

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

LINK



March 2014

Pastoral Letter

Written on a fridge magnet:

**When asked, what would Jesus do?
Remind yourself that freaking out
and overturning tables is a viable option.**

But the problem is, would Jesus really do that in your situation, or is that just what you want to do? Do you know Jesus well enough to discern what he might do in any given situation? The more important question, I think is, what are you going to do in this situation that will make Jesus proud of you?

There has been much debate about food banks this week and church leaders of all denominations, have been speaking up on behalf of those who have little choice other than to make use of them. President of the Methodist Conference, Rev Ruth Gee, wrote, “Wherever I have travelled this year I have asked the same two questions. Do you have a food bank here? Have you seen increased need for it?” To both questions she has received the same reply, ‘yes’. She concludes her article by saying, “It isn’t acceptable, it is iniquitous and we will continue to challenge political leaders, whatever their party allegiance, because that is what we are called to do as followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus who was anointed to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release of the captives and to let the oppressed go free. (Luke 4:18)”

It is incredible that Christians cannot speak with one voice on this matter and I wonder why that is? Could it be that we speak out from our prejudice rather than our faith? Which begs the question, how well do we know Jesus? And, how can we get to know him better?

LENT: a time for penitence, a time to give something up, a time to reflect on Jesus’ wilderness days, or a time to get to know him better? I pray that this Lent may be a time of joyful blessing to everyone, whether you need to use a food bank or not.

God bless.

Andrew.

for full article by the President see

<http://www.methodist-presandvp.blogspot.co.uk/>

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Brookenby

Church Contact: Mrs M Nicholls 01472 398364

Caistor

Church Contact: Mr M James 01472 851965

Faldingworth

Church Contact: Mrs C Waite 01673 885249

It was a rainy January morning when we welcomed Mr Denis Lockwood to our Sunday Service. He and Mr Tim Smith had travelled together from Gainsborough as Tim was taking the morning service at Middle Rasen. We enjoyed Mr Lockwood's service which included hymns and readings on the Creation and the light of the world. It was a though provoking sermon and we were encouraged to think about how we could lighten other people's lives.

We had some good hymns, some from Singing the Faith and some from Hymn's and Psalms, Light of the World was very appropriate. Three members of our congregation were absent through illness that day but are now on the road to recovery.

Rev. Anne Coates led our United Covenant Service. Our friends from the Parish Church joined us along with Cynthia Bunch who helped with the communion. We had time for a cup of tea and a biscuit and a chat in the schoolroom at the end of the service.

Dr Don Owen came for the service on Candlemas Day, 2nd February Jane played the organ to accompany the hymns and we were glad to see John Green in chapel again.

Mr Malcolm Coates led our service this Sunday and he brought Elsie with him, it was good to see her again. We used the disks for this service, it worked well and we are getting used to Singing the Faith. We are having our Chapel Council meeting on Wednesday.

Best wishes to everyone

Laurie Oxborrow

Thank you to all those who returned their Smartie tubes.

Christine Waite

Gainsborough

Church Contact: Mr M Childs 01427 610057

Firstly to retrace our steps to Christmas – it was a busy time. We saw a good number of people come through the doors for Carols, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Christmas Tree Festival saw over 20 trees displayed and on the Saturday lots of people came to look around. In the evening the presentation of ‘The Gift’ had a good and appreciative audience and the Sunday services among the trees were well attended. We have now cleared all the trees, but it normally takes some time. One has been up since December 2012.

All our activities have restarted, including small groups, continuing with the very worthwhile ‘Step Forward’ course. The Pastoral Visitors met in January to hear the District Safeguarding Officer, Howard Smedley, speak very helpfully and entertainingly about our responsibilities towards vulnerable adults.

Arrangements are well under way for Lent and Easter, and we move forward celebrating the gospel and all God’s gracious gifts to us.

Mike Childs

Glentham

Church Contact: Mr T Faulkner 01673 818718

It continues to be a busy time at Glentham!

We were very fortunate to have our most recent Family Church service led by Malcolm Boot. The adults enjoyed lively and engaging worship on the theme of 'Giving Thanks' whilst the two children present took part in an activity loosely based on the Beatitudes. We discussed what kind of person Jesus wants us to be. The children then drew a self-portrait, placed it in a frame and decorated it with phrases such as 'be kind', 'be generous' and 'be caring'.

