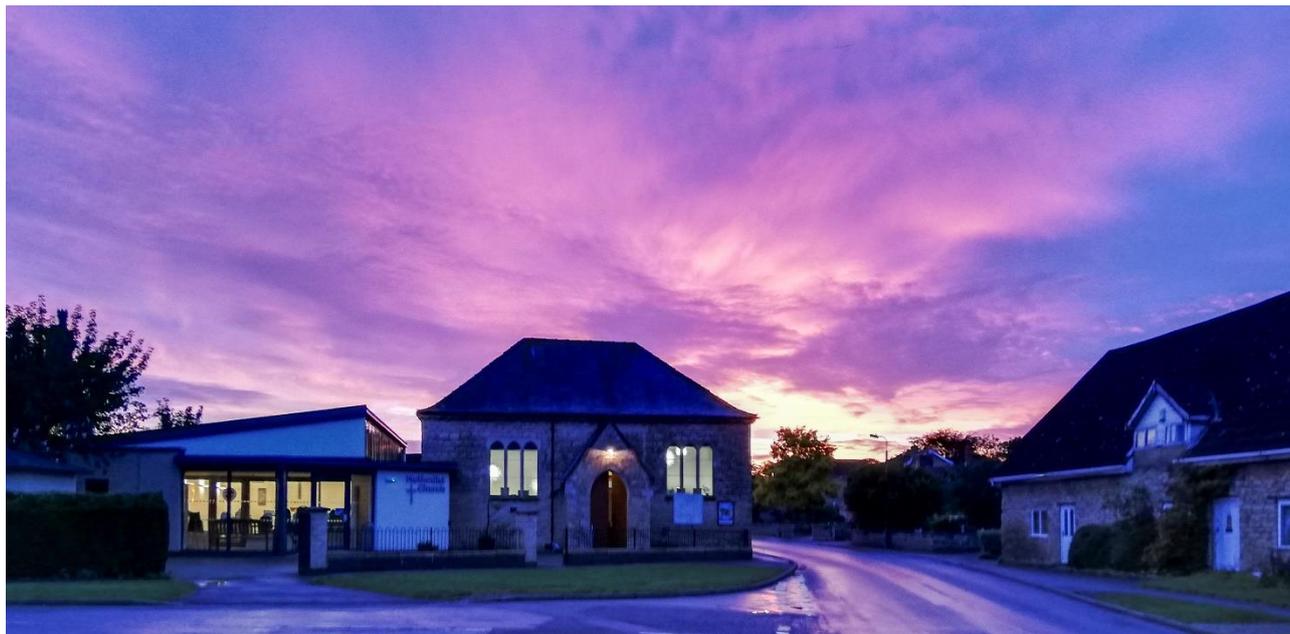


## *Methodist News*



### **Moving On**

The first day of September sees the beginning of a new Methodist year. In the month prior to this, many ministers in the Methodist Connexion will move on to new appointments. This year in the Lincoln Circuit we will be saying goodbye to Revd Dr Helen Hooley, who is moving to Cumbria to take up a Superintendent post. Helen has served our circuit well and we will be praying for her as she takes up her new role. We are also looking forward to Revd Jennifer Matthews moving into Bracebridge Heath. Jennifer will be looking after four churches: Washingborough, Monks Road, Cherry Willingham and Reepham. I know she is looking forward to getting to know you and she will be welcomed officially at the beginning of September. I am extremely grateful for all those who are busy making sure everything will be ready for her arrival. I must also say a big thank you to all those who have helped to cover the four churches that Jennifer will be responsible for.

Of course, we have all faced many changes over the past 18 months and, as we begin to get back to some normality, we must re-discover our priorities. This is nothing new in the life of God's people. Throughout the bible we find many facing similar challenges, we read of their struggles and of when they rediscover God's plan for them. We find ourselves in the transition phase, we must continue to seek God's will for us and the churches we belong to.

What has become clearer is that things were not as they should have been and even without Covid we would have had to be thinking about our future. We find it difficult to change but I believe Covid has made us think. In the coming months there will be much work to be done and many of our churches are rethinking their ministry and mission opportunities. During all this we must be prepared not only to bring our prayers to God but to listen for God's voice and be willing to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

So, what is God saying to us as we begin this new season? How might each of us be part of God's plans? There is a lovely song, *I the Lord of Sea and Sky* (Daniel L Schutte [1981]) which has this chorus:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me,  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

The song is based on 1 Samuel 3:1-10, where God calls out to Samuel and his response is to say, 'Here I am Lord, Send me.'

Likewise, God calls us, speaking to us in the recesses of our hearts, through meditating on God's word, through prayer, through the voices of family, friends, pastors, mentors, teachers and sometimes even strangers. God can speak to us in church, in nature or anywhere. God can call us as we are still and know that God is with us. Be assured God calls each one of us to tasks God has for us.

Prayer: *God, help us to be still and listen for Your voice. When we hear You call us, may we respond as did Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening." In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.*

Praying you every Blessing

**Alan**

Superintendent of the Lincoln Methodist Circuit

## Services in September

There will be weekly services at the chapel in September, starting at 10.30am.

5th:	Revd Alan Swann HC
12th:	Own arrangements
19th:	Roy Jackson
26th:	Revd Martin Amery, Harvest Festival

## Harvest Festival



A time to give thanks for all we have. Donations of produce can be brought to the chapel on the Saturday morning or to the service. Tinned goods will go to the Community Larder and fresh produce will be auctioned off with the proceeds going to charity.

## Prayers



It is good to keep in touch as a church and to know that prayers are being said. If you want us to pray for someone or a particular situation, please contact Ruth (861461) or Barbara (860823) and let them know.

## Coffee Mornings

We are now back to twice weekly coffee mornings, meeting on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am to 11.30am. We offer a wide range of drinks and so much more. It is a great place to meet old friends or make new ones. Why not pop along and see what you are missing?



## Film Club



We plan to start up again on Thursday 7th October, unless there is a natural disaster!

We meet on the first Thursday of the month during the winter and offer a film followed by afternoon tea; all for £4.50. The film starts at 2pm. Film club is open to all, just call 860998 to book as this helps us with the catering.

## Toy Collection

Thank you to everyone who has already donated gifts for underprivileged children. There is still time... we will be collecting until early December. We collect for all ages from babies to teenagers and ask that the gifts are left unwrapped so we can match them to the children. Donations can be delivered to 16 Ryland Road.

Thank you.



## Help

I have lots of red and green plastic bottle tops. If anyone knows of a charity that collects them, please let me know as I would love them to go to a good home.

Linda  
Tel: 860998

## Yes, Christmas is Coming



Have you been knitting strips for the village Christmas garland? If not, it's not too late to start! We need knitted strips of approximately 49 stitches and 10 rows in green DK wool on size 10/3¼ needles.

Would you like to come and help assemble the garlands? It would be lovely to meet over coffee and cake at the chapel on Wednesday 27th October from 10am to 11.30am, when we can knit, assemble and, of course, natter. Just come along or, if you would like more information, call Linda on 860998.