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
07300 105 277
revrja@outlook.com
Church Office: 01296 426526
E-mail: office@aylesburymethodists.org.uk
Website: www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk

Sunday 15th March 2026

8.45am: Communion service led by Rev Richard Atkinson.
10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Andrew Shergold.

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, this morning, are Jackie Simpson-Tyda at 8.45am, and Gill Nord and Andy Gilbert at 10.30am.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee, and a biscuit.
(Oat milk now available. Please ask.)

Hymns	**8.45am: 88 369 459 10.30am: Unavailable**
Readings	**8.45am: Eph 5: 8-14** **10.30am: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13 St Paul's Apophasis 5: 8-16**
Organist	**8.45am: Derrick Matthews 10.30am: David Brooker**
Streaming	**To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live-streamed services will not show the congregation.**

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.

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.

Those of you who remember the 'Twenties Group' days (late 1960's+) will be sad to hear that Tony Holwill died on 13th March after a short illness.
In 1972 Tony married Janet Mahy (also of Twenties Group) and they moved up to Marple in Cheshire.
The funeral is at Marple Methodist Church on 23rd March. Further details from Roger or Sue Kirk (both ex Twenties Group.)

Offering Envelopes for the year beginning 12 April.

The new offering envelopes are in the Welcome Space. Please take yours and also anyone else's who are not at church but who you could deliver to.
Many thanks, David Neville.

Would you like help exploring the Bible - a place where you can just listen or join the debate?

There are two circuit-wide groups that meet by Zoom; one on a **Tuesday at 7.30pm** and the other on a **Thursday at 2pm**, where we meet to reflect on what the Scriptures say.

We aim to keep it light; all questions answered, no knowledge expected. There are times of good discussion, others of corporate bewilderment, and some interesting tangential excursions.

If you would like to join, we will be starting to look at Isaiah 40 very soon, which talks much about the coming Messiah and there is a rising crescendo of hope for the remnant returning from exile.

Richard Atkinson is the person to talk to if you would like any more information.

Please note that NEXT SUNDAY'S notice sheet will be printed earlier in the week – early on Wednesday morning, 18th March.

Update of Pastoral Records.

Most forms have now been completed and returned, but there are still some people who've not yet completed one of the cream forms, so that we can update our pastoral records. **Spare forms can be found in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space.** We need your current address, telephone numbers and email addresses. The forms can be given to Richard or one of the Church Stewards. The information will be private and stored on a password-protected computer, and paper copies destroyed.

Foundation Safeguarding Training

Foundation training is available in the circuit on the following dates. Locations are limited to churches with internet and projection facilities:

Thursday March 19th 7.30-9.30 pm at Aylesbury Methodist Church
Tuesday March 24th 10-12 at Aylesbury Methodist Church
***Sunday 19th April 2-4 pm at Chinnor Methodist Church**
Thursday 30th April 2-4 pm at Aylesbury Methodist Church

The following post holders require current Foundation Training, so if you last completed this course before 2022, then you are required to attend. The Methodist Church requires that all post holders complete training, even if they have completed training with other organisations and voluntary groups.

- Lay employees and volunteer workers with pastoral responsibility
- Pastoral visitors
- Anyone working with children in the name of the Church
- Anyone working in activities targeted at adults who are vulnerable (e.g. luncheon club for the housebound)
- Church stewards

Warmly invited, but not mandatory:

- property stewards and other keyholders
- caretakers
- Church meeting secretaries

NB: If you hold a position requiring Advanced training, then you do not need to complete the Foundation Course, but you must ensure your Advanced training is up to date.

To book a place on the course, please email
louiseatkinson91@outlook.com
wright.dawn2@gmail.com
Or phone Richard on 07300 105277

*****[If you are booking for Chinnor, please be aware of the lack of parking on site. Side roads which are useful for parking are Glynswood and Van Diemens Close.]

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

2nd April - MAUNDY THURSDAY: 6.30pm Holy Communion & Meal (see below)

3rd April - GOOD FRIDAY: 10.00am Service

5th April - EASTER DAY: 9.00am: Easter Breakfast (pre-book)
10.30am: Easter Day Communion service

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

Maundy Thursday If you would like to take part, menus choices will be available soon for you to book.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

A full English Breakfast* cooked by the SOS team has become an established part of our Easter tradition, and this year is no different; it's a mixture of food and fellowship to start this wonderful day of celebration. As in previous years, with your help we will be raising funds for the Whitechapel Mission. Tickets are priced at £7.00 and are on sale during Lent at AMC or ring Lynn or Derek on 420817 to book your place. * a vegetarian option is available.

