Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre



'LINK'

May - June 2018

Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre Buckingham Street Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2NQ

Registered Charity No. 1129749

Church Office: 01296 426526

e-mail: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre Website www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

(AMC Weekly Notice Sheet and LINK magazine can now be found on the website)

Minister
Rev Helen Kirk
01296 488963

revhelenkirk@sky.com





As any preacher will tell you, having children in worship is a great joy, but you should always be willing to respond to the unexpected: the answer to a question that is 'funny but wrong'; the loud yawns and sighs as they express boredom; or, as my children once did – hide under the communion

table and eat the bread so that when I pulled back the cloth, all that was left was crumbs! I wondered why they had been so quiet!

However, children can also offer the most insightful and profound moments. I remember once during a talk about prayer a little girl put up her hand and announced that she had learnt a new prayer at school. I asked if she remembered it and if she would say it to everyone else. 'Oh' she said 'it's more of a prayer that you do than a prayer that you say.' And she slowly and reverently crossed herself with the words, 'From my head to my toes, from my shoulder to shoulder, I love you Lord Jesus.'

I like the idea of prayer not just being something that we say but also something that we do. In prayer we seek to bring God's presence into every aspect of our lives; through prayer we are enabled to see the world with a different perspective and inspired to live in the strength of the One we call 'almighty'.

This year the Vale of Aylesbury Circuit is taking part in a national prayer initiative called 'Thy Kingdom Come'. There are different events across the circuit between 10th - 20th May to engage and encourage people in prayer (see the circuit website for details)

At AMC we will be encouraging people to engage in prayer in a number of ways:

'Waiting in Wonder – Nine days of prayer' is a small booklet that is available for personal prayer. Please take one from the vestibule or the office.

For younger people (or those who value a more interactive way of praying) we have copies of a 'Prayer journal' – please see Mel Brown our family worker if you would like one of these.

Alternatively, we have 'Thy Kingdom Come' Kits – which include 10 days' worth of prayer activities for families to share – see Mel Brown.

On **Sunday 13th May** in our Brigade service we will have a 'prayer tree' that people can contribute prayers to; this will be available throughout the following week

On **Tuesday 15th May** we are having a Day of Prayer at AMC:

7.30am Morning prayer

12.30pm Lunch time prayer

1.00pm Prayers around the community centre

2.00pm 'Noticing' walk through the town

7.30pm Prayers for healing & wholeness.

You are welcome to join in with any of these activities or simply commit to praying at home during this period.

May the prayers of our lips be seen in the action of our lives and the kingdom of heaven be known throughout the earth.

Helen

Aylesbury Bible Study 2018

Wednesday 2.00 - 3.30pm

All are welcome



May	23 rd	All the bits we've missed!
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Circuit Consultation - Wednesday 20th June, 7pm at Stoke Mandeville 'How can our churches grow?'

The Methodist Church is asking all congregations to consider how they might plan for growth.

'Growth' can mean a variety of different things depending upon the church setting. Therefore, we would like to invite congregations to explore this at our consultation.

All are welcome for an evening of discussion and sharing, which will begin at 7pm with pudding (if you could contribute a pudding that would be very helpful!)

Leading up to the consultation we will be considering the 'Our Calling' priorities of the Methodist Church in our Sunday services:

May 27th - Worship: 'The church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.'

June 3rd - Learning & Caring: 'The church exists to help people grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care.'

June 10th - Service: 'The church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice'.

June 17th - **Evangelism:** 'The church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ'.

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and views. Please do come along.

FINGERS OF FLAME

I have often wondered
What is was like
On that Awesome day, long ago,
When the Disciples had gathered
And were talking amongst themselves.
Suddenly, there was a rush of wind,
And a mighty swirling of fire
Had begun to envelop them.

The fire was very strange.
It did not burn anyone.
And as the Fingers of Flame
Encircled each man,
They started to speak strangely,
In a foreign language unheard of.
This was from Our Father,
The Almighty God.

