

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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Sunday 23rd February 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.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Nick Aylen.

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

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 372 330 254 55
Readings	Luke 6: 27-38
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.



**The flowers this week are given by Jean Hamlin
in memory of her husband, Ralph.**



Our next Messy Church is on **Saturday 1st March, 3.45 – 6.00pm**. The theme for that day is **LENT**. Come along and enjoy the activities, followed by a sumptuous family tea.

To book your place, please send an email to amc22messychurch@gmail.com by Thursday 27th February. Hope to see some of you there. Margaret.

Every other Monday in the coffee bar, between 10am and 12 noon, we have some lovely ladies who come in for a knit and natter; it's a really friendly atmosphere that we thought could be shared.

If anyone would like to join us with their knitting, crochet or craft, or even just for a chat over a cuppa and cake, we would love to see you. It's a great way to spend a Monday morning and their next meeting is on the 3rd of March. We look forward to seeing you. Lynn and Gill



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 bring the contents 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.



CHANGE OF DATE: the scheduled Circuit Day on March 1st has been postponed and will now take place on May 17th. Details to follow soon.

SPRING-CLEANING DAY

Saturday 22nd March

Come and join us for an hour or two, or whatever time you can spare that day, helping to make OUR Church premises spick and span!

More details later!





WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

On Friday 7th March 2025 at 1.30pm

At St Mary the Virgin, St Mary's Square, Aylesbury.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTERWARDS

Our sisters from the Cook Islands have spent the last few years deepening into the theme: "I Made You Wonderful," based on Psalm 139:1-18.

The 2025 programme invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God. When we can receive this profound truth, everything in our life changes and we begin to radiate and shine from within. We also learn how to treat every other person as made wonderful by God.

The Worship Service invites us to notice aspects of our divinely created bodies that we often take for granted. The scripture reading from Psalms 139:1-18 is woven together with stories of three women from the Cook Islands. We come to understand that God knows us, is always with us, and made us unique and special.

The service leads us to offer prayers of adoration and thanksgiving to our Creator, followed by prayers of confession and longing. Finally, the prayers of intercession guide us to ask God for wisdom, courage and healing, that our world would come to treat all people as "fearfully and wonderfully made."

The Bible Study prompts dialogue around Psalm 139, particularly focusing on the relationship between God and each one of us. The study looks at 3 sections of Psalm 139, each with a different focus: verses 1-6 (God knows us), verses 7-12 (God is with us), and 13-18 (God made us wonderful).



**Please join us if you can at this service
to celebrate the Cook Islands.**

**The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical
Christian initiative, and all are welcome.**

**[Full details can be accessed on the
Circuit Website News Item.]**



'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

WINGRAVE

Dear All,

This Sunday, 23 February, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on Wingrave, and we hear Angela's story of how God made known His love for her. This week, please pray for the lovely folk at Wingrave, and also for those who are searching for something, that they may recognise God's call and love for them at the right time.

Pete.



God Finds Us...

I am always surprised how many people were brought up in Christian households, where reading the Bible, prayers, going to church, and talking about the Bible 'at home', are everyday parts of family life.

And having God as something you would speak of openly at home, I find rather different.

My childhood was wonderful. Saturdays we would have a journey to wherever my Dad's Cricket Team were playing. It could be Ilkley, Follifoot, Skipton or anywhere with a beautiful ground in what we call "God's" Country, yes in a beautiful part of Yorkshire.

Sundays we would usually have a 'run out' in the car to places such as Haworth, Fountains Abbey or Burnsall. We would pack up the car with a fabulous picnic, copious amounts of hot drinks in a flask and some of Mum's home-made cakes to enjoy.

Weekends were family time, time to be together and enjoy every moment.

The Church wasn't part of our life.

You may be thinking that I missed out, but I don't see it like that at all. I do remember being dropped off at Sunday School for a few weeks, but I don't think it lasted long and I don't remember wanting to continue going.

I don't believe that people need to be brought up in the faith; God will find a way to plug you in at the right time for you.

So how did I come to be here?

Well, one morning I woke up and I knew I had to go to church.

I was 35, I had a few things going on in my life and I was COMPELLED to go.

