

WELCOME TO

**AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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**This Church is God's house.**

God loves and welcomes you whoever you are, whatever your age, gender, mental health, physical ability, race, sexuality or financial situation.

You are welcome here, whatever your circumstances; however much or little you wish to engage; whatever you feel about faith.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**10.30am: Toy & Gift Service led by Mr Arthur Sara.**



If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, this morning, are Elaine Hope and Derek Adams.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for coffee or tea and a biscuit.

The words of the hymns are projected at the front of the Church.  
If you would like to have a hymnbook for the service, please ask.

<b>Hymns</b>	<b>StF 335 171 169 317 645</b>
<b>Readings</b>	<b>Isaiah 64: 1-9 Mark 13: 24-37</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Derrick Matthews</b>
<b>Streaming</b>	<b>To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.</b>



If your little ones (up to age 3) become restless during services, you are welcome to take them into the creche room in the Welcome Area to play. The service can be heard from there.

**All children MUST be accompanied.**



We are now planning for the next **LUNCH CLUB** which will be on **Wednesday 6th December at 12:30pm**. To help with catering numbers, we will need to know names of those who wish to join us, so please either sign up on the sheet in the hall ***TODAY Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November***, or contact Elaine Hope on 01296 428188. Also please don't forget to let us know of any dietary requirements or allergies you might have.

### **TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP**

Our meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December has been **cancelled**, as our speaker is unavailable for family reasons.

But we shall have a

***Christmas Carol Service,***

***NEXT Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm in Room 4.***

***ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG!***



### **Aylesbury Festival Choir Concert.**

**'Something old, Something new'**

**An evening of Choral Classics**

**Here at AMC**

**NEXT Saturday 9th December at 7.30pm**

**Tickets: Adults - £15 \* Under 18s - £5 \* Family - £30**

**available on the website or on the night.**

**[aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com](http://aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com)**

**Or please see Kay Foote or Brenda Horne for more details.**

**Poster on back page.**



### **The Christmas card post box is now up in the Welcome Space.**

The cards are **NOT DELIVERED**, so *please do not put cards in unless you are sure the recipients regularly attend church.*

**Please also put surnames on the envelopes** as folk might not think to look in the other pouches.

If you wish to send a card to **everyone at Church**, the board is on the radiator by the display cabinet for you to pin your card.



**Our latest ANNUAL REPORT** is now available in the Welcome Space. It gives a good overview of all that goes on here and why. A larger print version is available in A4 size. It can also be read on our church website via Publications/Annual Report. My big thanks go to the 29 contributors for their timely input, to Marion Green and Jennie Torpey for their proof-reading, and to Jennie again for the printing. Peter Green.

**Christmas/NewYear Walk and Lunch, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December.**

This year's walk is going to be starting on the A4010, on the left travelling south just after Little Kimble Station, the large layby at the junction with Ellesborough Road, post code HP17 0XP. Good walking boots are essential and the walk should start at 10.30am and last about 1.0-1.5 hours. Whilst walking off the pudding may be some people's aim, there are those of us that cannot, for whatever reason, partake in such an exercise. Therefore, there will be a soup and sweet lunch from 12.00, following the walk, for walkers *and non-walkers alike* to enjoy at Elaine and Kevin's house, 82 Wendover Road, Aylesbury. If you want to attend, as a walker or a non-walker, ring Kevin on 01296-481285 to book a place. ***NO CHARGE, but lunch donations will go to Karibuni Children.***



**Do join us at Stone Chapel in supporting Action for Children with our annual Soup Lunches.**

**Last one next Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Eythrope Road, Stone, HP17 8PG.**

We hope that Saturday will be safe from HS2 closure notices on the A418 as they are near to Christmas, but please would all intending to come check the route they want to use – when the main road is closed, they may have to find an alternative 'pretty way', but the soup will taste even better after the safari! Thank you ever so much, Blessings, Sue Spinks. **[See poster on back page.]**

**Prayer Requests.** If you have requests for people or situations to be included in the prayers, there is a Prayer Request folder in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for you to write in, or you could let Richard know in advance.

**Our Prayer Group also meets on alternate Tuesdays, 10.45-12noon, and are very happy to receive prayer requests. They would also welcome anyone who would like to join them.**

Please email Ruby: [rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk)





## GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT



Dear All.

This Sunday, 3 December, Whitchurch is the focus of our Circuit Prayers, and we meet Paul who shares his experiences of the influence that God has had in his life. It is good to hear Paul confirming that his experiences in the junior church stayed with him. So often when young people drift away we feel that we have lost them, but Paul shows this is far from the case! Please pray for all those who care for our young people, and strive to instil an appreciation of the love that Jesus has for them.  
Pete

*Dear All.*

*Here in Whitchurch, we are a committed but usually small gathering at Sunday service, so it was great to see half our pews full on the 19th for our service conducted by Noreen, the occasion being the introduction and impending membership of a local family. who have given great support to the 'Little Chapel' and 'Little Steps' activities over the past couple of years.*

*Following on from the recent trend in 'Good News from....' for personal accounts of the journeys we all make to know God better, I would like to add my own.*

*After being a member of junior church, here in Whitchurch, during my teenage years, I moved away from regular attendance, although I never forgot my Christian roots, and since re-starting regular attendance I have been keenly aware of the influence of God in my life.*

*During my prayers I cannot claim to have had a conversation or any instantaneous answers from God. What I do have is an absolute belief in the guidance and support I receive from having God in my life. When I trace back events through my life I can see in retrospect where He has helped and guided me through difficult times, influencing me and holding my hand - very much as in the popular "Footsteps in the sand" poem - gently nudging me to a closer relationship with Him.*

*The comfort I get from knowing He is with me throughout life is my greatest blessing.*

*With every blessing, Paul.*



## HE WILL DO IT AGAIN!

‘Jacob set up a memorial... to mark the place where God had spoken with him.’

