

try  
praying

Tadcaster **Methodist** Circuit

A Methodist  
Way of Life



# Being Church

April 2024

## Who do you trust?

One of the first Bible verses I learnt as a child was,

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.*

*In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths".* [Proverbs 3 v 5-6](#)

I've been reminded of this quite a lot lately. So often we want to have things sorted. We want to know what's happening or going on. We don't like it when things are not how they should be, are taken out of our hands, and not what we want!

Ultimately, we need to remember that God sees the bigger picture; and these verses indicate we have to Trust. Well, as much as I believe that, sometimes there's still a niggle or an urge to try and sort things out myself.

So, how easy do we find it to trust people?

I quite enjoy having a ride on the back of a motorbike, at least when I was younger. Over the years I have asked a couple of friends if I could have a ride on the back of their motorbikes. I made it very clear that I did not want to go too fast. Also, that I would have to hold onto them with my arms around their waists. I wasn't going to only hold onto the back of the bike seat. Both friends took me for a ride, and I really enjoyed the experience. However, another time I asked my cousin for a ride on the back of his motor bike. Again, I emphasised that I did not want to go too fast, and he assured me he wouldn't.

Well, if I say, 'never again!' you will know what I mean.



Revd Steve Jakeman

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If there was ever a man in the Old Testament who had to trust in God, on more than one occasion, it was Abraham.

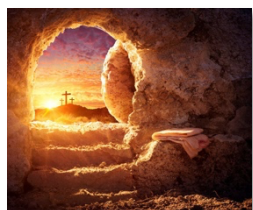
When God made a covenant with Abraham saying he would be the father of all nations, it was ridiculous! Why? because both were elderly and Sarah was barren. Yet in due time, Sarah did have a child, Isaac, and he was a great blessing to them.



Now, imagine how Abraham felt when, some years later, God tested him and asked him to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham obeyed, built an altar, and with knife in hand, was about to slay his son, when the angel of the Lord called out, and the sacrifice was halted.

We can see clearly in hindsight that the two contradict each other. How can God promise a son to become the heir of all nations and then have the boy sacrificed? God is not a contradictory God. God is Truth, and it was all part of God testing Abraham's faith. Abraham had to trust God.

Another seeming contradiction, this time for the first disciples and followers of Jesus, would be Good Friday. How could their Messiah, their Saviour, be dying on a cross?



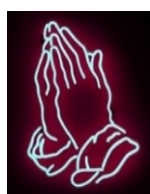
However, only 3 days later with the resurrection of Jesus, they would understand a little more – but imagine that time between the Friday and Sunday!!

Although we at times will not understand why things are happening, and won't be able to understand what is going on, we need to trust in God. We have to lean on him and not our understanding, and when we do, all will be well.

Remember our Easter morning WILL come, after our Good Friday.

God bless, **Eileen** Eileen Clarkson, 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.

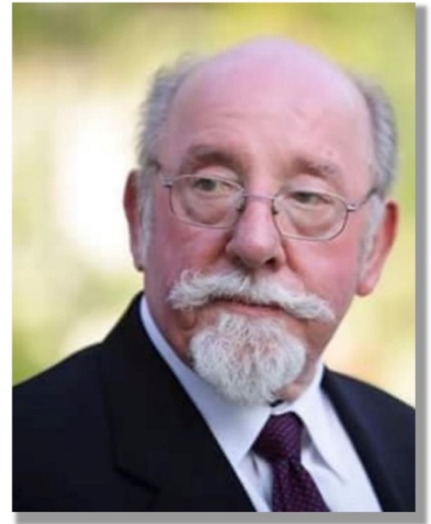
*Please contact Eileen for the Zoom log on details.*

Plus, prayer meetings at **Wetherby** in the Quiet Room every Wednesday 10.00<sup>am</sup>  
**Tadcaster** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 9.15<sup>am</sup> and at **Clifford** every Tuesday 9.40<sup>am</sup>

## Revd Dr Gordon Shaw 1936 - 2024

Born in Wigan, Lancashire on 20 July 1936. Gordon's greatest achievement was he met Barbara Hooton (Babs) at Loch Street Methodist Church, Orrell, where they were married in 1960.

He completed a Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of Manchester, followed by a Masters degree, in Theology, from Handsworth College, Birmingham. Later, he was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Serampore University, India.



He continued his training at St Andrew's College, Selly Oak with a probationary year at Haslingden, Lancashire before sailing to India with Barbara and their son, Stephen. From 1962 to 1975 he served in the Church of South India's Medak Diocese. They lived in Dichpalli (Victoria Leprosy Hospital), Nizamabad and Medak (Cathedral Pastor and Boys' Hostel Superintendent).

Gordon was ordained in Medak Cathedral by the Rt Rev Eber Priestley and Barbara Anne (Barbie) was born at the remarkable CSI Medak Hospital. Gordon was elected Diocesan Treasurer in 1967 and moved to Secunderabad; meanwhile Michael was born in England where Barbara had remained on furlough.

