

Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre



‘LINK’

September - October
2019



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

Registered Charity No. 1129749

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

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

Minister:

Rev Richard Atkinson
01296 339899
revrja@outlook.com



Tim is a thoroughly nice chap but he has created a dilemma; I really should have known better but weakness overtook me. In my previous district I was Local Preachers' tutor for 4 Circuits and Tim was one of my students. To mark my departure, he very kindly bought me a book. Therein is the nub of my problem.

Don't get me wrong - it is a really interesting book telling world history from the perspective of the Silk roads, the trading routes from the really early days, through Marco Polo to the present day. Currently I am engrossed in the inter-war years and the European powers fighting for influence in Persia,



Palestine and the Levant, but it is not really bed time reading. It is more of a holiday book, needing time to concentrate; but because it was a gift, normal rules were set aside and I am battling to get through it before September dawns with all its wonders. I made the mistake of starting to read it at bedtime

For normally the great delight at the end of the day is putting my nose in a novel and getting lost in the imagination of the author, be it a classic or something more contemporary, and, courtesy of a gift voucher, I have two novels sitting on the bedside cabinet beckoning to me hopefully.

There is something about a story that is exciting; one book I really enjoyed is an American classic called Stoner by John Williams, which is famed because in 288 pages not much happens. It is an impressive piece of writing, a reminder that all life is not so exciting but there is still a story to tell.

There is an important message for us here as we journey on. Each of our stories has great value because it is a picture of the activity of God, so, whether we came into the church via a Damascus Road experience or, like me, a more gradual journey, there is something special because it reveals the hand of our God. Each of us is an evolving story of grace. Part of the challenge we face is to unlock some of these stories; this might be the basis of a local arrangement service, where we can hear how God has touched and continues to touch lives.

The song invites us to 'Count our Blessings', and this is something that we need to articulate to help each other sense the way that God is moving. Active in the spectacular, but more often in the mundanities of everyday life.

So, a thought - when did you last think about the story of your faith journey? Is it time to update our Christian CV, as there is the danger that the new minister or someone else in the congregation may ask us the question? So how did it start; what have been the big moments, and what recently or currently has touched us, made us think, helped awareness; where have we seen God's hand at work, be it a huge demonstration or a barely discernible hint? It may be currently faith is a struggle due to something that has happened, and, here again, talking about this could bring forth those who have travelled or are journeying on the same path.

The blurb on the cover of my copy of Stoner describes the novel as "the greatest novel you've never read". It is so important that we give voice to our stories, warts and all, as a way of showing the authenticity of faith. We need to be bold and dare to talk of what is important as a way of enabling ourselves to engage with the wider world. At times these will be stories laced with joy, at others redolent with pain or sadness, but all part of the way of discipleship. Stories that speak not of us, but of God in the midst, and our seeking his voice in the midst of the clamour of the world.

May we take the opportunity to share and to listen so that our stories will further enrich the church of Christ.

Blessings

Richard



Carol's Memorial Tapestries

By its very nature, a Memorial Message is brief and to the point. It cannot tell how Carol became "A pioneer in establishing Community Groups", nor can it tell the types of group that she established and whether they were in Luton or in Aylesbury.

**In loving memory of
Carol Rogers
A pioneer in establishing
Community Groups**



Carol graduated from Chiltern Nursery & Training College as a trained Nanny (NNEB) in 1962. Rather than travel the world in the company of a rich family, Carol decided to work for the community as a Nursery School Assistant in Eastcote Nursery School prior to our marriage and in Tottenham Nursery School after our marriage.

It was in 1968 when we moved to Luton with its No Nursery Schools Policy that Carol's community role flourished. No longer could Sarah (3 years) and Andrew (10 months) go to work with mummy. Carol quickly converted the downstairs of our house and its garden into a small Nursery School so as to be able to advertise her services as a Registered Child Minder. The school membership was limited to five children that included our own two.

When Sarah was 5 years old, she went to Sunday School at St. Margaret's Methodist Church at the top of St. Margaret's Avenue where we lived. Carol was horrified at the facilities available to Andrew. The Church suddenly obtained a new crèche manager with her husband responsible for transporting play equipment between school and church.

Carol joined the Young Wives Club and encouraged some of her friends to become Registered Child Minders. Child Minding was very much a Cottage Industry. The maximum number of children permissible in a house was usually four or five. The Local Authority also set the maximum fee that could be charged for an 8-hour day (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) More or less time could be charged as pro-rata of the daily fee. No extra at weekends! A garden was also necessary so young wives living in flats could not join the scheme.

There were no electronic games in those days! In order to keep the children quiet and busy, Child Minders would need a large stock of colouring-books. Such books would contain various pictures in them covering life at the seaside; in the countryside and down on the farm.



In the mid-1970s, a representative from the National Playgroup Association gave a talk to the Young Wives Group. Basically, she was saying that it made more economic sense for three or four Registered Child Minders to bond together and set up in business. The required assets of a playgroup already existed by combining the play equipment available in each house. All that was required was to find suitable premises for hire.

Carol and two of her friends were very enthusiastic about this idea. The three of them, together with their respective husbands, processed the idea further. St. Andrew's Church had a larger hall than St. Margaret's Methodist Church and were prepared to hire it out at a cheaper rent. In addition, there was plenty of storage space in the basement room underneath the stage for the play equipment. This basement room was reached by stairs behind the stage whilst loading and unloading took place through threshold doors at the front of the stage. There was quite a drop between the hall floor and the basement floor. Children, at the end of the day, were amazed to see equipment disappear under the stage to the sound of voices beneath it.

The six of us agreed that St. Andrew's Playgroup was a viable business proposition providing the three leaders acquired a group of volunteers and gave them basic training. All three leaders held the NNEB qualification. Guess which leader became the Treasurer and whose husband audited her handwritten accounts for the group?