The Holy Spirit, God's gift,
Had made contact with them.
Each man became filled with
This great Holiness.
God's work had begun.
Those chosen were changed,
And their hearts had now
Been forever altered.

This happened long ago,
But could easily be now.
We can all be reached by God,
By the Holy Spirit.
And our hearts can be filled
Until they overflow.
Once done, there is no turning back.
You can be forever blessed.

God takes us, as we are,
And remodels our very being.
He makes us brand new
And ready for His Mercy.
So, when the fingers of flame alight,
Have Faith. And be ready
To set your soul on fire.
And then, be one with God.

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SIMPLE FORMULA FOR LIVING

Live beneath your means. Return everything you borrow. Stop blaming other people. Admit it when you make mistake Give clothes not worn to charity Do something nice and try not to get caught. Listen more; talk less. Every day take a 30 min. walk. Strive for excellence, not perfection. Be on time. Don't make excuses. Don't argue. Get organized. Be kind to unkind people. Let someone cut ahead of you in line. Take time to be alone. Cultivate good manners. Be humble. Realize and accept that life isn't fair. Know when to keep your mouth shut. Go an entire day without criticizing anyone. Learn from the past. Plan for the future. Live in the present. Don't sweat the small stuff. It's all small stuff.



Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre Buckingham Street, Aylesbury

33rd ANNUAL ORGAN CONCERT

Presenting Concert Organist

Joseph Nolan

Organist of Perth Cathedral, Australia

WEDNESDAY 16th MAY 2018 @ 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7.00 pm)

Entrance: £12.00

Or £10.00 If booked in advance.
(Students entrance free)

Tickets on sale from 1st April, available from the Church Office on weekday mornings or direct from Derrick Matthews (01296 488076)

J TEAM

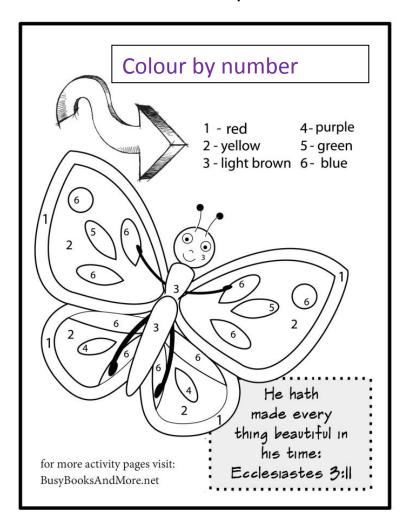
Welcome to the J Team pages

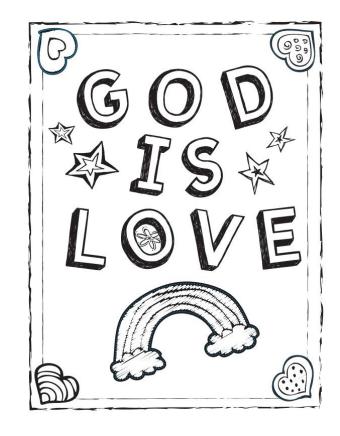
God is all-knowing and all-loving.



Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Matthew 10: 29-30

Therefore, God knows
exactly how many birds are in the air and if one of them dies and falls to the ground, God knows it! If God cares when a little sparrow falls to the ground, can you imagine how much he cares for you?





He cares for you so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that you could have everlasting life.

Now, that's amazing love!

He Cares for You

So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10:31 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 10:24-39



WORAFMCFHER Z EACHERR ROUNDO N C FLEDWQZU E E OQ D S ADCNV 0 SZHRO T W YXS Z NXE I M S E G GDISDRXJXVEXYLZ

Dear Father,
Thank you that we have a God who knows everything about us and loves us so much that He sent His Son to die for us.
Amen.

