



The **Methodist** Church

Thirsk and Northallerton Circuit Magazine



Easter 2017

magazine@northallertonmethodistchurch.org.uk

Dear friends,

We approach the season of Lent which is a classic time for self examination in the church year. It is based on Jesus period of fasting and temptation in the wilderness before he embarked on his public ministry. The prevailing image is one of retreat from our day to day distractions to take stock of the direction of our lives. In popular culture, the season is where Christians “give things up” for the good of their individual souls.



This is all well and good, but the danger of such a strategy is that we all disappear into a puff of self absorption. It is easy in Lent to become so inward looking that we forget that Christ calls us to other people in mission and service. It is better in Lent to look outwards with a discerning eye and to see the world as it really is.



For Christians who are persecuted around the world, faith in Christ leads to great suffering and pain. We tend to use words such as discipleship and commitment very lightly in our secure society. We retreat from these things often out of apathy or because we have something better to do. But for many Christians, discipleship may mean imprisonment or even death. In that context the images and metaphors of Christian faith (such as carrying one’s cross) become more vibrant and real.





We could also look at our faith from the perspective of the poor. When Jesus says “Blessed are the poor” we in the rich world tend to view his pronouncement as being rather quaint. But for those who have nothing, in our own land or overseas, Jesus words are electrifying. It is a

joyful proclamation for these “little ones” who will be first in the kingdom of God. We tend to view ourselves as people who give to the poor, but what we often fail to appreciate is that the poor have much to give us. We can learn much about the evil in our world that exploits the poor and about the kind of faith which endures come what may.

In all of this there is a curious kind of freedom to be found in getting ‘me and my problems’ off my mind. Faith is always the kind of journey that is best undertaken in the company of others. Kathy Galloway of the Iona community put it very well when she wrote a Lenten hymn. The last verse goes like this:

Do not retreat into your private world,
There are more ways than firesides to keep warm;
There is no shelter from the rage of life,
So meet its eye, and dance within the storm.

Lent is a good time to open our eyes and look outwards examining the ways in which other people live and the problems they must face. As we do this then so we grapple with the real nature of the kingdom of God and ask questions of our own faith. We might also ask what is the work that Christ is calling us to do?



Revd. David Godfrey

Before you knew me



A short time ago, we welcomed two new local preachers into the circuit - Alison and Peter Brophy. Alison tells us more about her life before we had the pleasure of knowing her.

You were born in Birkenhead where your family owned a removal business and you've moved house many times.

Are the two connected by any chance?

Not at all. We have moved several times but it has been work-related rather than genetic predisposition! Our first professional jobs were at Lancaster University library which is where we met. Our next move was to Scotland and then to Middlesbrough where our daughter was born. From Middlesbrough we moved to Bradford-on-Avon in Wiltshire and then back to Lancaster where we stayed for the next 26 years before finally (we hope!) settling in Romanby.

Do you have a Methodist background?

Yes. I was fortunate to grow up in a Methodist church which loved and valued its children and young people and was part of a large and flourishing youth fellowship where we were encouraged to take part in planning and leading worship.

Perhaps this was instrumental in you becoming a local preacher?

I'm sure it was. I was accepted on note in my home circuit in Birkenhead, became fully accredited in Middlesbrough and have just completed forty years on full plan.

You must have worshipped and preached at a wide variety of churches during that time?

Our moves around the country have certainly given us a varied experience of Methodism, from a one church, one minister circuit in Scotland to a largely rural, farming circuit in Lancaster via a city centre church in Middlesbrough and a united Methodist/URC area in Wiltshire.

You are a librarian by profession. Did you study locally?

Yes, at Liverpool library school.

You have been involved in Methodism connexionally, I think. How?

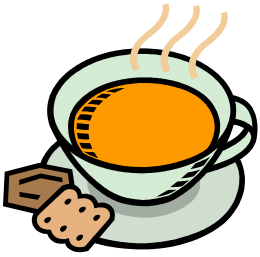
While in Lancaster I trained as a counsellor and that led to my being appointed by the Connexion as an assessor for candidates for the ministry which I found daunting but fascinating. For six years I was part of the Magnet editorial team and that was a wonderful experience, working with a talented and creative group of women and gaining an insight into the work of the Methodist Church at Connexional level



Perhaps now you have time for more leisure interests?

