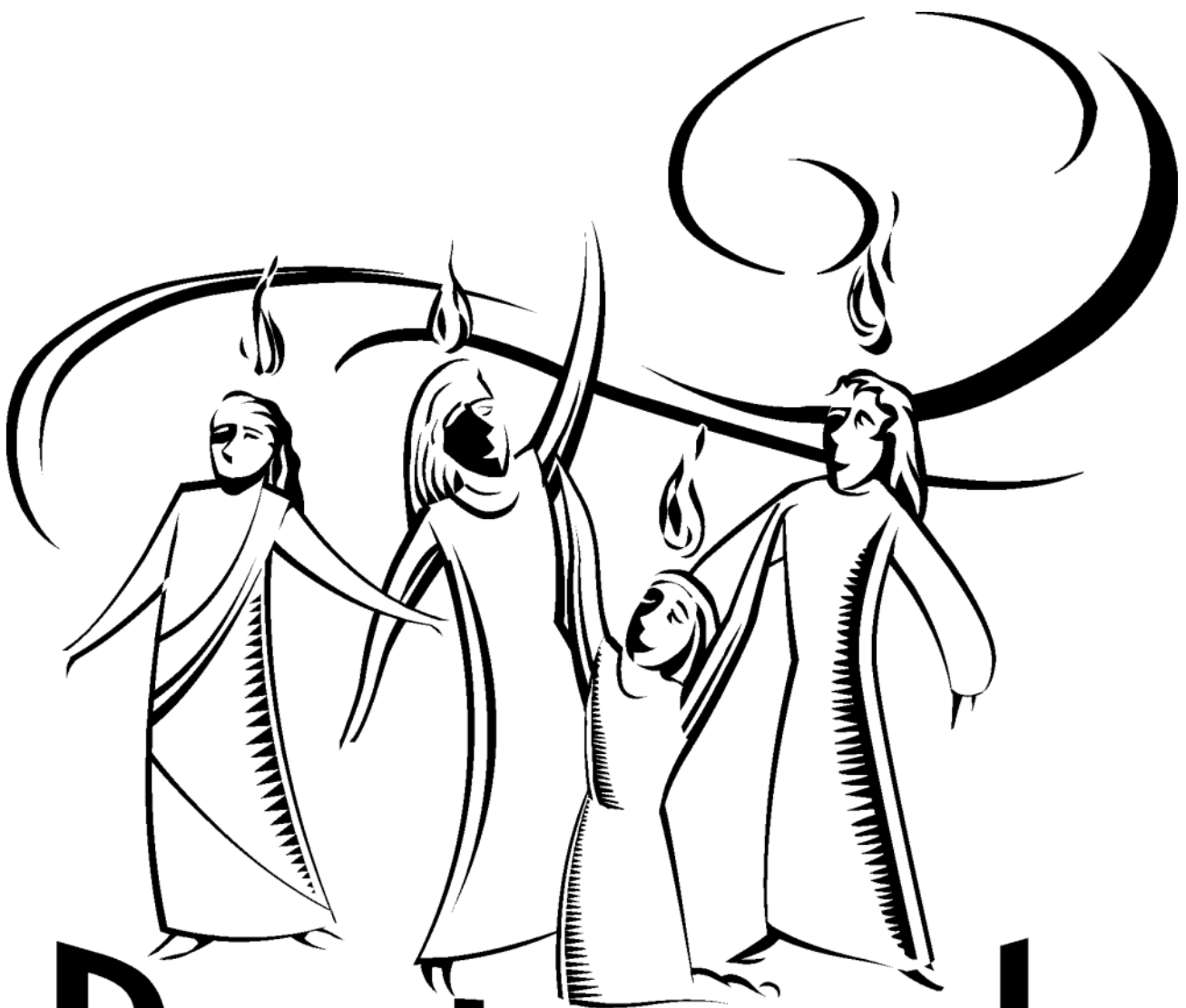




# The Methodist Church Stamford Circuit

Registered Charity :1160930

**MAY 2024**



# Pentecost

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**The Circuit Newsletter exists to build up fellowship across the Stamford Methodist Circuit. Items for inclusion in the Circuit Newsletter should be: Inspiring, encouraging of faith and discipleship to promote the growth of church relationships within the Circuit.**