Genesis 35:14 GWT

There are events in all our lives that, looking back, had to be the hand of God at work. One author puts it like this: ‘Maybe you bumped into somebody who introduced you to your spouse... or a co-worker resigned and suddenly you were promoted... or a stranger said something that spoke to your heart.

These are all signs of God’s favour, and when you’re tempted to get down, you need to remember how God opened the door for you... how he made a way... how he spared your life... how he healed your child.

**There is no such thing as coincidence...** when something good happens, recognise that it’s God, and recall it often.’

In the Old Testament, ‘Jacob set up a memorial... to mark the place where God had spoken with him.’

Have you established any memorial stones lately? A sure way to build your faith is to remember all the times God made a way when every door was locked and barred against you... days when you were lonely and God brought the right person into your life... nights when you felt so bad you didn’t think you would make it until the next morning.

Then suddenly, out of nowhere, God turned things around... gave you the oil of joy for mourning... lifted you out of the pit... gave you a new beginning... and today you’re happy, healthy, and whole.

**And best of all: if He did it before, He will do it again!**

He is the same today as He was yesterday, and when you take time to remember His goodness and faithfulness, it strengthens you to keep fighting the good fight of faith.

Source: *The Word for Today*, a daily devotional, produced free of charge by United Christian Broadcasters. For your regular quarterly copy write to UCB at **FREPOST RLTX-ABUL-GRAR, United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF**, or telephone **0845 60 40 401**.

As a charity, UCB relies on donations, so a gift of at least 50p per copy, which just covers the cost of printing the booklet, would be appreciated from time to time.

**You can also read it each day from the website.** <https://www.ucb.co.uk/word-for-today>

**SOUP SATURDAYS ARE HERE !!**



**COME ALONG TO  
STONE METHODIST CHAPEL  
Eythrope Road, Stone, HP17 8PG.**

**SATURDAYS  
2nd and 9th DECEMBER  
12 noon – 2 p.m.**

**Choose from a wide variety of soup  
with cake, tea/coffee to follow**

**DONATIONS FOR  
ACTION FOR CHILDREN**



**Waddesdon are holding their Carol Service next Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup>  
December at 6pm. All are Welcome.**

**Also, on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December they are serving Christmas Lunch  
from 11.30am - £5.50 for a 2-course meal. Phone Heather 651351  
or Barbara 651417  
to book a place.**



**Aylesbury Foodbank.** Don't forget your donation for the Foodbank, including toiletries. **Most needed currently are:**

**Tea, coffee, long life milk, soup, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, instant mashed potato and jam.**



**Christmas services at Aylesbury Methodist Church**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 10.30am: Toy & Gift Service - Mr Arthur Sara
- 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. 5.00pm: Carol Service - Rev Richard Atkinson
- 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 4.00pm: Christingle Service - Rev Richard Atkinson
- 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 11.30pm: Midnight Communion - Rev Richard Atkinson
- 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10.00am: Christmas Morning Service - Rev Richard Atkinson



**Next Week**

<b>Mon</b>	4 Dec	6.15pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade AMC FOOD BANK
<b>Tues</b>	5 Dec	9.30am 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Boys' Brigade
<b>Wed</b>	6 Dec	12.30pm	Lunch Club
<b>Thurs</b>	7 Dec	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
<b>Frid</b>	8 Dec	2.30pm	Friday Feathers Badminton Club
<b>Sat</b>	9 Dec	7.30pm	Aylesbury Festival Choir Concert

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**10.30am: Family Communion Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson.**

<b>The designated fire officers are the Duty Stewards</b>
<b>First Aid boxes are located in each of the kitchens</b>
<b>Fire doors are not to be wedged open, except those fitted with Dorgard (Please ensure other doors close behind you after passing through)</b>
<b>Duty Manager - (Kevin Hardern: 01296 481285 Mobile: 07785 950 702)</b>



## Something Old, Something New

### *An Evening of Choral Classics*

*Music by Tallis, Rheinberger, Rutter, Brahms, Whitacre & Parry*

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### Aylesbury Festival Choir

Nick Austin - Music Director

Ben Giddens - Organ/Piano

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**Saturday, 9th December 2023**

**7.30pm**

Aylesbury Methodist Church, Aylesbury, HP20 2NQ

Tickets:

Adults - £15, Under 18's - £5

Family - £30 (2 adults + 2 under 18's)

Available on the door or via website:

[www.aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com](http://www.aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com)

