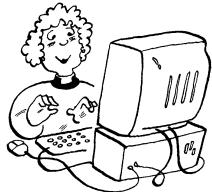


❖ *Newsletter* ❖

*Christmas/Winter 2025*



FROM THE MANSE



Dear Friends,

Last Year's Connexional theme for Advent was 'Hush the Noise'. In 21<sup>st</sup> century materialistic western culture, Christmas is often a busy and noisy time. Finding moments to pause and reflect on the meaning of it all can remind us of this year's Connexional Advent theme, that we are 'Gifted'- gifted by God's love and grace.

How long do these glimpses of God's love and grace remain with us? Until we have finished our Christmas dinner? Until New Year?

2026 is going to be a year of change in our circuit and district one way or another. As people of faith one way of preparing ourselves and opening our hearts and minds to change is through prayer. As someone said to me recently, 'You can never have too much prayer.' Hence, we have decided to hold a circuit quiet day where there will be occasions throughout the day to join together in prayer for the circuit and our world. This offers us a reminder to pray at all times and never give up. Prayer is something for everybody, not just monks or nuns who have taken vows committing their lives to prayer. Please save the date of **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** in your diary. Details of times and venues (plus prayer materials that could be used at home) will be circulated separately as we get closer to the start of Lent – another time of reflection in the Christian year.

In the accounts of Jesus birth in the gospels there are many instances of divine encounter-some of these are awaited and some come as a surprise. When Mary and Joseph receive messages from angels about the role they have to play in God's plan it is not something that they have looked for or sought out but it is still heard with receptive hearts. The shepherds quiet, routine night on the hillside is interrupted 'out of the blue' by the good news of the angel chorus.

And then there are the Magi. They have been waiting and looking for signs of the arrival of a special king. In our circuit quiet day in 2026 may we be like the Magi- waiting and looking for signs of 'God with us' today. May we also be like Mary & Joseph and the shepherds, prepared to be surprised by what God's presence illuminates in our lives.

May you know God's love in your heart this Christmas and may God's love carry us all through 2026.

**Christmas blessings**

*Rev Vicki*

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***Christmas is forever, not for just one day. For loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away.***

***Norman Wesley Brooks***

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*As an old man walked along the beach at dawn, he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea.*

*Catching up with the youth, he asked why he was doing this. The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun.*

*"But the beach goes on for miles and miles and there are millions of starfish. How can your effort make any difference?"*

*The young man looked at the starfish in his hand and threw it safely into the waves. "It makes a difference to **that** one", he said.*

♥ From "Who Cares?" – Edited and compiled by Mary Oakley



## Ministers day off

**Rev Vicki Atkinson**

**Saturday**

**Rev Paul Braisdell**

**Friday**

**Rev Debbie Caulk**

**Friday**



## **Ashby Wesley Church** **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every month**



*... come along and have a cup of coffee  
and a chat.*

**2pm to 3pm**

***Everyone is welcome to join us.***

Dear friends,

### **On behalf of Circuit Leadership Team**

I am sure it isn't of any surprise to you all that Revd. Paul "sits down" at the end of July 2026, and we feel it necessary to let you know the current situation and plans for the circuit from September 2026.

Mervyn along with the finance team have worked on the budget, which was presented and discussed at the circuit meetings' earlier this year for 2025-2026, the assessments were calculated accordingly, and only cover the costs of two ministers, the third is paid for from the Circuit Reserves.

**For 2026-2027, the level of assessments based on the current budget, will not go down and will most likely be more or remain the same.**

**To be clear, 2026-2027 circuit finances/budget will only support two ministers (Revd. Vicki and Revd. Debbie).**

Conversations are in progress as to how CLT will assist and help with the management and the continuance of ministry for all our churches, and there will be more to say on this no later than early spring and the next round of church council meetings.

As I said, what is ahead of us, will be a challenging time, we know the two-minister situation will be hard for everyone, especially for our ministers. Their well-being, workloads and time management will be closely monitored, what they can do, but more importantly what they will be unable to do. Our expectations will have to change, and we will all need to be flexible.

If anyone has questions or needs further information, please do not hesitate to contact me, Mervyn or your allocated circuit steward.

We will all play our part, support and pray, after all we are Methodists, and as John Wesley said "Best of all, God is with us".

