



Being Church

December 2024



Dear friends,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ.

December is perhaps the busiest month of the year for many of us. And for good reason. The churches are preparing to host seasonal services this month – Advent Sundays, Carols, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and many more. Some of us are preparing to lead those services, while others are waiting to attend and join the celebrations. Things are pretty much the same if we narrow down the circle. Think about yourself and your families. We are busy making plans for Christmas shopping, decorating the home, exchanging gifts, family gatherings, and writing Christmas cards.

With this busyness in December, I fear that there might be a tendency for us to be *inward* focussed. The celebrations might become all about *us* or *ours*. My family. My church. My celebrations. My happiness. What about those outside our immediate circles? Outside our church, and outside our family. That one person who is sleeping rough down the street. That child with no hot meal living just around the corner of your house. That neighbour spending Christmas alone. I invite you to consider them too at some point in your celebrations this December. Perhaps, invite them over to watch a Christmas movie; welcome them to your Christmas dinner; extend your invitation to a Christmas service at the church; or simply spend some time with them. A thoughtful and intentional *outward* focus.



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

The message of Christmas is “Immanuel, God with us” (Matthew 1:23). Indeed, it is a reason to celebrate in all its grandeur. Jesus in a manger—a tiny light—having been born to dispel the darkness of the world. That light gives us, as followers of Christ, the vision when we are in darkness; the strength when we are weak; but, above all, the faith to see us and others as God sees them. And the task is ours to shine that light for others. The second stanza in the renowned carol “O Holy Night” begins like this:

“Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace.” I think these lines perfectly sum up the message for us this season.

So, let us intentionally make some space for the *outsider* in our celebrations this December.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Abi



FAIRTRADE

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Fairtrade mark. Supermarkets are not stocking our goods so our online shop is the only place where you can buy our full range. Click the links below to view products or go straight to our [shop here](#).

PRAYER

Local Pastor Eileen 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 Eileen for the Zoom log on details.*

*Plus, 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 [via this link](#).

East Keswick Friends & Fellowship

A 'Friends and Fellowship' group has recently started at East Keswick Methodist Church on the 2nd Monday of every month. Besides having a time of crafts, quizzes and conversation, after a mid-way tea and cake break, we then have a time of reflection and devotion concluding with a prayer. These afternoons are very enjoyable. Our reflections so far have included thoughts about, Abigail, Rahab, and Naomi. Most of us have heard about Naomi, but what about Abigail? A real treasure, a 'Peacemaker' from the Old Testament, and often forgotten about.

The photos show the group creating an Iris folding Christmas card, and everyone pleased with their achievements! Do come along if you are ever free on the 2nd Monday afternoon at 2pm, and want to meet old friends, make new ones, and have a fun filled afternoon!



Collingham Bacon Brunch

It was great to see a full room of friends gathering for the Bacon Brunch on the 2nd Monday in November at Collingham Methodist church.

These Brunch mornings are beginning to become very popular, and the keen eyes amongst you will see someone nipped in from across the border!

Everyone is welcome of course. We have a raffle as well as the very tasty bacon sarnie, good conversation and a most enjoyable time.

Sometimes money raised is for CMC and at other times for a charity.

Thank you to everyone who helps with these mornings.



If you have something you wish to highlight in the **January'24** issue of **Being Church** (or the diary), please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 20 December**. Thank you.
tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

Tadcaster Circuit Diary

- 29 Nov** (Fri) Wetherby: Christmas Concert from 7-9.15pm (see poster)
- 30 Nov** (Sat) East Keswick: Children's Christmas Craft from 2-3.30pm (see poster)
- 1 Dec into the New Year:** Clifford: Advent Window Displays (best seen in the dark)
- 1 Dec** (Sun) Tadcaster: Shoebox Nativity Display from 10am to 3pm (see poster)
- 5 Dec** (Thu) Lidgett, York: MWiB Advent event
- 10 Dec** (Tue) Church Fenton: Craft Get Together from 1.30 to 3.30pm
- 11 Dec** (Wed) Tadcaster: Bible Study (Paul's Missionary Journeys) at 10am
- 12 Dec** (Thu) East Keswick: Carol Service around the crib at 7pm
- 13-15 Dec** Boston Spa: Christmas Tree Festival (see poster)
15 Dec at 6pm: Carol Service
- 14 Dec** (Sat) Wetherby: Christmas Fayre from 10am to 1pm (see poster)
- 16 Dec** (Mon) Appleton Roebuck: Carols by Candlelight at 7pm
- 17 Dec** (Tue) Tadcaster: Cafe Prayer (Christmas Carols) at 11am
- 17 Dec** (Tue) Ulleskelf: Carol Service at 7pm
- 18 Dec** (Wed) Church Fenton: Carol Service at 7pm

Save the date - 2025:

- **11, 18 & 25 Feb** (Mon) Revive us again - 7pm by Zoom, contact Revd Ann Fox
- **26 Mar** (Wed) Songs of Praise - 7:30pm at Wetherby MC (Andrew Marshall)

District Diary

Save the date: 13-15 Feb, 2026 Flourish at University of York "Woven Threads"

Christmas Shoebox

A good number of members and friends, from Collingham and East Keswick, gathered for a 'Christmas Shoebox' morning in October.