Peter and I have both camped all our lives but about six years ago we surrendered to increasing age and did something which we had always said we would never do and bought our first caravan. This was a revelation as unlike our tent it came with a loo and central heating and since then we have spent quite a few weeks each year exploring the UK, towing our home from home behind us. We enjoy visiting museums, galleries and historic sites and are keen theatre-goers and gardeners. As befits two librarians we also have a penchant for acquiring rather more books than we have room for but are still incapable of walking past a bookshop. My main interest is patchwork and quilting and since moving to Romanby I have joined the Mowbray Quilters and am enjoying getting to know the fabric shops of North Yorkshire, adding to my stash being another weakness.

CIRCUIT MISSIONS SPRING MARKET 2017



Every year members of our circuit committee organise a **Spring Market** in Northallerton Town Hall to raise funds for the **World Mission Fund** and the **Mission in Britain Fund** and we need your help.

This year's market has been booked for

Wednesday 26 April 2017 (9.00 a.m. until 2.00 p.m.)

so, please look out your unwanted bric-a-brac and books/CDs/DVDs! If you are able to store the goods until 26th, so much the better, but otherwise please call me if you need help in transporting anything. If you do not have bric-a-brac or



books to give, we would be very glad of home made cakes, bread or preserves to sell on the day, donations of money to help cover our costs, or offers of help in manning the stalls or serving lunches and refreshments. And of course you can always support the event by coming for coffee or lunch. We should be VERY grateful if you could suggest a price for your donations ... thank you so much.



Much more detailed information about how the money is spent can be found on the website www.methodist.org.uk

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

(John Wesley).

Thank you for your support.

Annie Rothenberger, Secretary to Circuit Missions Committee
01609 772620

Dementia Awareness Training Day



Saturday 25 March 2017

Zion United Reformed Church, Northallerton

Time: 10.30 for 11am finish by 2.30pm.

Lunch provided. No charge.

Rev Dr Albert Jewell

former Director of Spiritual and Pastoral Care MHA
will talk about the continuing personhood and spirituality of
people with dementia

Rev Gaynor Hammond

on What is a Dementia Friendly Church?

**Please call Annie Rothenberger on 01609 772620
if you wish to attend.**

STOP PRESS

The current total raised for the Circuit Project is

£6, 269.22

This has already surpassed the amount raised for
previous projects.

Yorkshire to Gambia Educational Trust

In November last year the CAMEO group at Northallerton Methodist Church invited Marion Casson to speak to them at one of their meetings.



After hearing about the work we decided that this was something that Coffee Pot would like to make a donation to, as part of our annual charitable giving.



The Gambia is one of Africa's smallest countries. Education is highly valued but must be paid for by parents. This is a real challenge to most families, but despite this almost 93% of the nation's children attend school.

The Trust is a charitable organisation working in The Gambia since 2011, providing training workshops for teachers.

The team is made up of experienced educational professionals from Yorkshire. They visit The Gambia every year to run courses which support the work of Gambian teachers from both primary and secondary schools. The courses provide additional teaching methods, techniques and supplies for Gambian teachers who are dedicated but often have to teach with limited resources.

The Yorkshire team works on a voluntary basis and fundraises for the charity with a variety of events throughout the year.



The Trust works in partnership with the Gambian Teachers Union (GTU) which is integral to the work done by the charity.. The GTU is an independent Gambian organisation that supports and monitors teaching and learning within the country.



Whilst most of the focus has been on people and training, the Trust is now involved in improving facilities in schools and providing them with equipment that they can use to generate income. They are working closely with Bundung Lower

Basic School. A well and hand pump were installed with the sponsorship of Ice Renewables, a UK based energy company, resulting in 2000 pupils having access to free, safe drinking water for the first time.

A wood saving stove was also installed to help the school save money on wood and reduce harmful soot and smoke in the school kitchen.

Wood is a resource that is constantly increasing in price due to its scarcity through deforestation in the country.



