

WELCOME TO

**AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**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.

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

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr David Neville.**

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, today, are Jackie Simpson-Tyda at 8.45am, and Gill Maks and Derek Adams at 10.30am.

**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.

<b>Hymns</b>	<b>8.45am: StF 137 520 410</b> <b>10.30am: StF 691 673 517 250 251</b>
<b>Readings</b>	<b>8.45am: Isaiah 61: 10 – 62: 5</b> <b>10.30am: Jonah 1: 1-16 Matthew 12: 38-41</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>8.45am: Derrick Matthews 10.30am: David Brooker</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 by an ADULT.**



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

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

A reminder that **Rob King's funeral has been arranged for 2pm on the 21st January 2025 at Bierton crematorium.** Anyone who wishes to come to pay their respects are more than welcome. If you require any further information, please feel free to contact Sally Ralph (Rob's daughter) on 07905741427.



The next Messy Church is on **Saturday 1st of February from 3.45pm till 6pm.** The theme will be Abraham and Sarah with lots of activities associated with the story.

To ensure that we have enough food for tea, could you possibly email: [amc22messychurch@gmail.com](mailto:amc22messychurch@gmail.com) by Thursday 30th January. If you haven't been before, now is the time to come along at the start of a new year. Margaret Miskin.

### **We are about to embark on a series on Jonah. The titles for each of the Sundays are:**

- |                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Jan 19<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Jonah 1: The God who pursues</b>   |
| <b>Jan 26<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Jonah 2: Out of the depths</b>     |
| <b>Feb 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | <b>Jonah 3: Mission accomplished</b>  |
| <b>Feb 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Jonah 4: A mixed-up missionary</b> |

During each week of our series on Jonah, there will be in the notice sheet an exercise for anyone who is interested. Ideally these will involve more than one person, but could work as a solo reflection

**This week:** *Read Jonah 1 noting any observations. You might like to use the idea of who, what, why, when, where and how.*

*Then talk about or reflect on what you have discovered on what the text is about and what it means.*

*Consider how the text might shape life today. What are its implications?*

*This is a method you could use with any Biblical text*



**2025 marks Karibuni Children's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** and we shall be marking this milestone by putting on a number of events throughout the year.

One event will be a charity concert at Wycombe Swan Theatre featuring the LP Swing Orchestra and vocalists

Matthew Ford and Nicola Emmanuelle. Their programme, entitled '**100 Years of Big Bands**' will involve a range of familiar big band musical numbers and

songs. Profits from the event will be used to support Karibuni Children's work amongst children living in the slums of Nairobi and other places in Kenya.

**The Concert takes place on Sunday 23rd March at 3:00pm  
and tickets can be booked online ([www.wycombeswan.co.uk](http://www.wycombeswan.co.uk)) or by  
telephone (0343 310 0060).**

(See poster on insert)

### **Praying passionately**

*'Always labouring fervently for you in prayers.'* Colossians 4:12 NKJV

Here is what Paul said about Epaphras, a disciple so obscure you probably don't recognise his name: 'Epaphras...is...always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God...he has a great zeal for you' (vv. 12-13 NKJV).

James writes, 'Pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much' (James 5:16 NKJV). To be fervent is to be passionate!

Bishop Joseph Hall, a seventeenth-century Anglican minister, was once imprisoned in the Tower of London for his faith. He lived his final years on a farm in the country writing devotional classics. Here is what he remarked about prayer: *'An arrow, if it be drawn up but a little way, goes not far; but if it be pulled up to the head, flies swiftly and pierces deep. Prayer, if it be only dribbled forth from careless lips, falls at our feet. It is the strength of [discharge] and strong desire that sends it to heaven, and makes it pierce the clouds. It is not the arithmetic of our prayers, how many they are; nor the rhetoric of our prayers, how eloquent they be; nor the geometry of our prayers, how long they be; nor the music of our prayers, how sweet our voice may be; nor the method of our prayers, how orderly they may be; nor the divinity of our prayers, how good the doctrine may be – which God cares for. Fervency of spirit is that which availeth much.'*

The Lord answers the prayers of those who pray passionately. So, get serious about prayer and give yourself fully to it!