Once St. Andrew's Playgroup had become established, Carol's two friends decided that Luton needed its own Playgroup Association and set about organising it. At first Carol did not want to become an officer. She preferred to be a backroom girl at their events particularly in the refreshment department. Her attitude changed when in 1980, the management of the Arndale Shopping Centre were so impressed by the Association's advertising of playgroup benefits that the management wanted to extend a playgroup's services to their customers. Thus, the first Drop-In Playgroup in the world was born. Carol joined the Project Team.

The Arndale Centre would provide the premises, equipment and admin staff at no cost to the Association. It would, also, install a computerised booking system with cash registers to be used by Arndale staff only. The Association would supply the voluntary playgroup staff for a monthly fee. It would supervise the design of plans by Arndale Centre architects; the installation of play equipment; the painting of walls and their decoration with murals. Such murals allow the painting of life-size images of exotic animals kept in zoos, or, the telling of stories like Noah's Ark where the animals went in two-by-two.



During shopping hours at the Arndale Centre, customers would bring their children to reception at the playgroup where the computer would be consulted to ascertain if there was still room in the playgroup for the children. If the result was positive, the receptionist would summon a playgroup staff member to take the children into the main play area whilst the receptionist completed the booking for one, two or three hours. Customers would immediately pay for the booking and be given a receipt stating the time to return for their children. If the result was negative, the customers would be told the time to return for the next available slot. Carol and her husband became well known to Arndale Security and were often summoned by Tannoy to go to the playgroup in order to resolve problems when we were out shopping.

Carol had to give up both St. Andrew's Playgroup and the Drop-In Playgroup when we moved to Aylesbury in 1987. After a short time as a Leader at Mandeville School Playgroup, Carol moved into Community Social Care – first at the Monday Club in 1989 and then the Wednesday Club, when it was founded in 1994 for clients in the Early Stages of Senile

Dementia. Whilst her family are proud of Carol's achievement in receiving a Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for the Wednesday Club in 2002, we thought a memorial to reflect recognition of her previous playgroup work was more appropriate. Carol was definitely a family orientated person who loved children. We would like to thank the Banner Group for the two magnificent Tapestries ('Road to Noah's Ark' & 'Down on the Farm') hanging in the Welcome Space crèche.

Dave Rogers



TEA & COFFEE MORNING at Aylesbury



**Methodist Church
in the Welcome Space.
on FRIDAY 18TH
OCTOBER, 10AM -
12NOON.**



Cakes and Crafts for sale

Please come along and support Epilepsy Action

The next LINK magazine will be the November-December 2019 issue.

**Please send in all contributions by Friday 1st November 2019
to both addresses below:**

Jennie Torpey: jennietorpey@gmail.com

AMC Office: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk



Or I can type them up for you if I have them early enough.

Ideally, please send as an A4 WORD document and 14 - 16pt size font

Charity

Christmas Card Shop



Yes, Christmas is coming and the card shop is due to open on Saturday 26th October. I rely entirely on volunteers to man the till, and this year I have been asked to open a few days earlier and stay open a week longer. This means I have 192 volunteer spaces to fill.

A request was sent out a week and a half ago to those volunteers who helped last year, and as I write this, I have had 85 spaces filled. This means I have another 107 yet to fill.

I have 5 members of the church who already help, not including my team of 5 managers and 2 assistants.

The shop is open Monday to Saturday with two 4-hour shifts, 10:00 – 13:00 and 13:00 17:00. If you think you would like to help and want to know more about it then please contact me.

Many thanks.

John Miskin, Shop Manager.

I was walking past a farm and a sign said 'Duck, eggs'.

I thought: "That's an unnecessary comma - and then it hit me."



The congregation of a small Methodist church decided that the stone which formed the step up to the front door had become too worn by its years of use, and would have to be replaced. Unfortunately, there were hardly any funds available for the replacement.

Then their minister came up with the bright idea that the replacement could be postponed for many years by simply turning the block of stone over.

The congregation formed a working party, armed with picks, shovels and crowbars, and laboured all day under a blazing sun, until finally they loosened the stone and turned it over.

They discovered that a previous minister had the same idea 75 years ago!

[Methodically Reordered]

**World's Biggest Coffee morning in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Support**



MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

We will be holding our own event in the
Welcome Space at Aylesbury Methodist Church on
Friday Sept 27th and ALSO on Sat Sept 28th September,
10am until noon.

Please come along and support this fantastic charity.
There will be a good supply of yummy cakes!!

The Golden Rule



Buddhism:

Hurt not others with that which pains yourself.

Christianity:

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Hinduism:

Treat others as you would yourself be treated.

Islam:

Do unto all men as you would wish to have done unto you.

Judaism:

What you yourself hate, do to no man.

Native American:

Live in harmony, for we are all related.

Sacred Earth:

Do as you will, as long as you harm no one.



Our next event
is our annual



on Saturday 12th October 2019 at 7.00pm

Includes a Ploughman's 'Lunch'.

Tickets £8 each now available from:

Pauline Noble 484940 or Jennie Torpey 581414

Coming Up!

Annual Christmas Stall in Friars Square

on Saturday 16th November, 2019

with Gifts, Tombola and Children's Lucky Dip

We would be very grateful for Raffle Prizes for the Quiz and also items suitable for the Stall - gifts, tombola and children's lucky dip.



Please give these to:

Jennie Torpey 581414,

Pauline Noble 484940

or Sandie Steeden 331278.

Would any of you be interested in joining our small team to raise funds for this extremely worthwhile charity?

It would be really good to have a few more to help us plan events.

If so, do speak to Pauline, Jennie or Sandie



Saturday 12th October 2019, 7.00pm
in aid of ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Tickets: £8 each, now available from
Pauline Noble 484940 and Jennie Torpey 581414.