During our next Messy Church, toiletries will be collected for Harbour Place Day Centre in Grimsby. I always think this is so appropriate around the time of Valentine's Day that we should be encouraged to share our love in this way.

We have been lucky enough to enjoy two assemblies at school led by Peter and Jenny. The children really do look forward to these assemblies, enjoy taking part and gain a great deal from them.

Rachael Warren

Men's Breakfast

'The Crown Inn', Glentham

8th March at 9am

(every 2nd Saturday of the month!!)

Full English Breakfast £5.50 and free chat!!!

Please Phone Peter 01673 878806 & book your place!



Gringley

Church Contact: Mrs P Gray 01427 629250

Lea

Church Contact: Mrs M Lilley 01427 615933



Quiet Day

At the Middle Rasen Methodist Church
On Wednesday March 12th
10:30AM-3:00PM

GROWING OLDER WITH GOD;
MHA VALUES FOR EVERYONE

SPEAKER: BECKI STENNETT
CHAPLAIN, STONES PLACE METHODIST HOMES



Please bring a packed lunch

Morning Prayer

Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that You and I together can't handle. Amen.

- See more at: <http://www.prayers-for-special-help.com>

Market Rasen

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

Sunday Services; 10.45 a.m.; monthly evening service at 6.00p.m.
Weekday communion; First Friday in the month 10.00a.m.
Weekday activities & other events; See monthly Bulletin

The first Service in the month of January was led by Mr. Richard Aldrich who closed the Christmas celebrations with some of the less sung carols. The following week Mr. Malcolm Coates preached on the Baptism of Jesus. On the third Sunday, the 19th, Chapel members renewed their Covenant and Rev'd Andrew Lomax lead the service. The Service for Christian Unity organised by the New Life Church was held in the afternoon at 4 p.m. in the Salvation Army Citadel. The Speaker was Dr. Pete Atkins of Nettleham who spoke on the theme 'Is Christ Divided?'

The final service of the month was led by Mr. David Islip who preached on how meeting Jesus altered the life of Zacchaeus.

Weekly activities resumed after the Christmas break on 7th January when the Carpet Bowls Group resumed play. This is a group of about 12 people who turn up on Tuesday afternoons when they can and enjoy a game of Carpet Bowls. New members of the group are very welcome and no previous experience is necessary.

The Toddler Group returned on 8th January when 11 mums and children were present. The session includes free play when toys for ages 0 to 4+ are provided, this is followed by a healthy snack for the children and closes with singing. Children, Parents, Grandparents and Carers are very welcome to visit. At present our charges are £1.50 per family each session. The first taster session is free. **We do NOT meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month** as the Alzheimer's Support Group meet then.

On Thursday 9th the Watercolour Art Group resumed. For this term the time has been changed to 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. New members are welcome to join.

On Monday 13th January the Men's Group met at 7.30 p.m. The theme being 'Any Questions'.

The Ladies Group met on Tuesday 14th January to hear each other's Favourite Readings.

On Monday 10th March the Men's and Ladies Groups are combining to play Carpet Bowls.

A Youth Club started by the Circuit Youth Leaders, Elaine and Gareth, started on Wednesday 29th January at 7.00 p.m. when 11 young people turned up, the following week the numbers were 24. We wish the Youth Club every success in engaging with the local young people.

Dates for March include:

Friday 7th March at 11 a.m. Weekday Communion, followed by a Lent Lunch 12-1 p.m.

2.00 p.m. Women's World Day of Prayer will be held at St. Thomas Church.

The Speaker will be Rev'd Elaine Turner, the theme is 'Streams in the Dessert'

and has been prepared by the Christian women of Egypt. All Welcome Friday 14th March at 7.00 p.m. Frank McCaffrey in concert, Tickets £8 from 844214

Saturday 22nd March 7.30 p.m. Da Capo and Friends will be holding a Musical Celebration in memory of Helen Benson (a former member of Da Capo) with a retiring collection for the Radiotherapy Dept of Lincoln County Hospital.

