

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

[*See note on a following page]

Church Office: 01296 426526

E-mail: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Website: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Sunday 23rd June 2024

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.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Carina Shergold.

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, today, are Derek Adams and Elaine Hope.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee, 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 88 106 519 113 82
Readings	Job 38: 1-11 Mark 4: 35-41
Organist	Derrick Matthews
Streaming	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.



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 by an ADULT.

NEWS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

We were sad to hear that one of our newer members, Richard Bareham, had died recently and we think of his family at this time.

Please also remember in your prayers Rita McKelvie in Fremantle Court Nursing Home, and Mary Wright in Lewin House, both who are seriously ill.

New Arrival: Our granddaughter, Jessica Sophie Grace Foulger, arrived safely on June 14th. And she is gorgeous!!! Richard and Louise.



*** A reminder that Richard Atkinson is currently on Sabbatical until July 8th 2024.**

For pastoral concerns, please contact either:

Rev Heegon Moon: 01844 698237, heegon5@gmail.com or

Rev Noreen Daley-Lee: 01525 240083, noreendaley1@hotmail.com



Here we go again My daughter Erica is running for the 17th time, raising funds for Cancer Research UK, on 14 July at Northampton. If you wish to donate to this very worthwhile cause, the online link is:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/ericas-race-for-life-71529182937>

Cheques made payable to Cancer Research UK, and cash, are obviously still acceptable. **Our total raised last year was £1,235 so here's to 2024.....**

Thanking you, Maureen Tucker 01296 486619 / 07790 581 197.

SOS ON TOUR!

SOS are a group of people, some regular church-goers, others who are not - it makes no difference - all are welcome. Meeting together at each other's homes and sharing a Faith Supper; sometimes there's a theme to base food around, other times not. The evenings usually start at 7.30pm and finish when the last person goes home. All you need to do is to call the host to say that you're coming.

6th July: at the home of Lynn and Derek Bernstone, Tel 420817. Back in 1660 the first Earl of Sandwich was ennobled. To celebrate tonight, bring sandwiches, open, closed, white or brown bread, the choices are limitless.

Tuesday 2nd July 2024, 2.30pm: TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

A display of dressmaking with Claudette James

Come along for a cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and a chat!

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Please ring the bell for Room 4, to be met in the reception area.

For more information, contact Coral Soulsby: 01296 707298.

CHURCH READINGS: June - August 2024.



A new sheet is now on the noticeboard, so if you are willing to join our rota for reading the lesson in Church occasionally, please sign up 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.

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 a steward 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



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.*





'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

AYLESBURY

Dear All,



Last Sunday, 16 June, the focus of our Circuit Prayers was on Aylesbury and we join Harry as he shares his story with us. Harry shows us how our faith is important at every stage of our lives, from childhood through to maturity, Harry never stopped believing when faced with challenges, but met them head on, and found faith sufficient to overcome. Please pray this week for those whose faith falters when facing life's challenges, and pray that they may draw courage from Harry's words, to rely on God for everything, both good and bad, that life throws their way. Pete.

I was brought up in a God-fearing family with many siblings. My extended family were staunch members of the local Methodist Church at Accra, Ghana. My parents were not rich but very caring. They believed in honesty and hard work, and were content with what God had blessed them with. My father's motto was "Do good."

As a child, Sunday was a special day of the week, when myself and other younger siblings attended Sunday school early in the morning. This was where we learnt about Biblical stories and characters, including Jesus Christ and the twelve apostles. Also, God being the creator of the Heaven and earth, the sea and all things in them.

As I reached my early teens, I joined the early Sunday morning Worship and Class Meetings/Bible Studies. This was the beginning of the development of my faith. I gained an extensive insight into the Bible. This enabled me in my later years to pass the GCE Religious Knowledge at both 'O' and 'A' levels.

My dream as a teenager was far from studying abroad, until one of my teachers had faith in me and told me that I had the potential to study abroad in the future. I believed what he had confided in me and I continued to work harder, and was awarded a scholarship at the end of my first year at secondary school.

When I finished my secondary school education, I applied to some nursing training hospitals in the United Kingdom to study for a registered nursing qualification. I experienced a lot of disappointments. Nevertheless, I had faith that God's time was the best so I continued to pray regularly with occasional fasting. Eventually my prayers were heard and I was offered a place to study for my nursing qualification in the UK. Upon completion of my nursing training, I proceeded to further my education at higher education institutions to a post-graduate level.

My faith has always been the cornerstone of my life. Throughout my working life I had always sincerely relied on God for wisdom, understanding and strength in the execution of my duties.

