

East Lincs

Link



in Christ
with Christ
for Christ

The magazine of the
East Lincolnshire
Methodist Circuit
Summer 2026



The Superintendent Writes:

One Circuit, Our future, Reshaping for mission.

You may be aware that over recent years there have been discussions within the district on how to move the district/circuits forward. This has come about due to several factors, not least throughout the Methodist Connexion there are fewer Ordained Presbyters, and fewer Presbyters willing to take on the mantle of Superintendent. Alongside this circuits are facing an ever-increasing workload of administration which brings with it worry and anxiety in ensuring compliance and administration.

This led to District starting a process in 2024 of looking how we can as a District and a Circuit start to do things differently, with the spring

Synod of 2024 looking at different models of Circuit.

This is a continuing process with subsequent Synods discussing various models of Circuit, eventually three models were presented to synod with approval being given to continue looking at the one circuit 1 District model.

This has led to where we are at today, with Revd Angy Long visiting each Circuit to discuss the proposals and to seek comments from the circuits, on Saturday 13th June Revd Angy visited the east Lincs Circuit at Alford in a widely publicised meeting to put forward the proposals and to listen to any comments and concerns.

There has been information coming from district in the form of updates, at the moment there has been three updates which have been circulated around the churches, where I

encourage you to read them. During the period between October 2026 and March 2027 there will be discussions in each Church Council and in the Circuit Meeting where votes will be taken on these proposals.

There is also a strap line of; **One Circuit, Our future, Reshaping for mission.**

This is a brief explanation of where the District and the Circuit are at, I encourage you to read, pray and chat about the proposals that are coming through from district, the district aims to create a mission centred Circuit.

Graham Miles





Together

in Christ
with Christ
for Christ

Newsround

Louth



Louth Methodist Church

321 Extra! Our weekly Toddler Group is on every Friday during school term time. It runs from 9.30am to 11am and is a great opportunity for parents and carers to meet up and chat. Lots of soft and create play opportunities and we finish each session by singing traditional nursery rhymes! All preschool age children welcome.



COME AND ENJOY OUR 321 SESSIONS.

June 5th:19th:26th:

July 3rd:17th summer break 321 returns on 5th September

Come and join the fun at Messy Church with all the family:

At 4pm Louth Methodist church



June 12th

July 10th

MESSY CHURCH

@ Louth Methodist Church

On the **second Friday of each month**: crafts, activities, bible stories, songs, puppets and a meal. Open to ALL the family from grandparents to babies. No charge, donations welcome. Doors open at 3.45



Find us on
Facebook



Louth Methodist Church

Spilsby



Sing it Loud

Come and join us at Spilsby Chapel

27th July 7pm

An evening of Acapella singing. A varied programme including songs new and old with

chance to join in with those you know.

Exciting news, we now have a Facebook and Instagram pages. Follow us @ East Lincs Methodist Circuit.



Sutton on Sea



May brings the return of the popular Monday Night is Music Night at Sutton on Sea.

7.30pm to 8.30pm

Entrance is by a donation (minimum £5) payable on the door.

May 4th Skegness Silver Band

May 11th Trakbak

May 18th Rhythm and Steel

May 25th Brass Tacks

June 1st Alford Silver Band

June 8th No Hoppers, Jokers and Rogues

June 15th Meridian Singers

June 22nd Can't Sing Choir

June 29th Jane O'Farrell & Josh Wilkinson

July 6th Bluebird Jams

July 13th Withern Singers

July 20th Women in Song

July 27th Stanza Singers from Nottingham

Concerts continue through each week to 14th September. Full programmes available from the church

Spilsby

Come and Join us at

*Spilsby 's Methodist church every Monday
Morning 9.30am- 12.00pm to enjoy our friendly
coffee mornings new and old friends always*



welcome

Grainthorpe



Grainthorpe are celebrating their Chapel Anniversary on 12th July 10.30am service to be led by John Boardman, followed by lunch in the schoolroom, numbers for lunch to Doreen Silvester (for seating layout).

Correspondence from the Circuit office. It was brought up at the CLT meeting the question of how we send out information to everyone. At present we send it to the Church email Contact (not always the same as the Church Contact) but wonder if it is distributed throughout the congregations. Do you have any suggestions how information can be sent so that more people get to see it? Do you use the Website for news? Do you know we now have a Facebook page on social media?



