



## Zion Methodist Church Notices Sunday 22 March 2026



### **Sunday 22 March: 10.30am**

- ✠ Worship led by Rev Dr Val Ogden
- ✠ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent; Passion Sunday
- ✠ Followed by Zion Church AGM

### **Sunday 29 March: 10.30am**

- ✠ Worship led by Mr J Hewitt
- ✠ 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent; Palm Sunday
- ✠ Charity collection: Centrepont

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### **Meditations at the Cross: Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Symbol: Whip

Jesus took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, "Listen! We are going to Jerusalem where everything the prophets wrote about the Son of Man will come true. He will be handed over to the Gentiles, who will make fun of him, insult him, and spit on him. They will whip him and kill him, but three days later he will rise to life." But the disciples did not understand any of these things; the meaning of the words was hidden from them, and they did not know what Jesus was talking about.

**Walking with You to the Cross, Lord Jesus, may we see your footmarks and in them plant our own. On this holy journey, help us to receive the lessons for life that You want us to learn as we follow you in today's world. Amen.**

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### **Zion Church AGM: Sunday 22 March**

Zion Church AGM will be held after this morning's service. It is hoped as many as possible will be able to attend when church council members and stewards are elected, plus reports on different aspects of church life.

More information about the church steward role can be found online at: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/equipping-circuits/offices-and-roles/church-stewards/the-church-stewards-handbook/>

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### **Volunteers please: Wednesday 25 March, from 10.30am**

Alina will need volunteers to help to pack the donations for the Easter campaign please. She will be at Zion on Wednesday 25 March from 10.30am. If you could come along to help it would be very much appreciated for such a good cause.

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### **Zion Youth Group: Friday 27 March, 6pm to 7.30pm**

Youth Group at Zion every Friday, for young people age 10 to 16 years. Everyone welcome. Contact Alina for more information: [zionnw4@gmail.com](mailto:zionnw4@gmail.com)

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### **Boston Choral Society Spring Concert: Saturday 28 March, 7.30pm**

At St Thomas' Church, London Road, Boston PE21 7EN. Tickets £12, <https://wegottickets.com/event/689710> or via The Stump Gift Shop. Tickets on the door £15. Accompanied under 16s free. Doors open at 7pm. In support of Macmillan Cancer Support.

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## **Boston Methodist Circuit: Holy Week and Easter Services**

- ✠ Monday 30 March, 2pm: Holy Week Stations and Prayer Walk; Kirton Village; meet at Chapel; refreshments served afterwards
- ✠ Tuesday 31 March, 7pm: Pause for prayer and reflection a part of the Circuit Meeting at Centenary
- ✠ Wednesday 1 April, 10.30am: Holy Week online (Zoom) service with Rev Julie Doddrell
- ✠ Maundy Thursday 2 April, 7pm: Reflective service with the ministry of Footwashing at Zion
- ✠ Good Friday 3 April, 10am: Worship at Centenary with the Reading of the Passion
- ✠ Good Friday 3 April, 10.45am: Ecumenical Walk of Witness; Boston Town Centre
- ✠ Good Friday 3 April, 7.30pm: Swineshead Sacred Concert with Swineshead Silver Band
- ✠ Easter Sunday 5 April, 6am: Sunrise Service; Centenary garden; hot drinks and breakfast baps
- ✠ Easter Sunday 5 April, 10.30am Easter morning services at Centenary, Kirton, Swineshead and Zion
- ✠ Easter Sunday 5 April, 6pm Easter service at Hospital Bridge

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### **'Love Easter': donations by Wednesday 1 April please**

Easter love in action. This Easter, Zion is supporting vulnerable families in partnership with Carlton Road Academy. We invite you to help us share hope, care, and kindness through practical Easter packages.

How you can help:

- ✠ Donate food or essential items
- ✠ Give an Easter treat
- ✠ Volunteer to pack parcels
- ✠ Pray for the families.

Collection point in church, donations by Wednesday 1 April please.

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### **Salvation Army 'Court in the Crossfire': Friday 3 April, 7pm**

A retelling of the trial of Christ in drama and song. The Salvation Army, 59-61 High Street, Boston PE21 8ST. All welcome. Refreshments and time to chat afterwards.

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### **Swineshead Easter Teapot Service: Friday 10 April, 3pm**

Contact Dianne 01205 820415 to book.