**Could you please send any articles for the June 2024 Circuit Newsletter to:  
Email: admin2322@gmail.com  
or by post to:  
The Circuit Office at Stamford Methodist Church**

**Articles should be sent no later than Monday 6th May 2024.**



### **Rev Andrew Hollins ~ Superintendent Minister**

11 Jackson Way, Stamford, Lincs. PE9 1FG  
Tel: 01780 762282 Email: StamfordMethodistSuper@gmail.com  
Rest Day: Monday

### **Rev Ruth Charlesworth**

2 Coggles Causeway, Bourne, Lincs  
PE10 9LN Tel: 01778 422258  
ruth.charlesworth@methodist.org.uk  
Rest Day: Friday

### **Rev Bekkie Wright**

2 Wensum Close, Oakham. LE15 6FU  
Tel: 01572 720721  
Bekkie.wright@methodist.org.uk  
Rest Day: Friday

### **Phil Jones- Circuit Mission Enabler**

5 Rycroft Close, Deeping St James, PE6 8NX  
Tel: 01778 346389  
pdvjones@hotmail.com

### **Julia Husbands**

Circuit Children, Family and Youth Work  
Enabler Tel: 01780 753968  
Julia.cfywenabler@gmail.com

### **Circuit Administrator**

Rowan Scholtz  
admin2322@gmail.com Tel: 01780 481395

Dear friends,

Last year I experienced my first Stamford Circuit Farm Weekend. Despite losing one of my hearing aids in the long grass in the car parking field, I have happy memories of a great time of fun, fellowship, exploration, creativity and worship. I hope that, like me, you are looking forward to this year's Circuit Farm Weekend (18/19<sup>th</sup> May).

The planning group has worked really hard to create another exciting programme. One of the challenges has been deciding on a theme for the weekend. Several things influenced our choice for this year.

One influence is that Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May will be Pentecost, when the Church celebrates the Holy Spirit coming upon Jesus' disciples (followers/learners), empowering them to be apostles (those who are sent out). The Holy Spirit continues to do the same for Christians today. It also stirs up God's gifts in our lives, enabling us to bear fruit for the growth of God's kingdom. We will be focussing on this in our Circuit Sunday Worship during the Farm Weekend.

Another influence is that 2024 is an Olympics Year. The original Latin motto for the Olympic Games is *Citius, Altius, Fortius* (Faster, Higher, Stronger). This was proposed by Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympic Games. He borrowed it from his friend Henri Didon, a Roman Catholic priest who had used it at a youth sports competition he organised. It was first used at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris, meaning that 2024 marks its centenary. In 2021 the International Olympic Committee approved the addition of an additional word – *Communiter* – to the Olympic motto, making it *Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter* (Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together).

The Olympic motto is supported by the Olympic creed: *The most important thing...is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.* These words were from a sermon preached in 1908 by Ethelbert Talbot, Bishop of Central Pennsylvania in the USA.

Until I began researching their background, I hadn't realised that both the Olympic motto and creed have their roots in the Christian faith. This realisation adds to my feeling that our choice of BETTER, STRONGER, TOGETHER is an inspired one for this year's Circuit Farm Weekend.

The Stamford Methodist Circuit, along with many other circuits in the Methodist Church, is going through a period of significant change. Rather than being frightened by this, we can face it in the power of the Holy Spirit which enables us to be BETTER and STRONGER as we join and work TOGETHER to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others.

So, please come and share in the Farm Weekend – and bring others with you. It is an important opportunity to build our togetherness as God's people in the Stamford Methodist Circuit, and will be BETTER and STRONGER in our mission if we are TOGETHER.

God bless,

*Andrew*

## Happy Birthday Sarah!

Stamford Wednesday Afternoon Fellowship had an outing on Wednesday 24th April to the Lodge Trust, Market Overton.

This date coincided with Sarah Maley's 45th Birthday. Sarah is a member of our Church but has been unable to attend for some time. Firstly because of COVID lock down and then due to declining health.

We were able to have an amazing afternoon tea and enhance Sarah's celebration in a memorable way.



