

CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024 / JANUARY 2025



“...you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High” (Luke 1 vs. 32)

Dear Friends...

Every year as we approach Christmas, I find myself amazed at the faith of both Mary and Joseph. Both receive an angelic visit (albeit Joseph in a dream) and both take the angel at his word – almost without question. Mary – it is often said – was the first person to accept Jesus on his terms. It is with unquestioning confidence in God that she declares, “let it be with me according to your word.” (Luke 1 vs.38)

Had she really thought about it? A pregnant, unmarried teenage girl may not be a big deal in this day and age. 2,000 years ago, in the near east it was a very big deal. Anyone found to be in such a condition was liable to be stoned to death-as was the father to be. Yet knowing she faced a potential life- threatening danger, Mary still said “Yes.”

And how must Joseph have felt about this? The girl he was promised to in marriage announces she is pregnant-but he shouldn't worry because she has conceived by the Holy Spirit! How many men would believe that? Surely it went through his mind that she had betrayed him – or had she been set upon by a Roman soldier? With these thoughts possibly going through his mind, and as he planned how to break the engagement, Joseph is visited by an angel in a dream, who tells him what Mary has said is true. And Joseph does what the angel commands.

As the weeks and months passed, and as Mary began to grow – did it become apparent to her family? Just at the right time, God delivered Joseph and Mary from potential danger, as the Roman census was announced and they set off on the way to Bethlehem, thus avoiding any scent of a scandal.

Mary and Joseph faithfully obeyed God's word, believed God's promises and saw God work in unexpected ways in their lives. As we prepare once again to receive the Christ-child into the world, who (Like Mary) is going to accept him without question? Who amongst us when facing a difficult and agonizing decision (like Joseph) will give it over to God and let him guide our path? Will we open our lives to the possibility of God – just as Mary and Joseph did? God loves the world of today as much as he loved the world of 2000 years ago. The Son of the Most High is still with us. May you know his peace this Christmas season and throughout the New Year.

Rev Peter Barnett

Notices and Special Services

Christmas Day Services:

- **DRIFFIELD:** Rev Peter Barnett (10.30)
- **HORNSEA:** Deacon Jackie Fowler (10.00)
- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:** Pastor John Gleaves (10.30) – United at the Parish Church
- **NAFFERTON:** Rev Peter Barnett (9.15)
- **THE WOLDS:** Mr Stephen Byass and Mr Andrew Barraclough (10.30)

Carol Events/Services:

- **ALDBROUGH:** Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.45am
- **BEEFORD:** Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 3.00PM
- **BRANDESBURTON:** Carol Service – Dec 15TH @ 10.30am
- **DRIFFIELD:**
 - o Carol Singing at Wetherspoons – Dec 18TH @ 6.00PM
 - o Carol Service with Middle 8 Singing Group – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am
 - o Carols and Communion Service – 24TH DECEMBER @ 4PM
- **HORNSEA:**
 - o Informal carols, readings, drinks and mince pies – Dec 17TH @ 7.00PM
 - o Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am
- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:**
 - o Carols on the Green, hot drinks and mince pies at the White Horse – Dec 21ST @ 4.30PM
 - o Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am
- **LEVEN:** Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 4.00PM
- **LUND:**
 - o Carol Concert by the Lund Singers – Dec 10TH @ 7.30PM
 - o Carols on the Green – Dec 24TH @ 6.00PM
- **NAFFERTON:**
 - o Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am
 - o Carol Service – Dec 24TH @ 7.00PM
- **NEW ELLERBY:** Carol Service – Dec 29TH @ 3.00PM
- **WETWANG:** Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am
- **THE WOLDS:** Carol Service – Dec 22ND @ 10.30am

Christmas Coffee Mornings:

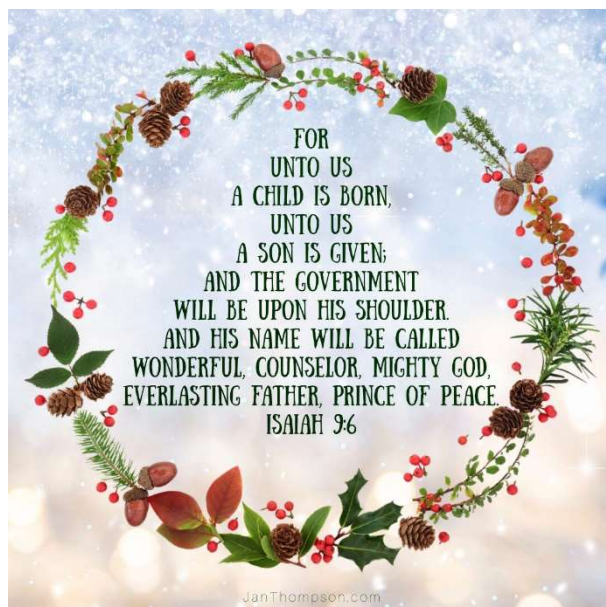
- **ALDBROUGH:** Dec 14th @ 10am
- **WETWANG:** Dec 18th @ 10am