SINGALONGA JOSEPH



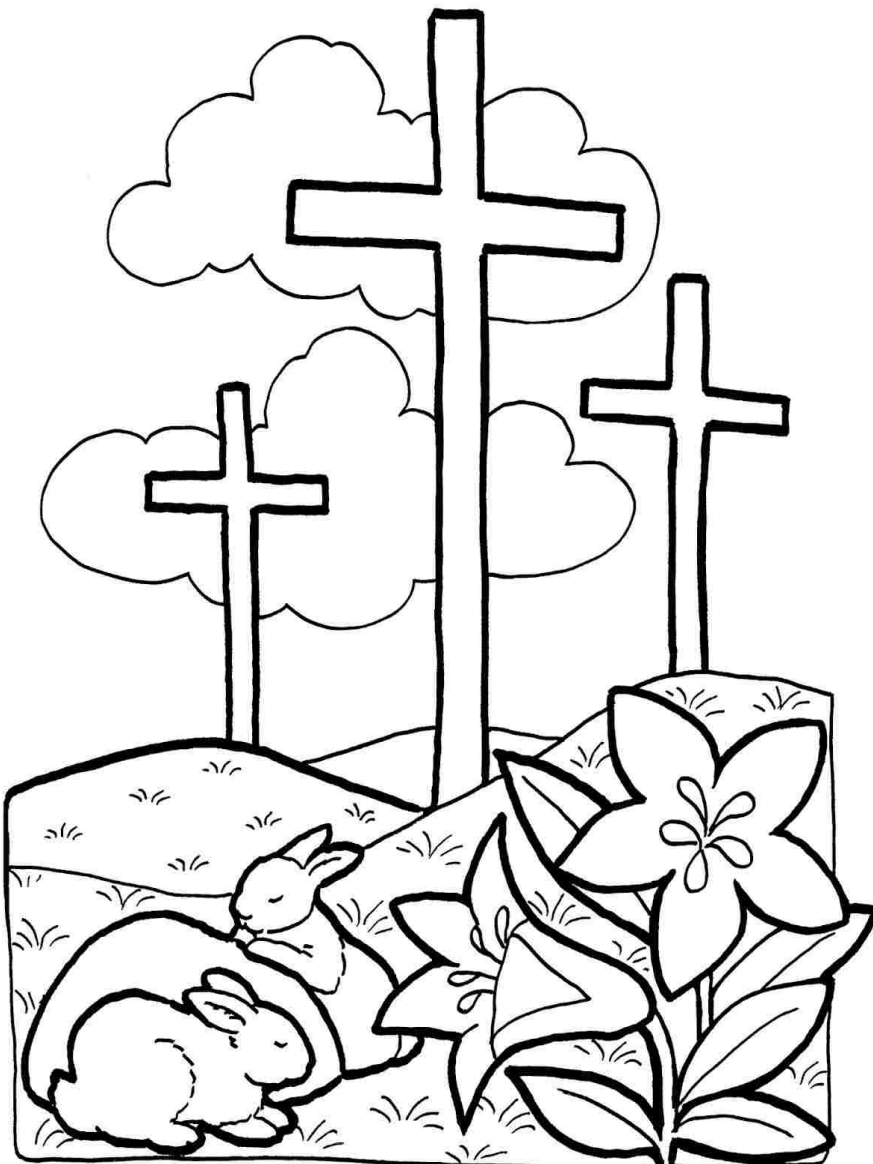
Singalonga Joseph was such a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Some people sang with great gusto, others' singing was more restrained but the witty lyrics and memorable tunes were hard to resist. A few people had made special multi-coloured outfits, others had chosen to wear the most colourful pieces from their wardrobes, but they all contributed to the atmosphere of fun. We didn't lose sight of the Bible story though with its message of family division being healed in the end by love.