Newsround

Circuit Meeting News: from the meeting on 16th June 2026

- Proposed Assessments accepted, current projected deficit is £17,612 to be met from the reserves.
- Mileage rate approved increase from 45p per mile to 55p per mile with immediate effect.
- Saltfleet Grant request for £5,000 approved
- Circuit Invitation committee appointed and delegated authority to offer invitations.
- Alford building works consultation and working party since Oct 24 plans agreed by Church Council, next steps Support in principle given and considerations for grants applications in the future.
- The sale of St Marys has been completed and the sale on Burgh le Marsh will complete on the 19th of June 2026.
- Conisholme is having the planning permission renewed as it had run out.
- We have advertised for a CAP Debt Centre Manager closing date is 20.07.26.
- Wainfleet have proposed the employment of a Youth Worker (target 11-16-year-olds) this is still with a steering group formed with the local council, head teacher of Wainfleet primary and district Youth worker. Funding model: three -way funding Church/external partners and Fundraising planned; target operating period 3-5 years.

Around the Churches

Here are a few stories from things that have been going on around the Circuit.



Saltfleet Thanks all those who attended the quiz for Christian Aid a £170 was raised. Thanks to Jim for entertaining us.



Reshaping Roadshow updates - 1 District 1 Circuit

We have sent out the updates that are being sent regularly from Alison at the District office. Copies of the updates are available at the Circuit office that can be viewed on a Wednesday morning if you have not seen them and wish to

have a read over coffee at open house.

Or alternatively go to the following website

<https://www.lincolnshiremethodist.org.uk/circuit-reshaping>.



Circuit Stewards Required

The Circuit Stewards are responsible, with the Superintendent and the ministers appointed to the Circuit, for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit and for upholding and acting upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting (CPD 530(1))

The role includes:

- Being a member of the Circuit Leadership Team, contributing to the discussions and ensuring decisions made at the meetings are carried out.
- Being a member of the Circuit Meeting and acting upon its decisions
- Supporting those determining the Circuit Budget and Assessments
- Attending designated Church Councils on behalf of the Circuit Stewards
- Offering support to Circuit Ministers.
- Supporting the Circuit Property Officer in ensuring manses are maintained at the required standard.
- Being a member of the Circuit Stationing and Curtailment Group
- Being aware of District and Connexional policies as they affect the Circuit and its local churches

“ All roles within the Circuit carry with them the responsibility to take the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults seriously and any concerns should be reported as per the Circuit Safeguarding Policy.

“ The role is accountable to the Circuit Meeting

“ Candidates should be a member of 1 of the churches in the Circuit.

“ This is an unpaid role but certain expenses may be claimed from the Circuit.

If you would like further information about the role, please contact a Minister or one of the Circuit Stewards.

We really do need you.

Circuit Safeguarding Officer Required

The role includes:

- Supporting and advising the Circuit Superintendent and Church Safeguarding Officers in fulfilling their roles of ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and vulnerable adults within the Circuit, along with liaising with the District Safeguarding Officer.
- Ideally being a member of the Circuit Leadership Team or attending relevant meetings where possible.
- Being a member of the Circuit Meeting.
- Meeting with Church Safeguarding Officers as necessary to ensure compliance with policies and procedures.
- Undertaking required training.
- Attending District events/meetings where possible.
- Reviewing the Circuit Safeguarding policy with CLT and ensuring local church policy is reviewed at Church Councils.
- Maintaining, with the Circuit Administrator records relating to all aspects of Safer Recruiting and training for those working in voluntary and paid roles within the Circuit.

.. The role is accountable to the Circuit Meeting

.. Candidates should be a member of 1 of the churches in the Circuit.

.. This is an unpaid role but certain expenses may be claimed from the Circuit.

.. This role could be undertaken as a job share

If you would like further information about the role, please contact a Minister.

