



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 9th January 2022

**10.30am: Family & Brigade Service
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 Kaz Tyda.

**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.**

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| Hymns | StF 40 74 SoF 299 StF 405 440 548 |
| Readings | Philippians 4: 4-8 Jeremiah 32: 6-15 |
| Music | AMC Music Group |
| Streaming | To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation. |

**The Music Group will lead you in your preparation for worship by singing,
StF 377 - Down the Mountain and STF 20 - Be Still.
After the service they will finish with StF 76 - Give me Joy.**

**The flowers this week are given by Michele and Mandi - in loving memory of
their mother and family no longer with them.**

Jean Parkhurst sends best wishes to everyone for the New Year, and her thanks for all the cards and messages she's received.

Diane Thomas, who was a member of our congregation, sends us all Best Wishes for 2022. If anyone would like to catch up with Diane, her home number is 01934 251122 - I am sure she would be pleased to hear from you if you fancy giving her a ring. Steve M.

After the very abrupt departure of Mel Brown at the beginning of lockdown we are now able to say a proper farewell to her as she will be at AMC on Sunday 23rd January. To enable everyone to see her we thought it would be nice to have a soup lunch after the service on that day, so anybody who is prepared to make soup or a cake please could they let Gill Marks know asap 01296 748659.

It's not too late to spend a few minutes to help someone in real need!

'WRITE FOR RIGHTS' is Amnesty International's annual event which sees supporters all over the world sending messages of hope and solidarity to people at risk of human rights violations or under threat for speaking out for freedom, justice and equality. *It runs from 1st November – 31st December, but letters/emails can still be sent during January.*



amnesty.org.uk

You can download the campaign booklet with all the information at

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-rights-2021-get-started>

WEIGHT LOSS MEETINGS: A new weight loss meeting has started in the community centre, and all are welcome to drop in. There's no joining fee but the weekly cost is £4.50. Meetings are on Tuesday 10 -11am, Thursday 1 to 2pm, and Thursday 6.30 to 7.30pm, upstairs in Room 4. Contact Sian: 07920 425202.

Also don't forget the **CHAIR YOGA** sessions on Tuesday mornings, 9.30-10.30am. Contact Lynn Patton if interested: lynn.patton2@yahoo.co.uk or 07799 197317.

Bible Study: There are two Zoom meetings running at present, both covering the same material. One is on Tuesday at 7.30pm the other is on Thursday at 2pm. *Both groups are about to begin with Amos 2:6 through to 8:10.*

The sessions are really just a conversation about the passages and their meaning for us today. No knowledge or expertise required. People are welcome to come and sample a session if they wish. Please let Richard know if you might be interested.



The WDP services for 2022 will be held on Friday 4th March.

This year, the service has been prepared by England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The theme this year is the Bible text “*I know the plans I have for you*” from Jeremiah, to reflect on some of the issues facing us today: poverty, domestic abuse, and disability, finding hope in difficult situations and encouragement in the help we can give to each other. The overarching theme of the service is HOPE – very appropriate for this time when the world is coming to terms with the ongoing risks of a pandemic and the looming climate crisis.

Last year, because of the pandemic, we were unable to hold any services in person, but we hope this year will continue as planned **with the afternoon service at 1.30pm at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Bedgrove, and the evening service at 7.30pm held at Aylesbury Methodist Church.**

I am part of a very small WDP committee, and we have all agreed to approach our respective church congregations to see if anyone would like to take part in any way as follows, in either/both of the services:

- Reading a small part in the service (no lines to learn, it is read straight from the booklet; I already have a supply of these if you would like to see what is involved)
- Providing/helping with refreshments (cake and beverages) after the service
- Meet and greet before service starts

If you have not been to a WDP service before and would like to know more about it before committing yourself, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. We will be holding a ‘read through’ of the service on Friday 25th February at each church, at the same time as the WDP services will be held, so people will be more familiar on the day with the order of service. ***Please let me know if you would like to be involved in any way at all. All are welcome.***

Contact Jackie Simpson-Tyda on 07834 780543
or Email Jackiesimpson88@gmail.com

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.

Our Circuit Services

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| Cheddington | 10.30am | Mr Arthur Sara |
| Chinnor | 10.30am | Mr Richard Maguire |
| Cuddington | 10.30am | Rev Dr Romilly Micklem – Covenant Service |
| Haddenham | 10.15am | Mrs Kathryn Trout – Reader Service |
| Pr. Risborough | 10.00am | Ms Marilyn Dore |
| Stewkley | 10.30am | Rev John Amankwatia – Covenant Service |
| Stone | 11.00am | Rev Alan Bolton – Communion Service |
| Swanbourne | 10.30am 5.00pm | Mr Ken Harris – Café Church Rev Keith Edwards |
| Thame | 10.30am | Mr Brian Stabler – Reader Service |
| Waddesdon | 11.00am | Rev Dr Hayford Ofori-Attah – Covenant Service |
| Weedon | 9.30am | Rev Keith Edwards – Family Service |
| Whitchurch | 10.45am | Local Arrangement |
| Wingrave | 10.00am | Mr David Neville |

Next Week

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|--------------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Mon | 10 Jan | 6.15pm | Girls' Brigade |
| Tues | 11 Jan | 6.15pm | Boys' Brigade |
| Thurs | 13 Jan | 10.00am | Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group |
| Frid | 14 Jan | 3.00pm | AMC Social Badminton Club |

Sunday 16th January 2022

**8.45am: Service of Holy Communion
led by Rev Richard Atkinson**

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Paulette Tedd.

