or Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 Or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23 Or John 7:37-39
Sunday 12th April Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Sunday 31st May Genesis 1:1-2:4A Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20

Holy Week and Easter Worship around the Circuit

Bourne

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Walk of Witness

Easter Day 10.30am ~ Worship ~ Sarah Atwell-King

Deepings

Maundy Thursday 6pm ~ Rev. Bekkie Wright

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Churches Together Walk of Witness

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Worship ~ Rev. Nigel Coke-Woods

Easter Day 10.30am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. William Booker

Empingham

Easter Day 10.45am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. Bekkie Wright

Ketton

Maundy Thursday 7pm ~ Reflective Holy Communion ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Good Friday 7pm ~ Reflective Worship ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Easter Day 6pm ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Oakham

Maundy Thursday 10.45am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Churches Together Walk of Witness

Easter Day 10.45am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Ryhall

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Walk of Witness

Easter Day 10.30am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev. Paul Cockburn

Stamford

Good Friday 10.30am ~ Worship ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Easter Day 10.30am ~ Local Worship

Thurlby

Easter Day 6.30am ~ Sunrise Service at the Manor ~ Rev. Bekkie Wright

Easter Day 10.30am ~ Worship ~ Mrs Audrey Hensman

Uppingham

Good Friday 12noon ~ Worship ~ Rev. Andrew Hollins

Easter Day 10.45am ~ Holy Communion ~ Rev Barry Gent



From Matt Forsyth, District Mission Team Leader

I am delighted to invite you to take part in a pilot of Everyone an Evangelist, a new course from the Methodist Church, designed to help local churches and circuits explore how we are each called to share our faith.

The course offers space for honest conversation, reflection, and practice. Together, we'll seek to demystify evangelism and build sustainable, intentional rhythms of both personal and shared witness. It's about discovering the confidence and joy of sharing good news in ways that are natural, authentic, and life-giving within our communities.

When and Where

The pilot will run on Zoom across four evening sessions, all starting at 7:30pm-9:30pm:

- ***23rd February 2026***
- ***23rd March 2026***
- ***29th April 2026***
- ***8th July 2026***

If you are interested please sign up by emailing Matt at matt.forsyth@northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

Stamford Methodist Church ~ Mission Projects Concert

Corby Male Voice Choir & Cottesmore Military Wives Choir

at Stamford Methodist Church

Saturday 18th April at 7.30pm

Admission: £10 Adults, £5 Children





Would you like to connect with like-minded people who are deeply concerned about global issues of oppression and injustice?

STAMFORD'S PEACE WALK

#STAMFORDPEACEWALK @stamfordpeacewalk

Join us or say hello as we stand and walk peacefully in solidarity with besieged and oppressed people around the planet

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH
9.30-10.15AM

*except for Good Friday; we will walk on Saturday 3rd April instead

Start: Marks and Spencers
Middle: St. Michael's Courtyard
End: Red Lion Square



All enquiries:  info@eleanorturner.com

Mayor's Charity

QUIZ
Saturday 14th March 6 for 6.30pm
Stamford Methodist Church PE9 2AE

A Community Event

Booked to come yet?

Well Amanda, our Mayor, has decided to give



£50



to the winning team !!!

You can book by phone to George with name and size of team or pay at the door

07891 437914

Or book and pay on line

mayorsoffice@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

**STAMFORD Mayor's Charity Ref: quiz
Lloyds Bank Sort: 30 90 89 Account 50583460**

Only £10 per person, tables of 8.

*Don't forget we will need a team name
and if coming on your own we will find a team for you.*



Methodist Women in Britain

**Swanwick Residential Weekend : 10th to 12th April 2026
at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire DE55 1AT**

“Where Power meets Purpose: Small Acts that Change the World”

with Carolyn Godfrey



Carolyn Godfrey has been the Regional Officer for Safeguarding for both the Darlington and Newcastle Districts since early 2015. Before this she worked in education and has a background in pastoral care and special needs, mostly focused in the primary sector. She feels strongly that a good safeguarding culture is central to our calling to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice seeking church.

Carolyn served as the Vice President of the Methodist Conference 2024-2025.

