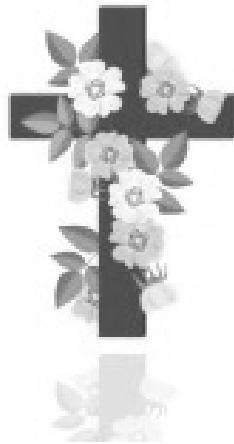


**THE WOLDS AND TRENT CIRCUIT
OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH IN
LINCOLNSHIRE**

LINK



April 2015

Pastoral Letter

We all have our favourite hymns, old ones or new. They may remind us of a specific service or time in our lives.

We may sing or hum them when we are happy or when we feel sad, or we may enjoy reading them. Secular songs too can sometimes help us to think of the sacred, of God's nearness or unfailing love.

Travelling in the car with Trevor over many years, I have come to appreciate his passion for the Moody Blues.

One of their songs has the lines -

Lovely to see you again my friend,

Walk along with me to the next bend.

It always reminds me of the resurrection appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Joining his friends, talking with them and helping them to understand all that has been happening. As Christians, we know that God is all around us & cares for us but sometimes when we feel sad or lonely, confused or upset, it is wonderful to remember that he will also walk beside us as a friend.

As we celebrate Jesus' resurrection this Easter time, may we know him as our friend, walking along with us to the next bend, wherever that may be.

May God's love and peace be with you,

Janet Faulkner.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Brookenby

Church Contact: Mrs M Nicholls 01472 398364

Caistor

Church Contact: Mr M James 01472 851965

As I write this we are about halfway through Lent, which is proving to be an enriching time in the life of our church.

Those of us taking part in the Caistor Lent groups have found the York Course material on Songs of Praise in the New Testament really thought-provoking and there have been many useful insights from the course contributors and from members of the group, about Christ and about ways we can learn to reflect His life in our attitudes and our actions.

Sunday services have also been inspiring and we have benefitted from a variety of approaches, from very thoughtful traditional services, through one with a dramatic demonstration of overturning the tables in the temple courtyard, to a lively and informal Children's service using Lego people to demonstrate the Bible story and play dough for tactile prayers.

In early March each year we have the privilege of worshipping with members of the other Caistor congregations at the Women's World Day of Prayer service. It is good to be reminded of our unity as members of the Body of Christ both locally and worldwide. The service this year encouraged us to pray for the people of the Bahamas and no doubt many of us thought too of fellow believers, including members of our own congregation, in the sunshine of Spain, El Salvador and various other parts of the world.

What a joy it is to realise that we belong to such a huge company of people in the worldwide Church, all worshipping and serving the risen Lord Jesus.

Bridget Andrew

Faldingworth

Church Contact: Mrs C Waite 01673 885249

The last Sunday in February we moved into the schoolroom as we were still having problems with the boiler. Our preacher planned for that morning was Jane Lloyd. We enjoyed her service very much. She had brought along her little granddaughter who was as good as gold. She had brought along her own set of favourite things and she busied herself at one of the circular tables whilst “Granny” got on with the service.

It went very well. Who said we could not multi-task?

The following Sunday some of us went to Middle Rasen and others to Market Rasen as we had no service in our own Chapel. It was lovely to hear that Helen, daughter of Brian and Janice Cooke had given birth to a baby girl. We wish them all every happiness.

A plumber came to help us with our problem with the boiler and Mr Mannion kindly cleared up the problem with the electricity. We had our Chapel meeting. There were some concerns about the slates on the Chapel roof which could be dangerous if they were to fall on to the pathway or even onto the busy road! Our grateful thanks go to Janet Faulkner for finding us a splendid pair of people who knew how to deal with the job. It felt a lot better knowing that we were safe and we do thank them for coming to help.

On the 8th March we welcomed Dr Don Owen and we had a lovely service. We used our Singing the Faith hymn books and the discs to provide the music. We gathered in the schoolroom as it was quite cosy in there. One of our members had wondered what “Cafe Worship” was. Sometimes in life you can stumble on the answer!

