



The **Methodist** Church

Stamford Circuit

Registered Charity :1160930

September to November 2026



“Get up,” Jesus said. “Don’t be afraid.” 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them.....

Matthew 17: 7-9

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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 December 2026 to February 2027 Circuit Newsletter by Monday 9th November 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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On my days off from Circuit work, Debs and I like to go for walks, weather permitting. Round here there are lots of lovely country lanes and paths to do so. There are some ups and downs but all manageable.

Taking our summer break at both North Yorkshire and North Wales involved ups and downs of a different nature: struggling up a steep gradient on Llandudno's Great Orme certainly tested my mettle (and patience!) But while going up can prove a bit of a grind, coming down is a different matter. You are constantly having to watch your step and try not to slip or slide. Coming down a small hill like the Little Orme proved frightening to a man like me who hates falling over in any situation. My friend Chris, also a walker, takes his trusty poles with him especially for those downward moments where the cushioned springs in the base of the stick helps to keep him upright as he descends.

This put me in mind of countless pastoral situations over the years. I've known many folk who have struggled up their own personal mountain, really pushed though to get where they were headed – maybe it was bereavement or a church challenge, going for a job, tackling a court case, a family burden etc. They steeled themselves for the ascent but often after that was reached and achieved, they then fell apart. They'd put all their resources into the getting to the top but the coming down the other side - the descent - was far harder than they'd expected.

That's why we always need to look after those who have been through hard times, not just during the crisis but way after. The coming *down* that mountain can be a struggle in itself.

Jesus could say to his followers – I'm with you *always* even to the close of the age. Sticking by us through and in it all. We can't be as good as him but we can take that as our template to care for each other, whether it's up the hill or down!

Phil Jones

Lay Worker: Pastoral and Discipleship



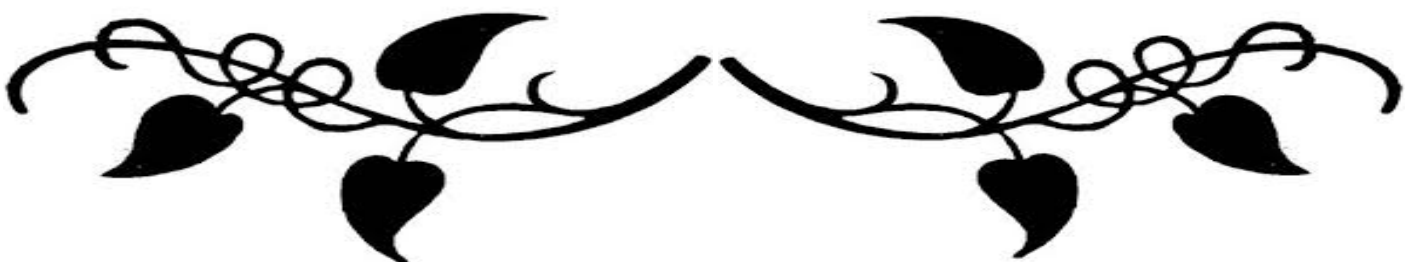
Thank You...



At the Circuit Service held on June 7th we celebrated the outstanding dedication, commitment and service given over many years as a Circuit Steward by Moyra Collins.

Moyra was honoured at the Circuit Service on 7th June and was presented with a collage of the Circuit churches by Rev Andrew Hollins.

A huge thank you for your service in the Circuit and for all you have done Moyra!



It's the LWPTea! (Get it??)

On the 11th July we had a special afternoon soiree of tea and cake for our wonderful Local Preachers and Worship leaders. The LWPT (Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust) had organised LWP**Tea** events around the country and we were one of those, both celebrating preaching and the call from God to take up this office and also to encourage would-be preachers to come along and see what this was all about.

The afternoon ran from 2pm to 4pm with lovely cakes and tea but also 3 heartening speeches from three of our preachers across the generations – David Cappitt, Chris Pursehouse and Olive Ruzvidzo, all telling of the faithfulness of God in supplying provision, help and gifts to enable these very different people to respond and preach God's word.