Come & join us for a weekend of Faith, Fellowship & Fun

Worship & Workshops, Women Working & Wondering

**Booking opens 5th January 2026
on our website www.mwib.org.uk**

Conference cost: £210

Book by 2nd February with £100 deposit only

Balance due by 20th March

A limited number of Bursaries are available

Bursary applications must be submitted before 3rd March

Contact: Swanwick.mwib26@gmail.com

Conference will also be on zoom – book online



You are warmly invited to a



Retreat & Bible Study

led by Rev'd Richard Andrew

President of the Methodist Conference 2025-26

18th April 2026

10am - 3pm

taking place at

Thornborough Methodist Church

The Green, Thornborough,

MK18 2DL

This will also be on Zoom

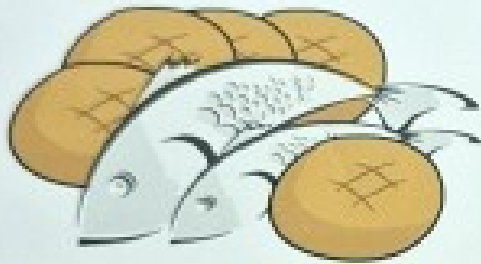
Please contact the District Office if you would like to
attend:

office@northamptonmethodistdistrict.co.uk

The Methodist Church
Fund for Human Need (FHN)

Charity Registration No. 208866

*where a little means a lot
to those who are destitute or
desperately in need*



With your support

FHN gives one-off payments

**mostly through agencies
to the homeless and hungry
refugees and asylum seekers
ex-prisoners
those who suffer
broken relationships
mental health/medical issues**



***For more information
or to give to FHN***

- ***Write to us at 6 Newlands Road, Darlington, DL3 9JL***
- ***Email 'Gill' at fundhumanneed@gmail.com***
- ***Visit our website: www.fundforhumanneed.org.uk***
- ***Telephone: 07561 717230***

Please PRAY for:

Bourne

We pray for all those leading our Lent courses and Easter Services,

We pray that after our "Vision Meeting" that you give us the foresight as a church to move forward..

We pray for those in our congregation who are unable to attend our normal services because of ill health,

For those suffering bereavement and those struggling with worries we are unaware of.

Deepings

Prayers for the establishment and growth of our Tea Time Church, that we can develop an effective ministry and mission to the Children and parents.

Prayers for new stewards to join us in our work.

Empingham

We have recently delivered leaflets around the village advertising the various activities at our church. Pray for the households as they have received them, that there will be a positive response.

We give thanks for the thriving Lunch Club and the coming Barbecue on Easter Sunday, for the good fellowship and friendship and we pray for the good opportunity to witness in our community.

Pray that the Community Prayer Box will be a blessing and used in the village.

We pray for the on going health problems for some of our members, and those waiting for surgery.

Ketton

We thank you Heavenly Father for the Christian love and warmth of this chapel...for the care administered in so many different ways and for the support received especially in times of crisis.

We know that as an ageing congregation things are difficult, so we pray earnestly that You will direct our path in the journey ahead of us as we continue to disciple our outreach in the best way possible.

We thank you for this time of Lent when we quietly focus on the sacrifice of our Saviour Jesus Christ. May this be a time of thanks, nurture and renewal for us all.

Amen.

Oakham

It has been a long winter, but signs of spring are emerging! We thank you Lord for the hope that little snowdrops bring – and all the spring flowers that follow – pointing us to New Life in Christ.

Refresh our Circuit Ministries Team as they lead us.

We pray for our services and groups that will lead us through Lent towards Easter. And for the special opportunities within church, and ecumenically, to bring the whole message of the Cross and Resurrection to children in schools, and to all who join us outdoors, or in church.

We pray for those with increasing needs for care, and for their carers. May they receive the practical and prayerful support that assures them they remain an integral part of the church family.

Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

Please PRAY for:

Ryhall

As a sleeping world emerges to new possibilities,
weakening winter's icy grip,
and birdsong and bleating lamb
announce to all the promise
that in due season
creation bursts into life.

And whilst leaves that fell in winter
lie upon the ground,
soon to feed the earth,
in nature's wondrous cycle
of death and rebirth,
within the tree is a stirring of new growth.

And we ask that new growth, love and hope will emerge for Ryhall Methodist Church.
Amen

Stamford

Lord, we pray for all who enter our church, the various groups and organisations who meet regularly or those who come to services. May it be a place of welcome, friendship and care to everyone.

We pray for the Well cafe, for Jan and those who work on the team. We pray for Second Helpings and all who cook and serve. May these provide a blessing to many, through the food and fellowship.

Let our church be known as a place to find compassion, acceptance and love as we work together for You, Lord. Amen.

Thurlby

Dear Lord, we pray for Your guidance through the coming year - through worship, lunch club, toddlers, house and craft groups. We pray for those who are suffering at the moment with illness or bereavement that You will be beside them in their need. The world seems a very uncertain place at the moment so help us to be a safe haven for our village community. Amen

Uppingham

We pray for church members who are ill and ways forward with us all getting older and less able,

We pray to find ways through the many cares and worries that we all seem to be facing at the moment.