Blessings,  
*Hazel Jackson*  
*Senior Circuit Steward*



## Christmas Stories

Christmas message - 'GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST' written in large letters outside a High Street church was spoilt when vandals knocked out the 'E'.

When considering replacement, one person said:  
"Why not leave it as it is?" 'GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGH ST'.

M.D.M



After Christmas three children were asked what they had done on Christmas Day. One, the son of the Vicar, said that the family had been to church then arriving home had opened their presents and later sung a carol. A Roman Catholic boy said he had been to Mass, then opened his presents and later sung carols. A little boy said his father owned a toy factory. They had visited the factory, looked at the empty shelves and sang "What a friend we have in Jesus".

D.W.

*Christian Crackers - compiled by Phil Mason*

## Latest update from Laughton

The Harvest celebrations at Laughton Methodist Church went very smoothly this autumn. Our thanks must go to our colleagues at Yaddlethorpe who provided the delicious refreshments following the service. All the produce from the celebration was donated to The Forge.



Our thoughts now turn to Christmas. We are having a candle-lit Carol Service on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6 pm led by Rev Paul Braisdell. There will be tea, coffee and mince pies to follow and everyone is very welcome to join us. We do hope there will be a good attendance so our Christmas celebrations can begin well.

Following this, there will be a short Christmas Day service at 10 am led by a local Laughton resident.



The renovation of the former schoolroom is not progressing as quickly as we would have liked. Our application to the National Lottery for £5000 was regrettably rejected as 'There are more deserving causes than that of Laughton Methodist Church', despite there being no village hall or other meeting place in the village. To say we were disappointed is an understatement. We have, however,

heard from West Lindsey District Council that they are prepared to up their grant of £20,000 to £25000 to cover the shortfall. For this we are most grateful. All the remaining funding is now in place. The Circuit will help with finance for the licence which is a necessary proviso from the church's freeholders. Many thanks to Rev Vicki for her assistance and expertise in applying for all the grants.

We now await approval from TMCP and then, at long last, the builders can be contacted, and the work can begin.

Watch this space – perhaps work will have started by the time the next Newsletter arrives. Perhaps.

*Kevin Wilbur*

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## **News update and Christmas events from Winteringham**

### **PRESENTATION OF £850.00 TO LINDSEY LODGE HOSPICE** - During



the summer months we had a very successful sponsored walk and BBQ to raise funds for our own Chapel and the Hospice. On Tuesday 4th of November during our coffee morning, we presented the Hospice representatives with the Cheque for which they

were very grateful. It was a very happy time for us all and the Chapel was full, with locals attending and it was a lovely surprise to see Andrew and his wife from the Epworth part of our circuit join us.

***Above picture - Hospice cheque presentation. Everyone has granted permission for picture to be printed.***

**COFFEE MORNING** - 2nd of December in the Chapel from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Everyone will be made most welcome. We will have a great time with lots of fun with our raffle. Our donation table will have books and jigsaws for sale, and we always have a good natter with each other.

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 21st - ALL AGE FAMILY CAROL SERVICE LED BY MRS HAZEL JACKSON** - starts at 10.30 am. Light refreshments to follow. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

**WEDNESDAY 24th OF DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE** - 4.00pm in the Chapel.

We are currently working very hard to put together an original special Christmas drama entitled NO ROOM, NO ROOM AT THE INN. The full cast consists of around 15 all age actors taking us through in a slightly different way the birth of Jesus.



We have a special built set, and our actors will take on lots of traditional roles of shepherds, Angels, kings, a very tired and aggravated Inn keeper, with director Richard Atkinson complete with clapper board (not too loud Richard or you will wake the Inn keeper).

It will be acting, including poetry and singing; therefore, we look forward to a good start of our evening that will be followed by a light buffet. Visitors are most welcome.

#### **BOX IN A BARROW**

We shall be rolling out our barrow again round the whole village in December to collect food donations for the FORGE. We have run this for the last four years and it enables the Chapel to come alive in our village, spreading a gospel of good will and giving to others from our community.

All members of our village seem enthusiastic to have the barrow in their driveway for a day to encourage others to help the underprivileged in our society. The Forge is certainly extremely thankful for our efforts.