INCLUDING PLOUGHMAN'S & SOFT DRINKS
IN THE INTERVAL

[Bring your own nibbles and soft drinks to have at your table]

Evening includes a Raffle

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!!!

TABLES OF 6 (max 8)

Make up a table, or just buy a ticket
and we'll make sure you're
on a table with others.



ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Come and help us support
ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Aylesbury Methodist Church, Buckingham Street, HP20 2NQ

Play Time?

It was nearly midnight, on Christmas Eve, in 1990. I had recently recovered from a devastating illness and was so pleased to be well enough to go away to celebrate the holiday. I was lying on my bed in the hotel room, watching television. Haydn's Creation had put me into a dreamy mood, but then the programme changed. A foreign correspondent was interviewing a soldier, who was stationed in Saudi Arabia, on the brink of the Gulf War.

"What is it like doing night patrol in the desert?" he asked. The young man said, "In the desert there are many stars."

Many stars. The words echoed in my mind. Stars in the desert on Christmas Eve. Wise men of old had studied those stars. As I drifted off to sleep, I knew that I had to write a play – a play entitled 'Stars in the Desert'.

By the end of January, I had clarified my thoughts by writing that play, but then I wanted to share it with someone, so I showed it to the Minister's



wife, at Wesley Methodist Church in High Wycombe. "We must use this," she said. "I'm sure the Women's Fellowship would like to read it at their December meeting." When Christmas was approaching, she

helped me to organise the event. At the meeting, the members of the Fellowship sat around a table by the light of candles and we included a Bible reading, carols and prayers to supplement the play. It went well.

The next year, the local Wesley Guild asked if they might use it, and that was wonderful, as there were men to take the men's parts. "Would you

write us a play we could use at Easter?" they asked. Over the years, I wrote more plays for both groups.

On Monday 25th February 2008, the Wesley Guild read my play for Lent entitled 'In the Wilderness'. While drinking our tea following the meeting, members came to me and said, "You've written plays for Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, are you going to write a play for Pentecost next?" I thought, "Pentecost 2009 is a long way off". I had no intention of writing another play at that point. But when I got home, I thought I would just read through the account of that eventful Pentecost recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky, which sounded like a strong wind blowing, which filled the whole house There were Jews living in Jerusalem from every country in the World. They heard the noise and a large crowd gathered.

I had just finished reading Captain Corelli's Mandolin by Louis de Bernieres, in which an earthquake is described, in detail. They heard a loud noise and rushed outside. I wondered if there had been an earthquake during that ancient feast. Do they suffer from earthquakes in Jerusalem? We don't often feel them in England, but we do, never the less, occasionally experience one. There might have been one there.

Next morning, hardly awake, I switched on the radio beside my bed. Someone was being interviewed on the TODAY programme. "We heard a loud noise and all rushed outside." Was I dreaming? Had I entered a time warp? No, there really had been an earthquake in England during the early hours of that morning. The epicentre had been in Market Rasen in Lincolnshire. I later learned that people had even felt it in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. I got up and wrote my play so it was all ready for the next spring.

I wonder if there are any people in Aylesbury, who would like me to share my plays with them?

Angela M. Smith

J TEAM

Welcome to the J Team pages



Seasons will change. There will be good times and some bad times, but you God will never change. If you have a relationship with Him, He will never leave you. He will always be there to help you through. God says that He has made everything beautiful in its time. That means that He can take even the worst seasons of life and turn them into something more beautiful than we could ever have imagined. Have Faith, our God is incredible!

Faith is the key that unlocks the power of God



One day Jesus was in a town called Capernaum. There was a centurion, a Roman army officer, who had a servant who was very sick and about to die. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some men to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The men came to Jesus and pleaded with him to heal the centurion's servant, so Jesus went with them.

Before Jesus even arrived at the house, the officer sent some men to say to him, "Don't even go to the trouble to come to my house, because I am not worthy

of such an honour. Just say the word and my servant will be healed."

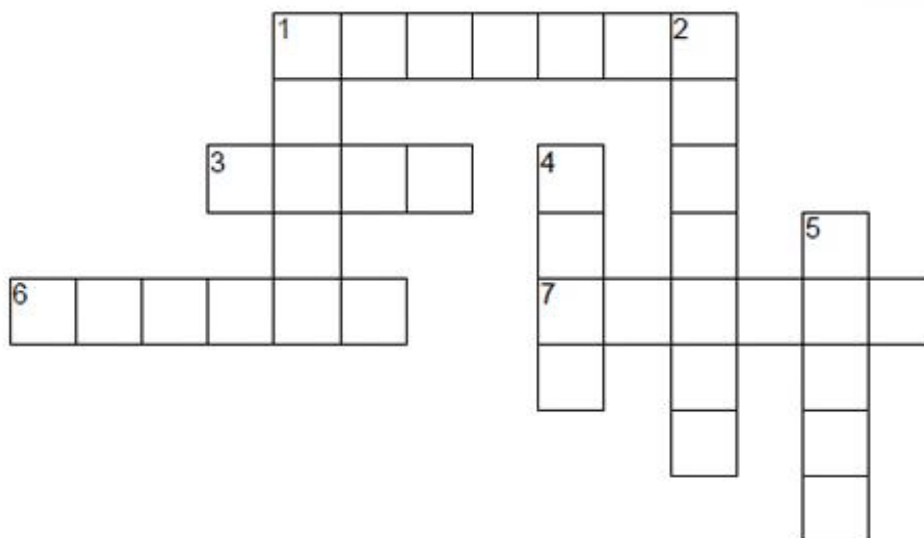
When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. He turned to the crowd of people that was following him and said, "I haven't seen faith like this in all of Israel!" The officer's friends turned and went back to the centurion's house. When they arrived, they found the servant completely healed.



