



North Yorkshire Coast Methodist Circuit

Weekly Notices for Sunday 21st December 2025

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.*

*Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.*

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5

December Church & Circuit Notices

Superintendent's Christmas Message



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As we approach our celebration of Christmas a number of verses from the bible are uppermost in my mind. The first is Luke chapter 2 and verse 14. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." This is God's message delivered by the angels and, as we look at the world at this present time, that message needs to be redelivered to our world leaders. In the name of Jesus, 'The Prince of Peace' we must pray for peace in our world and peace in our time.'

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)*

More than ever the world needs to receive the gift of our **Saviour** Jesus, to know and to share the peace that he brings and to apply his teaching. And so it falls upon us, you and me, the church, God's people to proclaim the Gospel message, to remind people that God has not left the planet, he has not given up on us, He is '**Immanuel**' God with us.

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14.

My prayer for you this Christmas is that you would know God with you in a very real way, that you would be drawn deeper into a sense of his presence with you and his love for you and his blessing upon you. That you would know his peace in your hearts and lives, in your families and homes and in the life of the church.

Not only is 'God with us' he has promised never to leave us nor to forsake us.

I leave you with a gift, Philippians 4:6-9, words to receive and ponder in your heart.

6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

A very happy Christmas and God's richest blessings for 2026

With my love and prayers,
Graham



Circuit Office Closure

The Circuit Office will be closed from Friday 19th December and will re-open on Tuesday 6th January.



Nativity in the Barn

Thursday 18th December 6.30pm, Nativity in the Barn at Mill Farm, Low Hawske, YO22 4LE. 'Angels & Bells' followed by hot chocolate – mulled wine – mince pies etc. Everyone welcome.

Carol Singing

Briggswath & Sleights Methodist Church will be carol singing outside Radford's Butchers in Sleights at 10am on Saturday 20th December. All are welcome to join them.



Northstead Carol Service – change of time

Northstead's Carol Service has changed time since the plan was published. It will now be at 10.30am on Sunday 21st December (not 2.30pm).



Ruby Wedding

Congratulations go to Graham and Emma Morgan who are celebrating their Ruby Wedding on 21st December 2025. All churches in the North Yorkshire Coast Circuit are invited to join Graham & Emma's family and friends to celebrate with them at Queen Street Methodist Central Hall, 2-5pm. There will be a fairground organ playing Christmas music, a buffet and a service of celebration and thanksgiving. No presents please – donations may be made to support Martin House Children's Hospice, SASH or the Lifeboats. All welcome, poster attached.



Barrowcliff Breakfast

Barrowcliff Breakfast will be on Tuesday only for the school Christmas holiday – on Tuesday 23rd and Tuesday 30th December from 8.30-10am. Poster attached.



Christingle Service

4pm Christmas Eve, Queen Street Methodist Church – join us for a very special family Christingle Service with the most edible Christingles yet! Everyone welcome, poster attached.



Christmas Rooted

Informal, relaxed evening worship at Queen Street Methodist Church, 6.30pm on Sunday 21st December. Refreshments from 6pm. All welcome, poster attached.

Advent and Christmas Service Sheet

Attached is a list of Advent and Christmas services throughout the circuit.



MHA

The Winter 2025 edition of Heart & Soul, the MHA magazine is now available. We have been sent enough copies for one per church – so as and when I see people from each church I will pass these on, or pass on via the ministers. Attached is a letter the circuit has sent which includes information about MHA's Christmas appeal. Fiona.

January Notices

Sunday Afternoon Praise

Emmanuel St Johns Church will be holding their next Sunday Afternoon Praise on Sunday 4th January 2026 at 2.30pm. There will not be a Sunday Afternoon Praise on Sunday 1st February 2026.



Emmanuel St. John's Ladies' Forum



Emmanuel St John's Ladies' Forum will meet again in 2026, on Tuesday 6th January at the Crescent Hotel, The Crescent, Scarborough, for tea, coffee and biscuits - at the usual time of 10.30am. We wish a very happy Christmas and New Year to all our ladies and their congregations!

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

In 2026 this takes place from 18 to 25 January. Find out more about it and download resources, including those for an all-age setting, here [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 - CTBI](#).

Churches Together Notices

Christmas Services

Attached are leaflets and posters showing the services in the Scalby, Hackness & Harwood Dale areas; services at Scarborough's Catholic churches; services at St. Mary's Scarborough; and services at St. Mark's Scarborough.



Ebenezer Baptist Church, Scarborough

On Sunday 21st December at 6pm we have our Carols by Candlelight service and on Wednesday 24th December at 5pm we have our Children's Service with Christingle. All are welcome.



