



**The Methodist Church**



**June 2015**

**North Yorkshire Dales Circuit**

[www.nydalesmeth.org.uk](http://www.nydalesmeth.org.uk)

**Circuit Leadership Team**

**Superintendent : Rev Janet Park** [superintendent@nydalesmeth.org.uk](mailto:superintendent@nydalesmeth.org.uk)

Leyburn, Harmby, Middleham, Carlton, Melmerby, (*including West Scrafton*), Gayle (*including Hawes*), Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Marsett, West Burton.

**Rev Les Nevin** [richmondrev@nydalesmeth.org.uk](mailto:richmondrev@nydalesmeth.org.uk)

Richmond, Barden, Brompton-on-Swale (*including Colburn*), Hunton, Scorton, Ravensworth, Reeth (*including Arkengarthdale*), Gunnerside .

**Deacon Joy Sykes** [jascmc@aol.com](mailto:jascmc@aol.com)

Catterick Garrison

**Circuit Stewards:** John Ridley, Tony Simons, Angie Bailey, Jonny Staley, Graham Di Duca

**Circuit Treasurer:** Pauline Beckett, [treasurer@nydalesmeth.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@nydalesmeth.org.uk)

**Circuit Admin Asst :** Kevin Pellatt, [nydcpaperclip@gmail.com](mailto:nydcpaperclip@gmail.com)

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## Across in the Wood

On Sunday 2 August there is an outdoor circuit service at Grinton Parish church led by the 'Across in the Wood' team and you may be wondering what this is all about. 'Across in the Wood' is a way of doing church outside for all people of all ages and abilities. There is a relaxed atmosphere that enables people to reflect and worship in re-creative ways using the natural environment to grow in their faith.

Whittling wood, labyrinths, cooking around the fire pit, willow weaving and codebreaking have all featured as we explored our faith in a 'hands on' way.

Since January a group of families have been meeting once a month on a Saturday afternoon in the church yard at Grinton. They have been exploring the nature of the Christian faith and based on the premise of it being a life long journey they have packed an item in their 'travel bag' to remind them of a particular aspect of our belief. These items included a fish created from a willow branch and a cross whittled from a stick found in the churchyard. We created prayer mobiles that could be hung from trees so the prayers could be blown by the breeze. When we looked at communion we made unleavened bread over the fire pit, before we enjoyed a picnic.

We have also found time to sit quietly by ourselves and just listen to the sounds around us, the wind in the trees, the different bird songs and the rush of the river and to thank God for the wonder of his creation and the many senses we have to enjoy it.

So for a reflective, creative and outdoor worship experience with people from many of the local churches you might consider Grinton as a place to go on the afternoon of 2 August.

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## Sunday Specials

12 July Action for Children Sunday is designated by the Methodist Church as one of its special Sundays, a time to reflect on and celebrate the work of its children's charity.

This year Action for Children invites you to use the lectionary readings set for that day and, in addition to offering brief reflection on the Bible readings, suggested prayers and hymns are offered, together with stories illustrating Action for Children's work.

You can download the worship booklet from <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/>

19 July Rural Mission Sunday where the theme is 'Bread'; for a 'Use Your Loaf' Church Service Guide and other resources see the Arthur Rank Centre website or call 024 7685 3060.

The guide will help set the scene; construct your own "sermon sandwich" using Bible readings and sermon ideas on bread, salt, yeast and water; it includes prayers and intercessions for all types of services. The specially written poem, 'The Story of the bread that we baked', is ideal for All Age Worship services and there is a Power Point presentation to accompany it. Alternatively, create your own salt dough models or bake your own bread using the free recipes included in your guide.

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## Run and Not Grow Weary

A big well done to Jonny Staley who competed in the London Marathon and raised the grand sum of £5,144.82 for MacMillan which was over a thousand pounds more than he was aiming for.

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**Walk with Jesus...**

**Witness to Others...**

**Worship the Lord**

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## Have your Cake and Eat it

What were we doing on 31 Dec 1999? This was the question Joy Sykes posed as she began the story of her journey towards ordination. It started in Edinburgh and as the world moved into a new millennium she resolved with God to, leave her job, do something for someone else and go to Canada. On a mountain top in the Canadian Rockies later that year she again had that feeling of being in tune with God; and 15 years later all in God's time she has come to this point. There is a season for all things and they happen in God's time and these words from Joy's testimony echo those in Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15 that were later read by Rev Janet Park from 'The Message' translation which gave a new resonance to a familiar passage. We heard from Annette Sharp and the story of her calling to ordination. She related how her relatives taught her different aspects of Christian living including an instruction to "wash the soap" after she had washed her hands as this showed a caring attitude to the person who was to use the soap next. Delivering an encouraging commissioning talk Deacon Jane Middleton spoke of living life forwards and making sense of it backwards suggesting that we don't always see the bigger picture when we are in the middle of things. There was also the suggestion that another reading, Psalm 139, contained more calories than a piece of cake, maybe you could read it and see what you think. So speaking of cake, the evening was rounded off with some excellent refreshments which consisted mainly of cake; which leads me back to 31 Dec 1999 when I was sat with the Chief Constable of Derbyshire eating chocolate cake waiting for the "Millennium Bug" to throw the whole country into chaos and anarchy; which goes to show we do not always know what the future will bring.

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## King's Club 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August

You may want to pray for this event either individually or with others when you meet them.

The organisers have suggested some topics for prayer:

**Bookings** – that there will be a good number of children and young people booking a place.

**Finance** – that the financial needs for the week will be met

**The programme** – the planning and activities during the week

**BBQ** – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August @ 6.00pm; That lots of parents and friends will attend.

More information: [mikehirst@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mikehirst@tiscali.co.uk) 07714 204024

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## Praying with Art

Trustee of the Methodist Modern Art Collection, Sarah Middleton, has written a thought-provoking article, 'Praying with Art', and she outlines ways in which the collection can be used to deepen our faith. Click on this link <http://www.methodist.org.uk/media/829954/dd-explore-devotion-praying-with-art-0313.pdf>

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## Summer Services

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2015 Circuit Service Day (*Mission theme*)

10.30am Morning service at Richmond (preaching service with Rev Ruth Gee)

10.45am All-age Shake Up at West Burton

2pm Outdoor forest/all-age at St Andrew's Grinton

6.30pm Communion service at Gayle (Rev J Park)

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Commissioning service for NY Dales Superintendent

6.30pm at Leyburn Methodist Church led by Rev Ruth Gee

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## Diary Dates

Please notify amendments to Kevin Pellatt.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm Local Preacher Meeting at West Burton, will include Holy Communion.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm Circuit Property Meeting in Dove Cottage, Leyburn

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September Darlington District Synod

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm Circuit Property Meeting at Dove Cottage

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Richmond

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm Circuit Meeting in Leyburn

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## Miathene Kenya

As many of you know the Circuit meeting in March agreed to make a contribution towards our friends in the Miathene Circuit who have suffered from drought and famine recently. Throughout our District churches and circuits rallied to the cause and raised well over £13000 to help. This money went to a number of initiatives in the Miathene Circuit; one distributed food to schools where children were feeding on plain boiled maize and now after receiving beans the children are enjoying "a special diet". Letters of appreciation have been received by the District. [www.darlingtonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/kenyan-partnership-link](http://www.darlingtonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/kenyan-partnership-link)

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