Faith Is the Key

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. Luke 7:9-10 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 7:1-10



ACROSS

1. People that you know well and regard with affection
3. To be physically ill
6. To deserve something
7. To be overwhelmed, surprised, or shocked

DOWN

1. A strong belief in the power of God
2. A person working in the service of another
4. To cure or make healthy again
5. The Son of God

WORTHY
FAITH

SERVANT
JESUS

SICK
HEAL

FRIENDS
AMAZED

Just like the faith of the centurion in this story, our faith can unlock the power of God in our lives.

Dear God
Thank you for this special time of
year. Thank you for all the
wonderful food that is grown and
for helping us to grow.
Help us to have faith in ourselves, in
each other and you.
Amen



Squirreling it away

At the start of the Summer I decided to have my back garden overhauled. I now have a nice patio and raised growing beds that are much easier for me to tend to.

I had no real need for all of my large plastic pots, so I decided to use my riddle and keep the dirt to 'top up' the garden; that way I was getting rid of most of the old/tatty pots but keeping the nice stone ones that I could reuse.

I was gradually sieving the soil and enjoying myself collecting bulbs that I could plant elsewhere in the garden – when I suddenly realised that in almost every pot there were at least two acorns!

Now, I have seen squirrels in the garden, either early in the morning, or late in the evening. They had obviously been very busy, storing up for leaner times.

Once I had finished, I counted that I had about thirty acorns, and the question was, what to do with them?

The squirrels may return when hungry only to find no food in the larder! So I left them in different places, and some in other pots, and just kept an eye on them. Over a few weeks all the acorns had disappeared!

Maybe they have been re-buried somewhere else. Even in another garden?

I wonder if this is where we get the adage 'Squirreling it away'

Thank you, Father God for your
Awesome Creation.

© 2019 Babs



THE BARMY ARMY

Many will remember the late and great Brian Atkins, who died last year after a relatively short illness. Brian was well known for his voluntary work, over many years: as the business advisor to the Bishop of Tanganyika; for his support and hugely successful fundraising efforts for the *Buigiri School for the Blind in Dodoma, Tanzania; his devotion to AMC; and his local preaching in and support of the Stratford Circuit.

Very few, however, will be aware of his membership of the 'Barmy Army', an exuberant and eccentric collection of English cricket fans who follow the England cricket team around the world. If he had been alive, he would not have missed their most recent event, and unexpected success, in Leeds on 26th August – a victory over their main rivals, the Australian team. Their non-stop enthusiastic singing and chanting throughout the very tense match, was a highlight of the five days.

One of Brian's great ambitions was to attend, with the Barmy Army, an Australia v England Test Match in Australia, which he succeeded in doing in 2017, appropriately dressed for a great moment in his life!



**The Buigiri School has struggled to stay afloat financially for much of its existence. At one point, eighteen years ago, the situation was so desperate that the Head Teacher was on the street begging for donations of food so the children could eat. They were down to their last sack of maize. He was discovered begging by Brian, who took on the project of first acquiring food, so the children could be fed, and then setting up a foundation to provide for the ongoing support of Buigiri. There is now a modest foundation in Britain to support the school, and the financial situation is fairly stable, although the foundation must continue to grow to ensure Buigiri's long-term viability.*



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sat 14 Sept	7.30pm	SOS: 'A Fiver for Four' with Mel & Mike Dean
Sun 15 Sept	8.45am 10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Honeyball
Tues 17 Sept	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Malcolm Ernst – 'Outreach on the Canal'
Sun 22 Sept	10.30am	Church Anniversary Service led by Rev Peter Mortlock
Sat 28 Sept	2.00pm 4.00-6.00pm	Good Faith Book Club Messy Church
Sun 29 Sept	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Tues 1 Oct	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Marilyn Storer – Visit to the Himalayas
Sat 5 Oct	7.30pm	SOS: 'It's ... Monty Python's Flying Circus' with Marilyn & Nick Storer
Sun 6 Oct	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Sat 12 Oct	7.00pm	Action for Children Quiz
Sun 13 Oct	10.30am	Harvest Festival & Brigades Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Tues 15 Oct	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Rev Donna-Marie Broadbent-Kelly
Frid 18 Oct	10am – 12	Epilepsy Action Coffee Morning in the Welcome Space
Sat 19 Oct	4.00-6.00pm	Messy Church
Sun 20 Oct	8.45am 10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson Morning Worship led by Rev Carina Shergold
Sun 27 Oct	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Ann Henman
Tues 29 Oct	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Peter Honeyball
Frid 1 Nov	Articles for Nov-Dec LINK magazine due in	
Sun 3 Nov	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Sat 9 Nov	7.30pm	Diwali Evening with Lynn & Derek Bernstone
Sun 10 Nov Remembrance	10.30am Sunday	Morning Worship led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Tues 12 Nov	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Fellowship Afternoon
Sat 16 Nov	All day	Action for Children Stall in Friars square
Sun 17 Nov	8.45am 10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson Morning Worship led by Mr David Neville
Sat 23 Nov	4.00-6.00pm	Messy Church
Sun 24 Nov	10.30am	Local Arrangement
Tues 26 Nov	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Alison Watkins
Sun 1 Dec	10.30am	Toy & Gift and Brigades Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson

Sun 8 Dec	10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson
Tues 12 Dec	2.30pm	Tuesday Fellowship: Carol Service at The Church of the Holy Spirit, Bedgrove
Sat 14 Dec	4.00-6.00pm	Messy Church
Sun 15 Dec	8.45am 10.30am	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson Morning Worship led by Mr Ken Harris

