

Being Church

August 2026



Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ.

As a new month unfolds, it brings with it a wonderful chance to deepen our walk with the Lord and trust Him even more. Every day is filled with its own joys and challenges, but one thing remains steady—the Word of God remains unchanged. In a world that often shifts and changes opinions rapidly, it's so reassuring to know that God's view of us is always steady. He understands us completely and loves us perfectly. When we start seeing ourselves through His loving eyes, our hearts are filled with hope, peace, and confidence. If you've faced disappointment lately, or if life has been hectic and burdensome, remember that during these times, it's so important to pause and hold onto what God's Word says.

In the days leading up to my ordination, I was blessed to receive numerous cards and gifts to mark that special occasion. I particularly liked a little card tied to a gift bag. It had these words on one side: "God says you are...Loved, Chosen, Strong, Brave, Capable, and Unique" (see the attached image!), and a personal message from the sender on the other side. Although the card was given to me on a particular occasion, I think the words printed there speak to all of us. So, my words of reflection this month are based on the words printed in that little card.

God reminds us, "I have *loved* you with an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3). Before we accomplished anything or made our first mistake, God loved us. His love is not earned and is never taken away. It is a faithful love that welcomes us each morning and comforts us each night. God also calls us His *chosen* people (1 Peter 2:9). Imagine being personally invited into God's family! We are not strangers trying to earn a place in His kingdom—we are His children. He has chosen us to know Him, to serve Him, and to share His light with others. What an amazing privilege that is.

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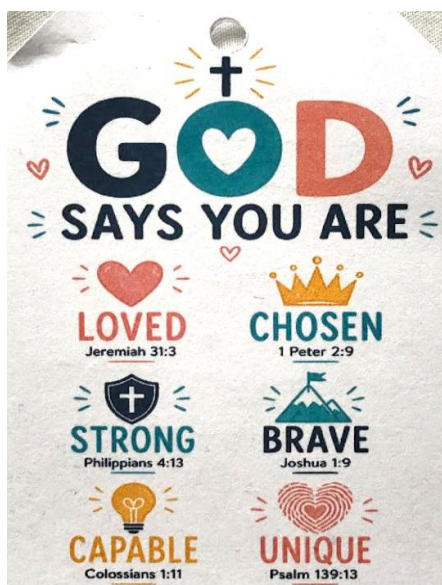
**Boston Spa - Clifford - Collingham - East Keswick - Tadcaster - Wetherby
Lower Wharfe (at Appleton Roebuck, Church Fenton & Ulleskelf)**

There will always be moments when we feel weak or uncertain. We all have days when we wonder whether we are enough. Yet Scripture gently reminds us, “I can do all things through Christ who *strengthens* me” (Philippians 4:13). Our confidence is not found in our own abilities but in Christ, who faithfully provides the strength we need for each step of the journey. When the future seems uncertain, God speaks words of courage to our hearts. “*Do not be afraid...*for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). Those words encouraged Joshua centuries ago and they still encourage us today. We can face tomorrow because we never face it alone.

God also equips us for the work He gives us to do. Colossians 1:11 reminds us that His glorious power strengthens us with endurance and patience. Whether our calling is to care for our families, encourage a friend, serve in our church, or simply show kindness to a neighbour, God makes us *capable* through His strength. Finally, Psalm 139 paints a beautiful picture of God’s loving care in creating each one of us. We are not copies of someone else. We are wonderfully made by our Creator, each with our own gifts, personality, and purpose. Our *uniqueness* is not something to hide—it is something to thank God for.

As we journey through this month, let us hold fast to these wonderful truths. When doubts whisper that you are not enough, remember what your Heavenly Father says instead. You are loved. You are chosen. You are strong through Christ. You are brave because He is with you. You are capable because He empowers you. You are unique because He created you with care. May these promises stay with you throughout the weeks ahead, bringing comfort in difficult moments, courage in uncertain times, and joy as you continue to walk faithfully with the Lord. His Word is true yesterday, today, and forever—and so is His love for you.

Yours in Christ’s Service, *Abi*



A Message from Paula Tweddle: Moving Into a New Season

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news that I will be stepping down from my roles as **Circuit Lay Pastor** and **Safeguarding Officer**.

Making this decision has not been easy, and as I reflect on this transition, I am reminded of the words in Ecclesiastes 3:1: *"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."*

While I feel sad to be leaving these specific roles, it has become clear that continuing in them is no longer sustainable for me, and stepping back is the right choice for my family. Yet, as one chapter closes, I hold on to the promise that God goes before us into new beginnings.

My time serving as Circuit Lay Pastor and Safeguarding Officer has been an immense blessing. It has taught me so much about resilience, community, and the quiet ways God works behind the scenes. Walking alongside you all has deepened my faith in ways I never expected, showing me the true beauty of a supportive Christian fellowship.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone in the Tadcaster Circuit for your unwavering support, encouragement, and kindness during my time in these roles. You have truly been the hands and feet of Christ to me.

