

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson

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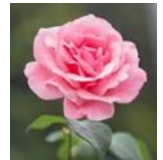
This Church is God's house.

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.

Sunday 30th March 2025

Mothering Sunday



10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Nick Ayles.

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 Gill Marks.

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 1 306 SoF 2231 481 451
Readings	Luke 15: 11-32
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 Worship Band will lead you in your preparation for worship, and the words will be shown on the screen. Please join in.

Rev Peter Dudeney's funeral is at 9.30am on 3rd April at St. Andrew's Church, Parklands, Great Lindford, MK14 5D, followed by a church reception. Any donations can be made to willenhospice.org.uk



**Waddesdon Methodist Hall.
EASTER TABLE TOP SALE.
Saturday 12th April.
10am - 4pm.**

Teas and coffees, cake stall, art and craft stalls and raffles.

£5 to hire a table. Contact Barbara 01296651417 or Ali 07484749146

Easter Offering: On **Palm Sunday** you will receive an offering envelope for the work of the World Church in your notice sheet. This is an important part of the funds for the overseas work with Mission Partners and the work they are trying to achieve. Please think prayerfully what you might be able to give.

Find Me, Keep Me. From time to time, a small knitted doll will be left in the church. If you find it, please keep it. They're made by the ladies from the knitting group that meets in the Welcome Space, and they hope that they will bring cheer to your day.



COLLECTION ENVELOPES: The new collection envelopes for 2025 are available from the Welcome Space. Please take yours and any that you are able to take for those not attending church. Many thanks, David Neville.

The **TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP** will not be meeting for the foreseeable future. The three members at the last meeting sadly voted to discontinue, due to the decline in membership because of the natural progression of time, and other commitments. Rev Richard Atkinson is fully aware of our decision and has suggested a new and more suitable formula: perhaps a tea afternoon in the Welcome Space? And perhaps on a different date or time. Please be encouraged to put your suggestions to him, and volunteers are welcome!

VALE OF AYLESBURY CIRCUIT HOLIDAY 2025
Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July 2025

You are invited to join us (with Rev Richard Atkinson) for our 2025 holiday to Bournemouth. We will be staying at the delightful Ocean Beach Hotel and Spa. The hotel is situated on East Cliff, where there are wonderful views to the Isle of Wight and the Isle of Purbeck.

The cost of the holiday is £649.00 per person, based on a minimum number of 25 people joining the holiday. There is no single room supplement. However, we are limited to only 14 single rooms and they are being allocated on a first come, first served basis as we receive your deposit and Booking Form. Further single rooms may be available but they will incur a supplement. There are some details and booking forms in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space if you would like to have a look.

If you think you'd like to go, please contact Jane and Pete Honeyball asap.

PETE and JANE HONEYBALL 07703 174 656

Email: peter.honeyball@btinternet.com

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

17th April - MAUNDY THURSDAY: 6.30pm Holy Communion & Meal
(see below)

18th April - GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00am Service

20th 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!

Maundy Thursday If you would like to take part, there are some menus in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space. **Please complete a form** with your name and choices, and give it to Richard or one of the stewards.

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 £6 each 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.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER event took place on 7th March at St Mary's Church and was a very enjoyable service this year. 53 people took part, celebrating together from churches across Aylesbury, raising approximately £265.00 on the day. The theme of the service this year was *"I made you wonderful"* and was written by the women of the Cook Islands. *Kia orana* is the traditional greeting of the Cook Islands and means "may you live a long and fulfilling life", which encapsulates the essence of the Cook Islands' culture and hospitality. In the spirit of this year's theme and the Cook Islands' *Kia orana*, let us embrace the knowledge that we are made wonderful by God and strive to live long and fulfilling lives.



CHURCH READINGS: March – May 2025.

There are still a few dates available on the Reading Rota 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 needed – **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.

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.



'GOOD NEWS' FROM ALL OUR PREACHERS

Dear All, This Sunday, 30 March, our Circuit Prayers focus on all our Preachers: those who, week in and week out, lead us in worship and praise, revealing to us the infinite love that God has for each one of us. This week David reflects on some of those occasions and why they mean so much to him. Please pray for all those who lead us in worship, that they may be empowered by the Spirit to faithfully reveal God's word to us and help us to understand His will for us. Pete.

