

Sunday 22nd February, 2026 1st in Lent

10.30 a.m. - Mrs. Val Hackney

- Contemporary worship

4.0 p.m. - Rev. Deborah Caulk

Gospel Jazz Worship Service including communion, especially for first Sunday in Lent

Monday 23rd February, 2026

9.30 - 11.30 a.m. - **CHATTERBOX**

Coffee, good conversation and a friendly ear

Wednesday 25th February, 2026

7.45 a.m. - Prayer meeting by Zoom

10.0 - 11.30 a.m. - Jack in a Box is

back from half term holiday in time to celebrate the Chinese New Year.



7.0 p.m. - Church Council

Sunday 1st March, 2026 2nd in Lent

9.0 a.m. - Rev. Debbie Caulk - communion

10.30 a.m. - Mrs. Jean Marshall

2.30 p.m. - At West Butterwick

World Day of Prayer 2026.

MWiB will be holding this service in Wesley Church on **Friday 6th March at 2.30 p.m.** Groups from Epworth and the Circuit have been invited to attend. Prayer starts in Samoa, and 146 countries later it ends in American Samoa. This year's service has been written by Christian ladies of Nigeria. We would love many members of our congregation to come along and join us. Refreshments are provided!

An invitation to join a Lent course

"Living in Love - a Lenten Journey"

Belton Church - 7.0 p.m. - Monday evenings from 23rd February until 30th March

ROAD CLOSURE

Sunday 22nd

Note that High Street will be closed to vehicles because of road resurfacing works. Pedestrian access only.

Wednesday 25th February, 2026 - 2.0 p.m.

Open meeting at Ashby Wesley to hear the proposals put forward by the leadership team for the circuit from September 2026, following the retirement of Rev Paul.

These proposals affect every church in the circuit. Please come and hear them first hand. **If you require a lift please see one of the stewards.**

Easter Journey is due to take place this year all day on

23rd March, then on the mornings of **24th and 26th**

March. If you would like to be involved please have a word with Tish. There will be a meeting on **Tuesday**

February 24th at 15:00 to discuss organisation.



There is not one blade of grass, there is no colour in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice. - John Calvin

Thank you. Jean wishes to thank all who have supported her while away in hospital and convalescence; prayers, visits, phone calls. She is now back home and welcomes visitors.



If you have overcome your inclination and not been overcome by it, you have reason to rejoice. - Plautus

The Old Rectory is looking for a new gardener to work 13 hours a week.

Details are available from: **Sarah Maltby, Strategic Manager**



A little light music?

It could hardly have come at a worse time! Just when our Worship Band is on duty this Sunday, we find that vehicle access to church is barred. We have amplifiers, speakers, instruments and all the paraphernalia which is part of modern popular music to carry in by hand. It's another example of the advantages of being a piccolo player!

In my youthful brass band days I played cornet, the smallest of regular band instruments. My brother, on the other hand, was a tuba player, or E flat bass as it was known in brass band circles. We travelled between home and band practice or services on the 'bus - quite a struggle for Peter. Ironically, Joan's brother, David, started on the soprano cornet - an even smaller instrument than the usual cornet - and progressed to double bass tuba and sousaphone.

Marching in band formation was no joke for either of our brothers. The bass players always led the parade. There might have been an acoustic reason for this, perhaps, but my theory is that it was to keep those of us fortunate to play small instruments from dashing ahead and leaving the heavy brigade behind.

During my national service in the R.A.F. I played in the voluntary Brass Band. We once marched through Hereford for a Battle of Britain memorial parade, culminating in playing to accompany the hymns in a service in the cathedral. Also, as I once said in this column, we marched through the open gates of Hereford Prison to play to the inmates, a memorable time for us all.

The Worship Band will have to find a way to deal with the obstacles on Sunday, but I can confidently predict that it will be in place and ready to go, despite all hindrance. Join us there, and be part of this golden opportunity of witnessing to our faith.

Notices for the week continue on the back page.

Rejoice in the Lord and
be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are up-
right in heart!

Psalm 32 v. 11 (NIV)



We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorns have roses.
— Alphonse Karr, A Tour Round My Garden

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Contact Steward	Dr John Lambert 6 Rectory Street , Epworth DN91HB Tel. 01427 872466
Face book	www.facebook.com/ WesleyMemorialMethodistChurchEpworth
Baptism admin.	Mrs Louise Howard—07460 657278
Circuit web site	www.esgmethodist.org.uk
Notices	Keith Topham - grange.top35@gmail.com
Room bookings	epworth_roombookings@esgmethodist.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Bamford - 07549123574 epworthwesleysafeguarding@gmail.com
	Our Church Prayer chain is now using WhatsApp, which is totally encrypted, adding to our security and privacy policy. If you have a prayer request (with permission from the recipient) or wish to know more about becoming part of the Prayer Group, please contact Pauline - 01427 875478 or Pat - 0777 6490275 in the first instance.

Safeguarding Foundation Training
3rd March 2026 from 10.30 a.m. for circa 2.5 hours
Messingham Methodist Church, Church Street
Messingham DN17 3SB
I am aware of one person who needs to undertake this training and one person who needs to renew their training. I will contact these people separately. I have also put up a full list of who needs this training on the safeguarding noticeboard in the schoolroom.
Please contact:
karen.elvidge231@gmail.com to book a place on this course.
Please have a word with me for further information.
Andrew

Church locking rota We are grateful to those who open a lock up church each day. It is good that we are open for visitors and for those wanting a place for quiet reflection. John is preparing next year's rota of volunteers. If you would like to take part please let him know. We unlock about 10.0 a.m. and lock up about 4.0 p.m.



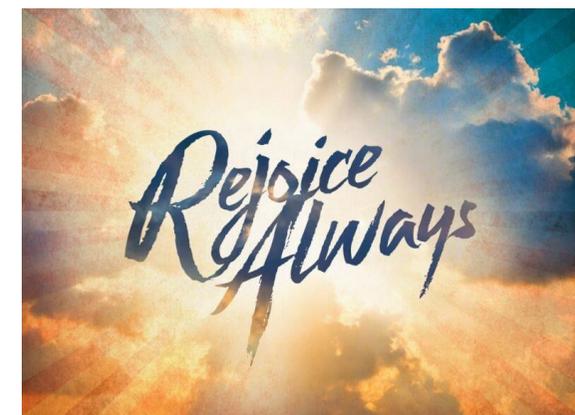
All my life through, the new sights of Nature made me rejoice like a child. - Marie Curie



**Wesley Memorial
Church, Epworth**

Notices for the week commencing

Sunday 22nd February, 2026



Who is rich? He that rejoices in his portion. - Benjamin Franklin