

WELCOME TO

**AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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**This Church is God's house.**  
God loves and welcomes you  
whoever you are, whatever  
your age, gender, mental  
health, physical ability, race,  
sexuality or financial situation.  
You are welcome here,  
whatever your circumstances;  
however much or little you  
wish to engage; whatever you  
feel about faith.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**10.30am: Family Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson.**

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

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.

<b>Hymns</b>	<b>StF 530 6 'Ten Thousand Reasons' 663 673 407</b>
<b>Readings</b>	<b>1 Samuel 3: 1-10 John 1: 43-51</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>AMC Music Group</b>
<b>Streaming</b>	<b>To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.</b>



If your little ones (up to age 3) become restless during services, you are welcome to take them into the creche room in the Welcome Area to play. The service can be heard from there. **All children MUST be accompanied.**

The Worship Band will lead you in your preparation for worship by singing 44 'Come on and celebrate', 553 'I am a new creation' & 451 'Open the eyes of my heart'. After the service, 65 'Sing of the Lord's goodness'

**The flowers this week are 'In loving memory of Larry Hudson snr and Nettie Hudson; never far from our thoughts and always in our hearts. From the Hudson family.'**

**FAMILY NEWS:** Please pray for Dave Rogers who is in hospital. Please also remember Pearly Riley, Pat Olde, Rita McKelvie and Angela Smith, all currently living in care homes, and also Joan Orlik being cared for at home.



**Come and join us on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February for MESSY CHURCH in the hall from 3.45pm – 6pm.**

Lots of craft, games, table tennis, air hockey and bible story.

Tea will be served at the end of the session, so to make sure we have enough food, I'd love for you to email [amc22messychurch@gmail.com](mailto:amc22messychurch@gmail.com) by *Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February*, giving us numbers of children.

Please do come along for a fun afternoon. Margaret Miskin

It's not too late to take part in the **Write for Rights** campaign.

[www.amnesty.org.uk/write-for-rights](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-for-rights)



[amnesty.org.uk](http://amnesty.org.uk)

**A few minutes of your time could make a huge difference to someone imprisoned unjustly.  
(see below)**

Latest news from Amnesty: *Virginia Laparra is an anti-corruption lawyer from Guatemala, who was arbitrarily arrested and detained for nearly two years in retaliation for her outstanding anti-corruption work. For over a decade she has successfully worked in disbanding multiple criminal networks and arresting dozens of politicians, military officers and business leaders who had previously been considered untouchable. With the help of our supporters, we were able to raise global awareness of Virginia's case and put pressure on the Guatemalan authorities by calling for her release.*

*We are pleased to share that on Wednesday January 3, Virginia was released from prison. She is now reunited with her loved ones after nearly two years as a prisoner of conscience. Her release is a step towards ending the terrible human rights violations she has faced in retaliation for her work.*

*This is just another example of the incredible difference you can help make in the lives of individuals that fight for Human Rights like Virginia.*

**TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP**

The group will not meet until March, due to weather and transport difficulties, so will book for the first **Tuesday, 5th March 2024, 2.30pm.**

### **It's time to count the money in your little Home Collecting Boxes.**



Please either hand in the box for us to open and count, or count the money yourself and bring it to church in a **plastic bag, clearly marked with your name.** *Pauline Noble or Jennie Torpey will be very pleased to receive it.* Any queries, ring Pauline on

01296 484940. If you do not have a box and would like one at home to put in small amounts of loose change please talk to Pauline.



There are a few uncollected Christmas cards in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space. Please have a look. If you sent them, please collect them.

Following Richard's appeal, and my personal letters in early November 2023, for people to review their regular giving, the following is the result for those people who give by bank standing order.

Number of increases in Nov and Dec 2023: 24 people out of a total of 77.

Total of monthly increases is £430 which means £5,160 in a full year. This is a 10% increase of total monthly giving.

I am expecting further increases in January which will increase this total, hopefully towards my target of a 15% increase.