May we all, young and old look to Christ at this special time of the year for love, peace and joy.

A special blessing to everyone round our Circuit as we approach 2026.

***From all at Winteringham Methodist church***

## December '25 news from Misterton

Well, Advent has already started and the Christmas adverts on telly were on before Bonfire Night. With the village carols on 14th December this year, our carols at the ***Methodist Church will be at 10.30 am on the 21st.*** The theme will be nativity sets - we have over a dozen given or loaned so they will be on show during that service and up to 1pm on the day, so do drop in for a coffee during or after the service finishes at 11.30am. There are sets in all shapes and sizes, from knitted and porcelain to wooden. But the one obvious similarity is the group of figures at the centre. Whether the shepherds ever met the three (or more) wise men, or stroked the donkey, they all went to see the birth of a special baby, one who is talked about 2,000 years later. Spare a thought this Christmas for what happened all those years ago as we go about our celebrations in the coming weeks.



Misterton's current Methodist Church has stood in the heart of the village for many years, next year sees the 200th anniversary of the previous building on the same site. In its day it would have been full to capacity, hence the need for the current building in 1878 celebrating births, marriages and the lives of those we have loved who have gone before us.

Events such as the bazaar show us the support we have from the village, and an weekend exhibition is being planned to celebrate a community space used by many in the area for dances, seasonal fairs and bingo, and seniors parties.

A warm welcome will be had, with plenty of tea and coffee and good-humoured chat, after services or on Thursday mornings. God bless.

***The stewards***



## Good News from Old Brumby United Church

These days, when many of our churches have few to no children attending worship on a Sunday morning, it was good news to hear that Old Brumby United church would once again be welcoming children to our Remembrance Sunday service on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

In fact, it was good news that two events involving children were to take place that Sunday.

The Scunthorpe 16<sup>th</sup> Scout Group used to be based at Centenary Methodist Church, Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe, but after the church closed down, they have been welcomed to Old Brumby United Church and have been meeting with us on Remembrance Sundays and at Christmas when we hold a Civic Service during the Festival of Trees, and occasionally at other special services too.

So, it was good to see the Beavers and Cubs of the group, their leaders, families and friends in church on Remembrance Sunday. The children looked very smart in their uniforms and paraded down the aisle during the opening hymn with their flags and presented them to Rev Vicki, who was leading the service. Hymns were sung, prayers said and the usual 2 minutes silence observed at 11 o'clock.

Rev Vicki's all age-talk was based on the story in the Gospel of St. Luke where Jesus visits the home of Mary and Martha. The story was brought to life when Vicki connected it to traffic lights to help us remember the lesson, and the children had fun marching around the church, having to 'stop', 'turn around', and 'go' when the different colours - red, amber and green, were called out.

Vicki went on to say that sometimes we need a red light moment to stop the hustle and bustle and focus on what is truly important (like Martha). Sometimes we need to slow down, as with the amber light, sit and listen to Jesus (like Mary) and the green light means that after spending time with Jesus we can then go and serve others. The

children listened attentively and interacted positively. Hopefully we'll all remember the lesson.

The offertory was taken by the children during the service and at the end parents and relatives watched proudly as they paraded back down the aisle with their flags.

After worship we joined together for our usual refreshments and fellowship.

One of the longest standing members of our church had celebrated a birthday during the week before and had kindly brought along some tasty mini chocolate 'bites', which as you can imagine, went down very well with everyone. It was lovely to see the children and visitors, and we really look forward to seeing them again at Christmas.

The second event involving children that same day was a baptismal service, when we welcomed a party of around 30 folks for the baptism of 3 month old baby Charlotte.

The service included hymns, prayers and the usual important promises made by the parents and godparents. Charlotte's big sister was involved in helping to pour water into the font at the appropriate time and then after the baptism when a candle and gift had been presented, our prayer was that Charlotte 'may come to grow and live in the faith of God'. She was as good as gold, made not a murmur and mainly slept through it all.

Family and friends enjoyed taking photos after the service and I'm sure Charlotte's special day will be remembered for a long time.

We look forward to the next baptism which will take place in the New Year.

We all agreed it's good to see children in church.

*Viv Holmes*



## **Mouse tales from Gainsborough**

Hi all...!

