

WELCOME TO

**AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

[\*See note on following page]

Church Office: 01296 426526

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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 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**10.30am: Family Service led by Rev Dr Hayford Ofori-Attah**

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, today, are Derek Adams and Jackie Simpson-Tyda.

**Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee, 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>	StF 24 332 263 536 519 397
<b>Readings</b>	John 1: 10-13
<b>Music</b>	AMC Worship Band
<b>Streaming</b>	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.



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 by an ADULT.**

**The Worship Band will lead you in your preparation for Worship by singing StF 44, StF 59, and StF 530.**

**The words will be projected, so please join in.**

**After the service StF 263.**

**\* A reminder that Richard Atkinson is currently on Sabbatical  
until July 8<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

For pastoral concerns, please contact either:

Rev Heegon Moon: 01844 698237, [heegon5@gmail.com](mailto:heegon5@gmail.com) or

Rev Noreen Daley-Lee: 01525 240083, [noreendaley1@hotmail.com](mailto:noreendaley1@hotmail.com)

*I would like to thank everyone who has sent cards and messages to me following David's death 4 weeks ago.*

*He had been very ill for a long time and had been expected to die several times, but surprised us all by hanging on.*

*I was sitting with him holding his hand when he quietly took his last breath.*

*The fact that David had his full mental capacity was a blessing, because he could engage with people and had a lot of visitors who enjoyed visiting him.*

*His appointment to the Aylesbury Circuit was a very special time and a wonderful way to complete his full-time ministry, and he missed you all when we returned home. We made so many wonderful friendships and were overwhelmed by your generosity.*

*Grace and Peace to you all, Judith Purling.*

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2.30pm: TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP  
MEMBERS' AFTERNOON**

Come along for a cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and a chat!

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Please ring the bell for Room 4, to be met in the reception area.

For more information, contact Coral Soulsby: 01296 707298.

**J TEAM.** We have recently seen a large increase in our J Team numbers and now need extra help. We are looking for volunteers who would act as 'floaters' on a Sunday morning. You would have nothing to prepare but would just turn up by 10.30am and float between our 2 groups, offering assistance if needed, eg colouring, cutting and sticking in our younger group or helping with discussions in our older group. You would help on a rota basis, so the more floaters we have, the less frequently you will be on. If you are interested in helping in this valuable way or would like to know a bit more, please contact Vivienne Kemp on 01296 399315.



**SOS on TOUR in 2024!** Our next meeting is on **27<sup>th</sup> April**, at the home of Viv and Steve Kemp, Tel 399315. Do come along.

Tonight's theme is '*all things French*', and as Marie-Antoinette reportedly said, '*let them eat cake*', we will do our best to heed her words.

French Fries also count! Ring Viv for more information.

**If you still have an Easter Offering envelope to return**, please bring it in the next couple of weeks. If you missed having an envelope, there are some in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space. Thank you, Ruth.

### **AMC ORGAN CONCERT**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May @ 7.30 pm.**

For this, the 36<sup>th</sup> occasion, we welcome the return visit of the outstanding concert organist, **DANIEL MOULT**, reviewed as 'one of the finest organists of our time'. Daniel will present and perform a typical 'Town Hall Concert' programme designed to appeal to all.

**Entrance £15.00 or £12.00 if booked in advance. (Students free)**

Available at the church office on weekday mornings from 10.30am.

Alternatively, direct from Derrick & Janice Matthews (01296 488076)

All profit from this occasion is donated to AMC funds.



Would anyone be interested in having this 'riser' chair? Dave Rogers' son, Andrew, would like to give it to anyone who might find it useful. He might be able to help with transport, too.

If interested, please contact Pauline Noble 01296 484940.



**NEXT FRIDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> April. 7.00 – 8.30pm at AMC:** Performance of the Watoto Children's Choir - singing, dancing, and sharing their stories of restoration and hope. This is a **free concert**, and tickets can be reserved via Eventbrite by scanning the QR code on the posters on the church noticeboards. Brought to you by Aylesbury Vale Community Church.