Volunteering Opportunities at The Rainbow Centre

We're excited to share that we're rolling out a brand-new way to volunteer with us! We've teamed up with the [Royal Voluntary Service](#) to launch our roles on their new "Govo" platform. This means you can now browse, view and apply for volunteering roles directly through our website — making it easier than ever to get involved and make a difference in your community. Take a look at the latest opportunities here: <https://therainbowcentre.org/volunteering/>. We'd love to have you on board!

Local Notices

Free Mental Health Training Courses

There are a series of free, funded mental health training courses (via HeadFirst) for anyone living, working, or volunteering in North Yorkshire. These courses are a fantastic opportunity to build skills and confidence in supporting mental health and wellbeing.

Online Courses (via MS Teams)

- Suicide First Aid Lite course, January 15th MS Teams 9.15am-1pm.
- Adult Mental Health Champion course, January 29th MS Teams 9.15am-5pm
- Youth Mental Health Aware course, March 3rd MS Teams 9.15am-12.45pm

Face-to-Face Courses

All at Livius Training Centre, Rabbit Hill, Boroughbridge – Rabbit Hill Business Park, Great North Road, Arkendale, Knaresborough, HG5 0FF.

- Suicide First Aid (Lite), 4th February 9am-1pm, a half-day course focused on life-saving skills.
- The Ask Workshop: Assessing Suicide in Kids, 12th March 8.30am-5pm. Includes 1.5hours of mandatory pre-course learning. Please only book if you can commit to the full workshop.
- Mental Health First Aid, 24th & 25th March 9am-5pm (both days). A 2-day course providing certification. Attendance on both days is required.

All courses are fully funded for North Yorkshire residents, workers, and volunteers. However, please note: NYC staff are not eligible to attend these courses due to internal training arrangements already in place.

To book or find out more: email mental health trainer Katie Marlow at cast.learningsolutions@gmail.com. Katie will confirm your place on the course and share any materials beforehand. Contact amber.graver@northyorks.gov.uk if you have any questions.



Flourish 2026

Only 8 Weeks to Go!

To discover more, go to [FLOURISH Festival 2026 - Woven Threads](#).

It is for those who have been at church for years, and those who may have just walked through your doors. It is an intergenerational event for all, and we have tried to ensure diversity among the music sung, to the speakers we have invited, so that there is something for everyone.

New Flourish Video

The link to the new Flourish video is <https://youtu.be/nK9WNfrqfPU?si=7bOGUcRVCjIScTwv>.

Advent Discount!

There is a 10% discount on all general stream Flourish tickets bought in Advent – use the code ADVENT (for use in December on general stream tickets only).

Hoodies

Flourish hoodies will only be for sale online prior to the event and will come off sale on Saturday 17th January.

Children & Youth Stream

The Children & Youth Stream tickets will come off sale on 17th January 2026 due to the need to collect consents from parents. No tickets can be booked for young people after this date so make sure you don't miss the deadline! We don't want any children and young people to miss out on the opportunity to attend Flourish and meet others that are their age. For those growing up in a church with very few young people, meeting others and realising that young people do go to church is a positive thing. Flourish is a great opportunity for that, so please encourage those young people in your congregations to attend.

Don't forget....

If financial assistance is required then the Circuit Office can help with the price of the ticket.

Children's tickets will be funded from the Joyce Dark Fund.

In either case, please contact Fiona in the Circuit Office.

There will be people travelling from Scarborough, so if you need a lift do ask in your churches or send a request into the office to be put in the notices.

Wider Methodist Church Notices

Please Be Vigilant

We have received this report from the District. A member of Wolds Edge Church received a telephone call yesterday, having found details on the church website, the call was from someone who said they were a Jew and wished to speak to a Christian. Having engaged in conversation, the individual asked if they could meet at the church. Feeling uneasy, the church person rang the police, who have taken the call very seriously, having logged the call as an incident and followed up with an interview with the church person.

The police advice included:

1. Do not go to the church on your own to meet someone you don't know.
2. Be vigilant about any "odd" telephone calls received and suggestions to meet. The Police have asked that if anyone is contacted and asked to meet, to ring the police and quote the Log Number 326 151225.

Free Tree Packs to Schools and Community Groups

The Woodland Trust are offering free tree packs to schools and community groups across the UK, aiming to enhance biodiversity, foster student engagement with nature, and contribute to carbon reduction efforts. There are also supporting resources. To apply for trees go to [Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust](#), for supporting resources go to [Tree Tools for Schools – Woodland Trust](#).



Property Matters

The December Property Matters can be found here [Property Matters December 2025](#).



Boys' Brigade Seeking Former Members

The Boys' Brigade want to get in touch with former members to celebrate more than 140 years of shaping young lives through their new alumni scheme. The organisation wants to connect with previous members to share their stories of how The Boys' Brigade helped prepare them for their lives and careers. or generations, BB has provided opportunities to learn, grow and discover. This positive influence that the organisation has brought into young lives is as important and as relevant today as ever. To find out more, go to [BB Alumni - BB Alumni](#).