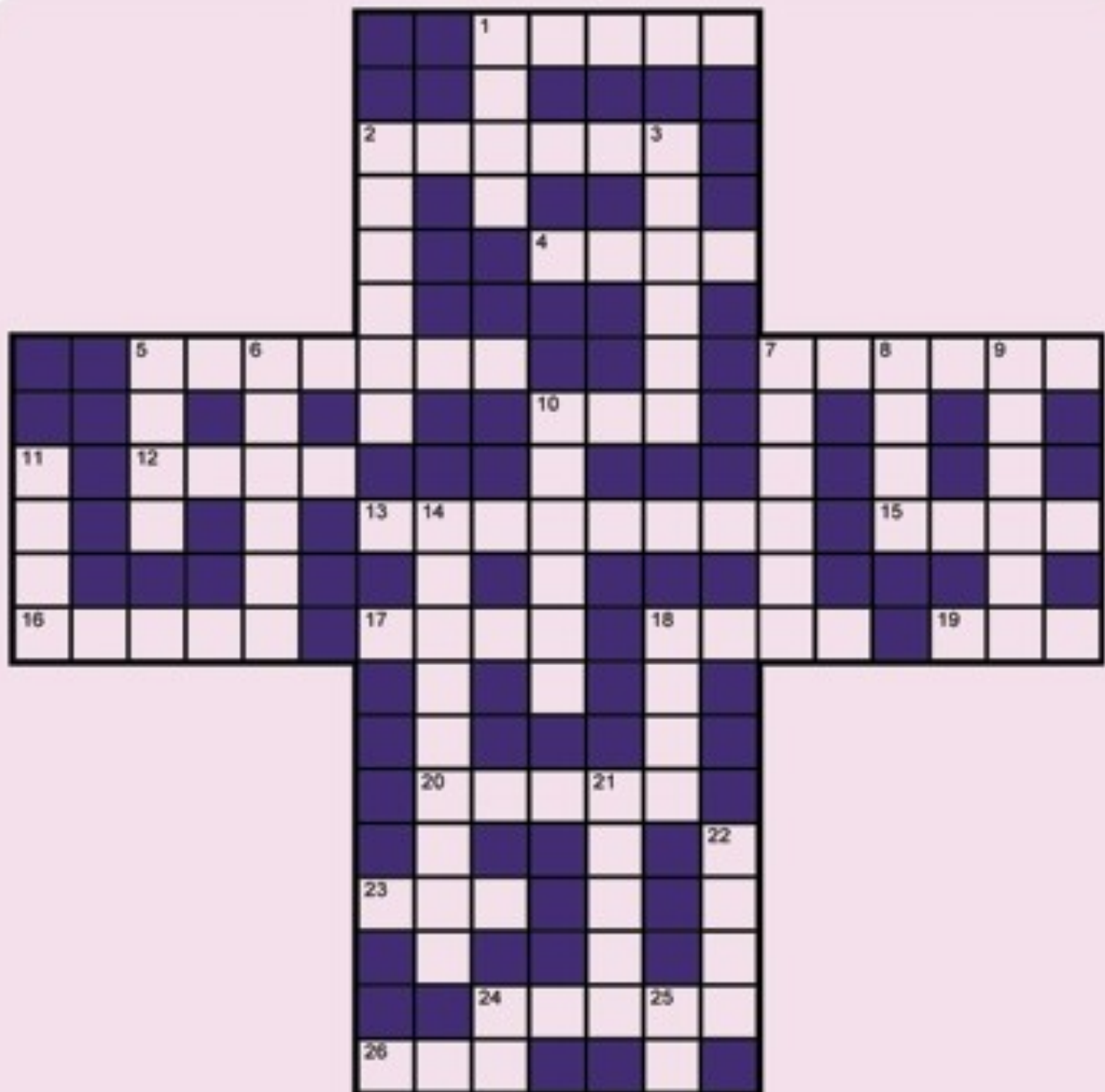
After all that singing, there was a welcome cup of tea and a splendid array of food to enjoy. Thanks are due to all those who prepared the church, did the technical work, provided the song sheets and served the tea, enabling £560 to be raised for the Circuit Project, MHA Dementia Care.

Easter Word Search

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

APOSTLES
CHRIST
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
HOLY
JESUS
KING
LAMB
LOVE
MARY
REDEMPTION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
ROMANS
ROOSTER
SACRIFICE
SALVATION
SAVIOUR
THORNS





Across

- 1 Goes with error (5)
- 2 Caesar + Pontius pilate (6)
- 4 Had a little lamb (4)
- 5 Name of play (7)
- 7 From Amsterdam? (6)
- 10 Has a shell (3)
- 12 Supplied money to (4)
- 13 Cross? (8)
- 15 Anno (L) (4)
- 16 Chocolate one (5)
- 17 Signed with (l o) l? (4)
- 18 Do for lent (4)
- 19 King (L) (3)
- 20 Light a candle with (5)
- 23 Of a kind? (3)
- 24 Focus of Easter (5)
- 26 Son of (Gaelic) (3)

Down

- 1 Grave (4)
- 2 Pull out of a hat? (6)
- 3 Firm, as in faith (6)
- 5 Emblem of victory (4)
- 6 Day of rest (6)
- 7 Made a crown from (6)
- 8 Of the valley? (4)
- 9 Procession (6)
- 10 Holidays (6)
- 11 Meal for passover (4)
- 14 The reconciliation (theo) (9)
- 18 Goes with chips (4)
- 21 Easter symbol (5)
- 22 Service (4)
- 24 His Initials (2)
- 25 Risen (2)

A Morning Prayer

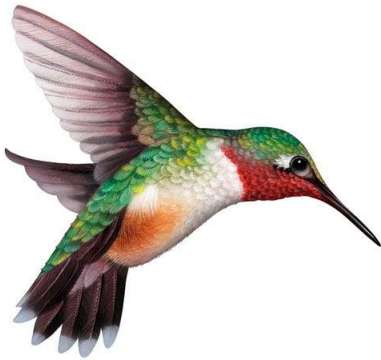
Nature

Heavenly Father, we rejoice and praise your holy name.