It feels like ages since I resided in my cosy little mouse apartment in GMC. 'They' (my adopted friends) have been invited to visit every chapel in the extended Lincoln Circuit. That's a bit like our ESG, where circuits were cut up and merged. I have hitched a lift, to the first half dozen, in 'their' newish rucksack, where I've created yet another comfy corner. Now, variety is the spice of life they say and wow am I seeing variety. It makes you realise just how much work all the stewards put in, and even more impressive is how preachers and ministers keep weekly messages fresh. I've taken things so much for granted for years. Every chapel has been different, exciting and all focused on our risen Lord.

Looking back over the past few months, GMC hosted that marvellous Anston Male voice choir again in Autumn with loads of talent, harmony and humour. It was a real treat to sit back and relax. Then we had a Autumn Fayre, when I gorged myself on loads of crumbs. As always in Autumn we had the shoe box appeal again, lots of well decorated boxes, filled with marvellous gifts, going to some of the world's poorest kids. All events were very well supported.

So.. Looking forward to Christmas, I see we have a load of carol services in Advent, one joint with our neighbouring Churches, another when toys appear for needy Lincolnshire kids. If you hear the odd squeak at a service, it might be me with a hoarse throat from hammering it out on the top of my voice. Let's hope they have cakes, biscuits and mince pies. More information can be found on our FACEBOOK pages.

I might have recovered by the second Sunday of 2026 when there's another humdinger of a 'Gig' at GMC. The extremely talented music Combo from the old Wolds and Trent circuit are leading an "Epiphany

Praise" service. Previously, I thought the building fabric had been damaged with the lively music and meaningful worship. Experience the atmosphere yourself on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2pm at GMC.

Just about finishing winterising my little nest. Here's wishing you and yours a very *Happy and Blessed Christmas from me and all my friends at Gainsborough*.



*Anon-e-mouse*



## Seasons Greeting from Lea

November 11th - We were delighted to welcome the pre-school class from Lea Primary School who came to lay wreaths they had made at the cross in the church garden. Thank you, Toke for arranging the event. We hope to have more visits from the children.

If you receive the newsletter early enough there will be a coffee morning on December 6th 10-11.30am with stalls of cakes, books, tombola, lovely hand knitted hats and scarves, and a Teddy competition. Refreshment will be served and all are welcome.

Through the past the year our church has supported the Salvation Army food bank, the Lincs agricultural chaplaincy appeal, feed Gainsborough, a local charity Another Slice, and the North Warren family centre used by children in care as a family meeting place. We will be buying a Christmas gift for each child in care using the centre.

Our Monday Club will be having a seasonal celebration on the 8th, from 10-11.30am.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Retreat will be hosting the MWIB district day on Friday June 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see a lot of you there.

And as always, we are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus, singing our favourite carols, and hearing the familiar Bible passages telling the age-old story of the first coming of Christ.

Wishing Peace and goodwill for the world and all your homes.

***Pat Gray***

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**Journeying**

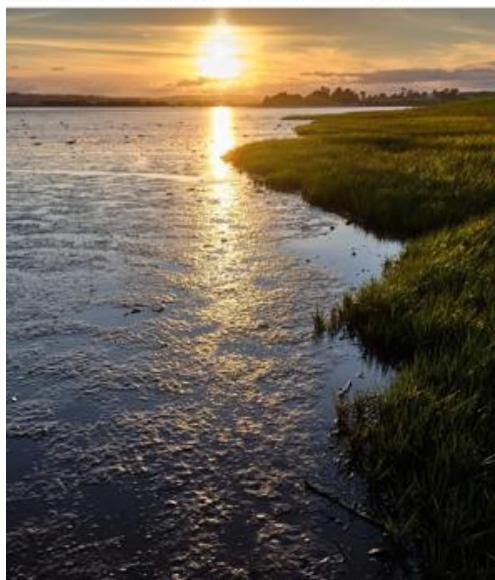
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...



You are the peace of all things calm,  
You are the place to hide from harm.  
You are the light that shines in dark,  
You are the heart's eternal spark.  
You are the door that's open wide,  
You are the guest who waits inside.  
You are the light, the truth, the way,  
You are my Saviour this very day.

