

Circuit News

Dear Friends

Perhaps, like me, you enjoy the television show: *Who do you think you are?* I find the programme fascinating as television actors and personalities delve into their family histories and discover intrigue, joy, sadness and even royal connections. In the present series, the producers of the television programme have often concentrated upon the lives of particular relatives of the actor or personality and it has been extremely interesting.

As Christmas approaches we shall once again remember who Jesus was and is. And yet, if we were to consider Jesus' mother for a moment, we soon find that references to Mary are surprisingly few in the biblical records, though devotion to her down the centuries has produced countless writings.

In St Matthew, Mary plays a passive role in the Nativity story. St Mark portrays her as an onlooker in the ministry of Jesus. St John gives us more details including the account of the wedding at Cana and Mary's presence at the Cross. However, it is in St Luke's gospel that we discover Mary is an Advent person: an expectant mother, an anxious parent, a faithful disciple. Her relationship with God is portrayed as full of joy and profound faith. Upon hearing she is to bear God's son, Mary exclaims: "I am the Lord's servant...may your word to me be fulfilled" (St Luke 1:38).

As the television series often uncovers the inspiring lives of wonderful people, so may we remember the exceptional role of Mary in the birth and life of our Lord Jesus. And like Mary, may we hear God's voice, be filled with joy and serve the Lord.

Paul

Revd Dr Paul Hill

Calendar

December

4	Tollerton	7:30pm Lady Bay Community Choir
5	Radcliffe on Trent	Advent Fair
5	Cotgrave	10:30am Christmas Fair
12 & 19	Cotgrave	10:30am Christmas Coffee Morning
12	West Bridgford	11am Carol Singing on the Croquet Lawn
12	Ruddington	Nottingham Ukulele Orchestra
12	West Bridgford	Singing Christmas Tree Event Begins
19	Clifton	10am Churches Together Carols at Morrisons
22	Keyworth	7pm Christmas Miscellany

January

31	West Bridgford	6:30pm District Service: Preacher The President of Conference, Rev Steve Wild
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February

4	TBC	7:30pm Local Preachers' Meeting
6	Bradmore	Pancake Praise- Messy Church Family Fun Event
26	Keyworth	7pm "All Our Yesterdays" Concert

Advance Notices

4 March	Across the Circuit	Women's World Day of Prayer
5 March	Bradmore	Rainbows Quiz Night
14 - 17 March	MWiB	Willersley Week
17 March	Ruddington	7:30pm Circuit Executive
21 April	Cotgrave	7:30pm Circuit Meeting
6-11 June	Keyworth	Church Holiday/Retreat to Lindisfarne

Please send any articles, dates and other information for the March to May 2016 Circuit News to Andy Proffitt by **Sunday 31 January** via email or post c/o Keyworth Methodist Church, Selby Lane, Keyworth, NG12 5AH.

The next edition is expected to be available in churches on **Sunday 21 February**

The Circuit News is also available as a PDF file. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email to Andy and you'll receive the next edition to read on your computer, tablet or smartphone.

News from around the Circuit

West Bridgford

What a wonderful time we had at our Harvest Festival! Following bacon and egg rolls served by our Scouts, a large congregation of all ages came together to worship led by our minister, Revd Dr Paul Hill, with the hymns and songs ably accompanied by our worship band of instrumentalists.

Paul used some of the excellent material prepared by All We Can (formerly the Methodist Relief and Development Fund). In his sermon we discovered how in Ethiopia the lives of farmers and their families have been transformed by the work of All We Can through partnership with a local charity. The partnership has retrained farmers to greatly increase the amount and quality of honey produced through improved beekeeping methods. Any excess honey not needed by the farmer's family is then sold. This much-needed income can then be used to pay for the education of children and even build better family houses. After Paul had spoken we made and wore bee antennae using plastic headbands, pipe cleaners and brightly coloured polystyrene balls.

By the end of the service – through hymns, songs (including 'Pig out!' sung by Richard and Joan Hill), Bible

readings, prayers and Paul's sermon – we had been challenged to live in partnership with God and with those around us; to care and share what we have so that all people may live fulfilled lives. Our Harvest Appeal raised money for All We Can and provided lots of packet and tinned food for The Friary.

Our Service for All Saints' Day (1 November) was a special service too. Again, a large congregation gathered – including family members of people who had died especially invited by our Minister who had taken the funeral services. As we arrived for worship, people were invited to complete prayer cards in remembrance of loved ones who had died. These names were read out during the prayers. It was a very quiet and solemn moment that led into Holy Communion. People said that they personally found the service very helpful.