SAFEGUARDING ADVANCED TRAINING

LOUTH METHODIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2026

10AM TO 2.30PM

EMAIL CIRCUIT OFFICE TO JOIN IN







in Christ
 Together with Christ
 for Christ



In Partnership with Christians Against Poverty CAP

WE'RE HIRING

CAP DEBT MANAGER

16 hours per week
with full training given

REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Administration experience
- ✓ Experience of successfully leading or motivating a team of volunteers
- ✓ Evidence of passion for evangelism and helping the poor
- ✓ Comfortable working with the vulnerable.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ✓ Visit clients at home and encourage them to work with CAP Debt advice whilst proving affordable budget and repayment plans
- Effective time management skills.
- ✓ To be an advocate for the CAP Debt centre in the Methodist Church

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL THE
CIRCUIT OFFICE
CLOSING DATE 20.07.26**

eastlincs17.6@gmail.com



What does CAP stand for?

Christians against Poverty

Welcome

This is your opportunity to be part of a rapidly growing movement of people who are working together to tackle one of the biggest social problems facing us today. We are so excited for you to join the family!

Who are we?

We are on a mission to set people in our nation free from a life sentence of debt, poverty and their causes. All CAP debt centres are run in partnership with CAP and our Church.

We will be offering practical and holistic support for people struggling with debt, as well as offering them the opportunity to hear the gospel. Through the Church and your role as a Debt Centre Coach we hope to help many more people live a debt free life!

Not only will you become a centre that delivers the most comprehensive debt help there, but you will also be able to take Jesus' love right into people's living rooms through our unique home-based appointments. From there, you will open their eyes to the loving community of God's Church and be able to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

At our core, we are:

Christ Centred – In all our actions, we seek to put Jesus first, committing to play our part in Christ's mission to bring hope and restoration to a broken world'.

United – We are one community with one big vision. Whether staff or supporter, church leader, MP or service user, our joint efforts see lives transformed'.

Compassionate – Care is at our core. We choose to open our hearts to the daily impact of debt & poverty across the UK and respond with Grace, Truth and Kindness.

We bring passion every day – We are determined to make a difference to individuals, communities and our whole nation, courageously enabling a hope-filled society.

Article for the East Lincs LINK

PARISH NURSING Wainfleet Methodist Community Church

Parish Nursing was started by Rev Dr G. Westberg in Chicago in the 1980s.

Worldwide there are over 15,000 Parish Nurses.

It began in the UK 20 years ago and we have 84 Parish Nurses in 91 Partner churches who supported 36,000 people last year.

Parish Nurses deliver whole person healthcare through the local church into the community.

Our vision is to support Christian communities across the UK to establish enduring, accredited Parish Nursing services that promote comprehensive health and wellbeing.

We promote health through health education, advice and spiritual care to people of all faiths or none. We offer physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

A Parish Nurse is a Registered Nurse employed through a local church or Christian organisation. (Paid or unpaid).

Our Wainfleet Parish Nursing Team consists of Polly Butler and Trina Harris as Nurses. Sue Alldread as our Pastor and manager. Doreen Horn as our spiritual support and advisor to the Nurses. Susan Howard as our Receptionist (and unofficially our ears and eyes to spot someone in need).

We are at church on Friday mornings from 10am to 12 noon in the vestry – no appointment needed.

We are happy to see anyone; you do not have to belong to the church or have any faith. We offer advice and help on all matters including health or spiritual needs for yourself, a relative or a loved one.

All consultations are held in private and strictest confidence, and all notes are held in confidence in a locked cupboard.



Trina Harris – Parish Nurse.

A Preacher's Ponderings

By Tricia Johnson

In the last two articles, we've thought about our life priorities, looking at the story of the professor filling a large jar with rocks, pebbles, and sand. To get everything in he had to start with the bigger items first and work down to the smallest. I suggested that the rocks that need to go into the jar of our life first are our self-care: spiritual, emotional, physical; and that the pebbles were our God-given responsibilities. We now come to the final item – sand, although I would like to bring in a fourth one...

A jar full of rocks (self-care) and pebbles (God-given responsibilities) is fairly full and there would appear to be little room for anything else that is sizeable. There would, however, be room for the sand, filling every little nook and cranny. But in the process, there is no space to breathe, there is no room for manoeuvre, there is no freedom. So, what could the sand represent? I would suggest that what clutters our lives is our thoughts – thoughts that drag us down, that crowd our minds, that fill our minds with worries, self-doubt, unhealthy guilt, and self-blame. But also, those beliefs/lies that our society feeds us.