## Pray without Ceasing May 2024



Suggestions for each day of the month. A few spaces have been left for your own concerns.

1. For people with Birthdays or Anniversaries this month
2. Rev Andrew Hollins
3. Oakham Church
4. Ryhall Chapel
5. Thurlby Chapel
6. Those who use our premises on Mondays
7. Those who use our premises on Tuesdays
8. Those who use our premises on Wednesdays
9. Rev Ruth Charlesworth
10. Uppingham Church
11. Barn Hill Church
12. Bourne Chapel
13. Rev Bekkie Wright
14. Deepings Church
15. Empingham Chapel
16. Ketton Chapel
17. Peace in a troubled world
18. Phil Jones Circuit Mission Enabler
19. Circuit Farm weekend
20. \*\*
21. Julia Husbands CF&YM Enabler
22. Our Local Preachers
23. Those who use our premises on Thursdays
24. Those who use our premises on Fridays
25. Those who use our premises on Saturday
26. \*\*
27. Circuit Administrator Rowan
28. Time for relaxation & Leisure
29. Supernumerary Ministers
30. All those with health concerns
31. Circuit Officers

Any suggestions or requests please let Nina Rawlins know on 01780 753649 or email [ninarawlins@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ninarawlins@yahoo.co.uk)

## Stamford and Rutland Circuit Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>MAY</b>			
Wednesday 1st	2pm	Circuit Easter Offering Dedication Service	Stamford MC
Saturday 4th	10am to 12 noon	Meeting of Church Treasurers	Ryhall MC
Thursday 9th		(Ascension Day) to 19th May (Pentecost) =Thy Kingdome Come	
Thursday 9th	8.30am	Circuit Ministry Team Meeting	Bourne MC
Sunday 12th to 18th		Christian Aid Week	
Wednesday 15th	12 noon to 1pm	Soup Lunch	Ketton MC
Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th		Circuit Farm Weekend	Normanton Lodge Farm
Friday 24th	7.30pm	Circuit 'Wesley Day' Celebration	Bourne MC
<b>JUNE</b>			
Sunday 9th	3pm	Farewell Service for Rev. Helen Cameron as Chair of the Northampton District	Wesley Memorial MC, Oxford
Tuesday 11th	7.30pm	Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting (including Annual Rededication and Holy Communion)	TBC
Thursday 13th	8.30am	Circuit Ministry Team Meeting	Wothorpe
Wednesday 19th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting	Bourne MC
Thursday 27th to Wednesday 3rd July		Methodist Conference	Leeds

### Kaleidoscope Quiet Morning

**'Pause For Thought' ~ Saturday 11th May 2024**

**9.15am for 9.30am – 11.30am**

At the home of Beryl and Ron Teasdale: Ashbrook, First Drift, Wothorpe, PE9 3JL  
Join us for personal reflexion, stillness and sharing. An informal time of relaxation and peace.

**For this session please bring an object important to you**

Tel: Linda Bosworth 01572 823965 to book a place.

**Future dates and themes:- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024: *Good to be Alive***

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024: *Psalms and Songs***



## **Bourne Methodist Church ~ A Night with Stamford Concert Singers**

On Friday 6th April we had an excellent evenings entertainment given by  
The Stamford Concert Singers.

There were 40 people in the choir.

With a Church full of people listening and enjoying the various musical items.  
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you from around the Circuit  
who came and supported this wonderful evening.

We took over £500 of which 50% is being donated to the work of M.H.A.

Thank you

*Richard Bailey*

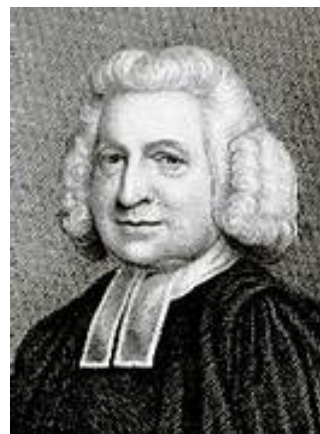
## **Circuit 'Wesley Day Celebration'**

on Friday 24th May at Bourne Methodist Church

Led by Richard Bailey

We will be singing some Charles Wesley Hymns  
with various readings and poetry.