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## **RoadHoG Prayer Meeting at Leverton Church Hall: Friday 24 April, 7pm**

All are welcome to come along for this hour of prayerful worship for roadHoG.

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### **Shop for Good**

'Shop for Good' at Centenary now has a stock of Easter cards. Open Wednesday and Friday mornings, 10.30am till 11.45am.

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### **Voluntary Work in Uganda**

Kelly Reay, a member at Centenary, is going to Uganda in January 2027 to undertake some voluntary work with Mercy Scouts. The main purpose of the trip will be to provide female hygiene items e.g. reusable sanitary products, pants and bras. If you would like to support Kelly, you can donate any of these items which can be brought to the Circuit Office or to Karena in the Rummage Room at Centenary. If anyone is creative and would like to sew some pads, a pattern and material is available from Kelly. For any further information please email Kelly at [kellyreay1991@gmail.com](mailto:kellyreay1991@gmail.com).

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### **The Light Walk Challenge: Sunday 14 June**

Inspired by the courage of persecuted Christians around the world, Release International's CEO Paul Robinson will this summer be leading a team of supporters on a sponsored trek up England's highest peak, Scafell Pike – in the middle of the night! Setting out at 1am on Sunday 14 June, the team will carry a large wooden cross to the summit, aiming to raise it as dawn breaks—a powerful symbol of the light of Christ shining in the darkest places. The sponsored event seeks to raise awareness and support for persecuted Christians who live for Jesus in some of the darkest and most difficult places in our world today. If you would like to sponsor Paul for the Light Walk Challenge, you can do so by going to the Just Giving page for this event.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/lightwalkchallenge>

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### **Indonesia podcast**

Born into a family of imams and radicalised in the Muslim Brotherhood, Sharif never imagined he would meet Jesus in a solitary prison cell. In a two-part Voice podcast, Sharif, who now works with a Release International partner in Indonesia, shares his journey to faith in Christ.

Hear his fascinating testimony at: <https://releaseinternational.org/podcast/>

## Statement on the situation in the Middle East from The Methodist Church Global Relationships

We note and share in the grave concern expressed by the World Council of Churches to the widening hostilities across the Middle East and the dangerous escalation of violence which is fuelling a spiral of retaliation. We stand in solidarity with all communities facing fear, loss, and growing instability and call for a renewed commitment to dialogue grounded in the rule of law, with all parties striving for peace and justice.

We hold in prayer all communities across the region and especially our partners, the Middle East Council of Churches, remembering the longstanding Christian witness in the region to justice and meaningful dialogue. We also remember those within our own communities who are part of the Iranian diaspora, their family and friends who are living in the midst of this conflict, and all who – whether at work or on holiday – are currently caught in the region waiting for a safe way home.

We share in the words of the Revd Dr Leão Neto, General Secretary of the World Methodist Council, that “The way of Jesus is the way of peace. He calls us to follow peace and reject war. Jesus said: ‘blessed are the peacemakers.’” In that spirit we offer a prayer for Iran, written by a member of the Methodist Farsi-speaking community.

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we believe that you are aware of the situation in Iran and its oppressed and defenceless people. We pray that you would protect the people and not allow any bloodshed of the innocent. We pray for peace, freedom and the war to end as soon as possible. May your will as it is done in heaven be done in Iran and the Middle East. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Weekly activities at Zion		
<b>Mondays</b>	10am-12pm	Knit & Knatter
	2pm-3pm	Dance for Fun
	7.15pm	Badminton (Sep-Apr)
<b>Tuesdays</b>	6pm-7.15pm	Beavers and Cubs
	7pm-9pm	Scouts
	7pm-8.30pm	'The Way' Fellowship Group (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue)
<b>Wednesdays</b>	9.45am	Boston Community Health Walk
	5pm-6pm	Rainbows
	6pm-7.15pm	Brownies
	7pm	Short Mat Bowls (Sep-May)
	7.15pm-8.45pm	Guides
<b>Thursdays</b>	9.30am-11.30am	Coffee Morning
	12.30pm	Community Lunch (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu; booking required)
	6.45pm-8.15pm	AA
<b>Fridays</b>	10am	Trinity Badminton Group (Sep-Dec)
	2pm-4pm	Come & Meet Each Other (CAMEO) – table top games, puzzles – (Jul + Sep-Dec)
<b>Saturdays</b>	11.45am-1.15pm	AA