We are now looking forward to Christmas. Our Singing Christmas Tree event is being carefully planned and is expected to be spectacular. Please join us. Further details of this mission event can be found in this Plan and Newsletter. On behalf of West Bridgford members and friends, may I wish you a very Happy Christmas.

**News from around the Circuit
Clifton**

To everything there is a season
and a time to every
purpose under heaven
(Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Once again our harvest gifts were magnificently displayed on our communion table with a burst of colour and artistic flair for our Harvest Festival service. Thanks to those who came Saturday morning bringing goods and flowers, and for the help we received from Rev Dr Paul Hill. A good-sized congregation attended the service, including our Boys' Brigade who contributed to the display with colourful Harvest signs and an array of harvest decorations. As part of our worship we made bee antennae to wear as we considered the work of All We Can in Ethiopia. Our harvest gifts of tins and packets of food were in aid of the Clifton Foodbank. We were pleased that Rosemary, an elderly member now in a Care Home, was able to be with us. We hope to see her again in worship – with the help and aid of the Care Home carers.

The Harvest Supper on Monday evening was held in our lovely, small chapel. The tables were beautifully decorated and we enjoyed a choice of hot main course dishes followed by cakes and

scones. Donations during the evening amounted to over £80 and were donated to Christian Aid. Thanks to Theresa Jones for making the evening such a success.

At the end of October, our members and friends joined the congregation of West Bridgford. We appreciated the opportunity to join our friends and feel part of the worship. We enjoyed the hymn singing and the excellent sermon from Rev Loraine Mellor, our District Chair. We take this opportunity to thank those who brought us from Clifton by minibus and cars, thanking them for giving their time.

The cutting down of the overgrown trees and shrubs in our grounds has made a huge difference and has greatly improved the external appearance of our church. There have been many favourable comments from church members and from Clifton residents passing the church. We continue to offer our premises for community use as part of the Christian life of our church.

We look forward to Christmas and pray that God will bless you and us too as we once again worship the Christ Child.

News from around the Circuit

Ruddington

On the last two days of the summer holidays we held a "Minions" themed Holiday Club which was enjoyed by a large number of children. As soon as term restarted, so did our children's and young people's groups. First Steps is now weekly and aims to be "Church for Toddlers." We have a growing youth group and at half term had a Light Party celebrating Jesus as our light as an alternative to Halloween.

We had an enjoyable Harvest weekend, starting with a splendid lunch provided by 'Simply the Best,' followed by entertainment from Irene Starkie on Saturday 3 October. On Sunday we had two inspiring Services, and on Monday the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association sorted and packed the produce which was then taken to The Friary.

The various weekday activities continue, with increasing numbers coming along to BBGA, Tuesday Toddlers and First Steps, which is now meeting every week instead of fortnightly. The Women's Fellowship and the Men's Fellowship have enjoyed hearing some excellent speakers, with more planned for the rest of the session. One of the BBGA Anchors Section, Grace, who was 6 at the time, designed a Christmas card which has been chosen as this year's Boys' Brigade card from the 5 - 8

section - this was from entries from children all over the country.

The Saturday Coffee Mornings are popular with people from the Church and from the village, particularly when Jean, John and Penny dress up and serve refreshments based round one of their special themes!

We were all saddened to learn that Oliver Blood, who has played the organ at our Church for over seventy years, now feels unable to continue to provide the music for the Services. We are so grateful to him for his years of selfless dedication in the use of his skill and talents, and wish him a happy and peaceful retirement!

On Saturday 5 December our Church will be open during the afternoon with refreshments, stalls and competitions as part of the Ruddington Christmas celebrations; this will take the place of our customary Christmas Morning Market and proceeds are for Church funds. The following Saturday, 12 December, sees the return of the popular Nottingham Ukulele Orchestra at 7.30pm, raising funds for Action for Children. Tickets, to include refreshments, cost £6 and may be obtained by ringing Anne Webster.

A family 'Lanternlight Carol Service' will be held on 13 December at 5 pm.

Bradmore

First of all thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Festival, including the supper and auction which raised just over £310 for the Friary Drop-in Centre. The Family Fun event the following weekend was also a great success, some participants being reluctant to leave at the end! This is a free event, but we received donations of nearly £35 towards the costs.