Maybe as you read this article you get a sense of God speaking to you about preaching or worship leading: check this out with a trusted



Celebrate The Journey ~ Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event at Oakham Methodist Church called 'Celebrate the Journey'.

We raised £810. Everyone enjoyed the journey and found a reason to celebrate.

Kind regards

Nadine Mackie

CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 26th July Bourne Methodist Church celebrated their Chapel Anniversary by holding an outdoor service on the lawn in front of the church. The morning was cooler than we had been previously experiencing but very windy, nonetheless well over thirty of our members and friends joined in a lovely joyful service.. Aptly the first ever service was held in the cottage next door where a group of Methodists met to worship God in 1812. Our service was followed by a superb barbecue lunch rounding off a delightful day of church fellowship.



News From Bourne

Strawberry Tea

A successful Strawberry Tea was held at Bourne Methodist Church on a scorching Saturday afternoon in June. Everyone who came enjoyed the delicious strawberries, scones and cakes and mainly ice cream because of the heat.

£250 was raised for the Brighter Future Charity in India which the church has supported for many years.



Songs of Praise

On the first Sunday in July, Churches Together in Bourne, held a Songs of Praise service in the Methodist Church. Members from all the various churches in the town came together for a wonderful evening of joyful singing and faith showing that no matter which church you attend we can all meet together to Praise God

S. Streets



Empingham-Oakham Methodist Church (A single church on two sites)

Following many months of careful discussion, listening and discernment about the way forward, from 1st September 2026 the Methodist congregations at Empingham and Oakham will become a single church on two sites. There will be a united Church Council (Managing Trustees); worship and other activities will continue at both chapels, New ways of working for church finances, office holders etc. are being put in place. The new church has chosen to be called *Empingham-Oakham Methodist Church*. This change has come about because, under charity regulations, the Methodist Church requires Circuit Meetings to make alternative arrangements for the trusteeship of any local church which has had twelve or fewer church members for over a year. Empingham Methodist Church was one such church. Both of the previous Church Councils, plus the Circuit Meeting unanimously agreed the necessary resolutions. *Empingham-Oakham Methodist Church* will be 'launched' on Sunday 20th September, with a special travelling service – a single act of worship, including Holy Communion, taking place across both chapels, with transport arranged between the locations, and also a time of sharing food and fellowship.

Please pray for our friends at Empingham and Oakham as they adapt to new ways.

Rev. Andrew Hollins

Stamford Methodist Wednesday Fellowship

September 2026—January 2027

This meeting is open to everyone. We meet on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm for approximately 1 hour. Each month one of our meetings will be a devotional led by one of our Minister's. Other meetings start with a short devotional, led by our members, followed by a variety of speakers, topics and social activities.

Our programme is as follows:

Date	Speaker	Subject	Devotions
September 9th	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	
September 16th	Mr Daniel Howlett	Barnabas Aid Donation box available	Maurice
September 23rd	Rev. Paul Cockburn	Faith Journey	Jenny
September 30th	1pm Outing	Birch Tree Cafe	
October 7th 2.30pm at Priory Court	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	Tea and Cake
October 14th	Rev. Antony Loaton	Faith Journey	Hazel
October 21st	Mrs Amanda Stait	Lincolnshire Sensory Services	Judith
October 28th	Mr Mike Freeman		Maurice
November 4th	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	
November 11th	Mrs Christine Eames	Remembrance Songs	Jenny
November 18th	Mrs Nina Rawlins	Quiz	Hazel
November 25th	Lessons and Carols		Judith
December 2nd	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional-Advent	
Christmas Break			
2027 January 13th	Rev. Andrew Hollins	Devotional	
January 20th	Sharing favourite hymns		Nina
January 27th	Holy Beetle		Maurice