We thank you for the gift of this new day,
From the work of your hands in the creation
of your world and the world as a gift to us.

A world with a myriad joys from sunrise to
sunset

And sunset to dawn in each fragment of
time.



One beautiful item of your creation is the hummingbird and to witness its flight skills is a joy beyond the power of simple words.

As we witness that flight in awe and wonder, we will always keep in our mind the beauty of the hummingbird as a beautiful link to the world of nature which you have

created for us to respect and enjoy.

AMEN

From Mr W and Mrs B Perrin, of Northallerton Methodist Church.



Have you got or would you like to have a Puppet Ministry?

**Come to Sowerby Methodist Church on
Saturday 10th June 2017.**

One Way UK Puppets are providing a training day for those who would like to develop new or existing skills in puppetry at a cost of £15 per person.

Contact Hayley Liversidge for more details or to book a place. (hlive1@hotmail.co.uk)





THE ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP OF AELRED

A Christian View of Environmental Issues

By Martin J Hodson

On 11th March 2017 10.30 - 12.00

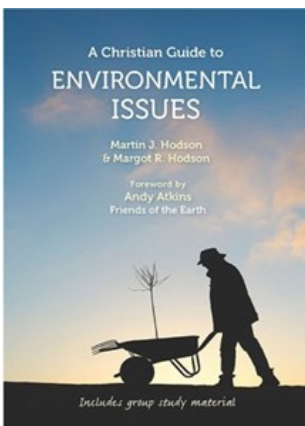
at

Sowerby Methodist Church, Front St,
Sowerby, Thirsk YO7 1JQ

Ticket price £5 - to include refreshments



Dr Martin Hodson is a plant scientist and environmental biologist who writes and speaks widely on environmental issues.



Martin is an Associate Member of the Institute of Human Sciences at the University of Oxford and a Visiting Researcher in Environmental Biology at Oxford Brookes University.

Martin is also the Operations Director for the John Ray Initiative. Martin has over 100 publications including "Cherishing the Earth" and "A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues", both co-authored with his wife Margot, a vicar in the Church of England.

For further information and to book tickets please visit our website:

www.fellowshipofaelred.org.uk

or telephone either

Christine 07759957997 or Frances 07793 753316

The Pendragon Multi-sensory Centre

Northallerton Methodist Church are Knights of Pendragon!

This is the name given to any group who have supported the centre financially and last year Northallerton Coffee Pot made a donation to Pendragon. In January the Cameo group visited



the centre (and some tried out this slide!), and they would like to share with you the tremendous work being done by this multi-sensory centre.

Pendragon is located in Northallerton and provides support and makes a real difference to the lives of those with physical, mental and emotional difficulties, and their families and carers.

The specialist Centre provides a wonderful range of sensory experiences and therapeutic and developmental opportunities and support to visitors. It also provides a haven for those clients and their families and carers who are seeking respite and relaxation and an opportunity to meet. This gives essential support for families.



The resources includes a large studio - based specialist multi-sensory environment for groups of up to 14 clients and a smaller environment for more personalised use by up to 2 clients. The Pendragon Multi-sensory centre has full hoisting facilities and a purpose built changing room.





Clients and visitors are supported at the Centre by qualified and specialist staff in order to provide the necessary specialist advice and input where it is needed and to ensure that they will be able to make the most of the opportunities available.

The space provides a wide range of specialist “tools” and equipment in order to encourage and stimulate development, motivate, build confidence and enable self-expression and fun through the use of a range of physical components and the extensive use of sound and light using the latest technology.

The specialist environments also provides a valuable opportunity for not only those with special needs, but also for their siblings and for their whole families to come and have fun and relax together in a safe and inspiring setting.



There is also a café area where clients and their families and carers can meet and relax.

Clients and visitors are supported at the Centre by qualified and specialist staff in order to provide the necessary specialist advice and input where it is needed and to ensure that they will be able to make the most of the opportunities available.

The Centre is now planning to expand the range of opportunities by giving access to and the facilities within the outdoor green space area which lies immediately outside the building.