Our next event was also well supported – this was a “Singing and Ringing” concert by the Bunny Community Choir and the St Mary’s Bells handbell-ringers also from Bunny. It was a most enjoyable and varied programme, with audience participation and a surprise finale featuring ‘Rock around the clock’. Most of us remembered the words, and some even remembered the hand-jive to go with them! The proceeds, £226, were donated to the Bunny & Bradmore PCC to help towards costs of repairs to Bradmore spire, a 13th/14th century listed building. You may have noticed the scaffolding around the tower. A recent insurance inspection revealed 5

cracks in the top of the spire so the topmost stones and the weathercock have had to be removed, the spire strengthened and then rebuilt, one layer of stone at a time to allow the traditional lime mortar to set. When complete the re-gilded weathercock will be put back in place. Funding sources are still being clarified, but those of you who are involved with building works will know the cost of scaffolding alone is enormous. We were delighted to be able to help in a small way towards the repairs to our local parish church and landmark.

Our own church is developing new means of outreach. Our thanks go to Andy Proffitt and others who have launched a successful Youth Alpha group which meets here on Sunday evenings. We are also moving into the implementation phase of a Bradmore village survey during which we aim to contact all villagers and discuss how we can best meet their needs, both spiritual and practical. We ask for your prayers as we go out into our community.

Keyworth

For our Harvest services the communion area in Church was filled with a huge amount of all types of fresh and packaged foods donated over the weekend. These gifts of food were later passed on to The Friary where they were most gratefully received. Monetary gifts were donated to Framework, the charity working with homeless people. We thank God that we are able to show our support for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Our Sunday Worshipping Together service for Home Missions was very ably led by our Youth & Family Worker and the weekend events, held in October, raised the amazing amount of £607. This came from members collecting boxes and the Saturday coffee morning and sale, which was very well attended. This was an increase over last year and thanks go to our Home Missions secretary for organising it all.

The annual Charity Card sale held in the church hall and was again well attended. The event included many local and national

organisations selling their Christmas and anniversary cards.

Our Nativity and Carol services start on 13 December with a Christingle service. On 20 December Nativity Praise will be a joint churches service at Keyworth Baptist Church and this will be followed by an evening service at St Margaret Clitherow with our Catholic friends.

We will be involved with carol singing at the local shops on the 23rd and in the village square the following day. Midnight communion follows and then a Christmas day service with our Baptist friends. Last year's services saw the church full to capacity on several occasions and we hope this year will be the same bringing the true meaning and good news of Christmas to people in Keyworth and surrounding villages.

On Friday 26 February at 7:00pm a group of our church members are putting on a concert called "All Our Yesterdays."

Radcliffe on Trent

We held a 24 hour Prayer Vigil in September seeking God's will for the future of our church. All 24 hours were covered and there were many positive outcomes; pictures, words and Bible passages. It is hoped to hold another vigil in January.

The Harvest festival service on 20 September was well attended with the music group playing. The Church family BBQ was well supported and enjoyed by all.

We had a Barn Dance on 17 October as part of our Church Anniversary Weekend which was great fun. On Sunday 18 October Rev Loraine Mellor led our Anniversary service when we sang an "Anniversary Samba"- with words adapted from our "Harvest Samba!"

A Youth Alpha course has recently started on Sunday mornings led by Abby Clark. Please pray for the young people who are attending this.

Our Advent Fair will take place on Saturday 5 December with many stalls and also the community café. All profit will be for the regeneration fund.