Laurie Oxborrow

Gainsborough

Church Contact: Mr M Childs 01427 610057

As I reported last month, Easter preparations are all in place. The Lent cross has been added to each Sunday, as we record the events leading to Easter Day. One extra will be a large heart in the centre of the cross, placed on Mothering Sunday, representing the love of families, but above all the love of Jesus in his sacrifice, and resurrection, for us.

It has been good to see many young people and visitors in services recently. On one occasion it was when there had been a sponsored 'no technology weekend' endured by Sarah and Charlie as well as the youth groups. There have been two baptisms, which are a reason to celebrate in themselves, but with the extra joy of welcoming family members to worship. The Girls Brigade had their enrolment service on Mothering Sunday, and they also helped in distributing daffodils to the congregation.

We are looking to have a spring clean at the end of March, so that all those things left around can be cleared, before others take their place. It is amazing how many coats are left unclaimed.

The carpet fund has at last reached its goal of £1900, so that fundraising for this is over – and we look forward to seeing a new carpet in the near future, once we have decided what form this should take. Another committee is probably needed! The previous carpet is reputed to have lasted 47 years, and considering the age was still in reasonable condition. Perhaps the next one will last as long?

Mike Childs

Glenthams

Church Contact: Mr T Faulkner 01673 818718

We've had another great month of worship fellowship and fun at Glenthams and that's during the services!!

We started with our monthly breakfast at 0845 then Rev Anne led our communion service.

It's wonderful that as well as those who've been with us a while we also are now having children from Hemswell Cliff coming to the chapel to join us for

breakfast, family church and Messy church. God is so good
Our family church led by Malcolm Boot was full of fun and challenge. Our normal 6pm service led by Rev Liz Child's was enriched by the unexpected arrival of the girls from the God Pod, whilst the sermon may not have been their most favourite item they assured us they enjoyed their evening!!!

Our Mothering Sunday Messy church this week was dedicated to, guess what, you're right Mothers. What a wonderful God given gift we have all received, the best gift of is a Mother so thank you Mums for all you did and do today. Games, flowers, play dough prayers and iced shortbread flowers were the order of the day with Jenny leading us all through the service helped by Rachael, Janet and Alison.

You know we wondered who would come, some children had a special time planned so we knew there might not be many, but hey do it God says and leave the rest to me!!!

We had 13 children and 19 adults and an amazing family turned up covering four generations. How wonderful to see Sadie, Sheens, Heather, and the children celebrating together. Thank you Lord for another great month. "THANK YOU!" to all who came to Glenthams Chapel to share in this year's Women's World Day of Prayer service, for making the evening such a joy and for your generosity - £104.55 was given for the work of WWDP around the world.

Our ventures into the local garden centre and pub continue unabated with Sugar & Spice at the Willows and Men's breakfast at the Crown (now under new management) both very well attended if you've never been along please give us a try

God Bless
Have a great Easter and remember Jesus died just for you
Jenny & Peter

Men's Breakfast 11TH April
9am at The Crown, Glenthams

Sugar & Spice 18th April
9.30am at The Willows, Glenthams

‘VISION’

Sunday 12th April 6pm
Praise & Worship
Glenthams Chapel

Please come and share an evening of Praise & Worship
led by Music and talents of ‘VISION’ worship group

Holy Week
Time of Reflection
Glenthams Methodist Church
Wednesday 1st April – 6.30pm
Led by Rev Anne Coates

Lea

Church Contact: Mrs M Lilley 01427 615933

Village Guild
Thursday 16th April
At
2.15pm
Speaker- Alan Woodward
With his guide dog, Gilly

Marton

Church Contact: Mrs D Kitchinson 01427 718634

Easter Offering Service

This year our Circuit Easter Offering Service will take place at
Middle Rasen
on
Sunday 26th April
at
10 45am.

Middle Rasen friends will be looking forward to welcoming you all to this act of worship which includes Bible passages, music, prayers and stories from around the world and includes the dedication of the Easter Offering, all of which goes to the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain.