The Stamford Circuit Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Monthly			
Every Tuesday	8.30/45am	Circuit Staff Team Meeting	Via Zoom or in person
SEPTEMBER 2026			
Thursday 3rd	7.30pm	Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Meeting with Annual rededication and Holy Communion	Bourne MC
Sunday 6th	6pm	Circuit Service	Deepings MC
Monday 7th	7pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	Empingham MC
Thursday 10th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting	Stamford MC
Saturday 12th	9.30am	EDI Training	Ryhall MC
Saturday 19th		Northampton Methodist District Synod	
OCTOBER 2026			
Thursday 1st	7pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	Stamford MC
Saturday 17th	10am	Circuit Treasurers Meeting	Ryhall MC
Saturday 31st	10am	Church Stewards Sharing	Ketton MC
NOVEMBER			
Tuesday 3rd	7pm	Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting	Via Zoom
Thursday 5th	10am	Church Safeguarding Officers Meeting	Ryhall MC
Saturday 14th	10am	Circuit Property Representatives Meeting	Ryhall MC
Tuesday 17th	7pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	TBC
DECEMBER 2026			
Tuesday 8th	7pm	Circuit Leadership Team Meeting	TBC
JANUARY 2027			
Saturday 16th	10am	GDPR/Data Champions Meeting	Stamford MC
FEBRUARY			
Wednesday 24th	7pm	Circuit Meeting	Via Zoom

STAMFORD CIRCUIT WORSHIP

SUNDAY 6th SEPT AT 6PM

First Sunday of a new Methodist Year
DEEPINGS METHODIST CHURCH

Led by the Circuit Ministry Team
with special speaker

The Rev Gill
Newton

Previous
President of
Conference



Also a time to celebrate with two of our
Local Preachers, receiving long service
recognition tonight

Refreshments provided after the service



Ryhall Methodist Church Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival service - Sunday 20th September at 10.30am
All donations very gratefully received.

Harvest Festival auction - Monday 21st September at 7pm
An auction of produce donated for the Harvest Festival.

Everyone is welcome to join us
at Mill Street, Ryhall.

Proceeds from the auction will go towards
the cost of repair and maintenance work on the Chapel.

		6 th September	13 th September	20 th September	27 th September	4 th October	11 th Oc- tober
		Ordinary 23 Start of Season of Creation	Ordinary 24	Ordinary 25	Ordinary 26	Ordinary 27 End of Season of Creation	Ordinary 28
	Prayers	Season of Creation and Eco-Church	Ryhall MC	Ketton MC	Thurlby MC	Stamford Methodist Circuit	Empingham/ Oakham MC
Bourne	10.30am	M. Jones	P. Jones HF	Local Worship	Wright HC	Cappitt	Collins
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings					
Deepings	10.30am	Atwell-King	Pocock HC	Robson HF	Ruzvidzo	Wright HC	Connellan
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings	3.45pm Wright TTC	6pm DMG			3.45pm Wright TTC
Empingham (Oakham)	10.45am	Fytche	Wright HF	Hollins/ Wright Travelling Service HC	Hensman Cafe	Gent HC	
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings					4pm P. Jones TTC
Ketton	6.00pm	6pm Circuit @ Deepings	Hollins HC	Wright	Local Worship	Blatherwick HF	Coke-Woods
Oakham (Empingham)	10.45am	Pursehouse	Cappitt	Hollins/ Wright Travel- ling Service HC	Lewis	Cockburn	Local Worship
	3pm	6pm Circuit @ Deepings	Local Worship EAW				3pm Hollins EAW
Ryhall	10.30am	Wright	Hollins HC	Bailey HF	Local Worship Café	Roberts	C & J Allen
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings					
Stamford	10.30am	Hollins CV/HC	Connellan	10am Booker Dog Show	Pursehouse	Hollins HC	Wainwright HF/A
	6.00pm	6pm Circuit @ Deepings					
Thurlby	10.30am	Cockburn HC	@ St. Firmin's	@ St. Firmin's	N & S Coke-woods HF	Local Worship	Wright HC
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings					
Uppingham	10.45am	Collins	Gent HC	Local Worship	Hollins CT @ Belton Parish U/HF	Cameron	Hollins HC
		6pm Circuit @ Deepings					
Sunday Prayers online	10.30am	Law	Wright HF	Hollins	Law	Cockburn	Pursehouse