Advent Concert with



Lady Bay Community Choir

At Tollerton Methodist
Church

Friday 4th December
at 7.30 pm

Tickets £6
incl coffee & mince pies

From
Yvonne Shorten
and
Gwen Barnes

		December 2015				Ja	
		6	13	20	27	3	10
Service Times						Covenant Sunday	
Cycle of Prayer		Gotham	ROT	Cotgrave	Tollerton	Circuit	Keyworth
West	10.30	P Hill HC	M Heard Carols	P Hill Nat	Louise D	P Hill Cov	J Mellor
Bridford	3.00	Faith & Light				Faith & Light	
NG2 7PQ	5.30		Soul Café @ 5.30pm				Soul Café @ 5.30pm
Clifton	10.30	L Beaumont	Hill/Farrow Nat	M Crawford HC	US @ URC	I Collinson	P Hill Cov
NG11 8AU							
Gotham	11.00	Parish Church	R Wilcockson	Parish Church	Parish Church	Parish Church	A Harris
NG11 0HW							
Radcliffe on Trent	10.00	K Jones Gift	M Lees	J Tanner Nat	US St Mary's 10.30	J Tanner Cov	R Jones
NG12 2AG	4.00	J Tanner BS	J Tanner TT				J Tanner TT
Cotgrave	10.30	J Tanner HC	M Blyth Nat	S Foulds	R Blyth	L Beaumont	L Blyth WT
NG12 3JR							
Tollerton	10.30	J Mellor Gift	J Tanner HC	R Leake	US @ St P 10am	P Johns	J Tanner Cov US
NG12 4EA				Carols St P 6pm			
Keyworth	8.30			S Rose HC			
NG12 5AH	10.15	S Rose HC	B Horler	Nat @ Baptist	US @ Rudd	S Rose Cov	A Barker
	4.00		TTP Christingle				TTP
	6.30			Carols @ Cath 7pm			
Ruddington	10.30	N Geeson	J Clark	S Rose HC	P Curtis US	D Kerr	R Wilcockson
NG11 6EF	6.00		Carols @ 5pm			S Rose	
Bradmore	10.15	US Bunny 10am	S Rose Carols	D Kerr	US @ Rudd	US Bunny 10am	S Rose Cov
NG11 6PE				Bunny Carols 4pm			

Please send all requests for the next Plan to the Superintendent Minister by 3 January 2015

Christmas Eve Services

WB: Christingle @ 4pm (P Hill)
 Clifton Carol Service @ 6.30pm (P Hill)
 ROT: Christingle @ 4pm (J Tanner)
 ROT: Carols by Candlelight @ 7pm (D Morley)
 ROT: Midnight Communion @ 11.30pm (J Tanner)
 Cotgrave: Carols by Candlelight @ 7pm (J Tanner)
 Keyworth: Midnight Communion @ 11.30pm (S Rose)

Christmas Day Services

WB: Christmas Day Praise @ 10.30am (P Hill)
 ROT: Christmas Day Service @ 10am (J Tanner)
 Cotgrave: Christmas Day Service @ 9.30am (L Beaumont)
 Tollerton: Christmas Day Service @ 10.30am (P Johns)
 Keyworth: Christmas Day Worship Together @ 10am
 St Peter's Ruddington: Christmas Day Worship Together @ 10am
 Bradmore: Christmas Day Family Service @ 10am (S Rose)

January 2016			February 2016			
17	24	31	7	14	21	28
	Education Christian Unity Homelessness			Lent 1	Lent 2	Lent 3
Ruddington	Bradmore	WB	Clifton	Gotham	ROT	Cotgrave
N Geeson CT CU All Hallows	P Hill WT	P Curtis Pres Visit 6pm	P Hill HC Faith & Light	Faith & Light Soul Café @ 5.30pm	P Hill WT	D Kerr
M Heard	Louise D	A Harris Pres Visit WB 6pm	J Smith	P Hill HC	S Foulds	M Blyth
Parish Church	Parish Church	Parish Church Pres Visit WB 6pm	Parish Church	L Blyth	Parish Church	Parish Church
P Hill US St Anne's	J Clark	J Tanner HC Pres Visit WB 6pm	N Geeson	L Beaumont J Tanner TT	A Harris	J Tanner HC
J Tanner HC	J Tanner	P Hill Pres Visit WB 6pm	R Jones	J Tanner HC WT	I Collinson	L Detain
M Lees	M Blyth	J Smith Pres Visit WB 6pm	J Tanner HC	US @ St P 10am	B Horler	D Morley
S Rose HC WT @ St. Mary's	S Rose	LA Pres Visit WB 6pm	S Rose HC	P Curtis TTP	S Rose HC R Wilcockson WT	P Johns R Leake
S Rose Cov	D Morley	K Jones Pres Visit WB 6pm	I Collinson S Rose	S Rose HC	J Mellor	R Farrow
S Foulds	R Farrow	S Rose Pres Visit WB 6pm	US Bunny 10am	J Clark	S Rose HC	A Barker

Key

BS = Bereavement Service

Carols = Carol Service

Christingle = Christingle Service

Cov = Covenant Service

CT = Churches Together

CU = Octave for Christian Unity Service

Gift = Gift Service

HC = Holy Communion

LA = Local Arrangement

Nat = Nativity

Pres Visit = Service with Revd Steve Wild

(President of the Methodist Conference)

Soul Café = Contemporary café-style worship

TT = Teatime Church

TTP = Teatime Praise

US = United Service

WT = Worship Together

Lectionary Readings Year C December 2015 - February 2016**6th Dec Second Sunday of Advent**