Unused talent is talent wasted, hence my involvement in painting and decorating and other voluntary activities at Aylesbury Methodist Church. My faith has also increased due to being a member of the Book Club, and various courses organised by the AMC.

It was through faith that I met my wife Ruby, while we were studying for our nursing qualification. We share the same faith and have been together for over 50 years. We are blessed with two children who were baptised into the Methodist faith.

Finally, my faith and prayers have been significant in my life journey. I rely on God to guide me and give me wisdom, understanding and strength to cope with life stresses. I always remember my late father's motto, "Do good."

Harry Darku

'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT



CHEDDINGTON

Dear All,

This Sunday, 23 June, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on Cheddington. Cathy asks if we are 'on fire with enthusiasm' and shares her joy in the Lord with us. Please pray for those who are going through life's ups and downs, that they may know the joy of the Lord. Pete.



Nehemiah 8 v 10

Brownie points to anyone who can quote this without looking it up.

The answer, of course, is – ‘the joy of the Lord is my strength’ - depending on your preferred Bible text. How long ago did Nehemiah write this when there was no Facebook, Instagram or Internet?

It’s as relevant today as it was then.

For my recent birthday I was given a mug with this particular text on, with which I was delighted.

With Pentecost just a few weeks ago, the question is - are we ‘on fire’ with enthusiasm or ‘filled with the spirit’ and, of course, is the joy of the Lord our strength still?

As it’s summertime now, the days are longer, the weather has improved and, by and large, life’s ups and downs seem a little easier to bear for some of us. Or do they?

We have read many wonderful testimonies about people coming to faith, including their years of service, and we all rejoice at their faithfulness and enthusiasm.

Yet we still marvel at the faith of Nehemiah, and how long ago did he live? We read so much in our Bibles of those disciples so long ago, but of course they weren’t competing with 24/7 tv, Sunday sport and shops opening etc. However, they did have the slight obstacle of a Roman occupation and a Jewish authority who just didn’t, nor wanted to, understand - minor obstacles to them, though.

It begs the question - how did they do it? Certainly, the disciples had the advantage of knowing Jesus personally and that surely made a difference. Yet we believe, even though we have never seen Jesus.

The joy of the Lord for many of us is still our strength, and we long to be God’s ambassadors, as so many people have been and still are. It’s the ability to sustain and impart that joy that sometimes eludes us, but the Lord understands that.

Meanwhile - Each one, Reach one. Each one, Teach one.

The Joy of the Lord is my strength - most of the time - allowing for the busy times of life which often get in the way. Yet, even then, the Lord understands.

Cathy.

Whitchurch are carrying on fundraising for Mara Hook by hosting a High Tea, at the chapel, on the 29th June. We would very much like to extend an invitation to all you kind and generous people across the circuit.

Thank you, Emma.

The teas at Whitchurch are always excellent, and this is such a worthy cause; please do support Mara if you are able. Pete Honeyball.

You are cordially invited to

Mara's Afternoon Tea

Please join us for an enchanting afternoon of tea,
conversation, and delightful company!

29th June 2pm-4pm

61 High St, Whitchurch, Aylesbury HP22 4JA

Options for all dietary requirements

£15 Adult, £7 Child

RSVP Emma, 07538200091



Live in the 'here and now'

'This is the day the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.'

Psalm 118:24 NKJV

God wants us to appreciate the season we are in; to live in the 'here and now'. Some people live only for the future. 'I'll be happy when...' Other people live in the past. Solomon addresses them: 'Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" For you do not inquire wisely concerning this' (Eccl 7:10).

The *New Yorker* magazine once had a cartoon in which two monks in robes and shaved heads were sitting side by side, cross legged on the floor. The younger one, with a quizzical look on his face, is facing the older one, who is saying: 'Nothing happens next. This is it.'

That's exactly what it means to live in the here and now. We aren't waiting for something else to occur, we aren't distracted by anything around us, we aren't trying to escape mentally to another time. We are fully alive because we are living in the moment! God may have done great things for you in the past, and you're trusting Him to do great things in the future, but His presence, His power, His goodness, His favour, His blessing, and all that He is, can only be experienced in the here and now.

Question: 'Are you living in a shell to keep from being eaten alive by the pain of life? Do you guard yourself by retreating deeper into your shell, being available only to what is pleasant, predictable, and safe?' 'This is the day the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.' Live in the 'here and now'.

Next Week

Mon	24 June	6.00pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
Tues	25 June	9.30am 6.15pm	Chair Yoga Boys' Brigade
Thurs	27 June	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	28 June	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

Sunday 30th June 2024

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Honeyball.

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)