Christmas Short Film



We're very excited to announce the release of our 2025 Christmas short film called 'You Are A Gift'. The film follows the real-life story of Sue, a member of King's Cross Methodist Church, home to a vibrant Chinese Methodist community, as she discovers faith through a chance invitation at a local restaurant. This can be watched on YouTube at [You are a gift | Christmas Short Film 2025](#).

Stream Our Christmas Singles

We've released new contemporary recordings of classic carols across streaming services after their popularity over previous years. This year, new versions of Joy to the World and In the Bleak Midwinter – titled Joy! (Everything Must Sing) [Joy! \(Everything Must Sing\) 2025 Christmas single](#) and The Bleak Midwinter [The Bleak Midwinter 2025 Christmas single](#) – have been recorded, featuring Methodist singers across the tracks.

10 Tips for a Greener Christmas

The path to achieving Net Zero can be daunting, especially at Christmas when we are tempted to indulge! Discover what can we do to be more planet-friendly and economical this Christmas [10 tips for a greener Christmas - The Methodist Church](#).



Wholehearted Monthly



The next Wholehearted Monthly is on Tuesday 13th January from 7-9pm online. This month's special guest is Cole Arthur Riley. Following Cole's contribution there will be opportunity to join a number of breakout groups to reflect on what she shared and how it might apply to your own faith or ministry. Wholehearted is a free monthly online gathering of Christians learning, playing, praying and working for the transformation of the Church and world God loves. To find out more and to register, go to [Wholehearted Monthly Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#).

Worshipping at Home

North Yorkshire Coast Circuit Services: The link for the weekly service is:

<https://youtube.com/@NYCMC>

Burniston Methodist Church offers a livestreamed service from the church on Sunday at 10.30am through its YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/@burnistonmethodistchurch>.

Northstead Methodist Church offers a livestreamed service from the church on Sunday at 10.30am through its YouTube channel most weeks. The link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/@northsteadmethodistchurch2404/streams>.

Attached is a copy of The Vine at Home for the next three Sundays.



Diary Dates

* Denotes new entry this week.

December 2025

Thursday 18th December	2pm Christmas Flower Workshop – Table Centrepiece, Briggswath & Sleights Methodist Church. 6.30pm Nativity in the Barn, Mill Farm, Low Hawske.
Saturday 20th December	10am Carol Singing, outside Radford's Butchers, Sleights.
Sunday 21st December	10.30am Carol Service, Northstead Methodist Church. 2-5pm Graham & Emma Morgan's Ruby Wedding Celebrations, Queen Street. 6pm Carols by Candlelight, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Scarborough. 6.30pm Rooted, Queen Street Methodist Church (refreshments from 6pm).
*Tuesday 23rd December	8.30-10am Barrowcliff Breakfast, Wreyfield Drive Methodist Church.
Wednesday 24th December	5pm Children's Service with Christingle, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Scarborough.
*Tuesday 30th December	8.30-10am Barrowcliff Breakfast, Wreyfield Drive Methodist Church.

January 2026

Sunday 4th January	2.30pm Sunday Afternoon Praise, Emmanuel St. John's Church.
Tuesday 13th January	7-9pm Wholehearted Monthly, online.
Thursday 15th January	9.15am-1pm Suicide First Aid Lite Course, online.
Sunday 18th – Sunday 25th January	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
Tuesday 27th January	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.
Thursday 29th January	9.15am-5pm Adult Mental Health Champion Course, online.
Saturday 31st January	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.
February 2026	
Sunday 1st February	NO Sunday Afternoon Praise, Emmanuel St. John's.
Wednesday 4th February	9am-1pm Suicide First Aid (Lite), Livius Training Centre, Knaresborough.
Friday 13th – Sunday 15th February	Flourish 2026 at University of York.
Thursday 26th February	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online. 7pm Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.

March 2026

Tuesday 3rd March	9.15am-12.45pm Youth Mental Health Aware Course, online.
Wednesday 11th March	7pm Circuit Meeting, Wreyfield Drive Methodist Church.
Thursday 12th March	8.30am-5pm The ASK Workshop: Assessing Suicide in Kids, Livius Training Centre, Knaresborough.
Tues 24th & Wed 25th March	9am-5pm Mental Health First Aid (2 day), Livius Training Centre, Knaresborough.
Wednesday 25th March	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.
Friday 27th March	Time tbc, MWiB Meeting, Haxby.
Saturday 28th March	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.

April 2026

Friday 10th – Sunday 12th April	MWiB Swanwick Conference.
--	---------------------------

May 2026

Monday 18th May	10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.
Tuesday 19th May	7pm Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.

June 2026

Monday 15th June

Thursday 18th June

10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.

10am Advanced Safeguarding Training, online.