Karibuni Children

Last year Karibuni Children put on a number of events to mark the charity's thirtieth anniversary. One was a charity concert at Wycombe Swan Theatre featuring the LP Swing Orchestra. Their programme, entitled '100 years of Big Bands', involved a range of familiar big band musical numbers and songs.

This concert was greatly enjoyed by a large audience, and a **follow-up concert at Wycombe Swan Theatre has been booked for Sunday 31st May at 3pm.**

Tickets can be booked online https://trafalgartickets.com/wycombe-swan-theatre/en-GB/event/music/another-100-years-of-big-bands-tickets or by telephone (0343 310 0060).

Seat prices - Standard: £36.50, Under 16 / Student / Over 60: £33.50.

FRIEND

He told me that his love is all around
He told me that we can find his love
He told me that we should live in peace
He told me that we can be released.

He gives us sunlight day by day
He gives us love hour by hour
He wipes the tears from our faces
He holds us close in the dark of night.

He guides us through all our darkest fears
He guides us through our lonely years
He gives us strength when our spirits fail
He gives us hope from the blessed nail.

He takes our hands when we stumble and fall
He guides our spirit when we face the dawn
He protects the lonely and those who live in fear
He will never leave us; we will hold him dear.

Nick Aylen,
March 2026.

How to pray for your children

'Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord..,Jesus Christ.'

2 Peter 3:18 NKJV

The Bible says, 'In the last days will come…times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]' (2 Timothy 3:1 AMPC).

We don't have to look far to see that Scripture fulfilled.
It's why we need to pray for the physical and spiritual safety of our children; that they may 'grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord…Jesus Christ.'

Heather Riggleman writes: 'As you and I watch the news, we weep, we cry out in anger, and then we wonder, "How we can protect our kids…?"
We wonder if it's safe to send [them] out the front door. We question whether the world is falling apart. And nothing is more terrifying than the realisation that we cannot protect them from life.

While we cannot hide our children away from the world, we can…shield them in far greater ways than wrapping them in a plastic bubble or locking them in their rooms for the rest of their lives…We can intercede for [them], praying for wisdom, protection, peace, and strength.'

Remember, wherever we are gathered and praying, Jesus is in our midst (see Matthew 18:19-20). Paul said, 'Put on every piece of God's armour so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil…Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers' (Ephesians 6:13, 18 NLT).
When you pray like that, God is bound to honour His Word. Keep covering your kids in prayer – and don't give up, no matter how bad things in the world get.

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.

Have you handed in your little Home Collecting Box yet? Please either hand in the box for us to open, or bring the contents to church in a plastic bag, **clearly marked with your name,** for us to count. Pauline Noble and Jennie Torpey will be very pleased to receive it. Any queries, ring Pauline 01296 484940 or Jennie 01296 581414. If you do not have a box and would like one at home to put in small amounts of loose change, please ask Pauline.

PARKING: A reminder that the limited Church car parking spaces should be left for those with poor mobility.
To ensure the way is clear for wheelchairs, etc to pass,
please do not double-park, or park right up by the rear doors on the paving slabs by the fire exit.

SOS stands for 'Sometimes on Sunday' as we are a group made up of both regular Church goers and others who are not - all are welcome! We get together at each other's homes, with the evening based around fellowship and food. Sometimes there is a theme for the food but not always; it's more important to be there. Usually we start at 7 o'clock, and all that's needed is a call to the host.
Saturday March 28th at the home of Marilyn and Nick Storer, we have the theme of 'French' for this evening. Their contact number is 01296 622656.

Don't forget your donations for the Aylesbury Foodbank.
Currently, the greatest need is for: ***Tinned or Packet Custard, Tinned Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Rice Pudding, Tinned Meat, Strong Carrier Bags.***
But all donations are welcome. *Toiletries, washing up liquid & laundry detergent pods are always needed.*

CHURCH READINGS: March – May 2026. *There are still a few gaps in the sheet 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.

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, 10.45am-12 noon, 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

The Coffee Bar in the Welcome Space is usually open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am – 12 noon.

Mon	16 March	6.15pm 6.30 – 8.00pm	Girls' Brigade Food Hub
Tues	17 March	9.30am 10.45am 6.00pm	Chair Yoga Tuesday Prayer Group Boys' Brigade
Thurs	19 March	10.30am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
Frid	20 March	2.30pm	Friday Feathers Badminton Club

Sunday 22nd March 2026

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 must not 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)