Jenny Margetson

Count your blessings- Instead of your crosses
Count your gains - instead of your losses
Count your joys - instead of your woes
Count your friends - instead of your foes
Count your courage - instead of your fears
Count your laughs - instead of your tears
Count your full years - instead of your lean
Count your kind deeds - instead of your mean

Count your health - instead of your wealth
Count on God - instead of yourself

Marton

Church Contact: Mrs D Kitchinson 01427 718634

Our Chapel is now looking so lovely and welcoming we are all thrilled. We still have other work to do so we are still trying to raise money. Our Bible study group which meets on Mondays at 12.30 p.m.to 2.00 p.m. is still going well although it would be good to have a few more people to join us

We are looking forward to Saturday 22nd March when the Lincoln Fire & Rescue Band will be performing at Gainsborough Methodist Church at 7.30 p.m.

Our coffee mornings which are held on the last Wednesday of every month at 10.00 a.m. are more like a social gathering and we would welcome visitors.

We hope people around our new circuit are keeping free of floods and keeping warm.

With best wishes

Doris

Middle Rasen

Church Contact: Mrs A Surfleet 01673 843256

Spring is on its way - the days are getting longer and the snowdrops and crocuses are welcoming a new year. Everything is settling into the rhythm of life especially chapel. Parties and celebrations are now a thing of the past although some carried on into the New Year! Easter is not so far away. I wonder how many New Year resolutions were kept and what people are giving up for Lent?!

January began with the Rev. Anne leading the annual Covenant service and Pastoral visitors commissioning.

The Guild will come to the end of its winter programme at the end of March with a musical evening and with a Guild Service on March 16th. We have had some really good, interesting meetings both social, educational and devotional. Women's own continues throughout the year on a wednesday afternoon except for a short break in the Summer. They, too, have equally interesting talks. The Rev. David Post has spoken to both groups about his work and fundraising for St Georges in Bagdad which he has visited several times despite the danger there might be for him!
"Step Forward" continues to meet each month. The theme for this section of 4 weeks is "Worshipping God".

The following course may be of interest to some of you, although it may be a little late when you read this. It is held at Middle Rasen parish Church and is entitled "Listening for Life" (essential skills for a healthier world). Also in February, Colin Hare is leading the morning service at Chapel entitled "Workers of the World Unite" - a rather different service to usual as it is based entirely on "work" and those who are still working are invited to talk about their work-the good things about it and the challenges that they face.

We lost one of our dearest and oldest Church members at the end of January-Morris Abbott. Over the years he has done so much for the Church until illness took its toll. He would have been able to tell some interesting tales about when he was at work-as a driving school instructor!

Our hearts go out to all the flood victims - we are so lucky in this part of the country. Our prayers go out to them and hope they will soon see better times-although that is hard to imagine!

"Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase"

Martin Luther-King Jnr

Liz Margrave

Misterton

Church Contact: Mr S Bilton 01427 810866

Thurs. 10-11am coffee mornings, every week.

(During winter months, the coffee morning may be cancelled if weather is bad)

Womens Fellowship
Weds. 1st and 3rd week,
2pm

10 Interesting facts about daffodils:

1. The name 'daffodil' was first recorded in 1538. Even earlier it was called 'affodil'. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, "The initial d has not been satisfactorily accounted for".
2. Among other names, it is also known as jonquil, narcissus or Paperwhite.
3. In Victorian times, daffodils represented chivalry. Today they symbolise hope.
4. There is a skin disease sometimes found in florists known as "daffodil itch".
5. Daffodil bulbs are poisonous to squirrels.
6. There are more than 50 species and 25,000 varieties of daffodil.
7. Prince Charles is annually given one daffodil as rent for land on the Isles of Scilly.
8. Daffodils were brought to Britain by the Romans who thought the sap from them had healing powers.
9. In China, the daffodil is seen as a symbol of wealth and good fortune.
10. The only play by Shakespeare that mentions daffodils is The Winter's Tale, in which they appear twice in Act 4.

Nettleton

Church Contact: Mrs Jean Field 01472 852056

We had the pleasure of North Kelsey Worship Leaders for a Service recently. Midge, Jenny and June made us think about the phrase 'Come as you are'. What would you take and what would you leave behind???? It was a thought provoking afternoon as we pondered on these things.

Brian and I were attending the Christening of our Great-Grandson Finlay so we were not at the United Service held with our friends from St. John the Baptist, the Parish Church for Nettleton. Led by Rev. Andrew Lomax and Jan Healy it was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We welcomed Jane Lloyd to our next Service who took the Readings from 'The Message'. A modern way of looking at a familiar story. She spoke about being salt and light in this world and making a difference wherever we are.