What Lies Ahead

Although I am stepping down from these positions, I am not disappearing! Please note that a vacancy for the Circuit Safeguarding Officer role will be advertised shortly, and I encourage you to keep the Circuit leadership and the right future candidate in your prayers.

I will continue in my roles as **Pastoral Secretary** and **Lead for Junior Church in Wetherby**.

I will also be stepping alongside Ann to support her with upcoming **safeguarding training**.

Thank you once again for your warmth, grace, and understanding as my family and I step into this next season.

With love and prayers, **Paula x**

PRAYER

Keith Hartrick hosts a weekly **Circuit Prayer Meeting** on **Zoom Every Tuesday, 9.30am – 10am (join from 9.15am)** all are invited to join us. *Please contact Keith for the Zoom log on details.*

Prayer meetings at **Wetherby** in the Quiet Room every Wednesday 10.00am & **Tadcaster** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 9.15am

WORSHIP

For Sunday service see the Circuit Plan, copies are available in our buildings or visit:

www.tadcastercircuit.org.uk/our-preaching-plan



ALPHA COURSE

Volunteers from Boston Spa Methodist Church led the Alpha Course earlier this year. If other churches in the Circuit would like to try running a course, please contact Brian Marsden for support and more information: xantern@aol.com. For further details about the course: alpha.org.uk



VACANCIES

If you, or anyone you know are interested, please speak to Rev Ann.

- Circuit Steward (s) - **URGENT**
- Circuit Data Compliance Officer
- Foundation Safeguarding Trainer
- Circuit Property Secretary
- Circuit Safeguarding Officer

If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Sep '26** issue of **Being Church**, please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 14 Aug.** Thank you - tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

Tadcaster Circuit Diary

2 Sep (Wed) 2.30pm at Wetherby: U3A History of Wetherby – Almost Forgotten

11 Sep (Fri) 12noon at Boston Spa: Lunch & Concert at 1pm

12 Sep (Sat) 10am to 12.30pm at Tadcaster: Harvest Festival & Open Door Cafe

19 Sep (Sat) 2.30pm at Church Fenton: Afternoon Tea

200 Years Celebration Diary

- **September:** Church Fenton: 19 Sep (Sat) at 2.30pm: Afternoon Tea £10 per person which will need to be booked in advance.
- **October:** Wetherby: 17 Oct (Sat) Elysian singers
- **December:** East Keswick: 4 Dec (Fri) Circuit Advent Quiz

Please check the regular events page is up to date for your church & see poster about Foundation Safeguarding training dates.

District Diary (please hold these in your prayers)

28 Aug (Fri) We are excited to be welcoming the Revd Romeo Pedro as our New District Chair on the 28th of August, 7pm at Trinity Harrogate. If you are planning on joining us in person, please use the booking link

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/welcome-service-for-revd-romeo-pedro-tickets-1990764659687?aff=oddttdtcreator

We will also be streaming this service. Here is the streaming link -

www.youtube.com/live/ojesMFtAtwo?si=SOdhWURID69nObMM



The poster features a photograph of Revd Romeo Pedro, a man with white hair and glasses, wearing a black clerical shirt, speaking at a wooden podium with a microphone. The background is a red and white geometric design. The text on the poster includes:

- REVD ROMEO PEDRO** (in large white capital letters)
- Welcome Service** (in large white italicized letters)
- FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST | 7:00PM** (in white capital letters on a red rectangular background)
- Livestream from
Trinity Methodist Church, Harrogate (in white text)
- Welcoming our new District Chair
in Yorkshire North & East (in white text)
- A circular logo for the **Yorkshire North & East Methodist District** (featuring a red cross on a white background)
- A **YouTube LIVE** logo (with a red play button icon)

Circuit News August 2026

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Revd Abi Alex, who was ordained at All Saints Wellington on Sunday, 28 July 2026. It was a privilege for us to share in your testimony service and our Ordination celebrations. Every blessing on your ministry among us and in the future.

Photo: Revd Abi Alex & Past-President Revd Ken Howcroft



Bible Study

A Bible Study for Local Preachers: Tuesday 15 September 7pm at Wetherby, contact Rev Ann.

Collingham Bible Study - Contact David Layock

Tadcaster Bible Study: This is ongoing and open to the whole Circuit. We have been studying the book of Esther and have the second half of the book to focus on. You are welcome to join us on Friday, 4 September 1.30pm. Contact Rev Ann.

Ulleskelf Bible Study: First Monday of every month, 2pm. The group meets at Ulleskelf Village Hall and all are welcome. Contact Rev Abi.

Circuit Mission Group

Meets on Wednesday 28 October 7pm, contact Rev Ann.

200 Years Celebration

A Big Thank You to everyone who attended our Circuit 200 Years Celebration Service with Revd Leslie Newton. It was a joyful, uplifting event, and thank you to Boston Spa for arranging the BBQ lunch. Tadcaster received a few more 'hands' to add to the Circuit Banner! If you haven't yet added yours, please contact Maureen Dixon at Tadcaster.



The total raised from the collection for our Circuit Charity, 'The Millie Wright Children's Charity' was £155, thank you.

Zimbabwe Bound!

Rev Ann Fox and myself are taking an opportunity provided by Tearfund to join a group visiting Zimbabwe from the 4th to the 11th October 2026. As many of you will be aware, Tearfund is a Christian charity working alongside those in poverty to bring real hope in over 50 countries of the world where conflict, climate change and injustice hold people back.

We fly overnight via Johannesburg to arrive in Bulawayo, which is the second largest city behind the capital Harare. Bulawayo, in Southwest Zimbabwe, is Zimbabwe's principal industrial centre, and has a population of about 750,000 people. We will be joining some of Tearfund's urban church partners in the first couple of days there, looking at Tearfund's work in the city.

The itinerary for the remainder of the trip will see us meeting with local people in rural regions around Nkayi first and then Hwange. In these areas Tearfund has been employing its well proven Church and Community Transformation strategies. Tearfund trains and supports local churches to reach out into their communities in order to identify basic needs, and then to mobilise local people with suitable support, to transform the situation. The aim is to create long term change which translates to hope eg dealing with harvest failure, lack of jobs or investment, or a need for improved healthcare, and so on.

We would value your prayers that this visit will go as planned as the itinerary is quite tight, and there are some long distances to be covered by roads of very varying quality. Pray also that the trip will help to further link our churches and people here with those in a developing country, and lead to increased support for Tearfund.

Alan Bell



Boston Spa Festival

11th-12th July 2026



Once again Boston Spa Methodist Church played an active role in the Boston Spa Festival weekend.

Our ever-popular literary lunch on the Saturday featured guest author, Karen Charlton, who entertained an audience of almost 70, explaining how she started her career as an international, best-selling crime novelist. This was followed by a superb lunch produced by our wonderful catering team.

The following day we started with a Songs of Praise Service featuring favourite hymns selected by members of the congregation. After a ploughman's lunch, there was an opportunity for all to try their hand at table tennis, and this attracted many youngsters keen to test their skills against the ball training machine.

All in all a wonderful weekend, thanks to a great team effort.



Christians Together & Boston Spa

The picture shows Revd Abi Alex presenting a cheque for £964 to St John's Catholic Specialist School in Boston Spa, on behalf of the Christians Together Group in Boston Spa and Villages. Representatives of the other churches are also pictured. The Christians Together Group had organised 'an evening with Paul Whittaker' last February, to raise funds for the school.



Circuit Archives

There are a number of documents around the Circuit that require archiving. Before any documents are handed over, I would like you to carefully consider whether they do in fact need archiving:

- First, please consult the '**Retention Schedule for Managing Trustees**' which can be found by clicking on the link below and scrolling down to 'Under other useful documents'. www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/office-holders/archivists
- If you are not the official holder of Minutes etc (e.g. not the secretary of a committee) then we will not need your copies. As is mentioned in the Retention Schedule, weed out any documents that do not need to be kept or archived.
- If you are holding any historical items/photos, consider keeping them on your church premises (possibly in a locked cabinet/cupboard) if you will be needing them in the near future, e.g. for a special church anniversary (we have a few coming up).
- For any Safeguarding records, please consult the Retention Schedule and speak to Paula, Circuit Safeguarding Officer.
- For any Financial records, please consult the Retention Schedule and speak to Sue, Circuit Treasurer.
- If you do have items that need archiving, please contact me by email and I will send you a form for you to schedule the documents. I do not want your documents at this stage. You need to consult the Retention Schedule first as stated above and weed out your documents. **Please let me know and complete a form of schedule by the end of September.**
- I will then make enquiries of the County Archives Office. Once I have their confirmation that they will take the items, then I will arrange for collection.

Thank you, Rev Ann ann.fox@methodist.org.uk



TADCASTER METHODIST CIRCUIT

SAFEGUARDING FOUNDATION MODULE

TRAINING DATES

Calling new office holders and those who completed the Foundation Module 4 years ago

Two training dates have already been held for those who need to undertake the Foundation Module.

If you missed them, we are pleased to say that two additional dates are available.

Please book onto the course asap.

These are the last dates for the foreseeable future.

**Thursday 3 September 7-9pm
at Tadcaster Methodist Church**

- or -

**Saturday 19 September 10am-12n
at Tadcaster Methodist Church**

Please register on one of these dates with

Paula Tweddle
Circuit Safeguarding Trainer
Paula.Tweddle2022@outlook.com

***Please pass on this information around your church
Thank you***

Tadcaster Circuit – Creating a Safer Space for All



Boston Spa Methodist Church

Lunchtime Concert

1pm, Friday 11th September 2026



Adele Bracegirdle
Flute



Ben Attfield, Piano

TICKETS £6
Light lunches served from 12 noon

ENQUIRIES: 0113 268 2041

Tadcaster Methodist Church Harvest Festival

Join us on

Saturday 12th September

10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Open Door Cafe

serving bacon rolls, coffee and tea
as we prepare the Harvest table

Any produce welcome



Sunday 13th September

10.15 am for Harvest Praise

Led by the Worship Leaders

Afternoon Tea

AT
**CHURCH FENTON
METHODIST CHURCH**

☕ **SAT 19 SEP**

🕒 **2.30PM**

🎫 **TICKETS £10**

AVAILABLE THROUGH
Margaret Miles
07384706479

**Lower Wharfe Methodist
Church in Church Fenton**



All are welcome to
the café church held

on the 3rd Sunday
of every month

led by Anita Metcalfe

(currently listed as LA on the plan)

Tadcaster Methodist Church

Come along to a
Community Lunch

At 12 noon on the second
Thursday of the month



Soup and roll, dessert, tea or coffee

£5 (suggested donation)

All are welcome



HISTORY u3a
learn, laugh, live

OF WETHERBY

A Group of 3 Illustrated Talks

Wednesday 24th June

Wetherby Coaching Inns

Michael Astrop

Tuesday 28th July

**I'll Bet You Didn't Know
That About Wetherby**

Victor Hawkins

Wednesday 2nd September

Almost Forgotten

**Victorian & Edwardian Movers & Shakers in
Wetherby**

Lesley Newnham

**All at Wetherby Methodist
Church at 2.30pm – free entry**

Limited Seating – so get there early

Followed by refreshments



LOWER WHARFE METHODIST CHURCH
TADCASTER METHODIST CIRCUIT

**EXPLORE THE
BIBLE TOGETHER**

Join us for a friendly Bible study over
Coffee and Cake.

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH | 2 PM

Ulleskelf Village Hall
Main St, Ulleskelf, Tadcaster
LS24 9DU

For information, contact Revd Abi Alex
Tel: 01937 364489
Email: abi.alex@methodist.org.uk



Regular Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Monday (weekly)	10.45am	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Monday (weekly)	2.30pm	Ping-Pong	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	5.00pm	Senior Table Tennis	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	7.30pm	Badminton	Wetherby
Monday (1st)	2pm	Bible Study & cake	Ulleskelf village hall
Monday (1st & 3rd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	East Keswick
Monday (2nd)	10.30am-12noon	Bacon Brunch	Collingham
Monday (4th)	10.30am-12noon	Coffee & Chat	Collingham
Tuesday (weekly)	9.30-10.00am	Circuit Prayer Gathering	Zoom
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00-11.30am	Coffee Stop	Tadcaster
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00-11.30am	Tuesday Coffee	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00am	Flower Club	Boston Spa
Tuesday (1st)	2.00-4.00pm	Flowers & Friends	Collingham
Tuesday (1st & 3rd)	9.15-10.00am	Prayer Group	Tadcaster
Tuesday (1st & 3rd)	2.00-4.00pm	Craft Get Together	Church Fenton
Tuesday (2nd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	Ulleskelf
Tues (3rd) not Aug/Sep	7.00pm	Tuesday Speakers	Church Fenton
Tuesday (4th)	1.00pm	Community Soup Lunch	Ulleskelf
Wednesday (weekly)	10.00am-12noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	10.30am-12noon	Chapel Coffee Pot	Appleton Roebuck
Wednesday (weekly)	10.00-10.30am	Prayer Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	11.15am-12.15pm	Coffee at t' Crown	Crown Hotel Boston Spa
Wednesday (weekly)	7.00pm	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Wednesday (irregular)	contact Wetherby	House-Group	contact Wetherby
Wednesday (1st)	2.00-4.00pm	Knit & Natter	Tadcaster
Wednesday (1st)	2pm	Communion in the Box	Box Tree Ct, B Spa
Wednesday (2nd & 4th)	contact Wetherby	Gentlemen Bootbashers	contact Wetherby
Thursday (1st)	12noon	Community Soup Lunch	Church Fenton
Thursday (2nd)	12noon	Community Soup Lunch	Tadcaster
Thursday (1st)	12noon	Souper Thursday	East Keswick
Friday (1st)	10.00-11.30am	Teddy Praise	Collingham
Saturday (weekly)	10.00-12noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Saturday (2nd)	2.00-3.30pm	Charity Coffee Afternoon	Church Fenton

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