**Source:** *The Word for Today*, a daily devotional, produced free of charge by United Christian Broadcasters. For your regular quarterly copy write to UCB at:

**United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF, or email [ucb@ucb.co.uk](mailto:ucb@ucb.co.uk) or telephone 01782 911 000.**

Or you can read them online at <https://www.ucb.co.uk/read> .

As a charity, UCB relies on donations, so a gift would be appreciated from time to time.

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

**Currently, the need is for:** 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, and toiletries, also washing up liquid & laundry detergent pods.



**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](mailto:rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk)



**Next Week**

<b>Mon</b>	20 Jan	6.15pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
<b>Tues</b>	21 Jan	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade
<b>Thurs</b>	23 Jan	10.00am From 12.45pm	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group Blood Donor sessions
<b>Frid</b>	24 Jan	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Ken Harris.**

**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: 07484 392734)**



## 'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

### SWANBOURNE

Dear All,

This Sunday, 19 January, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on Swanbourne, and Frankie shares some of the experiences that laid the foundations of her faith. Sometimes we are spoilt for choice, but we are all different and no one size fits all. It was good that Frankie sampled a few different church families until she found the right one for her where she was comfortable and felt at home. We all worship the same God, but our journeys do not all start from the same place or use the same path, so it is important that we feel we are in the right place. Please pray for all those people who find it difficult to fit in, and pray that they may find a fellowship where they are welcomed and loved. Pete.



*As long as I can remember, I have had a sense of the presence of God, fed by hymns and stories at infant school. My mother was agnostic, but resistant to organised religion, having had poor family experiences with both Catholicism and the Spiritualist movement. My father's faith was undeveloped and tentative, but he had gone to Sunday School when young.*

*I went to nearly every Sunday School in town in my search for God, including two Anglican churches: one rural and low church and the other urban and high. I also went to a Christian fellowship, and the Church of the Latter Day Saints. Eventually a school friend took me to the Methodist Church, where I felt welcomed and taken seriously.*

*I attended an excellent Sunday School (I was about ten at the time), joined the Junior Choir and Brownies and Guides, and later the Youth fellowship; and most importantly the Open Youth Club. In all these ways, my faith was fed and nourished. I was baptised at 16, quietly with just the minister and my parents present and was confirmed the following Sunday along with other members of the Youth Fellowship.*

*In all this time, I was quietly encouraged by my father who bought me Arthur Mee's 'Life of Jesus' and then my own Bible as an 'extra' Christmas present. My mother said, "If you go, you do it properly and go every week". She became*

*involved with the Guides' Parents Committee and my dad occasionally accompanied me to Church.*

*So there I was, an enthusiastic young Methodist with a developing faith and an interest in social action. I went on to teacher-training college and found outlets for my faith in Methsoc and the Student Christian movement, and attended SCM conferences at Oxford. My theology developed in discussion, enriched by meeting people from many different Christian backgrounds.*

*All this has formed the basis for my life in Methodism.*

*Frankie.*

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**100 YEARS of  
BIG BANDS**  
LP SWING ORCHESTRA

**MATTHEW FORD**  
JOHN WILSON ORCHESTRA, BBC PROMS

**NICOLA EMMANUELLE**  
WEST END'S RAT PACK: LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS

PAUL WHITEMAN, BENNY GOODMAN, GLENN MILLER,  
DUKE ELLINGTON, COUNT BASIE, NAT "KING" COLE,  
FRANK SINATRA, ELLA FITZGERALD, PEGGY LEE,  
TED HEATH, MICHAEL BUBLE



Karibuni Children  
**CHARITY CONCERT**  
Celebrating 30 years of Transforming Young Kenyan Lives

**WYCOMBE SWAN**  
— HIGH WYCOMBE —

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2025 3:00PM**  
BOOK ONLINE: [wycombeswan.co.uk](http://wycombeswan.co.uk)  
TEL: 0343 310 0060

[WWW.LPSWINGORCHESTRA.COM](http://WWW.LPSWINGORCHESTRA.COM)