Jean Field

Hold my Hand in Weakness

Lord God, you are my strength. Hold my hand in my weakness and teach my heart to fly. With you, there's nothing to fear, nothing to worry about. Hold me tight in your embrace, so that I can be stronger than the challenges in my life. Amen.

- See more at: <http://www.prayers-for-special-help.com>

North Kelsey

Church Contact: Mrs M Thomas 01652 678365

Those of us who took part in a "Messy Church" demonstration, led by Sarah, had a good time. Over a cuppa and cake, we talked about questions light and serious, posed on cards on the table. We sang songs and wiggled our wriggles away before listening to Bible stories. We attempted to create flowers with lollipop centres from red paper serviettes - (gifts to give away with love) – and

we ended with prayers. We now have to consider whether we can staff a monthly session run along these lines, with Sarah's leadership. Then all will depend on whether families are interested and free to come.

At the Village Quiz which I mentioned last month, our team did well, coming joint second.

Our Chapel Anniversary falls in March. Our Service is on the 15th when the preacher will be Mr Mervyn White. On Saturday 14th at 7pm there will be a concert followed by a buffet supper. The entertainment will be provided by Methodists from Brigg - a second performance of their highly acclaimed "Brigg's Got Talent."!! At one time North Kelsey was part of the Brigg Circuit and we are looking forward to seeing old friends again. Everyone is welcome. Tickets cost £6.00 and will be available from Midge.

It has proved difficult to sustain a house group throughout the year, but we are planning to meet during Lent. It is good to have some extra time to think ahead of Easter and we are glad that Anne will be able to share this time with us.

I think that is all our news for now and so I will close. May God hold us all in his love through the coming month.

Sylvia

Upton

Church Contact: Mrs J Fotheringham

As I start this article today, I have just read some of February's Link, and see that I mentioned the flood victims in that issue. I am about to do the same again. The sad fact is, that there are so many more people experiencing difficulties because of flooding and storm. We continue to pray for all who are in need at this time.

My husband Patrick and I have just waved off 2 of our grandchildren who have been for a sleep over, so we are feeling somewhat weary!!! Our other 2 grandsons arrive tomorrow, with their Mum for a couple of days as it is half term, so by next weekend we could be exhausted. In spite of this we love having them come and realise just how lucky we are. We often stop and count our many blessings, especially when we hear about the suffering of others. On with the Chapel news!!!!

Our monthly coffee mornings are up and running again, thanks mainly to a small team of dedicated workers ably led by Doris and Doreen. Future dates are:-

Wed. March 12th, and Wed. April 9th. Time :- 10-00am to 12-00 noon. All our welcome.

Tuesday 25th March will be the date for our next "Faith Café" at 2-00pm. We will be singing some Easter Hymns with a couple of new ones. It would be lovely to have you join us.

Mothering Sunday is on March 30th and our service will be led by Rev. Liz Childs at 10-30am.

For several years now we have had a "Good Friday Gathering" held at Chapel at 11-00am. This year we are organising the event ourselves and will be an informal service of readings and hymns, followed by hot cross buns and coffee. We have always had a good following from the circuit and are happy to welcome any newcomers. Good Friday falls on April 18th this year.

Upton Chapel would like to congratulate Marton Chapel on their bi-centenary year. May all your celebrations go well.

Wishing you safe and happy times as we head towards Spring, With love from all at Upton.

God Bless!!

Jennifer Fotheringham

WWDP – Streams in the Desert – Egypt – Friday 7th March 2014

The people of Egypt are starving, but unlike other countries this isn't headline news. Although they export Egyptian cotton and some vegetables their main income comes from tourism and since the Arab Spring and the problems with the Muslim Brotherhood nobody visits Egypt. It is thought to be too dangerous. Unlike the other Middle Eastern countries they don't have any oil. In Luxor the hotels are closed and the Nile Cruise boats are laid up 3 deep along the banks of the Nile.

The Egyptians thought that the Arab Spring would change their lives, give them more freedom. It was their hope for a new and better future. They never thought it would result in lack of work, lack of money, starvation and oppression. In Egypt Christians and Muslims have always got on very well together. Every business employs both Christians and Muslims. The Christians work Ramadan and the Muslims work Christmas and Easter.

Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood were backed by Qatar and the Western Governments. They had money and organisation which the rest of the opposition groups didn't. This is why they won the elections. Mohamed Morsi made all sorts of promises of more freedom before he came to power. Instead he took away their freedom especially from the Christians as the Muslim Brotherhood are anti-Christian.

