

NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM THE CHURCH IN TICKTON TO THE BEVERLEY CIRCUIT

Dear all,

We are not an online church and so thought we would send written greetings to our fellow churches (I believe there is a precedent for this somewhere!) and a couple of photos.

Firstly , in spite of all that has been and all that is to come we wish you a hopeful and blessed 2021 .

Secondly we send thanks to all who have kept us in touch with the Circuit and our worship and who have offered encouragement and support during the last year. Among others, our Circuit Stewards have been quite amazing in all that they have dealt with as well as having ever more demanding day jobs, the support from the District reminds us of how much we are part of a wider and supporting church, our Local Preachers, and Elaine, for the Sunday service, which we have passed on to all our members either electronically or by delivering through doors, and Christine, our older people's worker, has been a God send to our many older members whose only technology is the land line.

Finally we thought a little news of our Christmas activities might be welcome.

With the Methodist church building closed we concentrated on St. Pauls where we have been holding services as part of the Beverley Minster family of churches and have the advantage of a large outdoor space.

Our innovation and success this year was to set up a life size Nativity scarecrow scene at the front of the church. This was visited and photographed and put on Facebook by numerous families as it was used by people in the community to retell the Christmas story to younger generations or remind themselves of the Christmas message.

We also managed, with the help of the Tickton Tarts, a village group of cooking fundraisers, to raise enough money to send our usual donations and a bit more to our Christmas charities. We did this by taking orders for and delivering boxes of baked Christmas treats to people. This had the added advantage of giving people unable to get out a chance to send a little present to someone else without having to leave home.

Our now traditional Advent windows trail was well supported with people paying for maps with contributions to the Food Bank. We had the bonus of being able to advertise through windows our other events. Our Christmas Eve outdoor Christingle was the focus of the Methodist Church window display and the on line event booking system filled up very quickly.

With the Minster clergy leading we held the Christingle at the back of St.Pauls and with firepit, glowsticks and candles in oranges to take home, those who braved the cold were able to sing carols and hear the Christmas story in a traditional way.

We know many people have had a different Christmas and New Year, some lonely and some sad but we have also seen many acts of thoughtfulness, kindness and appreciation for things often taken for granted and we pray this will continue into this year.

God bless from The Church in Tickton.