Gordon was also the Pastor at the Church of St John the Baptist. Two years later Elisabeth (Boo) was born.

Churches in India could no longer rely upon financial aid from historical foreign partners and Gordon assisted in the challenge to find alternative revenue to fund the Diocesan work and played a great part in transforming the Diocesan educational institutions.

Gordon returned to London in 1975 to spend seven years at the Overseas Division, and fourteen years at the British Council of Churches Conference for Global Mission. This enabled Gordon to pursue his lifelong passion for world development and ecumenism.

He returned to a pastoral role in 1996 as Superintendent of the Southeast Northumberland Circuit, from where he retired to Clifford in the Tadcaster Circuit in 2002 with Babs.

Gordon will be fondly remembered in Clifford for the wonderful curries that both he and Babs made for a Curry Evening or two... a legacy from their time in South India.

They continued to love each other, their four children, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren; whilst supporting local churches and mentoring new ministers.

Gordon died peacefully on 20 February 2024, in the eighty-eighth year of his life and the sixty-sixth year of his presbyteral ministry.

Gordon will be very much missed by his family, friends, ministerial colleagues, and congregations, both here and abroad.

We thank God for the blessing of having known Gordon and for his ministry among us.





from around  
the **Circuit**

## Appleton Roebuck

Having been going for 2 and a half years now, the **Coffee Mornings** and **Bacon Brunch** are proving as popular as ever.



## Church Fenton

**Extra JAM** with crafts and cakes' one Sunday morning a month, instead of a normal service.

This is a follow up from the Jam Club (Jesus and Me) that Eileen runs at the school every Tuesday lunch time.



## Ulleskelf



Tuesday monthly **'Fellowship and Friends'** group continues to thrive , with 2 new ladies joining us this last month



## Collingham

'Flowers and Friends' is really taking off at Collingham.

14 ladies attending this last month

(4 regular ones away).



## Tadcaster

Our second 'Winter Crank Up'

at the beginning of March.

A cold day but enjoyed by everyone.



Tadcaster **Methodist** Circuit

## Celebration Praise, & Prayer Service



**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Tadcaster Methodist Church**

led by Rev Ann and Pastor Eileen

**Faith Tea at 6pm & Service at 7pm**

Guest Speaker

**Miss Sarah Hand, Skegness**

Singing, Testimonies, Reflection plus an opportunity  
for Prayer for Blessing and Healing

**Want to meet God? Want to be touched by God?  
Come along and be blessed!**



**SINGING HAS BEEN PROVEN TO BE  
GOOD FOR YOUR MENTAL AND  
PHYSICAL WELL-BEING,**

So why not come along (even bring a friend!) and  
see how *Spirit of Harmony* men's 4-part  
a cappella group enjoy themselves singing in  
**Wetherby Methodist Church hall**  
**every Thursday at 7-45p.m. (doors open 7-30pm)**

Especially as we are currently rehearsing for the  
annual **British Association of Barbershop Singers**  
([www.singbarbershop.com](http://www.singbarbershop.com))

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention**

at the International Centre in Harrogate  
over the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> May.

More info at [www.spiritofharmony.co.uk](http://www.spiritofharmony.co.uk)  
or contact Dean on 07923 957488.



Boston Spa  
**Methodist Church**  
Lunchtime Concert Series

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - 1pm**

**BETHANY-HANNAH  
WINTERINGHAM**

classical soprano



**Tom Owen**  
piano

**our famous, delicious Lunches  
available from 12 noon**

**Tickets £6** available on the door



**The Leaders of Worship  
and Preachers  
Fellowship**

Our Worship Leaders and Local Preachers  
are arranging a fellowship session

**“a look at  
SCIENCE AND  
CHRISTIANITY”**

this session will be held at **Boston Spa MC**  
**on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm**

led by Alan Bell and Revd Uell Kennedy  
this session is open to anyone  
who has an interest in this topic.

Refreshments will be available.





The Leaders of Worship  
and Preachers Trust

**LWPT**

**Are you being called?**

**local Worship Leader training**

Two training sessions have been  
arranged for Sat mornings

**on 6th and 20th April**

and one further session  
is to be arranged  
for some time in June.

These sessions are open to  
anyone who may be thinking  
of worship leading  
and wants to find out more,  
or who would like a refresher.

**Please let Alan Bell or Rev Ann know  
if you are interested.**



**A Methodist Way of Life**

Looking at the 12 'stations', two stations per session



Join us at Tadcaster Methodist Church  
Coffee Lounge  
Thursdays, 10.00am

25 January, 22 February,  
28 March, 25 April  
30 May and 20 June



**Tadcaster Methodist Church**

**Café Prayer**

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

**11am**

Tuesdays 27 February, 26 March, 30 April,  
25 June, 23 July

The Methodist Church

**trypraying** .org

There will be a **trypraying** event  
across the Circuit,  
from Easter Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> March)  
and leading up to Pentecost (19<sup>th</sup> May).