The service is prepared on its behalf by Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) and will be held throughout the Connexion – the Methodist Church in Britain and Ireland. The service will be followed with tea and refreshments.

You should have received the Easter Offering envelopes in your churches by the time you read this.

Market Rasen

Church Contact: Mr G Taylor 01673 843939
glt332@yahoo.co.uk

My husband and I having been living abroad, in various countries, for the past 30 years, the last being Bahrain in the Middle East. About 5 ½ years ago we bought a house in Market Rasen, deciding this is where we would eventually like to retire to. Nice and quiet and in the countryside. Then in February 2013 we decided we needed a break from the Middle East and came back home. We really enjoy being back here and appreciate all this country has to offer. That might be surprising to some, but it really is a wonderful place to live.

When we were living in South Africa we fell away from the church, due to joining the wrong type of church. This was not a good experience and put us off going to church for many years. Now we were back in Market Rasen and we decided it was time to start going back to church. Randomly we chose the Methodist church and went along to “check it out”. We were made to feel so welcome that we just kept on going back and soon felt part of a big family.

In September we decided it was time to start giving back, not only to the church but also to the community. We came up with the idea of starting a Coffee morning, which is held every Monday from 8:30 – 10:30, and a Soup and Roll Lunch, which is on the last Friday of every month 12:00 – 1:00. We have also started a Quiz Night which is held on the last Thursday of each month starting at 7:00. Anyone wishing to come along and test their knowledge is very welcome.

We are open to anyone, young or old who would like to come along for a drink and a chat. We have had some wonderful days with a good number of people but we have also had some disappointing days, when there has only been a few. But it doesn't matter how many come along, for God tells us in Matthew 18 v20, for where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

We offer the coffee and soup for free but if people would like to leave a donation, it is greatly appreciated. So please come and join us, we would love to see you.

In October we became members of the Methodist Church and the family of God. We are so grateful to everyone who has supported us, especially through a difficult year, and for welcoming us back into the church.

Yvonne Walls

Middle Rasen

Church Contact: Mrs Moira Nicholls 01673 849129

There is much talk and report on how the church congregations in general are declining. People, young people in particular, haven't the time, interest or commitments to attend church now – they have so much more in their lives to occupy their time! Little do they know what they are missing!

I must admit we have few young people in our congregation and yet there are many who would have gone to Sunday Schools.

Tim Smith took our service on 1st March and brought out some home truths and wise sayings. He said “A building does not bring people to God. Each person has this responsibility. The work of the Church is to bring people to God. “We” forget the power of God – we CAN do the impossible even if we think we can’t! If something is difficult, we tend to run away”. He ended by saying “Share your love with someone and then the Church will grow”. Can we each do that I wonder?

We must be doing something right at Middle Rasen Chapel as we continue to grow, rather than decline! On 15th February we brought a new little child to God – we had a Baptism – Edith Doris Jenkins – Granddaughter of Ian and Pat Hardcastle. It was a lovely service. The Rev. Anne took the service and preached about the prodigal son, how love keeps no record of wrongs and it is important to celebrate and forgive.

Guild is coming to a close after the winter. We have had some very interesting meetings just lately – bee keeping, call my bluff, ‘What’s in a name’ and the local school children putting on a concert for us, etc. The final meeting was on 18th March to celebrate the Guild with Ray Wylie and friends putting on a musical evening followed by one of Middle Rasen Chapel’s famous buffet suppers – splendid as always!

Things are ‘hotting’ up now for Easter! Joint Lent Study Groups between Middle Rasen Chapel and Parish Church on 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd March with Lent lunches at Market Rasen Chapel on 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th March preceded by Holy Communion, then a soup lunch with donation for charity and ending with a seasonal thought for the month. On Sunday 29th March we have a joint service with the Parish Church and a Palm Sunday procession led by a donkey as usual. This year, the service is held at the Parish Church.