Celtic Blessing from the first millennium



[www.journeying.co.uk](http://www.journeying.co.uk)



## Methodist Women in Britain

Our District days for 2026 are planned as outlined below. These are always good times of fellowship and we would encourage groups to plan these dates into your programmes

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026      at Middle Rasen      Olive Ruzvidzo**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026      at Little Lea Retreat      Our Story, Our Song**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026      at Navenby      Deacon Helen Gardner**

[www.mwib.org.uk](http://www.mwib.org.uk) has all the latest national news and events listed.

Our annual MWiB Conference will be held at Swanwick, Derbyshire, 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Booking will open on the MWiB website in early January and there is financial help available through the Lincolnshire District MWiB funds – please contact me if you want to know more. Those who attend from our circuit and district always have a good time.

### **Swanwick Residential Weekend : 10th to 12th April 2026**

## **“Where Power meets Purpose: Small Acts that Change the World”      Carolyn Godfrey**



*Carolyn Godfrey has been the Regional Officer for Safeguarding for both the Darlington and Newcastle Districts since early 2015. Before this she worked in education and has a background in pastoral care and special needs, mostly focused in the primary sector. She feels strongly that a good safeguarding culture is central to our calling to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice seeking church.*

*Carolyn served as the Vice President of the Methodist Conference 2024-2025.*

Bronwen Braisdell

## Events for the Yuletide season

Haxey Methodist Church  
Candlelight Carol service  
on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>  
December at  
6:00 pm.



Nine readings and carols.



Epworth Churches Together

Come and join us

**Community Christmas Carol Service**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

1 – 1.45pm

Followed by seasonal treats and refreshments.

St Andrews Church, Epworth DN9 1ES

All are invited to come along to our Dementia friendly service. Accessible for wheelchair users.

Come celebrate with friends and family.

Seasonal refreshments provided.

For further information please contact 07460657278

Wesley Methodist Church Epworth

**Nativity Pantomime**

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> January

3pm

Tickets - Adults £5.00   Accompanied Children under 16 free

Available from: Dave 07846245358 or Church Steward

**YADDLETHORPE  
METHODIST CHURCH  
CAROLS  
AND  
MINCE PIES**



**FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
2.00 to 3.30pm**

**IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**ALL WELCOME**



**Old Brumby United Church**

Ashby Road  
Scunthorpe



**CAROL SERVICE**

to be held on

**Sunday December 21st**

**3pm - 4pm**

To be led by

Rev Vicki Atkinson

All are warmly  
invited



**Old Brumby United Church**

Ashby Road  
Scunthorpe



**CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

to be held on

**Saturday December 6th**

**2.30pm—3.00pm**



amongst the trees  
during the

2025 Rotary Club  
Christmas Tree Festival

All are warmly invited

**Old Brumby United Church**

Ashby Road  
Scunthorpe



**CAROL SERVICE**

to be held on

**Sunday December 21st**

**3pm - 4pm**

To be led by

Rev Vicki Atkinson

All are warmly  
invited

**Scunthorpe Festival of Christmas Trees 2025**

Rotary Club of Scunthorpe

Twentieth Anniversary Festival

With financial assistance from



Over 60 individually decorated trees

Live musical entertainment

Refreshments

**Old Brumby United Church  
Ashby Rd. Scunthorpe**

6th, 7th, 12th, 13th & 14th Dec  
Saturdays 10.30am to 5.00pm  
Friday 10.00am to 12.30pm  
Sundays 12 noon to 4.00pm

**Free Entry!**

Donations invited.

They will be shared equally between

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

&

**LINDSEY LODGE**



Gainsborough Methodist Church

# Toys Service\*

for Lincolnshire Action Trust

Sunday 7th December  
at 2pm



Christmas can be an especially difficult time for young people – many of them must take on added responsibilities at home when caring for a parent, guardian or relative who uses substances, and some may worry about a family member who is absent from the family home.

We're hoping that with the generous support from the local community, we'll be able to make their Christmas wishes come true.



Donations of new toys welcomed

GAINSBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

# JOINT CAROL SERVICE

WITH LESSONS AND CAROLS

WITH FRIENDS FROM  
THE TEAM PARISH OF GAINSBOROUGH  
AND MORTON

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER  
AT 4:00 PM

COME AND JOIN THE FESTIVE CHEER!