I looked at the Church that had a female minister - that service started at 10:30am; the pretty church with the Reverend, started at 10am. So I went to the pretty church, as I thought I would get home earlier too.

I walked in and felt a coldness and greyness envelop me. I waited until people went forward for communion and then I ran. I ran so quickly to leave the church as I knew it wasn't for me.

I drove to the other Church, the one with the female Minister; I was late, and I wondered if I should enter as it was now closer to 11 than 10.

I took a deep breath, put on a big smile and walked into a warm room, where everyone welcomed me with a smile.

The chairs were in a circle and they were playing a game with an arrow that pointed to different questions. And this is where I knew I was called to be.

It was not formal; it was anything but formal, just how I liked things in my life, and I instantly felt at home.

I was called to Two Waters in Apsley, the Methodist Church.

I found God and God found me at the time that was right for me.

God finds people every day.

I'd love to know others who had found God later in life; there are so many of us who God found when the time was right.

*Blessings,
Angela.*

In July 2025 our Granddaughter, Ruby, is undertaking a trip to India, where, amongst other things, she'll be trekking in the Himalayas and undertaking a Community initiative in an Indian school.

Part of the scheme is to raise funds herself to pay for this trip.

On **Saturday, 1st March** we have a fundraising

Quiz Night at Wendover Memorial Hall, 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets are £10 per person, bring your own nibbles but there will be drinks available to buy.

Teams of 8 but don't worry if you can't get a team, we'll make sure you're sat with others! If you are interested, please contact David or Julianne Wilderspin on 01296 626065/ 07765511249 / 07551166196.



2025 marks Karibuni Children's 30th 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) or by telephone (0343 310 0060).



CHURCH READINGS: March – May 2025.

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 – **unless you are new to reading the lesson**), and a steward will contact you during that week with the reading. If you have any questions, **or if you are joining the reading rota for the first time**, please speak to one of the stewards.

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



GOD
IS
enough

Intimacy, dependency, obedience

*'The Son can do nothing by himself;
he can do only what he sees his Father doing.'*

John 5:19 NIV

One of the things that define Jesus' relationship with His Father is this: **dependency**.

Corrie ten Boom used to say, 'I am just the glove, Jesus is the hand that fills it and works through it.'

That's a picture of Christ's relationship with His heavenly Father, and it's a blueprint for the kind of relationship you can have with God.

In the Bible you will notice two all-important things about Jesus:

1) He never seemed to suffer from the fear of failing, like we so often do. Why? Because He prayed regularly and got direction from His Father. Knowing He was acting on the Father's word and operating in the Father's will, He never doubted. Until you have heard from God, you are a question mark. But once you have heard from God, you are an exclamation mark.

2) Jesus knew He couldn't accomplish anything of significance without His Father's direction and power, so He never attempted to.

We, on the other hand, say we trust God but act like everything depends on us. And the result? We fall flat on our faces and keep wondering why.

Every action of God in your life is intended to increase, not decrease, your dependence on Him.

Someone wisely said, 'You'll never know that Christ is all you need until Christ is all you've got.'

To bring you to the place of total dependence on Himself, God will allow your ego to be crushed and your self-sufficiency to be stripped away.

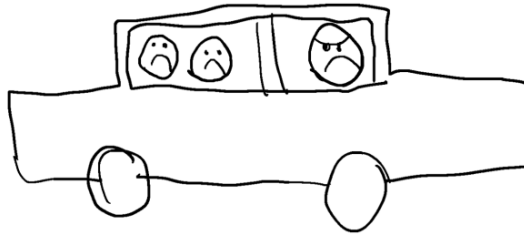
At that point you make a life-changing discovery: when you have nothing left but God – **God is enough!**

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 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.



God driving Adam and Eve out of The Garden of Eden

Next Week

Mon	24 Feb	6.15pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
Tues	25 Feb	9.30am 2.00pm 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Banner Group Boys' Brigade
Thurs	27 Feb	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	28 Feb	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club
Sat	1 March	3.45pm	Messy Church

Sunday 2nd March 2025

**10.30am: Service of Holy Communion
led by Rev Richard Atkinson.**

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)