



WELCOME TO
AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

01296 339899

revrja@outlook.com

Church Office: 01296 426526

E-mail address: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Website: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Sunday 12th December 2021

**10.30am: Service of Holy Communion
led by Rev Richard Atkinson**

**A very warm welcome to Aylesbury Methodist Church.
We hope that you will be blessed and challenged
by today's message.**

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, please introduce yourself to one of our welcomers, or to one of the stewards, who, at this morning's service, are Jackie Simpson-Tyda and Frances Ayles.

**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.**

Hymns	StF 176 59 182 170 30 177
Readings	Zephaniah 3: 14-20 Luke 3: 7-18
Organist	David Brooker
Streaming	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.



Our thanks to Girls' Brigade for decorating the two Christmas trees and the reception area this year - they look beautiful!!

Weekly Notice Sheet: The last notice sheet before the Christmas break will be printed early on **Thursday 23rd December**, so please make sure that Jennie has any notices emailed to her at jennietorpey@gmail.com by Wednesday afternoon, **22nd December**. [01296 581414].

The first 2022 notice sheet will be printed on **Friday 7th January** - items to be with her by Thursday 6th January.



The Government's announcement on Wednesday means that, unless anyone has an exemption, we all need to wear face masks while in the building, please. When seated for coffee you can take your mask off but, if you move about, please restore your face mask.

As we saw this week, the situation may change with little notice. Any changes will be posted on the website or you could find out more by phoning the Manse. We hope our Christmas services will happen as advertised, but we may have to change at short notice. Sunday morning worship and our Christmas Day service will be available through the streaming service. Unfortunately, they are not able to provide coverage of the Carol Service at 5 pm next Sunday. We will endeavour to continue as normally as possible

Mel Brown will, hopefully, be returning to receive a belated thanks for her work amongst us. This will be on the morning of Sunday January 23rd. We hope there will be a lunch on this day. More information will follow

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed with toys or donations towards our Toy Service appeal on 5th December. What a wonderful selection of toys, books, games, etc. plus donations of over £360. Donations were turned into vouchers suitable for teenagers plus vouchers for the Family Centre to use when an emergency food parcel is needed for a family. A large number of the toys will also be used by the Bucks HAF project (Holiday/Activity/Food) when children entitled to free school meals are invited to spend a special couple of days in the Christmas holidays entertained with fun activities, a hot meal and presents to take home.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: As usual, there is a board available in the Welcome Space for you to add your greetings to your Church friends. If you wish, please make a donation to one of our Church charities: *Action for Children* (Pauline Noble or Jennie Torpey), *Christian Aid* (Jennie Torpey or Maureen Tucker), *Karibuni Children* (Joy Murphy). The Post Box for cards will not be in use.

New Year's Walk 30th December: Kevin and I have decided that we should do a walk to herald in the New Year but with no lunch afterwards. We hope to organise another walk in the Summer followed by refreshments at Kevin and Elaine's house. For this New Year's walk, please meet in Wilstone near the pub (but not in their car park) for a 10.30am start on Thursday 30th December.

There are no wooden stiles and the route will be on the canal towpath and on grassy paths on field edges. Although there are few muddy patches, walking boots or stout walking shoes are advisable. The walk should last about 1 hour 30 minutes. Please bring a donation for Karibuni Children. Please let me or Sue know if you wish to go. Roger Kirk: 01296 415312, kirk_roger@yahoo.co.uk

CHURCH CLEANERS: Many thanks for volunteering again. As the post box is not in use this year, please look out for an email from Richard with the rota attached. It should come out during w/c 13 December; if you do not receive it, please contact me. If we do not have your email address, you will be sent the rota by post. Any problems, please contact me. Thanks again. Kevin Hardern (01296 481285).

Keypad Entry on first floor: Please will Duty Managers and Group Leaders who need access to the keypad entry upstairs note that that your keypad numbers remain the same as before (when it was on the security door downstairs). If you cannot remember your number, please contact Shirley for a reminder.

Christmas Office Closure. Please note that the office will be closed at the end of day 23rd December and operational again on 4th January 2022.

Bible Study: There are two Zoom meetings running at present, both covering the same material. One is on Tuesday evening at 7.30pm the other is on Thursday at 2pm. Both groups are coming to the end of exploring Matthew's Gospel. ***The sessions are really just a conversation about the passages and their meaning for us today. No knowledge or expertise required.***

After Christmas we will be moving onto something new. People are welcome to come and sample a session if they wish. Please let Richard know if you might be interested.

Free copies of our latest Annual Report for 2020-21 are now available from the Welcome Area or from our website (Publications/Annual Reports).