December

- **BEEFORD:**
 - o Saturday 14th and 28th December: 10.00am. Bacon Butties
- **BRANDESBURTON:**
 - o Tuesday 3rd December: 10.30am – 3.30pm. Christmas Holiday at Home, 'Jingle All the Way!' There will be various activities, lunch, tea and fun! For further details contact Deacon Jackie.
 - o Saturday 14th December: 2.00pm. Hornsea Ukulele Group in Concert
- **DRIFFIELD:**
 - o Fridays, the 6th, 13th and 20th of December: 9.30am. Advent Bible Course
 - o Sunday 15th December: 10.00am – 1pm. Messy Church
 - o Tuesday 24th December: 4.00pm. Christmas Eve Service with Communion
- **HORNSEA:**
 - o Friday 20th December: 10.30am. A Special Christmas Shoppers Service with Carols
- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:**
 - o Sunday 1st December: 10.30am. Advent and Shoebox Service
- **SKIRLAUGH:**
 - o Tuesday 17th December: 9.30am – 12noon. Christmas Coffee Shop with a short service at 10.30am and presentation of cheques to charity
 - o Wednesday 18th December: 7.00pm. Candlelit Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, led by Rev David Messer with New Village Voices, followed by mulled wine and mince pies
 - o Tuesday 24th December: 11.15pm. Midnight Mass, led by Rev David Messer
- **NAFFERTON:**
 - o Thursdays, the 5th, 12th and 19th of December: 7.00pm. Advent Bible Course
- **NEW ELLERBY:**
 - o Saturday 7th December, 10am – 1pm. Christmas Fayre, with refreshments, craft stalls, cake stall & tombola.

January

- **HUTTON CRANSWICK:**
 - o Thursday 30th January: 7.00pm. 'Vice Cop to Vicar' Hear local author's story. Tickets £5 Under 18s Free (Tel. 077737 17042). All money raised in aid of chapel renovation fund.



CONNEXION / DISTRICT:

Weekly Advent discipleship gifts delivered via email. Sign up for the connexions weekly Advent discipleship gifts, delivered via email, to keep church audiences spiritually fed throughout this busy time of year: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/christmasresources/>

CIRCUIT OFFICE:

Please be aware that the Circuit Office will be holding alterations to working hours over the Christmas period. These are as follows:

- 13th – 23rd Dec – CLOSED
- 24th Dec – On Call ONLY
- 25th Dec – CLOSED
- 26th Dec – CLOSED
- 31st Dec – On Call ONLY
- 1st Jan – CLOSED
- 2nd Jan – On Call ONLY
- 7th Jan – Open as Normal

New venue: UNIVERSITY OF YORK

The Methodist Church

Flourish
13/02/26 – 15/02/26

**WOVEN
THREADS**

REDISCOVERING OUR PLACE
TOGETHER IN GOD'S BIG TAPESTRY

Come to York in 2026 for this all-age festival of inspiration, celebration, worship and renewal. A Methodist District gathering and Christian Conference. A diverse programme across a 3-day event to help us grow as Flourishing Missional Communities.

Receive email updates
Rediscover how you can flourish in your faith: Speakers | Workshops | Worship | Activities
www.yorkshiremethodist.org/flourish26

SCAN ME



The next Circuit Newsletter will be published on Thursday 23rd January (For distribution on Sunday 26th January)
Please send any items for inclusion in the next Circuit newsletter by 8am on Wednesday 25th 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.

Phone: 07513 195366

Email: cadrifieldhornsea23@gmail.com

Office Closures:

- December 13th – 23rd

- **Christmas Hours:** 24th Dec – On Call ONLY; 25th Dec – CLOSED; 26th Dec – CLOSED;
31st Dec – On Call ONLY; 1st Jan – CLOSED; 2nd Jan – On Call ONLY; 7th Jan – Open as Normal