And it is no surprise that Paul had a lot to say about our thought-life and minds... Here are two examples:

*We... take captive every **thought** to obey Christ.* 2 Corinthians 10:5

*...whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, **think** about these things.* Philippians 4:8

What we think profoundly affects how we interpret events and circumstances, and how we then feel about them. Thoughts really matter! And we are in a battle in this area. There is much in society that competes with God's word, challenging the truth of it. We are surrounded by ideologies and beliefs that can infiltrate our mind, that can be the sand that gets in the way of the smooth operation of our rocks and pebbles. The sand hovers around the mouth of the jar – we cannot stop that from happening - but we then welcome it and drag it in to the jar of our lives, dwelling and meditating on it.

I would now like to bring in a fourth element: water. If we fill our jar with water, rather than sand, the rocks and the pebbles can still move around, they are lubricated, and we can see around them clearly. In John 7:37-39 Jesus describes the holy spirit as living water. So, to develop our metaphor, if we pour in the living water of the spirit, the rocks of our self-care and the pebbles of our God-given responsibilities can move around freely, unhindered, and we can see...

So, how do we ensure that we fill our jars with this life-giving water of the holy spirit? Some more verses:

*If you abide in **my word**, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the **truth**, and the **truth** will set you free...* John 8:32

*He (the devil) was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the **truth**, because there is no **truth** in him. When he **lies** he speaks out of his own character, for he is a **liar** and the father of **lies**.* John 8:44

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil... Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of **truth**... In all circumstances... take... the sword of the spirit, which is **the word of God**.* Ephesians 6:10-20

When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority... John 16:13

The evil one's major strategy is to challenge what we believe to be true: look at Jesus' temptation in the desert, where three times the father of lies used scripture to try and tempt Jesus to take the easy route. And each time, Jesus wielded the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God to counter him. Matthew 4:1-11

Let us, then, look to the spirit to inform and guide us, as we dig deep into God's word, so that when those bits of sand hover around the mouth of the jar of our lives, we can kick them away. Let us 'flood' our rocks and our pebbles in the life-giving water of the spirit, that we may remain supple and able to serve our living God.

MAY WE BE
SPARED
TO MEET
ON EARTH

LETTERS OF THE LOST FRANKLIN
ARCTIC EXPEDITION

Edited by Russell A. Potter, Regina Koellner,
Peter Carney, and Mary Williamson

Foreword by Michael Palin

Wesley's Chapel, Raithby by Spilsby, PE23

4DS

We are delighted to welcome to give

The annual BRACKENBURY LECTURE

Mary Williamson & Peter Carney

**whose lecture
will be based on
the letters to and
from the crew of
Sir John Franklin's
fatal Arctic expedition**

Saturday

11 July 2026

3.00 pm

**Followed by tea and refreshments at Raithby Village
Hall**



June 2026 Update

We are incredibly pleased to let you know we have recently finalised a sponsorship agreement for another resettled refugee family and we are looking forward to their arrival in Louth over the coming few weeks.

This is another milestone in the ongoing mission of Louth Churches for Refugees – responding locally and practically in the light of continued world instability and huge global migration challenges.

We had an excellent response to our recent appeal for donations of furniture and furnishings, including practical help with collecting/moving/delivery – thank you for all your support as we prepare a warm welcome.

The family we will be sponsoring is made up of a mother and three adult children. Please remember members of the family in your prayers over the coming weeks as they prepare to travel to Lincolnshire and begin the challenging process of resettlement and integration. Please also continue to pray for the work of Louth Churches for Refugees as we seek to help:

**God of the journey,
turn our hearts towards**

**our migrant and refugee neighbours.
May those seeking sanctuary
know welcome, safety and hope.
Amen.**

Refugee Week this year runs from 15-21 June. Inspired by the lives and experiences of people seeking sanctuary, in 2026 we are invited to explore the theme of **Courage**. For refugees around the world, courage is a daily necessity. At a time when some seek to divide, Refugee Week calls us to come together and share the courage to welcome - and to celebrate community. Find out more at <https://refugeeweek.org/>

Thank you for your interest in and support for Louth Churches for Refugees. Our website has further information, and we post regular updates on Facebook. Please follow us and let your friends, family and neighbours know about our work. You can get in touch by using the contact form on our website.

www.louthchurchesforrefugees.org
 louthchurchesforrefugees

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