Special Services

All preachers will have some special services which they remember as having a significant spiritual high to them, but hopefully also the congregation. I want to mention three of mine.

My brother-in-law, John, died in January aged 93. He was a bachelor, and my son was his next of kin and also one of his executors. I was asked to arrange the funeral. This was special as it was at my original home church in Northampton, and there would be many people there from the family and the church who I rarely see. This was indeed a memorable service for a man who, although very quiet, had a very worthwhile life. I gave a tribute to him and met several people I hadn't seen for over forty years.

By contrast, another memorable service was at Weedon for an early morning family service, which I always enjoy. On this Sunday I was very privileged to baptise two children. This was something I hadn't done before and was understandably rather nervous. But I met with the family beforehand as expected and we went through the service, so all understood what was happening. It was a lovely occasion with a good congregation, and I felt very privileged.

The third memorable service was when I was asked to take the Church Anniversary service at Aylesbury some years ago. The church council wanted it to include as many of the church groups and activities as possible. The banner group decorated the front of the gallery with all their banners, and we had an African choir from members singing, and I was able to introduce Mel Brown who had just started as Circuit Youth Worker.

There are many spiritually uplifting services that are taken around the circuit which are just normal worship, but some just stick in the memory. Please pray for all who lead our services and always make your spiritual contribution.

David Neville.

GIVE UP 10 FOR LENT

The Bible is full of stories of people who journeyed with God in the face of injustice. And, right now, people are experiencing the injustice of hunger across the UK.

Our food banks (many of them supported by or run by churches) are a lifeline for people facing hunger and hardship – but we know they're not the long-term solution. That's why, as well as providing emergency food and practical support for people left without enough money to live on, we work to ensure a future where no one in the UK needs a food bank to survive.

This Lent, we are inviting you to stand in solidarity with people facing hardship by hearing their stories and reflections for **10 minutes each week**.

Reflect with us this Lent and help end hunger – together.

<https://www.trussell.org.uk/support-us/churches/giveup10>

You'll gain new perspectives on familiar Bible passages, while considering ways to help end injustice.

Sign up below to join the journey, and:

- receive a weekly Lent reflection via email.
- discover how people with lived experience of hunger and poverty have encountered God in the midst of their struggles.
- find out how you and your church can join us, beyond Easter, in seeking justice, mercy and building community with humility (Micah 6:8) alongside your local food bank.

PS. It's not too late to sign up – the previous reflections are still available!

Thank you for joining us on our shared journey this Lent.



How to forgive

*'Be kind to one another, tender-hearted,
forgiving one another,
even as God in Christ forgave you.'*
Ephesians 4:32 NKJV

In 1982, John Hinckley Jr attempted to take the life of President Ronald Reagan by shooting him with a handgun.

Reagan's daughter, Patti, later recounted what she learned from her father when he was in hospital: 'My father said he knew his physical healing was directly dependent on his ability to forgive John Hinckley...It showed me that forgiveness is the key to everything...He gave me an example of Christ-like thinking.'

Sometimes, the wounds that others inflict on us are unintentional, and other times they are deliberate. But in both cases the Scriptures give us a clear standard concerning the wrongs we experience. You are to forgive those who hurt you, 'even as God in Christ forgave you'. That's a high standard, but it's one that brings healing for our deepest wounds.

Sometimes, we dispense forgiveness like a soft drink from a vending machine – mechanically, and with no feelings attached. But the Bible says two attitudes should accompany forgiveness: kindness, which is expressed in our actions, and tender-heartedness, which is expressed in our attitudes.

Why? Because that's the way God forgives us.

Throughout Scripture we find emotions such as kindness, gentleness, compassion, and tenderness – in word or by action – ascribed to God. We also find examples of it in the lives of those God used to fulfil His plans and purposes. Joseph was one of them, when he forgave his brothers who betrayed him. And He calls on us to do the same. This kind of forgiveness is as much an act of the heart as it is an act of the will.

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.

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	31 March	6.15pm 6.30 - 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
Tues	1 April	9.30am 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Boys' Brigade
Thurs	3 April	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	4 April	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

Sunday 6th April 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)