AYLESBURY STOREHOUSE FOODBANK: Don't forget to bring your donations, if you are able – there's a box for items in the Welcome Space. Julianne.



Christmas services.

Dec 19th: 10.30am - Steve Kemp and 5.00pm - Carol Service

Dec 24th: 4.00pm - Family Christingle and 11.30pm - Midnight Communion

Dec 25th: 10.00am - Christmas Morning Worship

Dec 26th: 10.30am - Christmas Communion

Our Circuit Services

Cheddington	10.30am	Mr Paul Thomas
Chinnor	10.30am	Mrs Jane Honeyball - Reader Service
Cuddington	10.30am	Rev Dr Romilly Micklem - Communion Service
Haddenham	10.15am	Nativity Service at the Baptist Church
Pr. Risborough	10.00am	Local Arrangement
Stewkley	10.30am	Mr Arthur Sara - Communion Service
Stone	11.00am	Rev Keith Edwards - Carol Service
Swanbourne	5.00pm	Mr John Shaw
Thame	3.00pm	Rev Dr Romilly Micklem - Carol Service
Waddesdon	11.00am 6.00pm	Ms Jane Knight Rev Keith Edwards - Carol Service
Weedon	9.30am	Rev Keith Edwards - Christingle Service
Whitchurch	10.45am	Local Arrangement
Wingrave	10.00am	Rev Wallace Edwards - Communion Service

Next Week

Mon	13 Dec	6.15pm	Girls' Brigade
Tues	14 Dec	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade
Thurs	16 Dec	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	17 Dec	3.00pm	AMC Social Badminton Club

Sunday 19th December 2021

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Steve Kemp

5.00pm: Carol Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson

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: 07969 373 212)



'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

WINGRAVE

Dear All

This Sunday, 12 December, it is the turn of Wingrave to be the focus of our Circuit Prayers. John points out below that this year has been one of change for our churches, and perhaps this was long overdue for us. We do tend to get settled in our ways, and whilst the pandemic has been a terrible experience for so many of us, and one that we would not wish on anyone, we have had to face it head on and learn to adapt and change in response. Please add your prayers to those of our brothers and sisters at Wingrave, and give thanks for the unlimited love of God that we enjoy together.

Pete



2021; A year of change

The year opened with all Circuit churches in full lockdown. Soon many members of the Wingrave congregation, having mastered the delights of Zoom, joined with other Circuit churches for weekly services. We even learnt how to join break-out groups for virtual coffee and biscuits following services.

Easter Day 2021 was very special as we celebrated our return to church for a service of Holy Communion led by Arthur Sara. Subsequently we have continued with weekly services, all subject to the usual precautions, including open windows, spacing of chairs (here we have benefitted from the flexibility of our Worship area) and congregational wearing of face masks. Of course, at first it felt strange singing from behind a mask, but at least we could sing together which is one of the aspects of communal worship which we particularly missed during lockdown.

Fellowship after worship is important too, and, weather permitting, we have made good use of the fresh air afforded by our delightful rear garden.

Like other Methodist churches, we have continued to benefit from the ministry of both ordained Clergy and local preachers, who initially had to adjust to shorter services. Recently, Roger and Sue Kirk led our first 'Reader' service, another good innovation in the face of shortages of available local preachers and ministers.

We believe that the need to adjust to changing conditions has been good for us. We have learnt to take nothing for granted and to be open to different forms of worship. In uncertain times we have developed an increased awareness of the benefits we derive from being members of our local church and of the wider Circuit communities.

Doubtless 2022 will bring new challenges for us all but we can be confident that one thing will not change: God's enduring love for each one of us.

John



Karibuni - Inspired Charity Gifts and Christmas Cards

Each Charity Gift represents a tangible, life-changing item that is used in our Kenyan projects. Ranging in price from £5 to £60, choose from a range of gifts. Whichever you buy, you will be sent a card to send to the recipient.



Karibuni Christmas cards! Beautiful hand-made batik and banana leaf cards.

Visit their website to see the wide range of beautiful wood, stone, banana leaf and fabric crafts, greetings cards and Christmas cards.

<https://www.karibuni.org.uk/>



TRAIDCRAFT's 2021 catalogue



To support growers and producers to trade their way out of poverty, please consider Fairtrade gifts for family and friends.

There is now a paper copy of the catalogue in the Display Cabinet in the Welcome Area. Please return it asap if you borrow it.

For further assistance, or to place an order, contact

☎: ROD THORPE 01844 351565 Email: chinnormethodisthire@mail.com

Or buy online: www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/traidcraft-catalogue