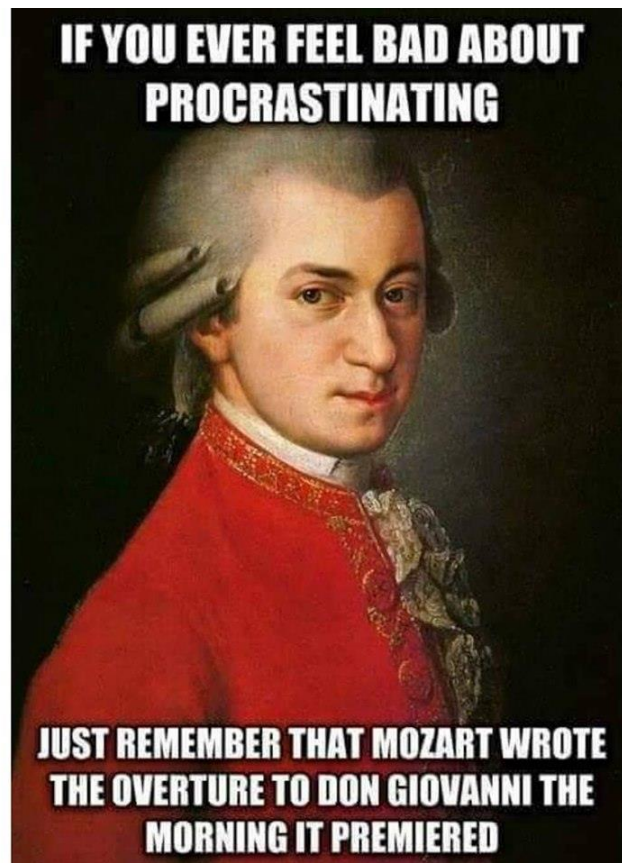
INVITATION TO JOIN OUR CHOIR:

AMC Choir offers a warm welcome for new members to join and contribute in supporting Sunday morning worship, also occasional special services such as 'Songs of Praise' and the annual 'Carol Service', etc.

Practices take place mainly on three Fridays each month, commencing Friday 20th September @ 7.30 pm.

For more information, talk to either Brenda, Kay or Roger in the choir, or just come along and sing with us on the Friday evenings as we prepare for the Sunday's worship.

Derrick Matthews.





44 RABANS CLOSE

AYLESBURY

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

HP19 8RS [aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk]

01296 395514

Opening hours: Mon - Thurs 10.30am - 5pm. Outside these times please leave a message and we'll call you back as soon as we can.

Our foodbank relies on your goodwill and support. Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in [The Trussell Trust](http://TheTrussellTrust.org.uk) network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

Our shopping list shows the food items that we need right now.

If you are happy to drop off food donations, please see the table below for our food collection point locations:

Waitrose: Exchange St, Aylesbury HP20 1AL. Mon-Sat 07:00-22:00
Sun 11:00-17:00. Front of store near exit

Holy Trinity Church: Walton St, Aylesbury, HP21 7QX. Over the summer holidays, Weds and Fri 9.30 – 12.30pm. Ask in Coffee Shop if unsure.

St Mary's Church: St Mary's Square, Aylesbury HP20 2JJ, 10am – 2.30pm daily
Inside the main entrance.

Alexander & Co Estate Agents

8 Buckingham Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2LD Mon – Fri 9am – 6pm
Sat 9am – 5pm

McGrumpy and Snuffles: Unit 8, Duck Farm Court HP20 2SQ Mon–Fri 10am–6pm.
Sat 9am – 6pm. Free parking available.

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

- **TINNED MEAT**
- **TINNED FISH**
- **TINNED FRUIT**
- **TINNED VEGETABLES**
- **TINNED CUSTARD**
- **TINNED RICE PUDDING**
- **UHT FRUIT JUICE**
- **UHT MILK**
- **INSTANT MASH POTATO**
- **POWDERED (DRIED) MILK**
- **CHOCOLATE**
- **SINGLE TOOTHBRUSHES**





Aylesbury Vineyard Church
The Vineyard Centre
Gatehouse Close
Aylesbury [HP19 8DN](#)

Office

01296 424 400

office@aylesburyvineyard.org

Storehouse

01296 424 440

storehouse@aylesburyvineyard.org

Food Bank: Our food bank is supported by the Vineyard Church congregation, other churches around the Vale, local supermarkets, schools donating their Harvest Festival collections and various local organisations that have collection points in their offices.

Furniture: Storehouse accepts and recycles to clients a variety of furniture including beds, chairs, dining tables, wardrobes and sofas . We provide a free collection and delivery service within a 10 mile radius.

Household Goods: Towels, bedding, lighting fixtures, kitchenware, crockery, cutlery and electrical goods are just some of the household goods we provide. All our electrical goods are tested in-house.

Clothing: We are currently not accepting clothes and related items.

Opening Times

Open for Clients **Tuesdays**
10 am – 12 pm
Saturdays
10 am – 12 pm

Open for Donations **Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays**
9.30 am – 3 pm

Closed **Fridays and Sundays**
All day

**AMC has a box in the Welcome Space
for you to put your FOOD DONATIONS only.**

Currently they are MOST in need of:

- Tea
- Coffee
- Milk
- Sugar

Merry Everyone!

Christmas



Oh sorry, it's only September, but it's time to start thinking about the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal as the leaflets have just arrived; so now it's all systems go.

When you pick up your leaflet from the Welcome Space, you will notice that there are some changes to the normal format.

Every box must contain the 6 items which are printed at the top of the leaflet and then another 5 or more items from the Family or Elderly list.

For the first time in 9 years the cost of sending a shoebox has risen from £2 to £3 to help towards transportation costs. Do you want to be more eco-friendly? If so, instead of felt tip pens put in coloured pencils and a sharpener, and instead of plastic bottles of shampoo/shower gel put in extra bars of soap, as they can be used for cleaning people and their clothes.

Last year, many people donated cash so that I could fill a shoebox on their behalf, and I'm willing to do that again this year.