**trypraying** will be launched  
at the Circuit Service on 7 April.

Would Church Stewards please check  
which resources they will need to order -  
further information and how to order resources  
will be coming out to churches very soon.

**Revd Ann**

Further information on trypraying is available via this link  
<https://www.trypraying.org/>



# WORSHIP

For Sunday service see the Circuit Plan, copies are available in our buildings or [via this link](#).



If you have something you wish to highlight in the **May '24** issue of **Being Church** please send to **Rev Steve** by **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> March**. Thank you.  
[rev.stevejay@gmail.com](mailto:rev.stevejay@gmail.com)

To add items to the **Circuit Diary** list please contact the **Circuit Administrator**  
[tadcastercircuit@gmail.com](mailto:tadcastercircuit@gmail.com)



trypraying.



## Tadcaster Circuit Diary - April 2024

Date	Time	Location	
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	-	<b>Try Praying Initiative Commences</b>	<b>Circuit</b>
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	morning	Worship Leader Taster/Refresher session	Contact Revd Ann
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:15pm</b>	<b>Circuit Service – Try Praying Launch</b>	<b>Tadcaster</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Faith Tea	Tadcaster
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Celebration Praise and Prayer Service	Tadcaster
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	LWPT – ‘A Look at Science and Christianity’	Boston Spa
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Pre-Concert Lunch	Boston Spa
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	Lunchtime Concert – Classical Soprano and Piano	Boston Spa
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	-	<b>“A <b>Methodist</b> Way of Life” themed services</b>	<b>Circuit</b>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	-	<b>“A <b>Methodist</b> Way of Life” themed services</b>	<b>Circuit</b>
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Bible Stud - A Methodist Way of Life	Tadcaster
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	-	<b>“A <b>Methodist</b> Way of Life” themed services</b>	<b>Circuit</b>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	Café Prayer	Tadcaster

# Tadcaster Circuit Diary - April 2024

## Regular Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Monday (weekly)	10.45am	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Monday (weekly)	2.30pm	Ping-Pong	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	5pm	Senior Table Tennis	Boston Spa
Monday (weekly)	7.30pm	Badminton	Wetherby
Monday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	10.30am – 12 noon	Bacon Brunch	Collingham
Monday (4 <sup>th</sup> )	10.30am – 12 noon	Coffee and Chat	Collingham
Tuesday (weekly)	9.30am – 10am	Circuit Prayer Gathering	Zoom (Eileen)
Tuesday (weekly)	9.40am – 10am	Prayer Gathering	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10am – 11.30am	Coffee Shop	Tadcaster
Tuesday (weekly)	10am – 11.30am	Tuesday Coffee	Clifford
Tuesday (weekly)	10am	Flower Club	Boston Spa
Tuesday (1 <sup>st</sup> )	2pm – 4pm	Flowers and Friends	Collingham
Tuesday (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	9.15am – 10am	Prayer Group	Tadcaster
Tuesday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	1.30pm	Flower Guild	Wetherby
Tuesday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	2pm – 4pm	Friends and Fellowship	Ulleskelf
Tuesday (4 <sup>th</sup> )	1pm	Community Soup Lunch	Ulleskelf
Wednesday (weekly)	10am – 12 noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	10.30am – 12 noon	Chapel Coffee Pot	Appleton Roebuck
Wednesday (weekly)	10am – 10.30am	Prayer Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (weekly)	11.15am – 12.15pm	Coffee at t' Crown	Crown Hotel Boston Spa
Wednesday (weekly)	7pm	Table Tennis	Wetherby
Wednesday (irregular)	contact Wetherby	House-Group	contact Wetherby
Wednesday (1 <sup>st</sup> )	2pm – 4pm	Knit and Natter	Tadcaster
Wednesday (1 <sup>st</sup> )	2pm – 4pm	Women's Group	Wetherby
Wednesday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	10am	Communion in the Box	Box Tree Court, B Spa
Wednesday (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> )	Contact Wetherby	Gentlemen Bootbashers	Contact Wetherby
Wednesday (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Whist Afternoon	Collingham
Wednesday (last)	1pm – 3pm	Coffee, Click 'n' Connect	Appleton Roebuck
Thursday (1 <sup>st</sup> )	12 noon	Community Soup Lunch	Church Fenton
Thursday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	12 noon	Community Soup Lunch	Tadcaster
Thursday (last)	12 noon	Souper Thursday	East Keswick
Friday (1 <sup>st</sup> )	10.00am – 11.30am	Teddy Praise	Collingham
Saturday (weekly)	10am – 12 noon	Coffee Shop	Wetherby
Saturday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	2pm – 3.30pm	Charity Coffee Afternoon	Church Fenton