TEACHER	FOLLOW	CROSS	HEAD	PENNY
SPARROWS	NUMBERED	LIFE	STUDENT	SOUL
FALL	SERVANT	BODY	AFRAID	GROUND
WORTH	SOLD	ABOVE	MASTER	WORTH

Fun Facts about sparrows

- 1.) House sparrows were the winners of the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch for another year running! That means that sparrows were the birds people saw the most in their garden.
- 2.) They are noisy and live in many countries around the world.
- 3.) House sparrows like nesting in colonies, and the nests can be only 20-30 cm apart from each other.
- 4.) Their main nesting season is April August and may have up to 4 clutches, so look out for baby sparrows!

Source: www.RSPB.org.uk



Cook

Come along whether you're 6 or 60!







Cooking healthy food from scratch Sessions are monthly and cost £2.50.

We'll cook and eat together.

Numbers are limited to 8, with places allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Dietary or allergy requirements needed in advance.

Please contact Margaret or Mel for further information and to sign up.

Mel: familyworker.amc@mail.com 07717 121887

START DATE: Tuesday May 22nd, 11:00am – 13:00pm.

[Further sessions: Tuesdays June 12th and July 10th.]

SIGN UP and pay by: Friday May 18th

After the Battle

On the hot morning of 21st of April, we passed near to the site of the battlefield and I visited the last resting place of those, who had died there. We were not in Syria, nor in Flanders Fields. We were just to the north of Aylesbury, ending up in the churchyard at Hardwick. There I found the memorial, which bears the following faded inscription.



Within are deposited the bones of 247 persons who were discovered AD 1818 buried in a field adjoining Holman's Bridge near Aylesbury. From the history and appearance of the place where they were found they were concluded to be the remains of those officers and men who perished in an engagement fought AD 1642 between Prince Rupert and the garrison who held Aylesbury for Parliament. Enemies from their attachment to opposite leaders and opposite standards in the sanctuary victims to its fury united in one common slaughter there were buried in one common grave close to the spot where they had lately stood in arms against each other.

After the lapse of more than a century and a half their bones were collected and deposited together still in consecrated ground.

May the memory of brave men be respected and may our country never again be called upon to take part in a contest such as that which this tablet records.

Erected by the late Lord Nugent

These people were not killed by bombs, shellfire or poison gas. They were probably pierced by arrows, battered by pikes or hacked to death with axes in hand-to-hand combat. They were not killed by a foreign foe, but by their fellow countrymen.

They spoke the same language and would have been bound to attend the same





While I was making the note of the engraving on the monument, I thought how sad it was that so many had died, and still die, because disputes are not resolved with words rather than weapons.

As I walked back to my friend's car, I breathed

in strong 'agricultural' smells and noticed contented cattle with their calves in the neighbouring cowsheds. No doubt, there had been cows with their calves on this land in the seventeenth century, before and after that fatal skirmish, and I mused on the fact that life still goes on even after the fiercest conflict, and there is always hope.

Angela M. Smith



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 10 – Sun 20 May		'THY KINGDOM COME'		
	10.30am	Family & Brigade Service led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Sun 13 May	5.00pm	'Thy Kingdom Come' event at Swanbourne Church		
Sun 13 – Sat 19 May		CHRISTIAN AID WEEK		
Tues 15 May	Day of Pray	yer – See Details on earlier page		
Wed 16 May	7.30pm	Organ Concert: Joseph Nolan		
Frid 18 May	7.00pm	Friday Night Youth Group		
Sup 20 May	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Sun 20 May	6.00pm	Circuit Celebration of 'Thy Kingdom Come'		
Tues 22 May	11.00am	Let's Cook		
Wed 23 May	2.00pm	Bible Study: 'All the bits we've missed!'		
Sat 26 May	2.00pm	Good Faith Book Club		
Sun 27 May	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Sun 3 June	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Sun 10 June	10.30am	Family & Brigade Service led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Tues 12 June	11.00am	Let's Cook		
Sat 16 June	4.00pm	Messy Church		
Sat 10 Julie	7.30pm	SOS: It's a Man Thing – BBQ with Gill and Trevor Nord		
	8.45am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Helen Kirk		
Sun 17 June	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Mr David Neville		
Wed 20 June	7.00pm	Circuit Consultation at Stoke Mandeville		
Sun 24 June	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Aylesbury Creativity Group		
	5.00pm	Circuit Open Air Service at Swanbourne		
Sat 7 July	Action for Children Charity Stall in Market Square			
Sun 8 July	Action for Children Cake & Plant Stall after the Morning Service			
Tues 10 July	11.00am	Let's Cook		
Sat 14 July	7.30pm	SOS: TV (of the) Times with Gill and Steve Marks		
Sat 21 July	4.00pm	Messy Church		
Sun 22 July	6.00pm	Circuit Service – Songs of Praise 2018		

