

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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Sunday 4th August 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: Service of Holy Communion
led by Rev Richard Atkinson.
Theme: 'Doers of the Word'.

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 Derek Adams.

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 706 508 668 658 569 407
Readings	James 1: 17-27 John 8: 1-11
Organist	David Brooker
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.

The flowers this week are given by Margaret and John Miskin:
"In celebration of our wedding anniversary and remembering those no longer with us."

There will be a retiring collection for the Benevolent Fund after the service this morning. The bowl will be clearly marked.

Some sad news. Many of you will know that Paul Thomas, a lovely man, a good friend and a respected Local Preacher is sadly not well. Please support Paul and his family in your prayers.

In August we will be following a sermon series on the letter of James

4th:	James 1	Doers of the word	Richard Atkinson
11th:	James 2	Faith and works	John Shaw
18th	James 3 - 4:12	Speech and wisdom	Ken Harris
25th	James 4:13 - 5: 20	Living for the Lord	Richard Atkinson

This series is based on some materials produced by the Methodist Church. These do include some materials for midweek reflections. Anybody who would be interested in having sight of these, please talk to Richard. If you happen to miss one of the weeks, please remember that you can catch up the services on the streaming page of the church website



Lynn and I will be holding our annual open garden for **Breast Cancer Now** on **Wednesday 14th August**.

Coffee Tea and cake will be available between 10am and midday, and 2pm to 4pm, along with some craft stalls and a tombola, at 10 Chesterfield Close, Stone

HP17 8PY. Please come along and support this worth-while cause. Many thanks Gill Marks.

SOS On Tour. 10th August: no cooking tonight, therefore no washing up! We are meeting at the **7 Stars of Dinton**, and we will make a group booking, so, well in advance, please contact Gill Marks who is coordinating, Tel 748659.

Peter Farmer is having a good **honey** season and is selling it to raise money for Karibuni Children. The jars, which are available after the morning service, are in 3 sizes: small, medium and large (1 lb). The suggested prices are £3, £4.75 and £6.50. Peter also invites **blackberry** lovers to pick their own from his garden, in exchange for a contribution to Karibuni. He is normally at Sunday morning services. His phone number is 01296 624280.

The Circuit Preaching Plan for Sept – Nov 2024 is now available from the display cabinet in the Welcome Space.

The Cashless Society: Following recent enquiries, and the fact that fewer people use cash on a regular basis, I think the time has come for the Church to enable people to make payments by card if they so wish. This will involve the purchase or rental of a card reader.

I can think of the following possible uses:

- Church services (visitors, special services, members' extra donations or benevolent fund)
- After-Church coffees and Weekday coffee sales
- Concerts, fundraising events, etc

We will purchase a device which can a) register the purpose of the donation and b) easily select the amount to be paid.

Help needed: As I am wanting to hand over the job of treasurer over the next two or three years to someone a generation or two younger than me, I would appreciate a volunteer to deal with this particular project. This would include:

- Acquiring a suitable device and training people to use it
- Considering its location and portability
- Liaising with possible Church users
- Providing the treasurer with a breakdown of the income received.

I would welcome any comments from members, and particularly those who would be particularly affected by the use of a card reader. I also need a volunteer to oversee it.

Roger Kirk

Church Treasurer

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.*

Thank you for continuing to support Aylesbury Foodbank by collecting food donations. The weight of your Jan - June 2024 donations for Aylesbury Methodist Church is 519.10 kg and for June is 87.72kg.

If there is anything we can help with regarding the collection or delivery of food donations please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support; without community support like yours, we would be unable to feed local people in crisis in the way that we do.

SHOUT OUT FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Don't forget we're still recruiting people to help with food collections at supermarkets on Saturdays over the next few months - we'd love to hear from you if you, or someone in your organisation, can help!

Collections team, Aylesbury Foodbank: 01296 395514



Next Week

Mon	5 Aug	6.30 - 8.00pm	Food Hub
Frid	7 Aug	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

Sunday 11th August 2024

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr John Shaw.

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 - (Kevin Hardern: 01296 481285 Mobile: 07785 950 702)



'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

PRINCES RISBOROUGH

Dear All,

This Sunday, 4 August, Princes Risborough is the focus of our Circuit Prayers, and Neville shares his story with us from passive attendee through to fully engaged participant. Let us keep in mind all those whose journey echoes Neville's and pray that they may find the same support and guidance offered to them to enable them to mature in the faith and enjoy the wonders of the love of God. Pete.



We arrived in Princes Risborough in 2007, after 4 years in Brussels and the arrival of our children, so we are relative newcomers compared to others that have previously contributed to this series. We were immediately welcomed into the fellowship, so when I was asked to write a short piece, the theme of participation rose to the top of my mind. As a family, we have always subscribed to the idea that the more you put into an activity the more you get out. It can leave you dangerously over-committed to clubs and societies, but how much more so does the maxim hold true in church life.

I think that I can chart the more buoyant parts of my journey of faith through the steps that I have taken to be more involved in the activities of a church, and deeper engagement in the lives of those attending. Having passively attended Sunday School, it was only through involvement at the University Methodist and URC society that I moved towards an active faith, nurtured by interaction and discussion with those around me, including my first retreat.

I even found myself involved in a minor way in the preaching team around some of the villages of the East Riding.

Moving to Reading and membership of Park URC for some 12 years meant closer relationships with other Christians over a longer period, with weekly Bible explorations together, and eventually serving as an Elder. This meant also taking up the challenge of a formal pastoral role for the first time with the associated ups and downs of the lives of those on my 'list', who were often much older and more experienced than I.

Another century and another church, but only for 3 years at Rivercourt in Hammersmith, where the defining development was participation in the West London Homeless Mission during the winter months, where both Kathryn and I were well out of our comfort zones, helping to host upwards of 30 people on a Sunday night. Our relationship with one guest in particular had much to teach me about generosity and humility, and forced me to consider more deeply the injustices of society and the assumptions that we all make.

Finally, St Andrew's Church of Scotland in Brussels saw experience of another way of church organisation and worship which could be familiar but also unsettling. The challenges and joys of a constantly shifting congregation from an extraordinarily diverse set of backgrounds, were intensified by the knowledge we only had four years there at most.

Reflecting on this 'pilgrims' progress', at each change and staging post, it is clear that involvement and the active giving of time and emotional energy to individuals and to the wider church, has been key. Key also, though, has been a willingness to make time, to push myself beyond the tried and tested and to attempt things that I felt ill equipped to take on – leading worship, Eldership, practical outreach, opening up and being vulnerable in Bible studies.

Our preacher last Sunday urged us to operate on the edge of our competence and to experience for ourselves the way we would be supported, helped and equipped by God as a result. I can't pretend that I often do, but at times where I have gone further than is initially comfortable and become more deeply involved, the rewards have been commensurately greater and I feel that participating and taking the risk has enabled me to continue to make some progress in my faith journey.

Neville.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2: 8-10