*Oh tidings of comfort and joy*



† Section service at Ashby Wesley Methodist Church or  
via zoom on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 10:30 am †

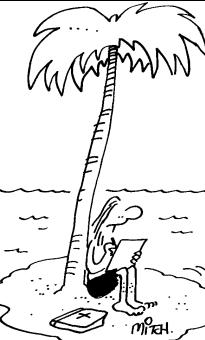
From the  
Psalm

This is the day  
the LORD has  
made...



Let us REJOICE  
and be glad in it...

Ps 118:24



"DEAR MUM .... BEING A MISSIONARY  
ISN'T QUITE WHAT I THOUGHT  
IT WOULD BE ...."

# Christmas Traditions and Customs

## The History of Gingerbread



Gingerbread, and other food such as cookies, flavoured with ginger (and other spices) are now thought of as 'Christmas flavours'.

Ginger is a spice which first came into Europe from Asia via Arabia in the 1st century, although it had been used in its native areas and countries like China, to treat things like stomach ache, for several hundred years. The first gingerbread might have brought into Europe in 992 by Gregory of Nicopolis, who was an Armenian monk. He went to live in northern [France](#) and is recorded teaching people how to make gingerbread.

During the middle ages Ginger became more popular in Europe as a flavouring. Some of the first recorded recipes for 'Gingerbread' were for ginger, and other exotic spices like nutmeg and cloves, to be mixed with honey and thickened with breadcrumbs (or sometimes even parsnips). That's where the name 'gingerbread' comes from. This mixture was more like a sticky cake and not like the gingerbread which we build into houses!

A type of gingerbread (*pierniki toruńskie*) has been made in Toruń in [Poland](#) since the 1300s. In the 1400s there are records from a convent in [Sweden](#) saying that nuns baked gingerbread as eating it helped ease indigestion. And in the 1500s in [England](#) a writer said Gingerbread was "a kinde of cake or paste made to comfort the stomacke".

In the UK early gingerbread was also often coloured red and known as 'red gingerbread'. There was also 'white gingerbread' which was marzipan mixed with spices.

In [Germany](#), the first [Christmas Trees](#) were decorated with edible things, such as gingerbread and gold covered apples. In 1605 an unknown German wrote: *"At Christmas they set up fir trees in the parlours of Strasbourg and hang thereon roses cut out of many-colored paper, apples, wafers, gold foil, sweets, etc."*.

In the 1700s and 1800s gingerbread recipes changed as sugar became cheaper. Gingerbread became more like biscuits/cookies with flour and treacle/molasses replacing the honey and breadcrumbs. Gingerbread was made into shapes by pressing the dough into wooden moulds made into shapes like figures and animals. It could be very tough to eat when it was first cooked and sometimes needed to 'mature' and 'soften' to make it more edible. By the Victorian period, in the UK, ginger was the cheapest 'spice' available, and gingerbread was eaten all through the year.

In countries like [Germany](#), [Austria](#), [Denmark](#) and [The Netherlands](#), gingerbread was (and is) still mainly associated with Christmas with special gingerbreads like lebkuchen and pfeffernisse/pepernoot/pebernødder.

Many German bakers came to England in the 1800s and bought their Christmas gingerbread traditions with them. Settlers to the [USA](#) brought of gingerbread from different parts of Europe with them.

### **Some bad Christmas cracker jokes**

*What do you get if you cross Santa with a detective?  
Santa Clues!*

*What did the sea Say to Santa?  
Nothing! It just waved!*

# A Methodist Way of Life

A Methodist Way of Life encourages us to grow together.  
Make time to discuss these questions regularly with others.

## Worship

- What is the pattern of your prayer life?
- How easy or hard do you find it to pray?
- What has spoken to you recently in worship or in the Bible?
- When, lately, have you felt close to God or distant from God?

## Learning and Caring

- How have you practised generosity since we last met?
- How have you shown hospitality to others recently?
- How are you caring for yourself?
- How and what are you learning now?

## Service

- How are you seeking to serve others in your communities and beyond? What has helped or hindered you in your service of others?
- How are you caring for God's creation?
- How are you using God's gifts (including your financial resources)?
- What issues of injustice are you currently concerned about? What are you doing in response?