The next LINK magazine will be the July - August 2018 issue. Please send in all contributions by Friday 6th July 2018.

To make sure I receive them, please send them to both addresses:

Jennie Torpey: <u>jennietorpey@ntlworld.com</u>

AMC Office: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk



Family, Home and Faith

From the tender age of 10 years old, I was baptised and committed my life to Christ, promising to follow and serve Him as best as my 10-year-old heart and mind could. By the time I was seventeen I decided to be baptised again, making a personal declaration that I wanted to follow Christ, and this time it was based on my personal convictions and not my parent's.

One thing that stands out to me which kept me in faith throughout my teenage years, was the example and faithful commitment of my parents. They lived out faith in our home by showing daily examples of love, forgiveness, piety and actively practising faith through open prayer, worship and study of God's word.

When it became my turn to be a parent, I tried to pattern their example by having regular worship at home, where my girls were encouraged to pray, sing and even give a short sermon! The hope is, that seeds have been sown in their lives, which will continue to live on throughout their lives as they have in mine.

My interpretation of 1 Corinthians 1:3 is: Parents are planters; youth meetings, Girls' and Boys' Brigade, church services and other people help to water the seeds, and God increases and multiples what was planted in the first place.

What we do at home really counts; it won't be forgotten; it will leave an impression and it may help our children to continue and follow faith for themselves.

Melvina Brown (Mel) Family and Youth Work.



A Quiet Weekend Boating!!

Well that was the plan. It started out so well, as it had for the last 13 years. As a qualified Community Canal Boat Manager, my job was to steer the narrow boat, on behalf of the Boys' Brigade, up and down the Grand Union Canal and make sure the kids enjoyed themselves.

The problems started when it was discovered that the man in charge, let's call him Colin, had let, not only his DBS, but his membership of the Boys' Brigade lapse. As we had to have a registered BB officer in charge, someone had to step in. Yes, it was me!

Unbeknown to me, Colin had invited boys from Uxbridge BB; this made our numbers up to 18 kids with 5 of those being girls. We therefore needed 3 boats, but the girls boat would be half empty. At a meeting, I was asked to find 3-5 girls and thought of our own GB girls. After meeting with the girls it looked like 4 girls and 1 officer could make it.

Days after the meeting I was then told that Colin had also asked Uxbridge GB, who had 5 girls coming. We now had too many girls for one boat. "We'll have 4 boats then," said Colin. Before I could drive around to his house and murder him, our GB girls had to pull out because the GB officer was no longer available for the weekend. Back to 3 boats.

Last year we had 3 boats and it was a shambles, so to make this all work as smoothly as possible, I organised teams of boys and girls to operate the locks. No problems there then, I thought.

Now the easy bit - buying food for Friday evening and Saturday morning for 23 kids and 9 adults. Well it was easy for me, as Margaret bought it all.

FRIDAY afternoon we pick up our 5 boys: 2 plus the food in my car and 3 plus 1 grandson in Margaret's car. Everyone had to be at the quayside by 4.00 pm for safety talks and lifejackets to be fitted. We would then set off at 5.00pm. When we arrive, I'm informed that the High Wycombe BB company is running late as their minibus has broken down. On board the minibus is the officer doing the safety talk. Minibus arrives at 4.50 and panic sets in as we issue lifejackets and do the safety talk in 35 minutes.

