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.

### WELCOME TO AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson 01296 339899 revrja@outlook.com Church Office: 01296 426526 E-mail: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk Website: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Sunday 9th March 2025

# 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 Derek Adams and Jackie Simpson-Tyda.

### 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 40 356 SoF 514 424 471 272 239			
Readings	Genesis 3: 1-13 Philippians 3: 12-14			
Music	AMC Worship Band			
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 in memory of Jennie's parents, Reg and Audrey, and her sister-in-law, Debbie.

### The Worship Band will lead you in your preparation for worship, and the words will be shown on the screen. Please join in.

## <u>LENT</u>

A reminder of Richard's suggestion last Sunday.

The season of Lent is not about giving up chocolate and cake, but looking for those things that help us to see more of God.

### A Challenge for Lent:

Every day, sit down and record what has touched or what has blessed you; where you have seen things of Christ; where you have seen humanity at its best, to paint a picture of hope.

Because the more we look for God, the more we will see Him, the more our hope will grow, and our sense of wonder be increased.

We can look into the face of a little baby or an old person and see a glimpse of God's glory.

So, go out into the world, and look for and name places and situations where we sense and see the light and glory that God brings.

Lent then becomes a more meaningful experience and gives us a pattern that goes beyond Easter – an experience of counting our blessings in the hope that we all see more of the glory of God

# **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

17th April - MAUNDY THURSDAY: 6.30pm Holy Communion & Meal (details to come)

18th April - GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00am Service

20<sup>th</sup> April - EASTER DAY: 8.15am: Holy Communion service 9.00am: Easter Breakfast (pre-book) 10.30am: Easter Day service

Don't forget to bring your spring flowers to decorate the cross!





# Easter Sunday Breakfast

A Full English Breakfast\* cooked by the SOS team is the way we have been starting our celebration for many years, and today is no different. Tickets on sale during Lent or ring Lynn or Derek to book your place on 420817. A fundraiser for Whitechapel Mission. \* a vegetarian option is available.



### Do you still have one of the little Home Collecting Boxes that hasn't been handed in to be counted recently?

If so, please either give your box Pauline Noble or Jennie

Torpey for us to open and count, or bring the contents to church in a plastic bag, **clearly marked with your name**. 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.





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!

**PARKING:** As parking becomes increasingly difficult on Sunday mornings, please may we remind you all that the Church car park needs to be reserved for the Minister, the Organist and those who have mobility issues.

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

### Next Week

Mon	10 March	6.15pm	Girls' Brigade
		6.30 - 8.00pm	Food Hub
Tues	11 March	9.30am	Chair Yoga
		2.00pm	Banner Group
		6.00pm	Boys' Brigade
Thurs	13 March	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	14 March	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

# Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

# 8.45am: Communion Service led by Rev Richard Atkinson

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Arthur Sara.

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 THE CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear All,

This Sunday, 9 March, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on our Circuit Leadership Team. Jamie Gannon tells us of his journey, of his doubts, of his first tentative steps and then acceptance as a member of Christ's flock. Please remember in your prayers this Sunday, all those who feel, for one reason or another, that they will not be welcome in our churches. A true Christian church is open to all, welcomes all, and as Jesus teaches us, loves all.

We come together with our different gifts and graces, and together with all our variety, we are God's people.

Pete.

How I came to the Methodist Church

In many ways I have always been involved with Christianity. I was christened in the C of E as a baby and went to a C of E primary school; I then started attending a church choir as a child. For my teens and young adult years, I lost touch with the church and religion in general; I thought because I was gay I would not be welcomed, how wrong was I.

It was about 3 or 4 years ago that I asked Heather if I could attend Waddesdon's Carol service. That was my first service at Waddesdon, and since then I have never left. Some people call it a calling, but for me it was more of a need to be part of this community, something that was missing for me. Since coming to the Methodist church, things have changed for me - from just being a member of the congregation, to a member, to church steward and now a circuit steward; and my hope is everything I do will always be for the betterment of the church and the circuit.

This is just a little about me and I hope gives you a little more insight into how I came to the circuit.

Take care and God bless. Jamie.



#### 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.

Do You Want to Fast This Lent? Fast from hurting words and say kind words, Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude, Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. Fast from worries and trust in God. Fast from pressures and be prayerful, Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy, Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others, Fast from grudges and be reconciled. Fast from words and be silent, so you can listen. Pass Francis MichalieDeRúsha zoni