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 20th April 2025

EASTER DAY

8.15am: Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Richard Atkinson. 10.30am: Easter Day Service led by Mr Lafton Lee.

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 8.15am and Elaine Hope and Frances Aylen 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.

Hymns	8.15am: StF 297 309 313		
	10.30am: Stf 305 293 298 309 303 311		
Readings	8.315am: John 20: 1-18		
	10.30am: 1 Corinthians 15: 19-26		
Music	8.15am: Derrick Matthews		
	10.30am: David Brooker and 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.



Easter Offering: Last Sunday, you will have received an offering envelope in your notice sheet for the work of the World Church. 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. You can return your envelopes over the next couple of Sundays. Thank you.

There are spare envelopes in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space.

CIRCUIT HOLIDAY 30TH June – 4th July. Jane and Pete Honeyball have asked us to find out if anyone else would like to join the Circuit Holidav in Bournemouth this summer. £649 per person. They are ONLY short of TWO guests to enable the holiday to go ahead, as they need a minimum of 25. The single rooms have now all gone, but there are plenty of twin and double rooms available if you are willing to share a room. Please get in touch asap if you might be interested. Otherwise, the holiday will have to be cancelled. There are details of the holiday in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space. Tel: 07703 174 656 Email: peter.honeyball@btinternet.com



<u>CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2025</u> is $11^{th} - 17^{th}$ May, but we shall be celebrating Christian Aid Sunday on 4^{th} May, including a retiring

collection for their vital work. There will be collection envelopes in the notice sheet, with the opportunity to complete a Gift Aid declaration, which allows the charity to claim back the tax paid on your donation, at no extra cost to you.

Saturday 17th May, 10am - 3pm: Circuit Day 'IGNITE' at Fairford Leys Church, Hampden Square, HP19 7HT

The purpose of the IGNITE Circuit Day is to try to rekindle something of the enthusiasm, the excitement of faith. It is a day for anyone and everyone not just for particular officials, and our hope is that a good number from around the circuit will come and share, and then take something back of what they've experienced into the lives of their particular fellowship.

You will see that we are inviting everyone to bring with them something, be it a memory, a hymn, a song, a Bible passage, an item which speaks to a time, experience or thought which excited their faith, and then to share some of this with a small group. So, it could be someone remembering a time when they were in the midst of a large Methodist congregation where there was a full-blooded rendition of 'And Can it Be'. It could be something very personal; the important thing is that people have the freedom to bring something that they are happy to share with others.

The rest of the day will include reflections, suggestions and conversations about how we can cultivate enthusiasm and use it as a tool to help bring a developing dynamic within the life of each church. Your minister will have more details if you want them, but our hope is that as many as possible come and share in this day.

There will be more information coming through after Easter



4

'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

CHINNOR

Dear All,

This Easter Day, Sunday, 20 April, the focus of our Circuit Prayers is on Chinnor, and we are getting two for the price of one as both Ann and Ian share their experiences of moving into the village with us.



So often our churches can be cold and unwelcoming, so it is refreshing to hear of the positive experiences encountered here. Please pray for the lovely folk at Chinnor this Sunday, and also for all those people in our communities who would love to go into church on a Sunday, but are afraid of what may happen when they step through our doors.

Pete.

I was born in Old Penshaw, an old colliery village in County Durham. After many moves throughout the country due to my husband Ian's work, we have finally settled in the village of Chinnor to be close to our daughter Simone and her beautiful family.

After living in the village for several months, one day by complete accident I discovered the Methodist church, tucked away behind the frontal properties. This discovery struck a chord with me because of my Methodist upbringing and happy childhood memories, and I decided I must go back; so, after several weeks I plucked up the courage to go. The welcome I received on entering Chinnor Methodist was overwhelming. Jane and all involved were so welcoming and I instantly felt at ease. I will never regret my decision to rekindle my faith with the people of Chinnor Methodist Church. I can honestly say that I never get tired of entering the church at Chinnor, as the feeling of calm peacefulness never fades, especially in the chaotic, disaster-filled world of today. I regard the church as my second home, its people my wonderful extended family, and I know of no better place to share my thoughts and prayers with the Lord.