To conclude – ‘Sparkle wherever you go!’ – a caption in our monthly newsletter and ‘Just like a sunbeam makes cloudy days brighter, the smile of a friend makes a heavy heart lighter!’. Don’t just think about it – do it!

Liz Margrave

Misterton

Church Contact: Mr S Bilton 01427 810866

Advance Notice

On Sunday 7th June, Rev. Paul Wilson will be coming to the circuit. He is the outreach worker for Methodist Evangelicals Together (MET) and comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Paul will be taking the 10.30am service at Gainsborough, then holding a seminar from 3.00-5.00pm at Middle Rasen, before leading evening worship, again at Middle Rasen.

If you are able to come along, it should be a very worthwhile and inspiring time.

Methodist Women in Britain – MwiB

All women throughout the circuit are invited to the MwiB Circuit Afternoon (which will include the AGM) to be held on Wednesday 6th May at 2 00pm at Middle Rasen MC. There will be a presentation by the ever-popular Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF).

Please come and support and enjoy the fellowship and meet friends from other churches – gentlemen are most welcome – come and keep Andrew company as he chairs the meeting !!

Nettleton

Church Contact: Mrs Jean Field 01472 852056

It seems just a short time ago we celebrated the birth of Jesus and already we are approaching Easter. The sadness of Good Friday followed by the joy on Easer Sunday when we have the certain knowledge that Jesus rose and is alive forever.

HOSANNA – OUR LORD REIGNS

Jean Field

Dates for your Diary:

April 4th – Monthly Coffee Morning 10.30am-12 noon

May 2nd – Monthly Coffee Morning 10.30am- 12 noon

May 9th – Soup and sweet lunch 12 noon (see below)

Nettleton Chapel

“Welcome to Spring”

Saturday 9th May

At

12 noon

Soup and Sweet Lunch

Selection of Soups

Selection of Sweets

Tea/Coffee

Looking forward to seeing you there!

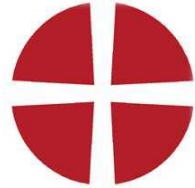
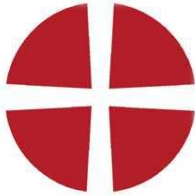
North Kelsey

Church Contact: Mrs M Thomas 01652 678365

Not a huge amount to share with you at the moment but we do thank those who came along to support our recent Pudding Club - I'm sure that far too many calories were consumed but they were all delicious ! Everyone enjoyed the company as well as the food – we'll keep you posted on the next one ! Our Lent Group gatherings have been much appreciated by all in attendance in the warmth and comfort of Jenny and Fred's home and also at Barry and Sylvia's. Nick Fawcett's book "Spot the Difference" gave us food for thought and the challenge of questioning how well our lives display love, allegiance to Christ, joy, concern for others, and faith.

Some of our NK members are part of a singing group rehearsing Part Two of Handel's Messiah. This will be performed at Market Rasen MC at 7 00pm on Good Friday when you would be most welcome to come and listen. It is certainly glorious music to sing and starts with "Behold the Lamb of God" and finishes with the "Hallelujah Chorus" – let us trust that it will be as good to listen to!

Midge



**'THE FUTURE
OF METHODISM –FINISHED, FALTERING OR FINE'.**

you are invited to come and hear
REVD. DR. MARTYN ATKINS
(Secretary of Conference & General Secretary)

Thursday 23rd April, 2015 at 7.30pm

at

HORNCastle METHODIST CHAPEL

This will be followed by light refreshments. This 'talk' is held as a result of a bequest from the late Mr. J.A. Hardy in memory of his wife and grandfather. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Upton

Church Contact: Mrs Julie Barrow 01427 838729

Hello once again from Upton!!!

It is Mothering Sunday afternoon, and I am right on the last minute for completing this month's offering to the Link.

We were very pleased to welcome Rev. Ann Coates to our chapel this morning. We had a lovely service with her, and our first communion with her too. We hope it won't be too long before she joins us again. We had a gathering of regular worshippers and some friends from our local Church. Our youngest grandson was also with us. a special treat for Grandad and me!!