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 - (John Miskin: 01296 422919 07988 960815)



**'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT
for 26 Dec 2021, and 2nd and 9th January 2022**

'HAVING A PURPOSE' - FAIRTRADE'S GOOD NEWS

In preparing this contribution I gave thought to how Fairtrade linked to the Christmas story and the start of a New Year. I came up with the following thoughts. The Christmas story is full of people with a purpose, some generous, some linked to duty and some for self-preservation. God sent his Son as a gift, Mary and Joseph headed off to Bethlehem to fulfil regulations, the Three Kings needed to satisfy a calling and Herod was out to maintain his status and eradicate challenge.

Fairtrade was developed for a purpose. It sought to develop trade as a means of decreasing poverty. It set out to provide opportunities and purpose for those with materials to hand, but who needed a market and buyers to generate an income from their skills. Fairtrade's purpose is based on the idea of generosity while allowing a sense of worth in those employed in producing goods. Fairtrade challenges production and trading practices. Fairtrade provides opportunity to those in need and invites others to align with, and follow its calling.

As we venture into the New Year, fresh challenges await us. Many people will create a sense of purpose and challenge by setting resolutions.

May our purpose be less akin to Herod's, hanging on to what we have, but more like that seen in the Three Kings, who went out of their way and into the unfamiliar, to validate a calling. Further, may we act akin to God's purpose by choosing to respond to need in a way that benefits the wider world, while recognising this may lead to personal cost.

Please pray for those in need of the Fairtrade system as well as those who work in maintaining and developing Fairtrade. Thankyou to all who buy Fairtrade items, be they through the Circuit's network or from the shops.

Please pray that the purpose of Fairtrade may progress in 2022. Rod

OUR PREACHERS are generally in good heart in spite of difficult conditions, and we are pleased that at the moment we can take live services around the circuit.

We congratulate Steve Kemp who has successfully completed the first half of his preacher training and hopes to complete the second half by September next year. We have thanked Colin Watts for his many years of faithful preaching as he has felt he needs to stand down from active preaching. He is still active at Cuddington, we are pleased to say.

We welcome several newcomers to our list of preachers: Anthonia Allen who joins us as an experienced Local Preacher; Revd. John Amankwatia as a supernumerary minister who joins us at Stewkley until next September and Paulette Tedd who is a student minister with us part time for a while. Please pray for all these preachers as they settle into the routine of our circuit.

It continues to be a delight to take services around the circuit where we invariably receive a very warm welcome – thank you all!

Please pray for all who prepare and take services in the circuit churches week by week, especially those who are now leading worship as readers and may not have ever stood in front of a congregation before. David Neville

KARIBUNI CHILDREN: Although we were not able to visit Kenya during 2021, we have kept in close contact with the projects, making good use of Zoom. Monthly Zoom meetings with the Project Managers at the larger projects have been particularly helpful to us and to them. They are now working together and learning from each other via Zoom without our prompting. COVID-19 vaccinations are now more freely available in Kenya, but only 7% of the Kenyan population are fully vaccinated. Reported new infections are at a new high, but still much lower than here in the UK. However, the testing regimes are not comparable.

The children we support have been working long days at school to catch up on missed lessons. The short Christmas break will have been most welcome. As we look forward to what 2022 will bring, we are reminded of the transformational nature of Karibuni's work with children from "the poorest of the poor".

In 2017 one of the sponsored students from Kibra, the largest slum in Africa, wrote to us as follows: *"I want to let you know how much I appreciate your support throughout my studies. Just the other day I was thinking of being me without the project. I figured how much your support has been worth to me. Growing up in a slum was one of the worst things that anyone would ever wish due to its harsh environment; but through Karibuni I got the courage to move step by step, hoping that one day I would have a brighter future.*

Karibuni has impacted so many lives, not only me, and each one of us has a story to tell. For more than 18 years I have been in the project and I have always appreciated every bit of it from meals, clothing and everything. At times the only meal that kept me moving was from the project; my parents could barely afford our daily meals. I do not know how best to thank you but I am grateful."

That letter was written by Wycliffe Odhiambo who, supported by Karibuni Children, was then studying for a Diploma in Community and Public Health. He subsequently went on to finish his course and, following work elsewhere, last year he successfully applied for the post of Deputy Project Manager at Kibra. So he has gone full circle: having himself benefited from Karibuni's support, he is now working with sponsored children in our largest partner project. His story serves to illustrate the long term nature of our work; he was taken into sponsorship in 1998, just three years after Karibuni was founded. It has been a long-term investment, but what a result!!

Please join us in praying for all 700 + children whom we support and for the wonderfully dedicated project staff who regularly 'go the extra mile'. John