**Invitation
to
'Let's walk together'**

Five sessions exploring the Christian Faith
At Northallerton Methodist Church

1. Jesus
7th and 8th March
Led by Ian Johnson

2. The Cross and Resurrection
14th and 15th March
Led by David Godfrey

3. 'The Church'
21st and 22nd March
Led by Michael Webster

4. 'The Bible'
28th and 29th March
Led by John Sadler

Sessions are on Tuesday mornings at 10.15am and
repeated on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm.

In the Cottage Meetig Room.

These sessions are for everyone and offer a chance to
explore Christian Faith together.

No previous knowledge is assumed and all questions,
however basic, are welcomed. I hope to see you there.

David Godfrey



An afternoon of tea, cake, musical entertainment, table top games and quizzes.

What more could you ask for!



On 4th February Romanby Methodist church was the venue for a fund raising event for our circuit charity of the year, MHA Demenia care. The stalls, table top games and quiz were all arranged by the Boys Brigade and thanks go to the team for all their efforts. There was a really good turn out from the boys and their families along with Romanby members


and circuit friends which all contributed to the family atmosphere.

The tea was served by four waitresses who also doubled up as the musical entertainment for the afternoon. The planning department couldn't foresee the obvious problem of no tea being served whilst the music played! All the girls are working towards music exams and GCSE music so the audience served well as guinea pigs for their musical experiments!!



Everyone appeared to enjoy the whole afternoon and £266 was raised. Many thanks go to all who helped make the afternoon a real social gathering as well as raising fund.

Circuit Diary

March			
Monday	13 th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at St James Green Methodist Church Thirsk
Sunday	19 th	10-4pm	District Lay Synod at Pocklington
April			
Saturday	1 st	10-4pm	District Representatives Synod at Manor School York
Saturday	8 th	5-7pm	Maunby Chapel Tea and Singalong 
Monday	10 th	10am	Reflections for Holy Week at St James Green Methodist Church followed by Coffee and Conversation.
Tuesday	11 th	7.30pm	Musical Meditations at Northallerton Methodist Church
Maundy Thursday	13 th	7pm	Maundy Thursday Service at Appleton Wiske Methodist Church
Maundy Thursday	13 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday service at Northallerton Methodist church
Maundy Thursday	13 th	2pm	United Service at St Mary's Thirsk
Maundy Thursday	13 th	7pm	United Agape Meal at Sowerby Parochial Hall
Good Friday	14 th	9.30am	Good Friday service at Appleton Wiske Methodist Church
Good Friday	14 th	9.30am	Walk of Witness starting at St Marys Thirsk

Good Friday	14 th	10.30 am	Good Friday Service at Northallerton Methodist Church
Good Friday	14 th	12 noon	Meditations for Good Friday at Borrowby Methodist Church
Good Friday	14 th	2pm	Stations of the Cross at St James Green Methodist 
Good Friday	14 th	7pm	Mowbray Singers present Bach's "St Luke's Passion" at Sowerby Methodist Church
Good Friday	14 th	7pm	Good Friday Service at Brompton Methodist Church
Holy Saturday	15 th	7pm	Service of Light at Sowerby Methodist Church 
Saturday	22 nd	3-4pm	Chair of District Farewell Service at Central Methodist Church, York
May			
Tuesday	9 th	7.15pm	Maunby Chapel Anniversary Service led by Rev Stephen Gamble
Saturday	20 th	7.30pm	Concert by Thirsk RBL Band at Thornton-Le-Beans Methodist Church 

Thirsk and Northallerton Circuit

from the Registers

Baptisms

Seymour Ralph Harker at Northallerton on 18th
December 2016

Fearne Louella Sayer at Northallerton on 18th
December 2016

Harriet Even Harper MacKinnon at Northallerton on 22nd
January 2017

Joshua James Duffield, Lewis Charles Loomes, John Charles
Thomas Loomes at Sowerby on 26th February 2017



There have not been any weddings this quarter:

Funerals for the late:

† Mrs Ena Badminton at Harrogate Crematorium and Sowerby
on 9th December 2016

† Mrs Jean Barbara Eden at Northallerton on 29th December
2016

† Mrs Janet Kirk at Brompton on 10th January 2017

† Mrs Wendy Reed at Northallerton on 13th January 2017

† Mrs Jean Hamilton at Thornton-le-Beans on 20th January
2017

† Mr Charles Gordon Thompson at Thirsk on 31st January
2017

† Mr David Armitage at Borrowby on 2nd February 2017

† Mr John Pollitt at Northallerton on 9th February 2017

† Miss Mildred Horner at Northallerton on 16th February 2017

Items for the next edition are needed by Sunday 14th May