Since the Arab Spring 20 Christian Churches have been destroyed and many Christians killed. To the majority of Egyptians this was wrong. The Christians were blamed by the Muslim Brotherhood for removing Mohamed Morsi. The Christians were so scared they start dressing like Muslims. Since Mohamed Morsi was removed from power the Army and the moderate Muslim Council have been helping to rebuild the Christian Churches.

The new constitution passed by a referendum at the end of January this year gives Christians more freedom. Freedom to worship and follow their religion openly. The Army is in control of Egypt and we in the West think this is bad, but the Egyptians welcome it. They have brought down the price of food and helped to create jobs. The majority of Egyptians are hoping that the head of the Army will be the next President.

I have close friends in Luxor and currently they are only surviving because of the money I send them. The beautiful English Rose garden at their house has been dug up to grow vegetables and they now keep chickens, so they have food to eat. They are hoping that 2014 will be a better year when the Tourists will come back to Egypt especially Luxor for their holidays.

I would ask you all to pray for the people of Egypt and to pray that Western Governments will understand that Egyptians don't want Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood to run the country. They want Muslims and Christians to live together in peace and harmony working together for a new and better future for Egypt.

Jo Johnston – Market Rasen Methodist Church

LINK WORDS – PUZZLE PAGE

A different kind of linking puzzle this month. It is the MEANING of the words that is important so all you have to do is find the connection.

E.g. FRUIT : CUTBACK (5)

Answer = PRUNE

1. LETTERS : ARMOUR (4)
2. FIREWOOD : RECORD (3)
3. NONSENSE : OPTIC LOTION (7)
4. LABOURER : CLOCK POINTER (4)
5. ROLLING HILL : FEATHERS (4)
6. BE FULL : HAT LIP (4)
7. EDIBLE TUBER : SOCK HOLE (6)
8. ICE BLADE : FISH (5)
9. PLAYING GROUP : BELT (4)
10. CLERGYMAN : GENERAL RULE (5)
11. SKIN DESIGN : MILITARY DISPLAY (6)
12. SUPPORTING ROLE : REMAIN (4)
13. BONE : HALF DIAMETER (6)
14. AIR : SET ENGINE (4)
15. UNYEILDING : COMPANY (4)
16. CLAY & WATER MIX : FIELDER (4)
17. PROTEST : PURPOSE : THING (6)
18. CD : LP : BLANK BOOK (5)
19. WINE : DISMISS : PLUNDER (4)
20. PAVING STONE : FLOWER : TIRE : STANDARD (4)

TINKER, TAILOR etc - WORDSEARCH

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

What grown-up job did you wish to do when a child? Did you realise your dream or choose something completely different? I wanted to be a librarian until my father disillusioned me and said that I wouldn't be reading books all day long. Above are 37 PROFESSIONS, CAREERS or JOBS including some crafts of yesteryear. So for a while, you can all be detectives.

Come workers for the Lord, and lift up heart and hand;
 Praise God, all skill at bench and board,
 Praise all that brain has planned,
 O God, our labour take, from spite and greed set free;
 May nothing that we do or make,
 Bring ill to man or Thee.

Norman Nicholson (H&P. 380)

MATERIAL MATTERS - ANSWERS

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. BARATHEA | 21. NET |
| 2. CALICO | 22. NYLON |
| 3. CANDLEWICK | 23. PIGSKIN |
| 4. CASHMERE | 24. PLUSH |
| 5. CHEESECLOTH | 25. POLYESTER |
| 6. CHINTZ | 26. POPLIN |
| 7. COTTON | 27. RAYON |
| 8. CREPE | 28. REP |
| 9. DENIM | 29. RUBBER |
| 10. ERMINE | 30. SHANTUNG |
| 11. FLANNEL | 31. SILK |
| 12. FLANNELETTE | 32. STRAW |
| 13. FUR | 33. SUEDE |
| 14. GAUZE | 34. TAFFETA |
| 15. GINGHAM | 35. TISSUE |
| 16. LACE | 36. TWEED |
| 17. LEATHER | 37. TWILL |
| 18. LINEN | 38. VELVET |
| 19. MOHAIR | 39. WOOL |
| 20. MUSLIN | 40. WORSTED |

CMS

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Please ensure all articles, for inclusion in the

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Kathy before; March 15th 2014