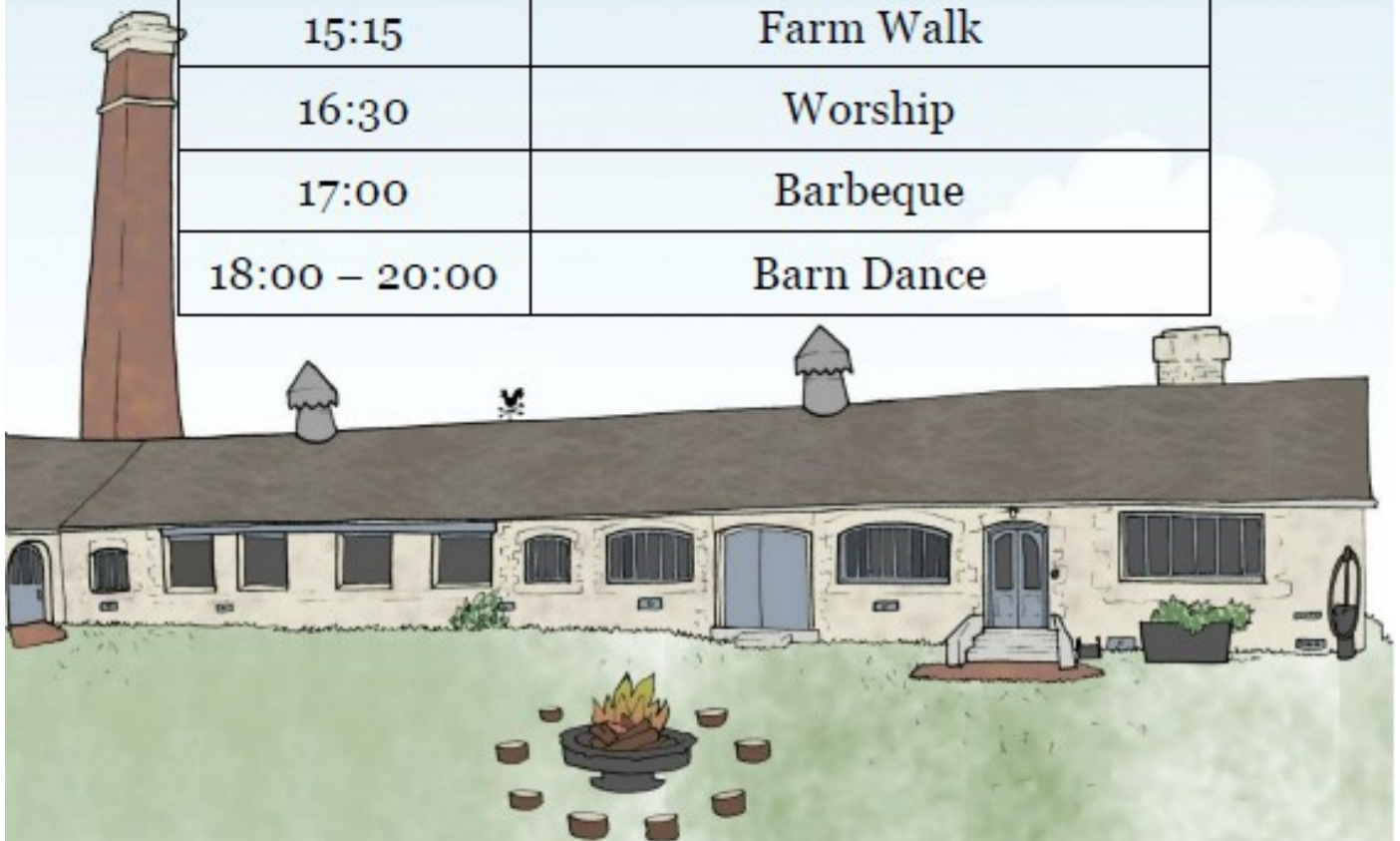
Circuit Farm Away Day

Delighting in Creation

Saturday 9th May 2026

At Normanton Lodge Farm

Time	Activity
Ongoing	Creative Activities
10:30	Welcome
11:00	Worship
11:30	Farm Walk
12:00 – 15:00	Treasure Hunt
15:15	Farm Walk
16:30	Worship
17:00	Barbeque
18:00 – 20:00	Barn Dance



Important Information for Farm Away Day

- Please bring your own lunch.
- Please also bring your own picnic chair and / or blanket to ensure you have somewhere to relax outside.
- Drinks will be provided all day.
- Donations will be accepted at the pudding table. A list of ingredients will be on the table for any allergies.
- You will need to book yourself in for the barbeque with your church contact person, who will become clear in due course.
- If anyone is interested in helping on the day, or on the set up and clear down days (8th and 11th respectively.) Please assume that your help is gratefully accepted. We will communicate with churches on how you can link into the best team for you!



Colouring Page