REFERENCES

A = All Age Worship **Café** = Café-style worship CA = Church Anniversary CT = Churches Together
CV = Covenant Service **DMG** = Deepings Music Group **EAW** = Easy Access Worship **HC** = Holy Communion
HF = Harvest Festival/Thanksgiving **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)

		18 th October	25 th October	1 st November	8 th No- vember	15 th November	22 nd November	29 th November
		Ordinary 29	Ordinary 30	All Saints	Ordinary 32 Remembrance Sunday	Ordinary 33 Safeguarding Sunday	Sunday before Advent	First Sunday of Advent
	Prayers	Bourne MC	Uppingham MC	Emping- ham / Oakham MC	Stamford MC	Northampton Methodist District	Online Church	Deepings MC
Bourne	10.30am	Booker	Wright HC	Fytche	Wright	Ruzvidzo	Coke- Woods HC	Local Worship
Deepings	10.30am	Local Worship	Cameron	Cappitt	Pursehouse	Wright HC	Collins	Local Worship
		6pm CT @ Opendoor Baptist Church			Local Worship TTC	6pm DMG		
Empingham (Oakham)	10.45am	Ruzvidzo Cafe		Wright HC	Hollins U	Wright TTC	Atwell-King Cafe	
			3pm Local Worship Fellowship			Wright 4pm TTC		3pm Local Worship Fellowship
Ketton	6.00pm	Hollins HC	3pm Hensman	3pm Local Worship	3pm Wright	3pm Sworn	3pm Hollins HC	10.30am St. Marys U/HC Hollins
Oakham (Empingham)	10.45am	Hollins HC	P. Jones	Hollins	Atwell-King	Local Worship	Gent HC	Cameron
	3pm				3pm Hollins EAW/HC			6pm CTiO Carols @ All saints
Ryhall	10.30am	Wright HC	Local Worship Cafe	Connellan	Cameron	Booker HC	Local Worship Cafe	Cappitt
Stamford	10.30am	Local Worship	M. Jones	Cockburn HC	Hensman	Pratt Morris- Chapman Mission Sunday/A	Hollins	Local Worship
	6.00pm							
Thurlby	10.30am	Fytche	Pocock	Local Worship	@ St. Firmin's	Cappitt CA	Wright HC	Bailey
Uppingham	10.45am	Pursehouse	Local Worship	Booker	C & J Allen	Hollins HC	P. Jones	Pratt-Morris- Chapman Mission Sunday
Sunday Prayers online	10.30am	P. Jones	Atwell- King	Cockburn	P. Jones	Hollins	Wright	P. Jones

VISITING PREACHERS

Rev. Gill Newton, 6th September 6pm Circuit Service @ Deepings MC

Rev. Alan Robson, Sunday 20th September @ Deepings MC

Rev. Sylvia Coke-Woods, Sunday 27th September @ Thurlby MC

Mrs Elizabeth Blatherwick, 4th October 6pm HF @ Ketton MC

Canon Vyv Wainwright c/o Oakham Anglican Team Ministry, 11th October 10.30am HF/A @ Stamford MC

Rev. Dr. Daniel Pratt Morris-Chapman, Wesley House Cambridge, 15th November 10.30am @ Stamford MC, 29TH November 10.45am @ Uppingham MC

Sunday 6th September Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Sunday 25th October Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46
Sunday 13th September Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103: (1-7) 8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	Sunday 1st November Micah 3:5-12 Psalm 43 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12
Sunday 20th September Jonah 3:10—4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians:1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Sunday 8th November Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 Or Amos 5:18-24 Canticle: Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 Or Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13
Sunday 27th September Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32	Sunday 15th November Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Psalm 90:1-8 (9-11)12 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday 4th October Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-15 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46	Sunday 22nd November Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a Or Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46
Sunday 11th October Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14	Sunday 29th November Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37
Sunday 18th October Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13) 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	

Ketton Soup Lunches

With the approach of the cooler Autumn days...why not make a date to join us for a Warm Welcome and even Warmer Soup Lunch at Ketton Chapel on the 3rd Wednesday of each month: September 16th, October 21st and November 18th.