An offering will be taken for M.H.A



## **Kaleidoscope Quiet Morning**

“Pause for Thought”

Saturday May 11th

9.15am for 9.30am – 11.30am

At the home of Beryl and Ron Teasdale,  
Ashbrook, First Drift, Wothorpe, PE9 3JL

Join us for personal reflexion, stillness and sharing.

An informal time of relaxation and peace.

For this session:

*Please bring an object important to you.*

Tel: Beryl Teasdale 01780 481574 to book a place.

Future dates and themes:-

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024: *Good to be Alive*

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024: *Psalms and Songs*

## I Was Reading.....

"Today was a Difficult Day," said Pooh. There was a pause. "Do you want to talk about it?" asked Piglet. "No," said Pooh after a bit. "No, I don't think I do." "That's okay," said Piglet, and he came and sat beside his friend. "What are you doing?" asked Pooh. "Nothing, really," said Piglet. "Only, I know what Difficult Days are like. I quite often don't feel like talking about it on my Difficult Days either but goodness," continued Piglet, "Difficult Days are so much easier when you know you've got someone there for you. And I'll always be here for you, Pooh." And as Pooh sat there, working through in his head his Difficult Day, while the solid, reliable Piglet sat next to him quietly, swinging his little legs...he thought that his best friend had never been more right."

A.A. Milne

Read, grow, contribute, stay involved, and live until your last breath.

It's loving and giving that makes life worth living!

Look your best. Dress stylishly at every age, as your budget will allow. When you look good, you feel good and inspired.

Generally speaking, talent is something you're born with; you have little say in the matter. But character is a choice you get to make each day, and usually it's made when only God and you know about it.

A mark of real maturity is doing what you don't feel like doing, when you don't feel like doing it.

Often in my own conversations I will say, "Let me tell you what I heard so I can see if that is what you meant?" I am shocked at how many times I hear something totally different to what is intended!!

It's a pity we use the word secular when it comes to any kind of work other than church work, because God doesn't see it that way. All honest work earns His smile of approval.

When it comes to work, the thing He requires from you is wrapped up in these words:

"Whatever you do, do well."

Happiness is not an entitlement, it's a reward for doing the right thing every day!!

Just because you can't figure out what God's doing right now, doesn't mean it won't make sense later!!

Faith is the conviction that God knows more than me... and he will get me through!!

Remember you can never change another person, only yourself and your attitude.

KLP





## Hope

Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

*Emily Dickinson 1830-1886*

## A Living Hope

“Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
Because of his great mercy he gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ  
from death. This fills us with living hope, and so we look forward to  
possessing the rich blessings that God keeps for his people. He keeps them  
for you in heaven, where they cannot decay or spoil or fade away.  
They are for you, who through faith are kept safe by God's power  
for the salvation which is ready to be revealed at the end of time”

1 Peter 1: 3-5 Good News Bible

*Contributed by Beryl Teasdale*

# Please PRAY for:

## ***Bourne***

We pray for our church and its family, those who are unwell, those who grieve and those who are facing difficult times, may they know Your presence and feel your love. We pray too for all the young people taking exams throughout the summer, and for the youngsters who attend our Messy Church.

## ***Deepings***

Pray for preparations for are Holiday at Home event in August. That people will sign up to attend and enjoy a time of fellowship together.

Pray for preparations for the Messy Church in May and the Barn weekend.

## ***Empingham***

We give thanks for generous support at our Gift Day. Pray for the repairs needed and the practical day to day running of our church and for opportunity to continue to witness through our community work.

## ***Ketton***

We pray for the situation in the Middle East and the continuing war in Ukraine, praying earnestly, that just and peaceful resolutions can be found.

We thank God for the many blessings we receive in our own lives.... but remember especially those who are suffering with ill health, isolation, or bereavement at this time.