The church at Chinnor has so much going on and it makes for a very busy life. Tots and Toys is a nursery group run by Liz which I was very involved in before Covid. Liz still keeps us busy with prep work for the kiddies' crafting and we're always more than happy to lend a hand. 'Exploring Faith' is a small group that meets on Tuesday afternoons; all manner of faith topics are tackled and discussed relating to today's challenges. We often screen videos of prominent people inside and outside of the church and review the contents, and this can be very enlightening; additionally, there's always tea and cake, a staple of Chinnor life. Bible Study via Zoom on Thursdays is always an event I look forward to. Our host Rev Richard Atkinson is such a wonderful man with a bottomless pit of knowledge, but still keeps proceedings light and refreshing. The group are from several churches in the Circuit, therefore my circle of friends has extended further.

We have some wonderful Ministers, Preachers and readers on our Circuit: all different but all inspirational, and I have a high regard for all and feel honoured in my role as Communion Steward to serve when needed. One of my happiest recent memories was of my Confirmation into the church, surrounded by friends and family, especially as my sister and her husband travelled from Co Durham; it was a truly wonderful day.

So, please rejoice with me in all that Chinnor Methodist Church and the community has given me over the last few years.

Ann Fassom.

I think it's fair to say that without the Methodist church in Chinnor, my day-to-day life in Chinnor would be much less rewarding and fulfilled. My wife Ann's involvement with the church and its wonderful patrons has given me the opportunity to build a close circle of friends inside and outside of church life. I've played guitar for many years, but not in an organised group situation so, when asked, I was more than happy to join in with the church band; that was about 5 years ago so I think I must have passed the audition. On average we play in services about 2 or 3 times a month. It can be challenging but great fun also; additionally, we are called upon to play in united church services throughout the year. Playing music is a major passion in my life so, needless to say, this is very fulfilling. As a consequence of playing in the church band many other musical opportunities have arisen outside of church life and, so, I find myself in several other musical groups.

I've always been adept at DIY and 'fixing' things so, from the first time I volunteered to repair a kiddy's toy for the CMC day nursery Tots and Toys, I've found myself in regular demand. I get great satisfaction from being able to extend the life of things that the kiddies love but it doesn't stop there. With Christian groups associated with church, I often find myself crafting props for their annual events as well as attending these events and lending a hand when and where required. I consider this my way of giving back to the church and community all that I've got from my association as a friend of the church. Never seeing these projects as a task, I always look forward to the next. Great thanks to Chinnor Methodists and its associates and all the wonderful people involved for opening all these doors to the opportunities that help keep me fulfilled.

Ian Fassom.



ECO CHURCH MEETING: Thursday, 22nd May at 7.30pm Rooms 4/5 in AMC Community Centre.

The Northampton District is supporting the target of the Methodist Church to become a net zero carbon emissions Church by 2030, in recognition of the Climate Emergency and its call for the UK to achieve net zero emission well before 2050.

At the last Church Council meeting, it was agreed to hold an **Extra-ordinary meeting** to begin discussions to introduce an Environmental Policy and set up an 'Action for Hope' Working Group toward becoming an Eco Church

It was agreed to open this up to any of the congregation who are interested in these issues, and wish to take part.

There are copies of the document available, in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for anyone who is interested.

Please let Jackie Simpson-Tyda, our Church Council Secretary, know if you are planning to come. 07834 780543. <u>jackiesimpson88@gmail.com</u>

Please do come along to the meeting to share your thoughts and ideas!



Do come along to an enjoyable afternoon of music from Stage & Screen from our excellent Ellesborough Silver Band! They never disappoint!!

We shall need a few volunteers to help to usher people in, collect donations at the door, and serve refreshments during the break,

Also offers of donations of home-made cake, please.

Please let Shirley know if you can offer help. Thank you.

Don't forget your donations for the Aylesbury Foodbank

detergent pods.

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



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

Tues	22 April	9.30am	Chair Yoga
		2.00pm	Banner Group
		6.00pm	Boys' Brigade
Thurs	24 April	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
		From 1.45pm	Blood Donor sessions
Frid	25 April	10.00am	Friday Feathers Badminton Club

Sunday 27th April 2025

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				