There is no charge, but donations for Charity are gratefully received. Over the past 16 years our small monthly donations have raised in excess of £11.500 and helped over 20 charities.

Here is a list of some of the charities we have supported:

Action For Children, Air Ambulance, Angela Firth Charities, Aqua Box, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research, Centre Point, Childrens Air Ambulance, Christian Aid, Compassion UK, Crisis, Cruse Bereavement, Dementia, Ebola, Gaza, Good News Van, Haiti, Karibuni, Ketton Choir, Launde Abbey, Leprosy Mission, Leukaemia & Lymphoma, Lodge Trust, Medecines San Frontierre, MHA Dementia Care, MRDF, National Memorial Arboretum, Pakistan Appeal, PINNT, Practical Action, Red Cross, Refurbishment, Roof Appeal, Sailability, Salvation Army, Samaritans, Sensory Bus, Shelter, SHYP, Sri Lanka, St. Barnabus Hospice, St. Mary's lent lunch charities, Sue Ryder, Tom Mann Foundation, Ukraine, Water Aid.

Here is the amount raised each year from 2008 to 2026:

2008-2009: £625	2013-2014: £627	2018-2019: £736	2023-2024: £841
2009-2010: £362	2014-2015: £768	2019-2020: £100	2024-2025 £873
2010-2011: £536	2015-2016: £840	2020-2021: -	2025-2026: £1018
2011-2012: £530	2016-2017: £718	2021-2022: £345	
2012-2013: £584	2017-2018: £862	2022-2023: £940	

So please come along, enjoy a good lunch, friendly chat with others whilst at the same time knowing that you are supporting the work of so many good causes.

We look forward to you joining us.

Stamford Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Scheme

This is a scheme to buy, and send, Christmas presents to the children of Prisoners at Stocken Prison.

This helps to build good relationships among prisoners' families.

The cost of each present would be approximately £15, including postage.

Your donations to this fund would be much appreciated.

Any cheques need to be made payable to;

'Stamford Prison Fellowship – Angel Tree'.

Your donations can be given to Maurice Wade;

17 Drift Avenue, Stamford, PE9 1UY.



Many thanks and every blessing.

Maurice and Judith



John Clare Festival July 2026

It was a delight to visit the Annual John Clare festival in Helpston. The cottage is a favourite place of ours and we often stop for a coffee in the cafe, however today Helpston was alive with all that is John Clare, celebrating the Peasant Poet. We went to interesting talks, watched the Morris Dancers and clog dancers, listened to the recorder ensemble and walked around the village that meant so much to John Clare as a child.

The place that touched me most was the graveyard where he is buried, his grave surrounded by “cushions” of flowers made by local school children.

We sat under a tree, next to John’s grave, listening to the birds and feeling the welcome summer breeze. It was so peaceful and had a special atmosphere of calm. We sat there for a long time taking in the peace of it all.

I am now delving into John Clare’s major works and attempting to become more familiar with his poetry, which is filled with the beauty of nature and the natural world. I liked this short poem I thought I would share:-



God Looks on Nature with a Glorious Eye

*God looks on nature with a glorious eye
And blesses all creation with the sun
Its drapery of green and brown earth ocean lie
In morning as Creation just begun
That saffron east fortells the riseing sun
And who can look upon that majesty
Of light brightness and splendour nor feel won
With love of him whose bright all seeing eye
Feeds the days light with Immortality.*

From poems written by John Clare in Epping Forest and Northampton Asylum 1837-1864

Contributed by Beryl Teasdale

Poem ~ 'Musing'

Written by Evelyn Lane, and read by Evelyn at the '*Celebrate the Journey*' event held at Oakham Methodist Church on 4th July 2026

If Jesus came to Oakham today,
would he be welcomed or turned away?
And if, when he came, how would we know?
Would he have a sign that he could show?

