

Being Church

January 2025



Dear Friends,

Missing Baby Jesus

"Come on Tommy" said Louisa to her little boy. "Let's begin taking the trimmings down and packing everything away. Christmas is over for another year".

Tommy seemed quieter than usual. "Come and help me with the Nativity Set, Tommy", Louisa tried to jolly him along, yet he remained quiet. Carefully wrapping up each of the figures... the Shepherd and Wise men, donkey and sheep, Mary and Joseph, mummy suddenly remarked, "Oh, that's strange, where's the manger and baby Jesus?"

Louisa looked round the shelf where the Nativity had been displayed, behind the other ornaments, under the table and on the floor. She asked Tommy to help, but baby Jesus could not be found. "How very strange", and after several minutes searching she added, "Well, the box will have to go up into the loft without baby Jesus". Louisa was puzzled, but the morning had gone, and it was now time for lunch before Tommy went to Nursery. She did not have any more time to think about it.

The following morning, Louisa was surprised to see the manger on the shelf! Picking up Baby Jesus she turned to Tommy. "Do you know where this came from?". Suddenly Tommy burst into tears. "Oh Tommy, whatever is the matter?" Louisa was quite taken aback. "Whatever has happened?". "I took him! I took, him!" Tommy confessed between his sobs. "I'm sorry, mummy, but I hid him in my pocket". "Oh" said Louisa, a little shocked. "That's Ok Tommy don't cry. It doesn't matter, but tell me why, when you knew I was looking for him?".

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

“I don’t want Jesus to be put up in the loft till next Christmas” sobbed Tommy. “I don’t want Him to be forgotten. I want Jesus to be with us every day!”

Wow, now it was time for Louisa to have tears in her eyes. “Oh, Tommy! Come here”, and she hugged him. “Of course we won’t put Jesus up in the loft. He can stay with us. We can look at baby Jesus and remember He is with us every day, not just at Christmas time!”. Tommy jumped for joy. “Yippee”, he said, his eyes lit up and a smile beamed across his face.

This is my adaptation of a story I heard a few years ago. Jesus was born at Christmas to be the Saviour of the World and wants to be Lord of our lives every day. Let’s not hide Him away, rather let’s celebrate and share the good news. Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, always!

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, healthy, peaceful and blessed New Year.

God bless,

Eileen

Local Pastor



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](#).

Everyone who came to East Keswick's Children's Christmas Crafts afternoon had a most enjoyable time.

14 children plus adults attended, and heard the Christmas story, sang Away in a manger, enjoyed numerous crafts and colouring activities, and finished the afternoon off with scrummy refreshments and a chocolate snowman from off the tree.

Thank you to all who helped with the afternoon. Pastor Eileen.



During December you may have seen various nativity scenes going up around the circuit. On your behalf thanks are expressed to Charlie, along with help from Tony, Eddie, Geoff, Tom and Graham for putting up Stables and Christmas scenes at East Keswick,

Tadcaster, Church Fenton, Appleton Roebuck and Collingham Methodist churches. It is always good to hear the delightful comments, and see the pleasure the Nativities bring, as people and children pass by.

If you have something you wish to highlight in the **February'25** issue of **Being Church** (or the diary), please send it to **Juliana** by **Friday, 24 January**. Thank you.
tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

Tadcaster Circuit Diary

- 1 Dec into the New Year:** Clifford: Advent Window Displays (best seen in the dark)
- 18 Jan (Sat)** Wetherby: The Wetherby Methodist Church Women's Group will be holding a coffee morning at Church from 10 to 12 to raise money for this year's charity, WISE. Everyone is welcome.
- 18 Jan (Sat)** Tadcaster: Open Door Cafe from 10am to 12.30pm - come have a cuppa & a chat—serving bacon butties, toasted teacakes, tea & coffee
- 25 Jan (Sat)** Boston Spa: Holocaust Memorial coffee morning from 10.30am to 12.30noon - Ainslie Hepburn will talk about her latest book: 'In the Footsteps of the Holocaust'
- 26 Jan (Sun)** Tadcaster: Celebration Praise & Prayer Service. Service at 3pm followed by Faith Tea. Speaker: Revd John Claydon
- 11, 18 & 25 Feb (Mon)** Revive us again - 7pm by Zoom, contact Revd Ann Fox
- 22 Mar (Sat)** Circuit Quiet day - details to follow
- 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"

Additional Services information and changes to the plan:

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

Tadcaster Methodist Church

Saturday, 18th January

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

Sleep Out 4 Homelessness

Everyone should have a home

Can you support Sleep Out for Homelessness
this year?

18th January 2025

Homelessness can affect anyone so the Yorkshire North and East Methodist District are fundraising for 3 charities that work across North Yorkshire to help tackle homelessness.



Donate here:

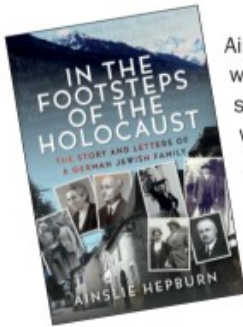
[Sleepout for Homelessness 2025 - JustGiving](#)



Boston Spa
Methodist Church

Holocaust Memorial Coffee Morning

Saturday 25th January 2025
10.30am–12.30pm

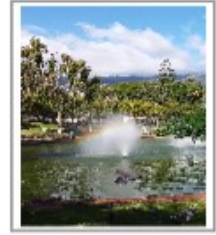


Ainslie Hepburn, writer, tutor, social historian, will talk about her latest book, which details this Jewish family's experiences



Holocaust Memorial Day 2025
"For a Better Future"

Celebration Praise and Prayer Service



Sunday 26th
January 2025

Tadcaster Methodist Church

led by Rev Ann and Pastor Eileen

Service at 3pm

Followed by Faith Tea

Speaker Rev John Claydon

Sherburn in Elmet

Singing, Testimonies, Reflection

and an opportunity for

Prayer for Blessing and Healing

Want to meet God? What to be touched by God?

Come along and be blessed!

The donkeys stand around the stable

It was lovely to have 2 donkeys join us at Extra Jam on Sunday morning, at Church Fenton. Eeyore and Gary came from Monks Fryston to celebrate Christmas with us. They were very well behaved and enjoyed munching on the grass, as well as the attention they received from everyone.



A magical event

Boston Spa Methodist Church held its 10th Annual Community Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend of 13th to 15th December... and what a stunning sight it was.

Not only were there 40 beautifully decorated trees across the whole building, there was food and drink available throughout. The trees were sponsored by local businesses and community groups and each decorated their tree in such a creative and unique way.

Of course, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a visit from Santa, and we were also delighted to welcome the donkeys Eeyore and Gary, who love coming each year. There was lots of entertainment, too, with organ recitals, a wonderful concert on the Friday with "A Christmas Box of Delights", a return visit from the ever-popular Voices of Rock Choir, a beautiful performance by Chestra on the flute and the piano, and we also enjoyed having St Mary's school choir singing for us. A lovely carol service led by Revd Abi was the finale to the festival weekend.

This really is a brilliant community event with many local people coming through our door and being delighted with the wonderful spectacle. We have been able to make a substantial donation to our Circuit charity, The Millie Wright Children's Charity.

Of course, this event wouldn't have been possible without the work of dozens of volunteers: a huge thanks to them all.



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 (1st & 3rd)	1.30-3.30pm	Craft Get Together	Church Fenton
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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