Everyone enjoyed filling the children's shoeboxes with lots of 'goodies' which had been generously donated. Also friends from Lower Wharfe Ulleskelf had sent various items, especially hand knitted hats and scarves etc., to be included which was much appreciated.

Altogether 44 filled boxes, plus a donation of £80 and extra resources to be used in other boxes, were delivered to Margaret in Church Fenton, when on a later date would be collected. We pray for all the children in Romania who receive a box and hope they know they are loved.

A tremendous effort, so thank you everyone.



Additional Services information and changes to the plan:

Christmas Eve:

- 10.00pm at Clifford
- 11.15pm at Wetherby

Christmas Day:

- 9.30am at Tadcaster
- 10.00am at Clifford
- 10.30am at Church Fenton
- 10.30am at Wetherby
- 11.00am at Boston Spa

Please note the following changes to the plan:

Church Fenton: 12 January - Covenant Service
2 February - LA

Clifford: 12 January - LA
2 February - Covenant Service



**EAST KESWICK
METHODIST CHURCH**
Invites you to join us
for a fun filled

**Children's
Christmas
Craft
Afternoon**

**Saturday 30
November
2.00 – 3.30pm**

All materials and refreshments provided.
Contact Penny for further information on
01937 573434



Craft Get Together

At Church Fenton
Methodist Chapel
on Tuesday 10th of
December
1:30 -3:30

We would love you to join us, bring
your own crafts to share your
creations, ideas or just to have a
chat, and hot drink.
Everyone Welcome!

Wetherby Methodist church
Christmas Concert
Café Style evening in the chapel
Friday evening 7pm-9:15pm
November 29th




Join us in the chapel, café style, serving teas/coffees/soft drinks, cakes and mince pies.
Enjoy the **Collectives Gospel Singers** who will perform throughout the evening.
<https://collectivesgospelchoir.co.uk/>

Tickets £15 per person Book early as space is limited
WE CAN ACCEPT CASH OR CARD PAYMENTS
Tickets sales: John McCarthy 0777 3115217 johnmccarthy2745@gmail.com
Brian Rankin 0788 4114276 bjrankin@gmail.com4276
Any church steward or Saturday Coffee shop counter.



**CHRISTMAS
FAYRE**

Saturday, 14th December
10am - 1pm

WETHERBY METHODIST CHURCH

Free visit to Santa
FREE ENTRY ALL ARE WELCOME
Tonbala, cake stall, Toy stall
Refreshments and lots more...
by T Sabal Age 9



Bible Study

Paul's Missionary Journeys

with Revd Ann Fox
and John Kimmer

at Tadcaster Methodist Church

Wednesday 11 December 10am

more dates to follow

All are welcome

Café Prayer

A time of prayer in church
for 10 minutes
alongside the usual
coffee morning at 11am

Tuesdays:
17 December (Christmas carols)

Tadcaster Methodist Church

The Methodist Church 

Tadcaster Methodist Church

Sunday 1st December 2024
10.00 am to 3.00 pm

Shoobox Nativity Display

Open Door Café

Christmas stall and games



Following the success of last year, we invite individuals, schools, businesses and groups to create a Shoobox Nativity Scene using craft, paint, stitch or paper.

Use your Imagination, be as creative as you like, the only requirement is that the Nativity must be presented in a shoebox that will be part of a Christmas display.

Exhibits can be left at Tadcaster Methodist Church on:

Sunday, 24th and Tuesday, 26th November 10.00 am - 11.30 am

Friday, 29th November 10.00 am - 11.30 am and 3.00 pm - 5.30 pm



For further details contact:

Hazel Smith

tadmethodist@gmail.com

Boston Spa Methodist Church
presents its tenth annual



Community Christmas Tree Festival 2024

Friday 13th December, 10am–5pm

12 noon Our renowned pre-concert lunches

1pm Lunchtime Concert (tickets £6 on the door *)
"A Christmas Box of Delights"

Saturday 14th December, 10am–5pm

10.30am Christmas music by Chestra (flute & piano)

From 11am Donkey rides (weather permitting)

3pm Christmas performance by Voices of Rock

Sunday 15th December, 12 noon–6pm

10.30am A Christmas Celebration (a short service for all ages)

6pm Festival Carol Service

- A stunning display of beautifully decorated trees
- Visit Santa from 11am-12 noon and 3.30pm-5pm both Friday and Saturday
- "Get in the Picture" – Nativity photo opportunity
- Organ recitals
- Tombola and Cake Stall
- Refreshments available throughout

FREE ENTRY

(* except the Friday Lunchtime Concert)



Donations welcome to:
The Millie Wright
Children's Charity

Please see our website for further details:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.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 (2nd)	10.30am-12noon	Bacon Brunch	Collingham
Monday (2nd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	East Keswick
Monday (4th)	10.30am-12noon	Coffee & Chat	Collingham
Tuesday (weekly)	9.30-10.00am	Circuit Prayer Gathering	Zoom (Eileen)
Tuesday (weekly)	9.40-10.00am	Prayer Gathering	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10.00-11.30am	Coffee Shop	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 (2nd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	Ulleskelf
Tues (3rd) not Aug/Sep	7.00pm	Tuesday Meeting	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)	2.00-4.00pm	Women's Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (2nd)	10.00am	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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