Over 40,000 shoeboxes were sent out last year, to families and seniors in Moldova, Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine.

If you wish to know more about the work of Link to Hope, then pick up a pamphlet to read at your leisure at home.

Thank you to everyone who, year in and year out, supports this worthwhile cause.

If you have any queries, then please do get in touch with me.

Margaret Miskin (01296 422919).



TIME TRAVEL TRAIN TRIP

As four ladies from AMC Tuesday Fellowship group waited at Aylesbury Bus Station to travel to Stone, the sun broke through the clouds. We had very kindly been invited to join the Stone Fellowship and Thursday Club for lunch then a ride on the Leighton Buzzard Railway.



On arrival at the Methodist Church in Eythrope Road, Mrs Sue Spinks welcomed us and showed us to our table. The church hall was already packed with people happily chatting. We were served a delicious ham salad followed by a refreshing dessert of fruit salad and cream.

When everyone had finished their meal, we went to the waiting Motts coach for the short journey to Pages Park. 100 years ago, there had been a sand quarry on the site, but it is now home to the Leighton Buzzard Railway, manned by enthusiastic volunteers who have restored and now maintain the historic trains and buildings there. We took our seats on wooden benches in a crimson painted wooden carriage, with open unglazed windows, and travelled on a circular trip of nearly 5 kilometres through beautiful Bedfordshire countryside on this warm July afternoon. Every time the railway lines crossed over a public road the train halted and a uniformed guard held up a 'Stop' sign to the traffic till the train passed through. The many children on board waved excitedly to passers-by.



At the Stonehenge Works everyone alighted for 20 minutes to look at the old engines and a former RAF coach. The youngsters enjoyed the sand pit and play area, and also tried to spot the comic faces carved into the stonework of the Old Stables Building constructed by German POWs in 1918. Then it was time to re-board the train and travel back to the café at Pages Park where we indulged in a cream tea.

Finally, our coach took the group back to Aylesbury and Stone. On the journey everyone expressed their thanks to Mrs Spinks and her team for organising such an enjoyable day. We ladies from Aylesbury greatly appreciated being invited to join them. Anne Dunbar

Terrible Harvest

We are all meant to reap what we sow,
So why, then, do we sow such hatred,
Only to have a harvest of sorrow?
Bullets are scattered carefree,
And, at the season's end,
We see twisted bodies and blood,
Instead of green crops
Ready to nourish our Families.
The fertile land, once again
Has become the Killing Fields.



Rubbish, paper, plastic and cans
Are thrown into the sea.
The only thing that will grow
Is the size of the floating debris.
It will not be a good harvest.
As the plastic gets smaller and is eaten,
The fish either die or we eat them.
And the harvest for us
Will be illness or death
From eating contaminated food.

We sow the future for ourselves
In Power production,
Remembering, at last, past horrors,
And now invest in Solar power,
Wind and water turbines.
Thank you, Father God,
For your creation surrounding us,
That we can freely use;
And never again will we hear of
The Terrible Harvest of Chernobyl.

There were many deaths
And no real knowledge of what
The future would bring.
We Pray, Father God, for Ourselves,
Our Children and the future.
Chernobyl happened thirty years ago,
But pollution and global warming
Is happening right now.
Please watch over us
And keep us safe in your loving arms.



© 2019 Babs

Music Group

Do you love to sing or play an instrument?
If this is you, the Church Music Group is looking for
new people to come and join them.

All ages, from a 10-year-old who enjoys Musical
Theatre and dance to Orchestral players and
Members of local choirs, take part.

We currently sing/play at the monthly family
service, with a rehearsal on the Friday evening
before, and again just before the service on the
Sunday morning.

Other services may require a group to sing/play for part of the service.



For more information contact:

Sue Kirk: kirk_roger@yahoo.co.uk

Julie Maguire: juliemaguire416@gmail.com



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Another update on one of our young people!

Clara Buckley (née Dalton)

After J Team and Girls' Brigade at AMC, and Aylesbury High School, Clara left Wendover for Surrey University. Following two years teaching in Milton Keynes she left the UK with her husband Mark, to teach at an international school in Shanghai and, 3 years later, moved to a similar school in Jakarta where they now live.

She much enjoys the very broad international and cultural mix in both places, alongside the opportunity to travel around South East Asia.

Outside school, her main leisure interest is deep sea diving, illustrated by these photos.



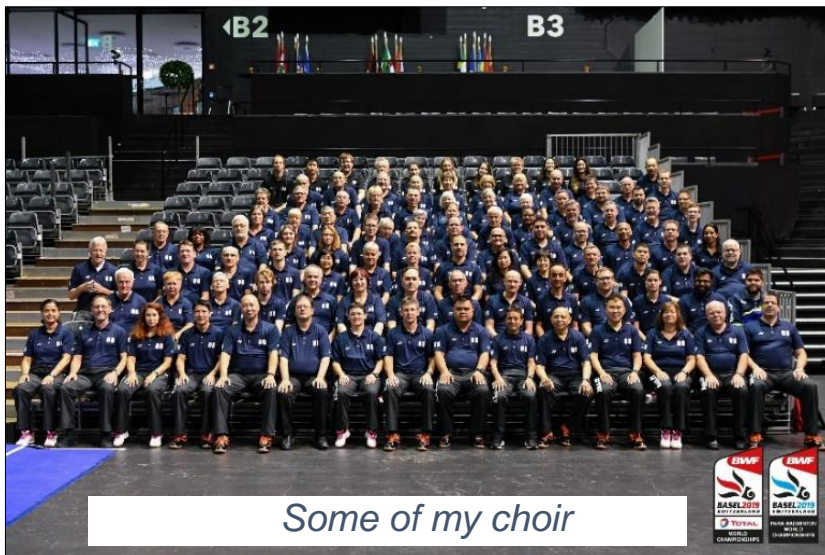
Then, after seeing a recent photo of me paragliding, she thought it would be nice to see the world from above the earth as well as from the depths of the sea. To help her to realise the 'dream', I responded with a promise to pay for a 'flight' (as a birthday present) on condition she provided photographic proof. Within a few days, the 'proof' arrived in the form of the photo of my descent with her face superimposed on mine!!!!