Everyone is on board as we set off 45 minutes late. At the first lock another safety talk, then we have to get 3 boats through the lock. 2 boats can go through a lock in 20 minutes max, 3 boats now take us 40 minutes. We are

now 1½ hours late. We arrive at our overnight mooring at Tesco's Rickmansworth in the dark. As agreed at the meeting, I tell the kids on my boat not to buy sweets and fizzy drinks as I'm not cleaning up any mishaps. I then get moaned at, as the other kids have all gone off to Tesco's. So much for all working together! 9:45pm, I've had enough and go to bed. However, someone didn't make a good job of



mooring up their boat as it bumped and banged against ours all night long.

SATURDAY starts well. The sun is shining and there's a Full English Breakfast on the table. We set off with the lock teams working well - it took us 30 minutes each to get though the first 4 locks. However, when we get to lock 5 there are no kids with the first boat, they're all on board the other 2 following boats so don't show up for another 20 minutes. I gently remind the lock teams on what and how they're meant to be doing it. All goes well for 3 locks, then it's back to no kids on the first boat. I ring Colin on the following boat and ask him where the kids are. "All on my boat by the looks of it" he replies. "Tell them to get off and start doing their jobs again," I shout down the phone in a calm manner.

We arrive at Sainsbury's, Apsley Mill. The plan is for me to do the shopping for Saturday's dinner and Sunday's lunch while the others take the 3 boats to Hemel Hempstead to turn them around. A 30 to 40-minute job. After buying all the food, I return to find 2 boats still moored up. I'm told, "Colin's taking 1 boat up first, turning it around then coming back to help with the others". "Why? Can't you turn a boat around?" I ask. "Well, it doesn't matter now anyway because Colin's got stuck so he's told us to reverse back through the last lock and turn around in the space below the lock". I tell them that there's not enough room below the lock, but they know better. After 30 minutes of trying, they decide there's not enough room to turn around. Only option is to reverse ½ mile back down the canal, through another lock, then turn around outside the Paper Mill pub where there is plenty of room. Only problem is that narrow boats are very, very difficult to reverse over long distances. So, I leave them to it.

The first boat out of the lock starts to turn around by reversing into an inlet by the pub but comes too close to the canalwall. The steersman puts the boat into 'full forwards' which sends a sheet of water up the wall and over the people watching at the pub. 1½ hours later we are now facing the right way, Colin has got unstuck and we set off again. As we



are now way behind schedule, we have to moor up somewhere new. It was 500 meters from an underground train bridge. No problems, as they do not run after midnight. However, trains might not run but rail repairs can be carried out, and they are.

SUNDAY, dull and grey. We are up early, quick breakfast, very short Sunday devotions, then we're off, now 2 hours behind schedule. Kids told they must get the lock operation working properly or we will not be back until 6.00pm. In the end one team stays with my boat, which leads the way, while the others follow on.

We arrive at Cassiobury Park, where we have Sunday lunch, only 1 hour behind schedule. Things are looking up. However, spoke too soon as the rain sets in, but at least my team get stuck into doing the locks.

Further down the canal we pick up a stray person, Margaret, who has walked up the canal to meet us. First words are, "Is the kettle on?" We arrive, wet and bedraggled, at the quay, only 1 hour late. I have chosen to be first back for a good reason. There is an overflow stream next to the quay so you have to bring the stern in first, tie up, and the flow brings the bow in. Easy!!

We then stand and watch as Colin comes in bow first, collides with my boat and then struggles to get the stern in. He then tells the other boat to come in bow first so it ends up across the canal. 10 minutes later we're all docked. As Margaret and I start to unload left over food, etc, the others pack their stuff in their cars, wave and drive off. We leave 15 minutes later with the words "I'm never doing 3 boats again"!