We continue to pray for the Circuit Ministry Team as they move into an uncharted time of change. Amen

## ***Oakham***

The world is changing in almost every way. There are wars in so many places where families have little food and no where to find homes. We need to encourage those around us to send to other countries for them to share. There are so many people who have needs but our prayers will help us to keep these improvements to care for all that we can improve. We love our Lord and lead our prayers for all our congregation. Amen

## ***Ryhall***

We pray for children's work in our church

For the preparation for summer

For the work of the circuit treasurers

For the ministry team

For our ecumenical partnership with St John's

For Open The Book in Ryhall Academy

Travelling mercies for all going on holiday.

Loving God, you know who we are. You know our strengths and weaknesses, Our hopes and fears. Be a bright flame before us, A guiding star above us, A smooth path beneath us, A kindly shepherd behind us, today and ever more. (Columba 521-597)

## ***Stamford***

*Dear Lord, we pray;-*

For families and friends who are facing the loss of loved ones – may they know Your presence and feel Your love.

All those who are facing tests and exams at this time – phonics assessments, SATs, GCSEs, A levels or exams at university.

All those who will be attending the Farm Weekend this month. May it be a time of fellowship and fun for all. A time to find God in new places.

# Please PRAY for:

## Thurlby

Dear Lord, We look at your beautiful world at this time of year, the flowers and the fresh green of the foliage and we thank You for what you have provided us with but we have made such a mess of it. There are wars in several countries and stabbings and shootings in others. Lord we pray that You will touch peoples hearts and make them more loving to one another. We despair with all that is going on and need your help to put things right. Help us to do what we can to show your love to the people around us. Amen

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Methodist Women  
in Britain

*For women, for justice, for Christ*

I have recently spent an inspiring weekend at the Methodist Women in Britain's annual residential weekend at the Swanwick conference centre in Derbyshire. This was led by Rev Jenny Pathmarajah, who has a degree in linguistics, and Becca Byass, who works for All we Can, with the title "Words create Worlds". They shared their knowledge and stories in a relaxed and inspiring way making us think about the words we use in different languages and how they are interpreted. A Bible study with a difference on Sunday took place when we were asked to translate the familiar words of the Lords Prayer, with at least 8 people sharing completely different, but moving translations. Fellowship was shared throughout the weekend with friends old and new and this year there were a good number of ladies who had never been before. The feedback received so far had been positive and if you think it might be something you would like to take part in, please speak to me. The weekend next year will be led by Rev Sonia Hicks (Past President of Conference) and the dates are set for Fri 4th April to Sunday 6th April '25, so put the date in your diary.

*Nina Rawlins*

## **Circuit Farm Weekend, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May**

We are really looking forward to our Circuit Weekend together at Normanton Lodge Farm, with grateful thanks to the Renner family for their wonderful hospitality once again!

Our theme throughout the weekend is 'Better, Stronger, Together'. There is a whole host of activities for all ages in and around the farm planned for Saturday afternoon, followed by a BBQ and the renowned 'Puddings Table' for sustenance. And capping it off, the fun of a Barn Dance with live band!. On Sunday morning we all meet together for worship, followed by a 'bring your own' picnic and more time to share fellowship and play games.

As always, we need help to make the weekend run smoothly. Most importantly, if you could bring a pudding to grace the 'Pudding Table' please do!! Also, if you are able to offer an hour of your time on the Saturday to assist with car parking, welcoming or serving refreshments then let us know.

Above all, please do come! Bring friends and family with you because we are 'Better, Stronger Together'.

**Don't miss out on such a wonderful opportunity!**

Julia Husbands (Julia.cfywenabler@gmail.com)

STAMFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT INVITES YOU TO...

# TOGETHER AT THE FARM

*near Rutland Water*

## BETTER, STRONGER TOGETHER

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May

**3-5pm**

An afternoon of creativity, activity and fun for all ages in and around the farm  
Farm walks, baking, art and crafts, games and space to enjoy the surroundings with friends.

**5-8pm**

**BBQ and puddings**  
**Barn Dance** with live band!

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May

**11.30am**

**Worship for Pentecost in the Barn, for the whole family** led by Rev Andrew Hollins and Rev Ruth Charlesworth.  
Followed by 'bring your own' picnic and games.



At Normanton Lodge Farm,  
Empingham Road, Normanton LE15 8RW  
What3words: [senders.desks.most](https://www.what3words.com/senders.desks.most)