We enjoyed coffee and fellowship after the service and I would like to thank all who helped in any way.

We are fast approaching Easter and the joy of celebrating Christ's resurrection! but we still have a little time of Lent still to go and the difficult time of Good Friday and Holy Saturday before the big celebration on Easter Sunday. We have a few special events coming up in the next few weeks so that is my focus for this month. Thank you!

Good Friday Gathering on Friday 3rd April at 11-00am - our annual event of GOOD Friday hymns, readings and poems. This year it will be led by Michael Page. The service will conclude with hot cross buns and coffee.

Easter Sunday Worship, on Sunday 5th April will be led by Tim Smith at 10-30am

Coffee and Chat will meet again on Wednesday 8th April - 10-30am - 12-00 noon.

Our Chapel Anniversary Weekend will begin on Saturday 18th April at 7-00pm when The Trentside Singers will entertain. The concert is free, with light refreshments, but a collection will be taken for Chapel Funds.

Our Anniversary Celebrations will continue on Sunday 19th April at 10-30am when Rev. Liz Childs will lead our worship.

So, it just remains for me to wish you all a "joyful Eastertide" from all at Upton Chapel.

May the good Lord bless you in all that you do.

Until the next time.

Jenny Fotheringham

The Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust

On Sunday, 12th April, 2015, the Wolds and Trent Circuit will be exchanging a number of pulpits with the Barton and Brigg Circuit to recognise the work of LWPT.

LWPT began its life in 1849 as a charity which provided financial and other assistance to Methodist and Wesleyan Reform Local Preachers and their families. The Methodist Local Preachers Mutual Aid Association or LPMA as it became known, was a lifeline for many and was supported faithfully and generously by its members through the years.

LWPT was formed in 2005- a new charity with a wider vision to provide support for all preachers and leaders of worship, aiming to provide not only financial support but also preaching resources, events and information.

Today, LWPT is an ecumenical charity seeking to reach a wide denominational spectrum. In 2014, 'Preach Resources' was launched, including a quarterly magazine, a website and a series of events.

The charitable objects of LWPT are to advance Christian religion by:

- Supporting training, education and pastoral care of those leading worship and preaching;
- Developing resources and materials to assist those leading worship and preaching in carrying out their duties;
- Assisting those in financial or other need, who are involved in leading Christian worship and preaching, whether active or retired, and their widows or widowers, parents, parents in law, children and other dependants including the provision of housing, treatment, care, advice and advocacy.

LWPT provides help by:

- Publishing stimulating, inspiring and up-to-date resources to encourage Preachers and Leaders of Worship to grow and develop. LWPT produces a resources magazine called Preach.
- Hosting events that enable Preachers and Leaders of Worship to meet one another.
- Offering access to prompt assistance, of high quality in times of need, through financial support and access to practical help enabling access to appropriate residential care (e.g. with LWP Homes or other providers).

If you or your church would like to take this opportunity to support the work of LWPT, your donation would be very gratefully received. My grateful thanks to those of you who already do.

Donations may be sent to LWPT, PO Box 2352, Watford, Herts. WD18 1PY, or via the website: www.lwpt.org.uk. Alternatively, contact myself on 01673 842391.

My thanks to you all.
Ian Hardcastle

A PRAYER FOR EASTER

When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,
your love broke through.
Your love was too strong,
too wide,
too deep
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love
dance and spread
and burst forth
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.
Amen.