We drop the boys off at the church and head home for a take-away and a large glass of wine.

John



Friday May 18th 7pm - 9pm

Who is it for? Anyone in secondary school.

What's planned? Games, activities, socializing, finishing with reflection and prayer

What's on the menu? Pizza!

Coming? Please let Hannah, Sam or Charlie know.

Please contact Mel for further information on monthly meetings. Email: familyworker.amc@mail.com

Mobile: 07717 121887.

Cost? £1

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13th – 19th May 2018

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty still persists. Poverty is an outrage against humanity.

It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

But together we have the power to transform lives.

For over 70 years, we've been standing with the poorest of our neighbours.

We work in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none,
to stand up for dignity, equality and justice.

Our voices and actions are stronger together. And with your help, we can make an even bigger difference.

We believe in life before death.

We seek to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ, who commanded his followers to love their neighbour and work for a better world.

We stand with the most vulnerable and excluded people of the world – both in times of crisis and for the longer term.

We give people survival essentials when they are without shelter or refuge, and help them find the strength and resources they need to flourish and protect themselves from shocks and disasters.

We support people to stand up for their rights and to build stable, secure lives they can enjoy living.

We campaign to ensure a more equal division of power in the world, promoting the rights and voices of women and girls – and anyone discriminated against because of who they are.

We push our political leaders to tackle climate change and tax dodging – which hit the poorest the hardest – and for our society to welcome those who have been forced to flee their homes overseas.

Please support Christian Aid Week!

At AMC we observed Christian Aid Sunday on 22nd April, but please support any Christian Aid events/collections during Christian Aid Week.



Circuit Camping Weekend

Camping or Just Visiting?

Our circuit camping event is from 29 June - 1 July.

40 of us are going to Bridge Villa Campsite in Wallingford (www.bridgevilla.co.uk if you want to check it out). The campsite is about 200 metres from the banks of the River Thames.

Not camping? Well, would you like to come and join us for a day?

On the Saturday we will probably have a leisurely walk in the afternoon followed by a faith barbeque from about 6.00pm onwards.

On the Sunday we will have an outdoor service around 10.30am and then some of us may meet for lunch in a local restaurant (this has yet to be arranged), while others may just be sociable on site.

We need to vacate the site by 4.00pm on Sunday.

Please let me know if you would like to join us - you will be more than welcome.

Chris Sara. Mobile 07515 472825



Hilarious Things My Mother Taught Me...

- My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE . "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
- My mother taught me RELIGION. "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
- My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL . "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
- 4. My mother taught me LOGIC. " Because I said so, that's why."
- 5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
- My mother taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
- My mother taught me IRONY "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
- My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
- My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
- 10. My mother taught me about STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

TOM GAULD NewScientist FOUNT PUDDLE TAP BUCKET SPRINKLER OF OF OF 0F OF OCCASIONAL DUBIOUS MISLEADING ALL USELESS INSIGHT KNOWLEDGE TRIVIA FACTS STATISTICS





SATURDAY 7th JULY 2018

CHARITY STALL IN MARKET SQUARE

Tombola and Children's Lucky Dip

If you have any suitable gifts for the Tombola or Lucky Dip, please give them to Pauline, Jennie or Sandie.



ACTION FOR CHILDREN SUNDAY 8th JULY 2018

Sale of Homemade Cakes, Jams, Plants and Home Produce in the Hall after the morning service

Please help us to raise funds to enable Action for Children to improve the lives of thousands of vulnerable children, young people and families under their care

Are you able to:

Bake us a cake, or bring plants or home-made produce to sell on the stall?

Offers to: Pauline Noble: 484940

Jennie Torpey: 581414, Sandie Steeden: 331278

Please come and support the stall after the morning service.

Coming Up! Saturday 22nd September, 2018, 7.00pm Action for Children Quiz with a Ploughman's Lunch.