(Grandpa) Peter Farmer



How do you spend your birthday?

This year, on Thursday 22 August, I was in Basel, Switzerland, and had a choir of 110 people sing 'Happy Birthday' to me. What a wonderful way to spend your birthday! The only problem was that I was in the middle of the biggest badminton tournament ever held. It was the World Championships and the Para World Championships, and the choir of 110 were fellow line judges.



That Thursday, my day started at 6.10am when the alarm went off. It was then shower, shave, dress, breakfast, then walk 5 minutes to the border of Germany and Switzerland and get picked up by a coach. Why the border of Germany and Switzerland, you may well ask? Well Basel is tucked in a corner

of Switzerland where France and Germany also meet, and our hotel was just over the border in Germany.

Next, it was a meeting, where, at the end, they sang 'Happy Birthday' to me, then it was off to one of the Para badminton halls where I line judged until 11.15 pm. There were no coaches available to take us back to the hotel so we used public transport, which was free to everyone helping at the event.

Straight up to the bar, where a beer or two (three) were partaken before I showered and hit the pillow until 6:10 am when it started all over again. But had I enjoyed my birthday? You bet I did!!

John Miskin



JOY IS 'GOING APE': On Sunday afternoon, 29th September, I am attempting to complete 'Go Ape' in the tree-tops of Wendover Woods. I would be very grateful for any sponsorship for Karibuni Children. I will have sponsorship forms in Church every Sunday in September. I will also leave some forms in the AMC office, and other churches in our Circuit will have the information. Thank you, in fear and trembling. *JOY MURPHY*



Karibuni has given practical hope to hundreds of needy children, supporting projects based in some of the most deprived areas in Kenya. They support projects which are run in Kenya by Kenyans, providing food, medical care, clothing, education and, when necessary, a home, all in a loving environment.

Karibuni Children works with children to help them gain a qualification or a skill to earn a living. In total, some 1200 children of varying abilities are now being supported, from paying for nursery school, college or university fees to helping with food, school uniforms and paying for medical care.

Please donate anything you can, every little bit helps, to allow this fantastic charity to continue supporting children in Kenya.

Karibuni Children is a UK registered charity. Registered charity number: 1044872. You can read more here: www.karibuni.org.uk

Karibuni Children
Stoke Mandeville Methodist Church
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville Aylesbury
Bucks
HP22 5UJ, UK
T: 01296 614887
E: office@karibuni.org.uk



**TransfOrming young
Kenyan lives.**

Registered UK Charity Number 1044872

ELLESBOROUGH SILVER BAND

12TH OCTOBER | FAIRFORD LEYS
COMMUNITY CENTRE | 7.30PM

KARIBUNI AUTUMN CONCERTS

TICKETS £10
EACH
OR £18 FOR
BOTH
EVENTS

CALL 01296
614887 OR
PURCHASE
ON THE
DOOR

WYCOMBE ORPHEUS MALE
VOICE CHOIR

16TH NOVEMBER | AYLESBURY
METHODIST CHURCH | 7.30PM



Transforming Young
Kenyan Lives

www.karibuni.org.uk
Registered UK Charity Number 1044972



Dates for Messy Church
Saturdays, monthly
4.00 – 6.00pm

Sat **Sept 28th** - Count our Blessings (Harvest Season)

Sat **Oct 19th** - The Story of Esther

Sat **Nov 23rd** - No Story: Singing and Psalms
- Making Instruments

Sat **Dec 14th** - Christmas: 😊 😊

Any Volunteers?

Would anyone like to be a part of the amazing
Messy Church team?

If you would like to get involved and give some time to Messy
Church, please contact Mel: 07717 121887
or familyworker.amc@mail.com

Messy Church is **WONDERFUL!**
Please get in touch if you would like to get involved.
Thank you!

Aylesbury Methodist Church, Aylesbury, Buckingham Street, HP20 2NQ

The Aylesbury Vale Methodist Circuit Caravan and Camping Weekend June 2019

This year, on the recommendation of one of our regulars, we went to a site near Charlbury. We did an exploratory visit and decided the site would be excellent. We advertised it and 11 units were booked into the site. In the last two years we have enjoyed excellent weather and have been able to barbecue and have our service outside. This year we were not so lucky.

The weather was not so kind but we enjoyed a meal together on the Friday evening, with many lending a hand in the cooking of baked potatoes and preparing salads.



On the Saturday, some went to Batsford Arboretum and others enjoyed a walk organised by Roger Kirk. Here are some at Minster Lovell Hall.

The evening barbecue was cooked under a gazebo to protect it from the showers, but was enjoyed by all, as was the entertainment provided by Pete and Jane Honeyball.

The Sunday service led by Pete is pictured here, but the rain could not dampen our enthusiasm or good humour. We hope to continue this 'tradition' next year, and any suggestions of venues will be gratefully received.



We hope more people will join us, as these weekends really are enjoyed by all who attend.

Arthur and Chris Sara

A Feast of Music

Courtesy of Aylesbury Choral Society (ACS)

If you are a music lover

You may wish to book the following concert dates:

First, to start off your Christmas celebrations

Saturday 14th December 2019

Puccini: Messe di Gloria

Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on Christmas carols

Holst: Christmas Day

Secondly, to prepare for Easter

Saturday 28th March 2020

Handel: The Messiah

(This will attract a capacity audience so booking well in advance is a must)

If you are a singer

Why not join us for rehearsals at 7.30pm on Tuesday evening
at Fairford Leys Church!

