

# Being Church

June 2026



Dear Friends,

*'Having as we do, gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them.'* (Romans 12 v 6 NKJV)

I was once told that I had *'the gift of the gab'* – I don't think that it was meant as a compliment but it set me thinking. I suspect that if I asked most people reading this *'do you have particular gifts?'*, most would say modestly *'no, not me!'* The Bible however is absolutely clear about two

things:

1. We do, every one of us, have very particular gifts – indeed there may be situations or times where **we are the only ones with that particular gift.**
2. We can choose whether or not to use the gift – but, if we don't, then the work Jesus has given us to do with those we love and those amongst whom we live, won't get done. No pressure then!

Scattered through the New Testament, you'll find a fantastically wide range of gifts:

- Teaching, preaching and guiding
- Administration (in modern terms that could be book-keeping / Minute-taking)
- Listening – one of the most under-estimated gifts
- Manual skills (or organising others)
- Cooking and cleaning (serving others)
- Encouraging (just think how the crowds at the London Marathon help those who are struggling!)
- Leadership
- Peacemaking (needed more that you might think in the Church!)
- Prayer

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

---- and many others! Nobody has all of the gifts, **but nobody has none of them.** In the parable of the talents and the instruction 'not to hide your light under a bushel', Jesus is clear that if we want to be his followers, we have to find the best ways to use the gifts which we already have.

There's a lady I visit (I won't embarrass her by naming her!) who is largely housebound, with failing eyesight – not the best circumstances to use her gifts? Don't you believe it! She is an absolute inspiration, sharing care, smiles and wisdom with carers, family, friends and even Hospital Chaplains.

The summer months are often relatively quiet in the life of the Church. This could be the ideal time to reflect on our gifts – what are they and are we using them as we should? Where are they best used? Maybe the gift you're best known for isn't the one you should be using right now. So, over the summer, if you find yourself sitting by a pool, climbing a hill, or just taking a quiet 5 minutes, ask yourself – *'what are my gifts – and how can I use them for Jesus?'*

To finish, there was a good quote I saw recently – *'It's not how much you have that matters to Jesus, it's **what you do with what you have**'.*

**Have a good summer!**

*Donald*



## **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](mailto:xantern@aol.com). For further details about the course: [alpha.org.uk](http://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

## 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 and at **Clifford** every Tuesday 9.40am

## WORSHIP

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

[www.tadcastercircuit.org.uk/our-preaching-plan](http://www.tadcastercircuit.org.uk/our-preaching-plan)



## Boston Spa REQUEST

Boston Spa has offered to host a BBQ after the Circuit service 19th July. We are already looking at catering (it won't be cordon bleu, if anyone asks!) Can churches give an estimate of the numbers likely to attend, please? We need numbers by the end of June, please. Many thanks, Val Woodhams



Boston Spa **Methodist Church**

# Literary Lunch

11.45am, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2026



This year we welcome  
**Karen Charlton**

International best-selling  
writer of historical crime  
fiction

The Heiress of Linn Hagh is  
the first in the series of eight  
Detective Lavender Mysteries

Tickets **£20 to include lunch**  
available from: Jo Vernon on 07963 660621  
or from Monroe Estate Agents (cash only)  
[www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk)



3 July 11.00-15.00

## Filey Methodist Church

### “Play, Talk and Walk”

A summer gathering to play  
beetle/butterfly, tell stories, and/or  
go for a walk.

Bring a game to play, and a packed  
lunch. Afternoon tea to be provided by  
the Filey women.

A donation of £5 on the day.

To help with catering please let  
Anne Kirkham ([anne.kirkman@icloud.com](mailto:anne.kirkman@icloud.com)) or  
Janice Clark ([clark.janice@gmail.com](mailto:clark.janice@gmail.com))  
know of how many women plan to come  
by 25 June .

## Joseph Laurence's Legacy lives on in East Keswick!

On Sunday 17th May we celebrated our 135th Anniversary and, following our service, planted and dedicated a flowering cherry tree to replace the Portuguese laurel which had slowly been dying.

The laurel was believed to have been planted when the building was opened on Easter Monday 1891 to commemorate the life and vision of Joseph Laurence.



Born in East Keswick in 1819, Joseph Laurence followed in his father's footsteps as a village schoolmaster. But his calling extended far beyond the classroom and with deep faith, compassion and determination he founded what became known as the Laurence Academy in Moor Lane, East Keswick.