Tickets £7 each, available nearer the time.

Put the date in your diary!!



Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse The Vineyard Centre Gatehouse Close Aylesbury Bucks, HP19 8DN

Aylesbury Methodist Church Mission Secretary Buckingham Aylesbury HP20 2NQ

12 April 2018

Dear Friends,

I wanted to thank you for your regular and continuing support of Storehouse. This year we have extended our food bank to supply fresh food and vegetables and frozen meat where possible to provide a healthier option for our clients.

This has been very popular and the number of food parcels we have given out has increased.

In 2017 during January and March we gave out 459 Food Parcels which fed 784 adults and children. This year for the same period January to March we have given out 616 Food Parcels which has fed 1457.

We knew the need had increased but had no idea the amount of children and adults we were feeding had almost doubled.

Thank you so much for your support of Storehouse it is so appreciated and I do hope you are able to continue to support Storehouse in the coming year.

Blessings

James Tweats

Storehouse Manager

EUCHARIST

The Sacramental wine
Sits in the silver chalice.
Ruby red. Blood red.
In reverent remembrance
Of what He sacrificed for us.
It is a consecrated substitute
Of what ebbed from His body
As He died for us all.

The bread awaits a blessing
As it rests upon the platter.
Taking on the meaning of
Our dear Christ's broken body.
His flesh. For us to remember
How He took our sins
To His death for us.
Fulfilling His Obligation.

This is the Blessed Eucharist.
The Body and the Blood
Of Jesus Christ, Our Saviour.
So, as we come together.
To feast. To dine at His table.
May we never forget
The ultimate price He paid,
Upon that Sacrificial Cross.

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A Methodist minister was pastoral visiting. As he arrived at a house he found one of the young children, Michael, helping his mother to ice some cupcakes.



When the boy had finished, he brought them to the living room, where the minister and his mother were talking.

"The cupcakes look delicious, Michael," the minister said. He took a bite and said, "These are so good."

As he finished the cupcake and took another, he again complimented the young man. "The cupcakes look beautiful, Michael," he said. "How did you get the icing so neat?"

Michael replied, "It was easy. I just licked them."

The minister turned pale. He pointed to the plate of cupcakes. "You licked all of these?"

"Of course not," Michael replied.

The minister smiled with relief.

Michael went on: "After a while my tongue got tired, so I got the dog to help."



Are You Becoming More Gracious?

'Grow in grace'

2 Peter 3:18

Every day you live you'll be presented with opportunities to 'grow in grace'. And you must always be open and receptive to them.

A grandmother, celebrating her fiftieth wedding anniversary, shared the secret of her long and happy relationship: 'On my wedding day I decided to make a list of ten of my husband's faults, which for the sake of our marriage I would overlook. I never did get around to listing any. Each time he did something I didn't like, I'd say to myself, "Lucky for him that's one of the ten!" Now there's a very wise lady! Physical intimacy may bring us together, but growing in grace will keep us together.

So when someone upsets you, instead of responding with angry words or angry silence, remind yourself that God is giving you another opportunity to 'grow in grace'. And if you don't do too well with some of the opportunities He sends, don't worry, He will keep sending more until you get it right!

Resentment is one of the most expensive luxuries you can indulge in. A deep-seated grudge eats away at your peace of mind like a deadly cancer destroying a vital organ. In fact, there are few things as sad as a person who has harboured a grudge for years. Without forgiveness, life becomes an endless cycle of resentment and retaliation.

One of the secrets to a long and fruitful life is to forgive everybody, everything, every night before you go to bed. It's the key to having personal peace.

So, start getting serious about the Bible admonition: 'Grow in grace.'

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. 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 might find a couple in the display units in the Church vestibule, but if you wish to read it regularly, do get in touch with UCB and it will be delivered straight to your home!



Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit

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Led by Rev Helen Kirk

Aylesbury Methodist Church Sunday 22nd July @ 6.00 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME