## **Being Church**

## **July 2024**



Dear Friends,

For the past six weeks or so Sue and I have been sorting out the Manse, our home for the past ten years, in preparation for moving. It has been a time of both looking forward and reflection and we have been looking at photographs, many of which have caused us to reflect on the many of the changes and challenges that have occurred in our lives and, in particular, over the past ten years. Whilst contemplating these photographs I was reminded very strongly of these words from the Book of Ecclesiastes (Chapter 3, verses 1-8):

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- a time to be born, and a time to die;
- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- a time to kill, and a time to heal;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
- a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
- a time to seek, and a time to lose;
- a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- a time to tear, and a time to sew;
- a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
- a time to love, and a time to hate;
- a time for war, and a time for peace."

This sacred list represents the seasons and milestones of life.

Some are happy times, others sad; some are productive while others seem wasteful; some inspire peace and others bring pain.

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



All of them are necessary for us to learn, grow, and evolve as spiritual beings; each experience reveals a loving, divine purpose that we can learn to trust. For Sue and I this move, as we 'retire' from ministry in the Tadcaster Circuit, is the ongoing answer to God's call on our lives. A call which caused a great transition for both of us ten years ago, and now calls us once again on our ongoing journey of faith.

Each major shift in all our lives requires our undivided time and attention for successful passage. Each one also presents a gift - if we're open to receiving it. Some of these gifts are easy to identify: the spring moments of new beginnings; the summer moments of easy, carefree living; and the autumn moments of bountiful harvest.

Other gifts are not so easy to identify, such as the transitional storms that often usher in a new season, the oppressive heat of summer, or the bitter cold of winter. These other gifts require us to look beyond the surface and peer much deeper for their significance.

Although new beginnings are usually preferred over endings, we should remember that every new beginning requires an ending.

Likewise, reaping a harvest may be preferred over the work of preparing, planting, and tending a crop or garden, but we cannot enjoy one without the other. Even the transitional storms of our lives are necessary to clear the atmosphere of old ways of thinking that keep us from fully experiencing the next seasons of our lives. The oppressive heat of summer and the bitter cold of winter cause us to retreat within ourselves for rest, renewal, and creativity.

The flow of life is a process of change and if we remember that there is a gift in every crisis or challenge - in every transition of life - we will be able to go with, accept and move more easily; as we discover the gift in every season, learning to trust the loving, divine purpose behind it. Then the current of life can carry us off to new adventures, more rewarding and exciting than any we may have chosen for ourselves.

Sue and I look forward to the new adventure, that we are called to; to learning what God has in store for us, both personally and in his call on our lives. We both will hold you all in our prayers as you, too, move forward into this new season.



May your lives in this world be a happy one.

May the sun be warm, and may the skies be blue.

May each storm that comes your way

clear the air for a brighter day.

May the saints and Saviour watch over you.

With every blessing. Rev Steve, and Sue



#### A word of thanks...

I can't believe that we are in July already! If it has come as a surprise to me, then I'm sure it must have to Rev Steve and Sue as well. It doesn't seem that long ago that we first began discussing Steve's 'sitting down' and our plans to celebrate Steve and Sue's ministry among us. While we will have the opportunity to show our appreciation to Steve and Sue at their farewell service (see Circuit Diary), I would like to say something publicly here:

Steve, I would like to express a special "thank you" for your ministerial colleagueship and friendship. You have been a joy to serve alongside, and I have deeply appreciated your support and advice, your ideas, your humor(!), and the care and attention you have given to your churches and worship across the Circuit, as well as your representation at District level. I pray for you and Sue a very happy retirement. Every blessing on the next stage of your ministry. Rev Ann

#### **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.

#### **WORSHIP**

For Sunday service see the Circuit Plan, copies are available in our buildings or via this link.







# Eileen and Charlie's Garden Party and a 'Bit of a Do'

Held in June, at their home in Hook, everyone had a fabulous time.

Eileen and Charlie would like to thank all who came and supported the day.

£400 was raised for Tadcaster, and Goole &Selby circuits.

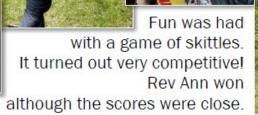


a 1929 French Crawler

Scammel Army tank transporter (1942).

> Revd Ann 'at the wheel'

Valerie and Bryan, from Appleton Roebuck, receiving their raffle prizes the following day.



## **Tadcaster Afternoon Tea**



Jenny Smith wins the first Raffle Prize

## Ulleskelf 'Friends and Fellowship'









If you have something you wish to highlight in the **Aug'24** issue of **Being Church** or in the diary please send to **Juliana** by **22**<sup>th</sup> **July.** Thank you. tadcastercircuit@gmail.com

#### **Tadcaster Circuit Diary July 2024**

27 June to 3 July Methodist Conference in Leeds

9 July Celebration Praise & Prayer Pre-Service Tea at Collingham at 6pm

9 July Celebration & Praise Service at Collingham at 7pm

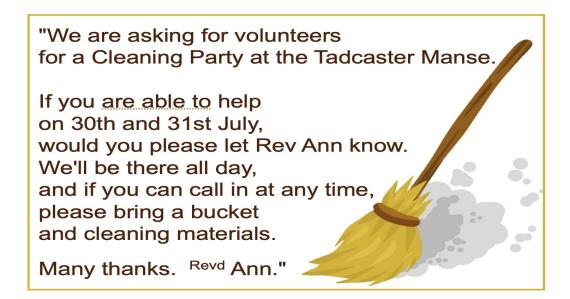
30 July Revd Steve Pre Service Drinks at Boston Spa at 5.30pm

(To help with numbers for food provision, would Church Stewards please let Rev Ann know

by 10 July how many from your church will be attending the refreshments.)

30 July Revd Steve Leaving Service Boston Spa at 7pm

30 & 31 July Cleaning Party at Tadcaster Manse all day



## A Celebration of Ministry

Tuesday 30th July

### Boston Spa Methodist Church

A Service to mark Revd Steve and Sue leaving our Circuit as Steve 'sits down' from Circuit Ministry

Refreshments from 5:30pm
Service at 7pm

To help with numbers for food provision would Church Stewards please let Revd Ann know by 10 July how many from your Church will be attending for Refreshments.



### **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 (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)	1.30pm	Flower Guild	Wetherby
Tuesday (2nd)	2.00-4.00pm	Friends & Fellowship	Ulleskelf
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
Wednesday (3rd)	2.00-4.00pm	Whist Afternoon	Collingham
Wednesday (last)	1.00-3.00pm	Coffee, Click 'n' Connect	Appleton Roebuck
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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