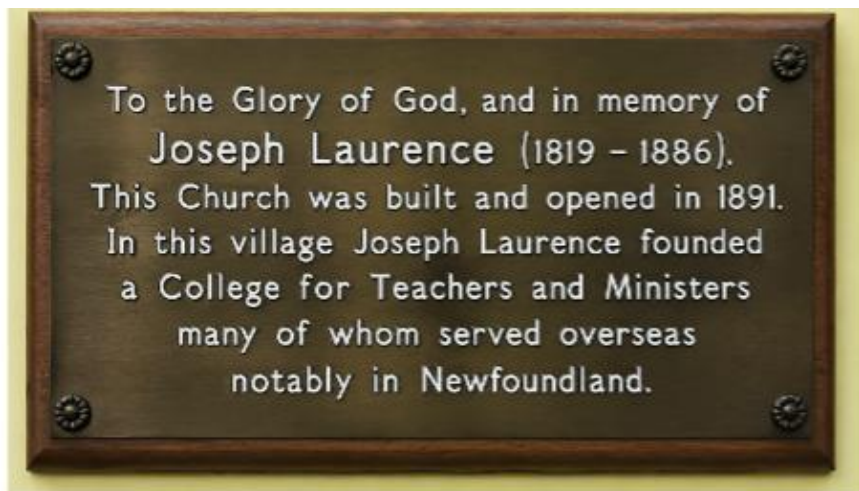
From this small Yorkshire village, he trained young men for ministry, teaching, and missionary service - many of whom went on to serve Christ across the world in Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Newfoundland. Many could never have afforded such training, but Joseph Laurence quietly supported them from his own resources, believing that no calling should be limited by poverty.

In the Archives & Special Collections at Memorial University of Newfoundland, there is a large Victorian leather-bound album which was presented to Joseph Laurence shortly before his death by the Newfoundland Methodist Conference.

It contains 168 original photographs with scenes of Newfoundland communities, Methodist clergy gatherings, missionaries, schoolteachers, and local communities. The archive specifically notes that some photographs include students from the Laurence Academy in East Keswick. The album was kept at East Keswick Methodist Church until 1964, when it was sent to Newfoundland for preservation.

Beginning in 1875, the Newfoundland Methodist Conference recorded in their annual minutes thanks to Joseph Laurence for: “procuring and forwarding... so many candidates for our Ministry.” The same acknowledgement continues, in the minutes, for every year from 1875 to 1887. Then after Laurence’s death, the Conference recorded: “Our church in this colony owes a debt of gratitude...” When Joseph Laurence died in 1886, his former students wanted his legacy to live on.

Through their love, gratitude, and faith, the Joseph Laurence Memorial Chapel was built in his memory and opened on Easter Monday 1891.



To preserve the memory and concept of new life we chose an Ichiyo flowering cherry tree to be planted and dedicated, so preserving the fruit of that vision.

At maturity, the tree will be up 5 metres tall and have a spread of 3 metres. Not many of us will see it fully mature, however it symbolises the renewal of life and faith that is a fundamental part of our life as Christian witnesses in East Keswick.



If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Jul '26** issue of **Being Church**, please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 12 Jun.** Thank you - [tadcastercircuit@gmail.com](mailto:tadcastercircuit@gmail.com)

## **Tadcaster Circuit Diary**

- 6 Jun** (Sat) 10am to 12.30 at Tadcaster: Open Door Cafe
- 6 Jun** (Sat) 10am to 2pm at Wetherby: Eco Fair
- 7 Jun** (Sun) 5 pm at Clifford: Tadcaster Circuit Anniversary event - The Shiremen followed by church anniversary service
- 7 Jun** (Sun) 6.30pm at Appleton Roebuck Chapel Anniversary, founded in 1818. Led by Eileen Clarkson
- 12 Jun** (Fri) 12noon at Boston Spa: Lunch followed by Concert at 1pm: Sax Forte
- 18 Jun** (Thu) 2.30-4.30pm at Collingham: Quiz & Raffle, £6pp

See poster for U3A events taking place at Wetherby at the end of June

**Tadcaster Fortnightly Prayer meetings April to June 2026:** Due to other commitments, our four prayer group leaders are likely to be unavailable for most of the Tuesdays over the next three months and, as a consequence, we have therefore decided to temporarily suspend our prayer meetings over the coming quarter, from April onwards. Our usual 9.15 meetings, held in the Coffee Lounge on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, will commence again from Tuesday 7th July.

**Please check the regular events page is up to date for your church**

## **District Diary (please hold these in your prayers)**

**1-3 June:** Superintendents Conference at Blackpool (Rev Ann)

**14 June:** District Ordinand's Testimony Service at 3pm, Wesley Chapel, Harrogate (Rev Abi)

**28 June:** Reception into Full Connexion and Ordination of Revd Abi Alex (subject to Conference). Join worship at Wetherby or Tadcaster 10.30am for live-streaming of Conference Worship, and at Tadcaster 4pm for the live-streaming of the Ordination Service. Please continue to pray for Rev Abi and celebrate with him on this wonderful occasion.

