

CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR SPECIAL



Dear Friends...

Christmas approaches and with it another New Year. The signs of the approaching season begin to be all around us – the trees and lights appearing in shops, streets, and homes. It's cheering to see the lights illuminating the dark and ever increasingly shorter days. Of course, in our part of the world, we celebrate Christmas in the darkest and coldest time of the year whilst others will be experiencing long bright, hot days. Wherever we are though, the world and lives of others and ourselves can seem to be overcome by darkness, especially as we see so much happening which leaves us saddened and anxious. Perhaps we struggle to see any 'light', but it only takes the smallest of 'lights' to overcome the darkness.

We read in John's Gospel of the light that came at that first Christmas, words I find worth holding onto in the darkest moments: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. Christmas is the story of God who breaks into the world then and now in Jesus who comes as the Light of the world and whose light has continued to shine in the darkness, bringing hope, light, love, and faith to people's lives, to our lives, at Christmas and every day into 2024.

With my very best wishes to you and your families for Christmas and the New Year.

Deacon Jackie Fowler

Notices and Special Services

Christmas Day Services:

- **DRIFFIELD:** Rev Dr Richard Teal (10.30). Celebration service for all ages. Please bring a gift to show the congregation.
- **HORNSEA:** Deacon Jackie Fowler (10.00) Celebration service for all ages.
- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:** Preacher from St Peter's (10.30)
- **NAFFERTON:** Rev Dr Richard Teal (9.30)
- **LUND:** Pastor John Gleaves (9.00)

Carol Events/Services:

- **HORNSEA:**
 - o Hornsea Civic Carol Service at Hornsea URC – 9TH DEC @ 2.00PM
 - o Informal Carols at Hornsea Methodist Church – 19TH DEC @ 7.00PM
 - o Community Carol Singing in Hornsea Memorial Gardens – 24TH DEC @ 6.00PM
- **NAFFERTON:**
 - o Carol Singing on Jubilee Gardens at Nafferton, bucket collection for charity. Carol sheets provided, please bring a light – 24TH DEC @ 7.00PM
- **SKIRLAUGH:**
 - o Candlelit Festival of Victorian Carols and Readings – 20TH DEC @ 7.00PM
- **DRIFFIELD:**
 - o Carol Singing at Wetherspoons in Driffield. An informal evening of singing, fun and joy – 13TH DECEMBER @ 7PM
 - o Worship on Wednesday: Carols and Communion: Rev Dr Richard Teal – 20TH DECEMBER @ 10.30AM
- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:**
 - o Carols around the Christmas Tree on the Green; DEC 23RD 4.30PM
- **WETWANG:**
 - o Carols; DEC 13TH 7.00PM
- **LUND:**
 - o Lund Singers Carol Concert; DEC 12TH 7.00PM
 - o Christmas Carol Sing-Along on Lund Village Green; DEC 24TH 6.00PM – 7.00PM

Christmas Coffee Mornings:

- **ALDBROUGH:** 9th December @ 10.00am
- **BEEFORD:** 23rd December @ 9.00am – Bacon Butties and Christingles
- **BRANDESBURTON:** 16th December @ 10.00am
- **NEW ELLERBY:** 2nd December @ 10.00am
- **SKIRLAUGH:** 19th December @ 9.30am
- **WETWANG:** 9th December @ 10.00am

December:

- **DRIFFIELD:**
 - o Nativity Play in Yorkshire Dialect, with workshops for the young at heart before and after – **16TH DECEMBER @ 3.00PM**
- **Hornsea:**
 - o Shoppers Service with Carols and Mince Pies – **22ND DEC @ 10.30AM**
- **NAFFERTON:**
 - o Christmas Craft Fayre – **2ND DEC; 10AM - 4PM**
 - o Christmas Day lunch for any who needs some company. Please ring Sarah on 07523976826 to reserve a seat. – **25TH DEC @ 12.30**
- **SKIRLAUGH:**
 - o Willow Weaving Workshop with mince pies and coffee – making and decorating a Christmas Wreath for your door. Cost £25 – this is a Heritage activity subsidised by National Lottery Heritage Fund. Just a few places still available – contact Judy Stott on 01964 563137.
 - **WED 6 DEC; 1.30-4.00PM / THU 7 DEC; 10.00-12.30AM & 1.30-4.00PM**
 - o Christmas Coffee Shop including a short service and presentation of charity cheques.
 - **19TH DEC; 9.30AM - 12.00NOON.**
 - o Midnight Mass led by Rev David Messer – **24TH DECEMBER; 11.15PM**
- **THE WOLDS**
 - o No Coffee Morning this month
- **WETWANG:**
 - o Music for Christmas Concert by The Ad Hoc Singers – **13TH DEC @ 7.30PM**

January:

- **ALDBROUGH**
 - o Bible study Opens **9TH JAN @ 2.15PM** Ask within the Church for more details.
 - o Network Opens **30TH JAN @ 2.15PM** Ask within the Church for more details.
- **DRIFFIELD:**
 - o Worship on Wednesday each Wednesday at 10.30am-11am followed by light refreshments.
- **Hornsea:**
 - o Epiphany party. All are welcome – **6th JAN; 5.00 - 7.30PM**
- **NAFFERTON:**
 - o United Annual Covenant Service with All Saints at the Methodist Church conducted jointly by Rev Dr Richard Teal and Canon Ian Holdsworth, followed by lunch. – **21ST JAN @ 10.30AM**
- **SKIRLAUGH:**
 - o Fiona Caley is offering a Creative Writing Workshop in Church (a Heritage activity). No charge but please contact her via fmcphoto@icloud.com. – **28TH JAN; 2.00PM - 4.00PM**

DAILY REFLECTIONS:

During Advent, the Connexion are sharing a daily reflection connecting with the Out of the Ordinary Christmas Material. Each reflection gives you a chance to pause as you begin your day.

You can sign up to these emails for free on the Methodist Church website. (<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/out-of-the-ordinary/>).

CIRCUIT OFFICE:

Please be aware that the Circuit Office will be closed from the 11th – 17th as well as the 25th – 31st December.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a Happy New Year!



The next circuit newsletter will be issued on Thursday 25th January (in Churches by Sunday 28th January). Please send any items for inclusion by 9am on Tuesday 23rd January.

Circuit Office

Please contact Alice to check she is in the Office before you travel!

Office hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday + Thursday 8am - 1pm.

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