**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)

**CHURCH READINGS March – May 2024:**

**There are still 2 readers needed on the sheet on the noticeboard, (28 April and 26 May)**, so if you are willing to join our rota for reading the lesson in Church, **please sign up**, with just your name (no contact details) and a steward will contact you during that week with the reading. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the stewards or Richard.

**Don't forget your donations for the Aylesbury Foodbank**

**Currently, the need is for donations of:** *UHT milk, tinned meat, fish & fruit. Sponge/rice puddings, small jars coffee, long life juices, pasta sauce, tinned meals (eg chilli, curries). Tinned soups, jam & spreads, as well as toiletries, together with washing up liquid & laundry detergent pods.*



**Next Week**

<b>Mon</b>	15 April	6.15pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
<b>Tues</b>	16 April	2.30pm 6.00pm	Tuesday Fellowship Boys' Brigade
<b>Thurs</b>	18 April	10.00am From 1.45pm	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group Blood Donor sessions
<b>Sat</b>	20 April	3.00pm	Aylesbury Festival Choir Concert

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

**8.45am: Communion Service led by Rev Noreen Daley-Lee.**

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Anthonia Allen.**

**The designated fire officers are the Duty Stewards**

**First Aid boxes are located in each of the kitchens**

**Fire doors are not to be wedged open, except those fitted with Dorgard  
(Please ensure other doors close behind you after passing through**

**Duty Manager (Roger Kirk: 01296 415312 Mobile: 07484 392734)**



## The Holy Spirit prays through you

*'He does our praying in and for us.'*

Romans 8:26 MSG

Life can wear you down. You can get to the place where your anxiety runs so deep, or your stress levels increase so high that you can't think clearly. The problem or pain you're experiencing is so overwhelming that you can't put it into words.

Good news: that's when the Holy Spirit living within you prays for you and *through* you. As you bring your burden to the Lord and kneel in His presence, a wonderful thing happens.

In *The Message*, Eugene Peterson paraphrases it this way: 'God's Spirit is right alongside helping us... If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves... That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good' (vv. 26-28 MSG).

Because prayer is relational, the Holy Spirit will communicate your heart to God and His heart back to you. When you don't know how to pray – stay. Just remain in God's presence with your heart open, and He will communicate with you. 'You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things' (1 John 2:20 NKJV).

Before God puts the answer in your head, He puts His peace in your heart. That's why prayer cannot be rushed. It's why taking the time to meditate and be still before God is so important. It allows the Holy Spirit to share God's thoughts with you so that you begin thinking His way.

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 **FREEPOST RLTX-ABUL-GRAR, United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF**, or telephone **0845 60 40 401**. Or you can read them online. 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.



## 'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Someone said to me on Sunday – gosh, it was Easter Sunday just seven days ago, and I was stuck for a moment and had to think about it.

Yes, she was right, just seven short days had passed since the greatest event in our Church year. Christ is risen, Alleluia!

Where had the time gone? The Bible readings had urged us to shout that Jesus had risen, shout it in the street, shout it from the rooftops, make sure everyone hears the fantastic news.

And did we? So many of us were remarkably quiet.

We find it so difficult to talk about our faith in public – why, I ask myself?

Our Good News each week also challenges us in many ways. It used to be much easier when we could list the coffee mornings and jumble sales; but talking about our faith, now that is a challenge!

BBC television held an evening of ABBA on Saturday, and one of the comments made was that in the 1980s it was not cool to admit to being an ABBA fan. Yet, secretly, many of us were, we just did not admit it – it just wasn't cool. Now years later we dare to come out of the closet and say how 'Actually we loved them all along'.

I wonder if our faith gets confined to that same closet; which is a shame because it does say in Matthew, Mark and Luke: "For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels".

All of a sudden it could just become cool to talk about what Jesus means to us? It might just not turn our friends off, and it might just help them!



Oh, and by the way, I find it difficult as well!  
Pete.