## **Leaving Service for Revd Leslie Newton**

You are invited to join the service on 19th July at 3pm at Acomb Methodist Church, to thank God for the ministry that Leslie has offered the Yorkshire North and East District, and send him to his new appointment. If you are planning to join, please respond by completing the form on the [RSVP](#) link. Many thanks. [RSVP](#)

## Circuit News June 2026

### **Bible Study**

- A Bible Study for Local Preachers: future dates, 7pm Wetherby – Thursday 25 June, Tuesday 21 July. Contact Rev Ann.
- Collingham Bible Study. Contact David Laycock.
- Tadcaster Bible Study: This is ongoing and open to the whole Circuit. We have been studying Philippians (Bible Month) and have the last chapter to focus on. You are welcome to join us on Friday 26 June 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 Reflection – Moving Forward in Faith**

Join us at a special Circuit Meeting on Monday 8 June 7pm at Boston Spa. Business: to follow-up the conversation held at the Circuit Vision meeting.

### **LWP Walk**

Saturday 20 June, Ripon – contact Andrew Marshall.

### **Installation of Vicar of East Keswick & Bardsey**

Tuesday 30 June 7pm, All Hallows, Bardsey, Installation of Revd Paul Richardson.

### **200 Years Celebration Diary**

- **June:** Clifford: 7 Jun (Sun) at 5pm musical concert: The Shiremen
- **July:** Boston Spa: Circuit Celebration Service on Sunday, 19 July 2026, preacher Revd Leslie Newton, Chair of District, with a BBQ afterwards
- **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

If any churches would like to host an event, there is space in August or November.



12<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am

# Songs of Praise

as part of the Boston Spa Festival  
led by our Worship Leaders

Boston Spa Methodist Church

Boston Spa Festival 2026  
Weekend Festival  
18-20 June 2026

Join us for Afternoon Tea,

Quiz and raffle!!!

Thursday

18<sup>th</sup> June

2.30 - 4.30 pm

Collingham Methodist Chapel

£6.00 per person, Please book with Denny on  
01937 520497



## 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](http://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](mailto:ann.fox@methodist.org.uk)

## Date for your diary:

Welcome Service for Revd Romeo Pedro, as Chair of Yorkshire North & East District, Friday 28 August 7pm, venue to be confirmed.

Revd Romeo Regardo Pedro will be taking up the role of District Chair from the 1st of September 2026 for a period of six years (subject to conference). Romeo is currently serving as Superintendent of the Sheffield Circuit. He has served in a variety of ministerial contexts both in the UK, Namibia and Cape Town. Through the discernment process it became clear that Romeo had a clear call to this role, and will be able to help the District continue to grow from where we are now and respond to the leading of God's Spirit.

**Tadcaster Methodist Church**

**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.00 am to 12.30 pm**

# Open Door Cafe

serving bacon butties  
toasted teacakes  
tea and coffee



Join us for a cuppa and a chat,  
all are welcome

# WETHERBY ECO FAIR

**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am - 2pm**

**Wetherby Methodist Church**

[tinyurl.com/ecofair2026](http://tinyurl.com/ecofair2026)

**Local community groups' stalls**

**Eco-friendly products**

**Talks**

Find out about the state of our rivers  
Learn about food waste Leeds City Council trial

**Kids' eco activities**

**Refreshments**



The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest funder for the UK's heritage. Using money raised by National Lottery players we support projects that connect people and communities to heritage. Our vision is for heritage to be valued, cared for and sustained for everyone, now and in the future. From historic buildings, our industrial legacy and the natural environment, to collections, traditions, stories and more. Heritage can be anything from the past that people value and want to pass on to future generations. We believe in the power of heritage to ignite the imagination, offer joy and inspiration, and to build pride in place and connection to the past.

**Clifford Methodist Church**

Concert by  
**'The Shiremen'**  
at 5pm



followed by tea & biscuits  
and Church Anniversary  
Service at 6.30pm



**Sunday**

**7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026**



**Boston Spa Methodist Church**

# Lunchtime Concert

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026, at 1pm**

*Sax forte*



**Saxophone Quartet**

TICKETS £6  
Light lunches served from 12 noon

**ENQUIRIES: 0113 268 2041**



**HISTORY** u3a  
learn, laugh, live

## OF WETHERBY

A Group of 3 Illustrated Talks

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

### **Wetherby Coaching Inns**

Michael Astrop

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

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

Victor Hawkins

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

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**

**Lower Wharfe Methodist  
Church in Church Fenton**



**All are welcome to  
the café church held**

**on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
of every month**

**led by Anita Metcalfe**

**(currently listed as LA on the plan)**



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](mailto: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
<del>Tuesday (1st &amp; 3rd)</del>	<del>9.15-10.00am</del>	<del>Prayer Group</del>	<del>Tadcaster</del>
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 (last)	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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