Written by Michaela Youngson, Superintendent Minister of the
Ealing Trinity Circuit via www.methodist.org.uk

WORDSEARCH -TOP PEOPLE

W	E	L	L	I	N	G	T	O	N	B	I	J	N
I	A	V	E	Y	R	U	B	S	I	L	A	S	E
L	G	L	E	L	K	I	L	E	A	R	S	I	D
S	N	T	P	B	A	L	D	W	I	N	Z	L	E
O	I	H	E	O	F	W	R	X	I	G	N	L	G
N	N	A	L	P	L	O	Y	A	B	L	A	I	R
A	N	T	H	R	J	E	L	A	A	A	L	H	O
H	A	C	A	A	S	R	L	S	T	D	L	C	E
G	C	H	M	W	E	F	Q	G	L	S	I	R	G
A	M	E	L	B	O	U	R	N	E	T	M	U	D
L	V	R	M	U	I	E	U	Q	E	O	C	H	Y
L	O	A	R	T	Y	T	T	I	P	N	A	C	O
A	H	X	H	T	A	E	H	O	M	E	M	L	L
C	E	E	N	O	T	S	R	E	M	L	A	P	L

As a General Election is nearly upon us, above for you to discover are the LAST NAMES of 29 BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS.

One name has two words run together. Also in which year were they appointed?

The older you are the more it helps, so that makes a refreshing change.

ON MEN WHO FIGHT ON EARTH FOR RIGHT RELATIONS
WE PRAY THE LIGHT OF LOVE FROM HOUR TO HOUR.
GRANT WISDOM TO THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONS
THE GIFT OF CAREFULNESS TO THOSE IN POWER.

Fred Kaan

CMS

GOING TO SCARBOROUGH FAIR? – PUZZLE PAGE

I'm sure that you know the refrain of the folksong above. Well, this month, you are searching the sentences below for the NAMES of 36 HERBS and SPICES.

I hope that you have an enjoyable THYME!

1. Naughty Basil spilt the sugar-licked it up gingerly.
2. Please pay the tab as Colin is agent for two advertising agencies.
3. It's all spice from the grapevine gossip. Its put Rosemary in torment I'll wager.
4. Put the car away with the van. I'll attend to it later.
5. The chilliest place is Glendive Bay, without a doubt.
6. This playground seldom is quiet and full of balm as the children's high jinks accrue.
7. Please invite Cori and Derek, Tansy and Lavender to your party.
8. Henrik Ibsen, Nabokov and Cressida Dillon are all writers.
9. Did you see Angelica Houston in the film "Cayenne Capers"?
10. With eye bright , did Mustard your cat nip Pepper my dog?
11. That old gent, Ian Borage, loses a medal in the parade.
12. The Windsor relics are what Eric loves to go and see.

ISLAND HOPPING- WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

BRITISH:

1. ARRAN
2. EIGG
3. GUERNSEY
4. HOLY
5. JERSEY
6. LEWIS
7. MAN
8. SARK
9. SKYE
10. WIGHT

WORDWIDE:

11. BALI
12. BERMUDA
13. BORNEO
14. CORSICA
15. CRETE
16. CUBA
17. CYPRUS
18. EASTER
19. ELBA
20. GRENADA
21. HAITI
22. HAWAII
23. IBIZA
24. JAMAICA
25. JAVA
26. KOS
27. MADAGASCAR
28. MADEIRA
29. MAJORCA
30. MALTA
31. MINORCA
32. OKINAWA
33. RHODES
34. SARDINIA
35. SICILY
36. SINGAPORE
37. SUMATRA
38. TAHITI
39. TAIWAN
40. TASMANIA

MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC PUZZLE PAGE ANSWERS

1. CATS
2. MY FAIR LADY
3. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4. SOUTH PACIFIC
5. OLIVER
6. THE KING AND I
7. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
8. ANNIE GET YOUR GUN
9. LES MISERABLES
10. THE SOUND OF MUSIC
11. AN AMERICAN IN
12. STARLIGHT EXPRESS
13. ME AND MY GIRL
14. SINGING IN THE RAIN
15. SUNSET BOULEVARD
16. FIDDLER ON THE

A note from the editor- please wait for the next issue to find out answers for puzzles as requests from the Editor will be declined ☺

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**Please ensure all articles, for inclusion in the
May edition, are sent to
Kathy before;**

April 15th 2015

**Please note any articles received after this date will be not be
included and will be saved for the next issue.**