## Evangelism

- When was the last time you were able to talk about God?
- What opportunities to share your faith have there been since we last met?
- How have you responded to opportunities to share your faith?
- Is there anyone you might invite to consider Christian faith?

## How can we support each other in our Way of Life commitments?

# A Methodist Way of Life

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

As far as we are able, with God's help:

## **Worship**

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture, and the world.

## **Learning and Caring**

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will learn more about our faith.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.

## **Service**

- We will help people in our communities and beyond.
- We will care for creation and all God's gifts.
- We will challenge injustice.

## **Evangelism**

- We will speak of the love of God.
- We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others.

**May we be a blessing within and beyond God's Church,  
for the transformation of the world.**

The **Methodist** Church



## 37. Treasures in Heaven

### Matthew 6:19-24 KJV

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and money.

D	T	H	E	L	S	R	E	E	T	K	U	R	D	C
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H	H	T	O	T	H	E	R	V	T	M	E	A	P	R
T	N	E	O	E	T	B	I	E	E	S	M	T	I	U
U	C	L	R	M	N	O	M	M	A	M	H	E	S	P
S	Y	O	U	R	S	E	L	V	E	S	H	I	E	T
S	G	H	C	A	N	N	O	T	S	H	U	R	E	R
E	J	W	G	R	E	A	T	E	T	T	O	R	T	M
N	L	L	Y	H	T	R	A	E	S	F	E	H	E	A
K	F	T	H	R	O	U	G	H	E	L	I	A	X	S
R	R	N	T	E	V	O	L	R	L	E	E	T	L	T
A	W	R	S	P	M	M	E	L	V	T	Y	X	E	
D	R	N	U	M	T	H	U	E	Y	D	O	B	E	R
C	B	Y	R	K	T	F	S	H	K	L	T	L	K	S

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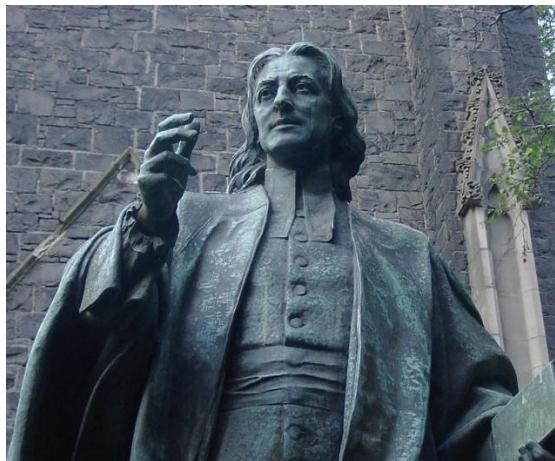
### 37. Treasures in Heaven

BODY	FULL	OTHER
BREAK	GREAT	RUST
CANNOT	HATE	SERVE
CORRUPT	HOLD	STEAL
DARKNESS	LAY	THEREFORE
DESPISE	LIGHT	THIEVES
EARTH	LOVE	THROUGH
EITHER	MAMMON	TREASURES
ELSE	MASTERS	WHOLE
EYE	MOTH	YOURSELVES



## Lectionary readings for December 2025 to February 2026

30 <sup>th</sup> November <b>1<sup>st</sup> of Advent</b>	Psalm 122 Matthew 24:36-44
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Matthew 3:1-12
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Psalm 146:5-10 Matthew 11:2-11
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Matthew 1:18-25
28 <sup>th</sup> December	Psalm 148 Matthew 2:13-23
4 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Epiphany and Covenant Sunday</b>	Psalm 147:12-20 John 1:(1-9) 10-18
11 <sup>th</sup> January	Psalm 29 Matthew 3:13-17
18 <sup>th</sup> January	Psalm 40:1-11 John 1:29-42
25 <sup>th</sup> January	Psalm 27:1, 4-9 Matthew 4:12-23
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Psalm 15 Matthew 5:1-12
8 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Racial Justice Sunday</b>	Psalm 112:1-9 (10) Matthew 5:13-20
15 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Week before Lent</b>	Psalm 2 Matthew 17:1-9
22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Psalm 32 Matthew 4:1-11



## John Wesley quote

***“The church changes the world not by making converts but by making disciples”***



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