Try us free for 3 weeks with no obligations.

For more information and tickets, speak to Sue or Roger Kirk.

Tel 01296 415312 or

Email: [kirk_roger @yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kirk_roger@yahoo.co.uk)



'BEATIE'S CHARITY BASH 2020'



Now that we are no longer holding our annual Caribbean Evenings, Beatie is very keen to have a fundraising event each year for charities which are important to her and the Aylesbury community.

A chance, also, to get together for a chat!

So, we intend to have a **FAITH BUFFET**

on **Saturday 28th March 2020, 6.00 – 8.30pm.**

It will be very informal and all are welcome.

NO CHARGE, but we ask everyone to bring **FOOD TO SHARE**

and also to make a **DONATION** on the evening

– we shall have donation buckets available.

We would like the evening to be fuss-free, so all food needs to be served cold and be brought ready to serve on a plate/dish.

You can bring whatever you like! A few ideas:

- **Pastry dishes:** (quiches/flans/sausage or veg rolls/pizza)
- **Salads:** (leafy/tomato/pasta/rice/cous cous/bean/vegetable)
- **Filled rolls/sandwiches;** sausages, falafels

*You might prefer to bring a **Cake** for dessert*

(we won't be having other desserts – just different cakes).

Beatie would like to share the proceeds from our first 'Bash' between the **Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity** and **Epilepsy Research**.

PLEASE PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARIES!

Further information nearer the time, but do speak to Beatie Francis or Jennie Torpey if you have any queries.





THE ALFAN FOUNDATION YOUTH CONCERT



Aylesbury Methodist Church

Saturday 9th November 6:30pm



Tickets: £5 children under 12
£7 For students / Senior citizens
£10 Adult

**REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE SERVED
IN THE INTERVAL**

Performing will be students from across Buckinghamshire, featuring the talented musicians from the local schools - including diploma level performers and a school's Jazz Band - as well as amazing guitarists and singers and some phenomenal young pupils currently attending

The Purcell School of Music, and more.



The funds raised will help support a new training centre we are establishing in Ghana, and also the shipment of resources to the schools, orphanages and hospitals we support.



@alfanfoundation



@alfanfannie



Alfan Foundation

www.alfanfoundation.org.uk



Please contact Aylesbury Methodist Church for tickets:

email: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Tel: 01296 426 526, or



Alfons Hanson: 07939 050 258, Anne Hanson: 07786 942 939

Aylesbury Methodist Church
Buckingham Street, HP20 2NQ

Youth Group!

From Year 6 upwards!

Every Wednesday. 6.15 – 7.30pm
(except school holidays)

1st Wednesday – SINGING



2nd Wednesday – DRAMA



3rd Wednesday – DISCUSSION



4th Wednesday – SOCIAL



To SIGN UP, please contact Mel
familyworker.amc@mail.com Tel: 07717 121887

There's NO weekly charge.
Just pay £1 on Youth Social nights



Whitechapel Mission

Bringing hope where there is despair

Harvest

On Sunday 13th October we will celebrate Harvest, and as usual we will be supporting the Whitechapel Mission. Please bring in your donations that morning, and they will then be transported to the Mission. **Below are the most needed items.**

As always, we suggest 'own brands' - you can then afford more items!
Any queries, contact Peter & Ruth Watkins 01296 485087

Tinned/Dry Food:

Desperate for:

Peanut Butter, Squash, Biscuits, Sugar, Coffee

Plum Tomatoes (not chopped), Instant Hot Chocolate, Ketchup

Tinned Meat, Tinned Tuna/Fish

Also needed:

Shredded Wheat, Pepper, Brown Sauce, Pot Noodles, Nutella

Porridge, Salt, Honey

Toiletries:

Desperate for: Shaving foam

Also needed: Body Lotion, Body Wash, Ladies Make-up

Clothing:

Desperate For:

Underpants, Boxers, Jeans 28-36", Trousers 28-34"

Small Rucksacks, Men's Trainers, Men's Shoes, Knickers & Bras

Also needed:

Winter Jackets, Winter Coats, Baseball Caps, Shoe & Boot laces

Bedding - We cannot use duvets and pillows

Desperate for: Sleeping Bags

Also needed: Blankets

Household:

Desperate for: Carrier Bags

Also needed: Nail Clippers, 35mm Film Canisters (used to distribute

Shampoo)



A Positive, Faith-Filled Outlook

'With thanksgiving, present your requests to God'
Philippians 4:6

It happens so easily, especially in the company of the wrong people. Before you know it, you're criticising and complaining, and the atmosphere becomes negative.

That's because words are like clouds or sunshine; they create a climate. You say, 'But I only say these things because I'm so worried.' Then read this: 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds' (vv. 6-7 NIV 2011 Edition).

You rise above anxiety by giving thanks, not by complaining.

Never let your level of thanksgiving be determined by your situation, because God is greater than any situation you face.

So how can you overcome your inclination to be negative, and instead develop a positive, faith-filled outlook?

- **Decide to.** Abraham Lincoln told the truth when he said, 'Most folks are as happy as they make up their mind to be.' Refuse to spend another moment criticising and complaining.
- **Start now.** Change doesn't come easily, but unless you make a start it won't come at all. Try to be more aware of what you say. Catch yourself in the act! When your first few sentences are negative, self-correct and steer the conversation back towards what's positive. Resolve that from now on if you can't say something helpful, you'll refrain from saying anything at all.
- **Look for what's good.** 'Whatever is: true...noble...right...pure...lovely...admirable...think about such things' (Philippians 4:8 NIV 2011 Edition)

Make this your prayer: 'Lord, give me a positive, faith-filled outlook.'

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.