AM	Malachi 3:1-4	Benedictus: Luke 1:68-79	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
PM	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 75		Luke 1:1-25

13th Dec Third Sunday of Advent

AM	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
PM	Isaiah 35:1-10	Psalm 50:1-6		Luke 1:57-66

20th Dec Fourth Sunday of Advent

AM	Micah 5:2-5a	Luke 1:46b-55 or Ps 80:1-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45
PM	Isaiah 10:33 -11:10	Psalms 123		Matthew 1:18-25

27th Dec First Sunday of Christmas

AM	1 Samuel 2 :18-20,26	Psalm 148	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52
PM	Isaiah 61:1-11	Psalm 132	Galatians 3:27- 4:7	Luke 2:15-21

3rd Jan Second Sunday of Christmas

AM	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalm 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:10-18
PM	1 Samuel 1:20-28	Psalm 135:1-14	1 John 4:7-16	Matthew 2:13-23

10th Jan First Sunday in Ordinary Time

AM	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
PM	Isaiah 55:1-11	Psalm 46	Romans 6:1-11	Mark 4:4-11

17th Jan Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

AM	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
PM	1 Samuel 3:1-20	Psalm 96	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 1:29-42

24th Jan Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

AM	Neh 8:1-3,5-6,8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
PM	Numbers 9:15-23	Psalm 33:1-12	1 Corinthians 7:17-24	Mark 1:21-28

31st Jan Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

AM	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30
PM	1 Chronicles 29:6-19	Psalms 34:1-10	Acts 7:44-50	John 4:19-29a

7th Feb Sunday before Lent

AM	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36
PM	Exodus 3:1-6	Psalm 89:5-12		John 12: 27-36a

14th Feb First Sunday in Lent

AM	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b -13	Luke 4:1-13
PM	Jonah 3:1-10	Psalm 119:73-88		Luke 18:9-14

21st Feb Second Sunday in Lent

AM	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17- 4:1	Luke 13:31-35
PM	Jeremiah 22:1-9, 13-17	Psalm 135:1-14		Luke 14:27-33

28th Feb Third Sunday in Lent

AM	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
PM	Genesis 28:10-19a	Psalms 12, 13		John 1:35-51



'A Christmas Journey'



Christmas Fayre

Saturday 5th Dec

10:30am-2pm

Coffee Mornings

Saturday 12th Dec

& Saturday 19th Dec

10:30am—12 noon.

Begin your Christmas Journey with us!

Contemporary visuals, Craft activities,

Nativity displays and lots of trees!

Light lunches available from 12 noon, mince pies and a cuppa anytime. Gifts, Cakes and Tombola and much more...

Raising Funds for the Opening Doors Community
Engagement Project

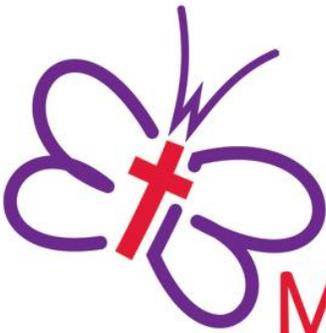
& Methodist Relief Fund (supporting Refugees)

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 7pm—Carol Service

Christmas Day 9.30am—Celebrate Jesus birth





Methodist Women in Britain

Diary Dates

Willersley Week Monday 14 to Thursday 17 March 2016, speaker Anne Browse, our new national MWiB President.

Swanwick National Residential Weekend 15-17 April 2016, speaker Dr Jill Barber, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference.

Circuit Easter Offering Service Sunday 24th April 2016 at 6:00pm at Ruddington Methodist Church, led by Jean Smith

Paul Field in Concert Saturday 21st May 2016, 3:00pm - 5:00pm at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. Tickets (£5) from Concert, PO Box 9298, Loughborough LE11 9FY. Cheques

payable to 'Methodist Women in Britain'. This concert is the culmination of our project in support of the Dalit women in India.

Willersley evening meal Wednesday 25 May 2016, speaker Ruby Beech.

District Day Monday 11 July 2016 at Riverside Church, High Street, Burton on Trent, with commissioning service for Sue Nickson as District President. Preacher: Rev Loraine Mellor

District Day Tuesday 11 October 2016, speaker Sue Nickson on World Assembly in Houston, Texas, 29 August to 4 September 2016

Jean Smith

Money, money, money

Admit it. You sprang into song with the title of this article. There's nothing to be ashamed of with being an ABBA fan but Beatle fans might take umbrage that I did not use their "Gimme money that's what I want". What do these songs have in common? They're a cry to have sufficient money to do what the singers want to do.