At Sunday School I asked in vain
how would I know when Jesus came.
But the teacher said that nobody knew,
but that reading the Bible might give us a clue.
She thought I was asking for fun – although
I really wasn't, I just wanted to know.

Would he therefore come in a flash of light
or prefer a deep peace at the dead of night?
Would he come as a man, or a woman or child,
or a newborn baby so meek and mild?
Could he be that friend we have always known
and spoken to often over the phone?
Will he be rich or very poor?
He might even be our neighbour next door.

He might be the tramp we see sleeping rough,
sometimes begging for food but not getting enough.
He could be a migrant from a land far away,
escaping to Oakham and hoping to stay.
He might be a policeman or be in the forces,
or a student we meet, struggling with courses.
A vet, a doctor or perhaps a teacher.
He might arrive at Church as next week's preacher.

We might never meet Jesus, but still must be ready
to follow his path with steps firm and steady.
If we do we will know, in the words of the hymn,
that, if we live for others we are working for him.



And Can it Be

George rose to his feet and ministered to my delight
Upon the words of Charles Wesley's magnificent hymn
'And can it be.' "I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;"
Which resurrected the joy of rhythm in ev'ry limb.
I could have danced. "My chains fell off, my heart was free;"
And sung and clapped to "I rose, went forth and followed Thee."

So, so often in younger days I have sung that pledge.
Sometimes with a few faithful from village and farm
In a small Methodist Chapel tucked behind a hedge.
Or in a town or city church like a huge barn
With every pew squashed full, ground floor aisles lined with chairs,
Seated on windowsills and steps of gallery tiers.

No choir. For many would be singing a harmony
Enjoying their melodic beauty with those near about
As well as adding to full fortissimo hymnody.
Dominating the pulpit, the organ, all stops out,
Its swell at maximum volume yet barely being heard
Through gospel words sung with such fervour that spirits soared

Indeed, I am there now in Chapelfield Methodist Church
In Norwich high up at the top of the gallery
Singing with as yet unsettled voice from windowsill perch.
Even now hairs on the back of my neck are tingly.
Exhilaration in heart and soul is palpable.
After sixty years a memory unforgettable.

Then slowly creeds once recited with enthusiasm,
Visions of a God as an omnipotent king
Or a judge who makes the laws and enforces them
Seemed wrong. Lacking mercy and love to those trying.
Whose followers hated and killed and whose 'servant'
Denied me His prime symbol of spiritual nourishment.

BUT I woke. My dungeon flamed with light. My chains fell off.
My heart felt free. I rose, went forth and became Quaker.
Here peace, love absolute, non-judgemental with no trade-off.
For 'god' is a spirit. A love and peace maker.
A spirit that dwells in everyone. In its light
I am up-held and to do no evil is true delight.

Peter J Larke ww7 03/06/2026

Sunday's ministry re 'And could it be' .No 371 in my Methodist hymn book of the day (with tunes, Copyright 1933 revised 1954). A gift to me, Christmas 1960, by Mary, my wife to be.

Tune 'Sagina' by T Campbell c 1800.

Contributed By G. Hetherington

Thank you!

For a number of years I have been unable to get to church, (both Uppingham and here in Leicester), because of various health problems and I can no longer drive. I've lived in Leicester for eight years and until about three years ago quite happily drove to Uppingham on Sunday and during the week, except of course, during the pandemic.

It was in the pandemic that my IT skills improved—slightly! I discovered zoom and YouTube! And I believe that the online Sunday services started as a result of the pandemic. I'm so glad they did!

I want to thank all the people who prepare and record the online services—now Sunday Prayers. I know some of you have full time jobs and you all have services to prepare as well, at least once a quarter. I know how long that takes!

Thank you so very much for all you do for those of us who can't get to church. The Sunday Prayers are a blessing, encouraging, challenging (sometimes) and lift my faith. Thank you!