Individual increases have ranged from 9% to 200% with most 10-25%.

Next month I will report on the result of those people who give by the envelope system, as well as an update on standing orders.

Thank you all for thinking about your giving even if it meant that you were unable to increase your giving at this time.

Roger Kirk, Church Treasurer.

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

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



### **CHURCH READINGS: Jan – Feb 2024**

There is one date needing two readers, (**25 Feb**), so if you are willing to join our rota for reading the lesson in Church, **please sign up** on the sheet on the noticeboard, for the week you would like to read, with just your name (no contact details), and a steward will contact you during that week with the reading. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the stewards or Richard.



**Prayer Requests.** If you have requests for people or situations to be included in the prayers, there is a Prayer Request folder in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for you to write in, or you could let Richard know in advance.

**Our Prayer Group** also meets on alternate Tuesdays, 10.45-12noon, and are very happy to receive prayer requests. They would also welcome anyone who would like to join them.

Please email Ruby: [rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk)



### **Next Week**

<b>Mon</b>	15 Jan	6.15pm 7.30 - 9.00pm	Girls' Brigade AMC FOOD BANK
<b>Tues</b>	16 Jan	9.30am 10.45am 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Prayer Group Boys' Brigade
<b>Thurs</b>	18 Jan	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
<b>Frid</b>	19 Jan	2.30pm	Social Badminton Club

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024**

**8.45am: Communion Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson.**

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Andrew Shergold.**

**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

### OUR PREACHERS

Dear All,

This Sunday, 14 January, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on all our Preachers, those who lead our services each week. This week we hear how God has supported and confirmed Lynda's journey of faith. I like the way Lynda casually glosses over the fact that she has been a Local Preacher for over fifty years; what commitment and a wonderful achievement.

Thank you to all our Preachers, young and mature, and as Lynda says - 'There is always room for more!' Please support our preachers in your prayers this Sunday. Pete.

*I was quite surprised when I received my 50-year Preaching Certificate last year. I felt it was but a short time since I had been travelling on a bus home in a really bad storm, and it was then that I believe I felt it was time to follow the path that God seemed to have planned for me.*

*I had not passed my driving test then and transport to the villages was sketchy. This was the last bus that night. I did feel a bit frightened as the wind and rain buffeted the bus about. We had to go a different route due to the storm, but it was as we left our normal route that I saw a poster in the bus. It was from John 14 v 6: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." I became calmer in myself as I thought about the words, and I realised I had never seen a text on display in a bus before. Was this a special message for me? We certainly got to our destination safely that night and the text stayed with me.*

*I had started my training as a Local Preacher and later, as it came time to preach my trial sermon, this was the text I chose. For me, God has always been the way. In good times and sad times. I have worked within the church in many roles and tried to bring our Lord into my working life. Our family have always encouraged me, as have the wonderful people I have met along the way.*

*Today going to the chapels in the northern part of our circuit is a blessing. Local Preaching is not for everyone but we could do with a few more. Yes, it takes time to prepare services, but you can help others to find their way to the*

*Father through his love, through his Son, and through the words that we have in the Bible of how he died for us all. There are many blessings to being a Local Preacher.*

*Perhaps you can consider if it is what God is calling you to do. We can all serve in different ways, and finding the right path for you is the right path for God too.*

*With love,  
Lynda Hart.*

## Quiz Supper in aid of Karibuni Children on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7pm

at Fairford Leys Community Centre,  
Hampden Square, HP19 7HT.



Join us for our annual Quiz evening

with Fish & Chip Supper

(or veggie burger alternative).

Tickets: £15 per person, available from

[office@karibuni.org.uk](mailto:office@karibuni.org.uk)

or 01296 614887. Also from website:

[www.karibuni.org.uk/shop](http://www.karibuni.org.uk/shop)



Karibuni Children

Derek the Cleric



St Cliff's doesn't have what you'd  
call a conventional worship band!

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