As a Circuit we could consider bursting into song to generate revenues to satisfy our financial needs but would the tune and lyrics meet with your approval? I'll leave those more musical than I to do the song writing but here's the message that they'll need to capture.

In the Connexional year ending 31st August 2015 the Circuit made a surplus of £36k and at year end held reserves of £265k. Of those reserves £84k are held for specific purposes e.g. grant aiding the building schemes at Radcliffe and Cotgrave, and to cover exceptional repair and maintenance costs of our manses. We have unrestricted reserves of £181k available to provide working capital, meet "routine" risks and cover future

deficits. We're currently reappraising the level of this reserve with the intention of releasing some of it to fund new initiatives.

A financial highlight was our flower festival which raised gross approaching £6k and many thanks are due to Margaret Thurston and her team of helpers. If we can get into the rhythm of holding at least one significant fund raising initiative each year our financial future will look that much healthier.

A second highlight relates to the Growth Fund which was launched in 2013/14 and became active in 2014/15. Five projects, designed to grow our Church and extend our reach into the community, were supported and funds are still available to support initiatives this year. As a Circuit we can manage our activities and finances to ensure they are in harmony but what we need is a very loud drum roll to signal a significant push for growth. Perhaps this article should be entitled "Ideas, Ideas, Ideas" for the funds to do something significant and special are there to

be seized. Step forward the lead singers.

Churches continue to be generous in their Giving and their support of lay employee costs – to the tune of £228k in the year, by far the major funder of the Circuit's costs of £229k. The principal outlay was upon Ministers and lay employees (£161k).

So our song is a happy song? Well yes and no. We're managing our finances in a sound manner but are always exposed to a financial crescendo. We have reserves and our recurring expenditure and income are moving ever closer to being in balance (rather than in deficit) over the medium term. However our longer term financial position is not assured and *en route* we will have to face a potential crescendo relating to the manses where evidence is emerging of our

properties requiring a significant refresh and refurbishment.

As usual, therefore, a mixed message but not one without hope whereupon I'll conclude with a few song lyrics and a thought:

*Money can't get everything it's true
(Beatles)*

and

*Your lovin' gives me such a thrill
(Beatles).*

So

In my dreams I have a plan (ABBA)

That's my position. What's yours?

Thank you,

Barrie Woodcock,
Circuit Treasurer.



The Singing Christmas Tree

WEST BRIDGFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Singing Christmas Tree

The **Singing Christmas Tree** is a major community event being held at West Bridgford Methodist Church during December.

So what is a 'Singing Christmas Tree'?

A huge, beautifully lit and decorated Christmas Tree, tall enough to hold row upon row of singers and musical performers within its 'branches' – we believe a first in the UK! Our Singing Christmas Tree will be almost 20 feet wide and 30 feet high and it is being used by music groups from all over the area for concerts and performances over the Christmas period. From school choirs to folk music through madrigals and choral extravaganzas – there will be something for everyone in the series of free concerts including:

14 Dec, 7.30pm Farnaby & Co and Rosa's Lovely Daughters

15 Dec, 7.00pm BeVox

16 Dec, 4.00pm

West Bridgford Flute Group

16 Dec 7.30pm

Lady Bay Community Choir and Ruddington Community Choir

17 Dec, 7.30pm

Nottingham Youth Voices and Radcliffe Ladies Choir

19 Dec, 7.30pm

West Bridgford Social Singers

Tickets will be free, and they can be booked online at eventbrite.co.uk.

Please have a look to see what is planned by searching for 'Singing Christmas Tree Methodist'.

The choirs and organisers have nominated three charities to be supported by the proceeds of the event. Although admission is free, we will have collecting boxes at each of these evenings, at the four daytime school concerts and our own worship services, which will also feature the tree:

13 Dec 10.30am Lessons and Carols led by Monica Heard

13 Dec 5.30pm Christmas Soul Café – an informal and relaxed time

20 Dec 10.30am Nativity Service led by Revd Dr Paul Hill

24 Dec 4.00pm Christingle Service led by Revd Dr Paul Hill

25 Dec 10.30am Christmas Morning Celebration led by Revd Dr Paul Hill

The beneficiaries will be

Equation – a local domestic abuse charity for prevention and training.

ClicSargent - a cancer charity for children and young people, and their families.

All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development) - helping people in some of the world's poorest communities to become all that they can.

Please come and join us if you are able