Anne McAlpine

thank you



Leaving a Gift to the Methodist Church

Many people find comfort in knowing that their faith and values can continue to make a difference for generations to come. Leaving a gift in your Will is a thoughtful way to support the ongoing mission of the Methodist Church of Great Britain — helping to sustain worship, outreach and community life both locally and more widely.

We understand that your first responsibility is always to your loved ones, but after providing for family and friends, even a small legacy gift can make a lasting impact. It can help ensure that our churches remain places of welcome, care and hope for years ahead. Please speak to your local Minister before drafting a will if you are thinking about leaving a bequest/legacy to the Methodist Church.

If it is then something you might like to consider, you can find clear and helpful guidance on the Methodist website, including the different ways to leave a gift and how to go about it:

<https://www.tmcpc.org.uk/money/model-trusts/bequests/resources/guidenotes/gn-leaving-a-bequest>

Please PRAY for:

Bourne

We pray for all those beginning new ventures, ministers going to new Circuits, children going to new schools, young people going on to further education and those starting in a new workplace, be with them Lord guiding them through the nerves and anticipation of something new and strange. We pray for our church and those who lead us in our worship, and for the activities which have restarted again after the summer break. We pray too for the wider world, that you will guide leaders to heal their differences and bring peace to our troubled world, Amen.

Deepings

Pray for our Harvest Festival Service in September and a generous response to the Local Foodbank.

Pray for the development of our Teatime Church and contact with families

Empingham

Pray for Empingham MC and Oakham MC as we become one church or two sites. We pray for blessings on both as we work more together and support each other.

We give thanks for the good fellowship we enjoy and we pray for activities as they start again in the autumn, the Toddler group, Tea Time Church and our prayer groups.

We give thanks for the continued success of the Lunch Club.

Ketton

After the refreshment of a summer break we look forward to welcoming our Community groups back onto our premises. We are heartened by the response to our Jack and Jill's Toddler group and pray the numbers will continue to grow as we support them with our faithful Christian witness.

We thank you Lord for our small but ageing congregation, and like many in our circuit we currently struggle with the tasks required to keep our chapel functioning. We know this is in the Lord's Hands and pray that we will be blessed with the backup and support much needed at this time.

Our prayers continue for all the churches in our Circuit and especially for our Ministry Team.

Oakham

Dear Lord we thank you for meeting us in the fellowship of our congregations and for all those who organise our services and preach your word. Help us to build each other up as we care and pray for our circuit churches. Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in us. Amen

Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

Please PRAY for:

Ryhall

Creator God, the trees are ablaze with your glory.
The seasons change, but you never do.
You are always beautiful,
in the green and freshness of spring
as in the golds and reds and chills of autumn.
Make us like you.
Let our lives reflect your beauty,
season after season,
as the calendar of my life turns and turns.
The trees are letting go of this year's foliage.
Help us let go of both blessings and burdens,
and surrender them both to your loving care.
Fallen leaves pattern the ground with variety.
So design our own fallings and failings
into whatever design will please you most.
In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Stamford

We pray for all in the church family who are grieving, for those who are ill or undergoing treatment, and for those who feel lonely, discouraged and sad. Lord, bless each one with your Spirit of comfort, healing and encouragement.

We pray for the Church here in Stamford, that we feel your guidance Lord, as we seek to do your will for our future. Loving God, we leave our worries and concerns in Your hands.

We pray for hearts that are kind and compassionate, lives that show Your mercy and love towards all people, so that we are a reflection of You in every way. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

Thurlby

Dear Lord, we thank You for the love and companionship to be found in your Church, we pray that village people will come and find the joy of being with You in worship. We pray for lunch club, toddlers and helpers as they start again after the summer break, may they be as successful as ever. Bless Bekkie as she ministers to us. Amen

Uppingham

It's been a very thoughtful month for uppingham, with many changes for us, but as a church we continue to support each other and the community around us.

Please pray for the many of our members of our Church who have health issues that are not easy to live with. These health issues may mean that we are all slowing down, but, praise God we are a determined little lot, and we ask you to pray for ways through our difficulties.





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