

# **VALE OF AYLESBURY**

## **METHODIST CIRCUIT**

## **MAGAZINE**



**Stoke Mandeville (see page 11 )**

**October November  
December  
2018**

## PASTORIAL LETTER



### Rev Helen Kirk

A few months ago, we were up in Hull for my parents' 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It was a lovely celebration of my mum & dad's life together; a chance for all the generations of one family to be under one roof (quite an achievement when you consider it involves 4 children, 11 grandchildren and currently 12 great grandchildren); it was also a chance to meet Mum & Dad's friends, some of whom I knew and others who I had only heard of but felt I knew. You see although I hadn't met them I had heard so much about them: I knew that John didn't like spicy food; grew his own vegetables; had a son living in Australia and walked everywhere. I knew that Margaret had had an operation on her hand; used to be a teacher of special needs children and lived with her daughter & two grandchildren; I knew that Dorothy loved ballroom dancing, did yoga three times a week and was getting married for the 4<sup>th</sup> time. I knew all of this despite only meeting them for the first time at the party; I knew them because my parents had told me all about them; they were always sharing stories of the people they spend their time with.

There is nothing unusual in this; we tell stories of those who are part of our lives all the time, but it did make me wonder why we are so reluctant to share the stories we have of another friend; one who is part of our lives, one who is important to us and makes a huge difference to us – Jesus.

Why, when we willingly share stories of other friends, is Jesus the friend we keep quiet about? Do we fear that people will think we're bonkers? As if we still had an imaginary friend?

And yet we declare on Sundays that this relationship matters. Is it our upbringing? Good manners have taught us that we should never talk about religion in polite company? Yet isn't this one relationship that defines our life more than any other?

A few months later I found myself at a social event with a glass of wine in my hand (don't tell the Methodists!) and someone asked me what I did for a living; I told them, and after all the usual comments about 'But Christians are miserable and shouldn't be at a party!' I was asked why I was a minister.

At this point I usually stumble around talking vaguely about God and the church and calling but this time I simply said, 'because of Jesus.'

My companion's answer surprised me: 'Tell me about Jesus'. And so, I did. I told him about my fascination with Jesus; the things he had said and done, and the impact Jesus had had on my life. My companion thanked me and replied 'That was the first time anyone has ever told me anything about Jesus'.

Now, I don't think for a minute my companion became a Christian on the strength of my words; maybe he will take away my stories of Jesus and recollect them at another time – a mustard seed growing in his life? What I do know is that it felt really good to talk about a friend; a friend who I love, who challenges my life to be better, who offers me strength and courage when I have none, who brings great joy to my life; it was liberating to share a story about my friend with another.

This year as a circuit we will be continuing to think about how we share our faith both as churches and as individuals. We will share ideas and develop strategies; hold meetings and create growth plans and hopefully this will be inspiring and exciting. However, in the middle of all this policy-making let us not forget that we all have a story to share; a friend to tell others about because, at the end of the day, that's all evangelism really is.

## **CIRCUIT MINISTERS**

**Rev. Helen Kirk** (Superintendent) Tel:01296 488963

Email: revhelenkirk@sky.com

With Pastoral Care of the Aylesbury Methodist Church and Community Centre and Wingrave

**Rev. Donna-Marie Broadbent-Kelly** (Probationer Presbyter)

Tel:01525 240589

Email: rev.donnabk@gmail.com

With pastoral care of: Cheddington, Stewkley,

Stoke Hammond, and Swanbourne

**Rev. Keith Edwards** 01296 423363

Email: ulysee798@gmail.com

With pastoral care of: North Marston (LEP),

Princes Risborough, Stoke Mandeville, Stone, Weedon (LEP),

Waddesdon, Whitchurch.

**Rev Anthony Howells**, (Authorised minister),

Tel: 01296 424980

Email: ah@hobbit.ndo.co.uk

With pastoral care of the Ecumenical Church at Fairford Leys

**Rev Dr. Romilly Micklem** , (Authorised minister),

Tel 01844 202425 minister@rwm32.plus.com With Pastoral care of Thame (Christchurch) Chinnor, Cuddington and Haddenham

**Rev Olufemi R W Cole-Njie** (Temporary stationing by

Conference) kenfem.njie@gmail.com

## **SUPERNUMERARY MINISTER**

**Rev Dr Hayford Ofori-Attah** 01296 749172

hoforiattah@btinternet.com

## **Ministers' Rest Days:**

Rev Helen Kirk ..... Friday  
Rev Donna-Marie Broadbent-Kelly ..... Friday  
Rev Keith Edwards ..... Wednesday  
Rev Anthony Howells ..... Friday  
Rev Romilly Micklem ..... Monday

Please respect their days off and avoid contacting them except in an emergency.

## **Dates For this Quarter:**

***Saturday 6th October 2018, From 8-00am at Princes Risborough—Prayer Breakfast***

***Sunday 16th December 4.30pm at Stewkley—Christingle***

***Tuesday 25th December 9.30am at Stewkley - Morning Service***

## **CIRCUIT PRAYER DIARY**

### **ON THE FOLLOWING DAY EACH MONTH PLEASE PRAY FOR:-**

- 1 Aylesbury Church and the community it serves
- 2 Cheddington Church and the community it serves
- 3 Chinnor Church and the community it serves
- 4 Cuddington Church and the community it serves
- 5 Fairford Leys Church and the community it serves
- 6 Haddenham Church and the community it serves
- 7 North Marston Church and the community it serves
- 8 Princes Risborough Church and the community it serves
- 9 Stewkley Church and the community it serves
- 10 Stoke Hammond Church and the community it serves
- 11 Stoke Mandeville Church and the community it serves
- 12 Stone Church and the community it serves
- 13 Swanbourne Church and the community it serves
- 14 Christchurch, Thame and the community it serves
- 15 Waddesdon Church and the community it serves
- 16 Weedon & Hardwick Churches and the communities they serve
- 17 Whitchurch Church and the community it serves
- 18 Wingrave Church and the community it serves
- 19 Our Circuit Leadership Team
- 20 Our Ministerial Team and their families
- 21 Those involved in Hospital, Prison Ministry and Town Centre Chaplaincy
- 22 Our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders
- 23 Youth work around the Circuit
- 24 Relations with local Christians
- 25 Those who have been bereaved
- 26 People who are ill
- 27 People caught up in natural disasters
- 28 People living in conflict situations
- 29 The life of our nation and those who lead
- 30 Action to protect the global environment

## Onward with Tuesday Fellowship

In the early spring of 2018, it seemed pretty hopeless. The future of the Tuesday Fellowship at Aylesbury Methodist Church was at stake. Of course, we were all getting older. We had lost eight members during the last year. Two of our most active ones were no longer with us and Pearl Riley, our faithful secretary, felt that she was now entitled to take a back seat, after her long years of service. Although we usually had twelve or more at our meetings, it was likely that we would have to disband in the summer.

During a Bible study, our group looked at the parable of the fig tree. In it the owner of the vineyard, where it grew, told the man who cared for it, to cut it down. The man pleaded with him, asking him to save it, so then he said, "Well, dig around it and fertilise it, but if it does not bear fruit next year, cut it down."

I felt sad. Was the Tuesday Fellowship like that fig tree? We had tried our best. Was it really going to die in a few months time? I had enjoyed many happy times within this group of friends. I should miss seeing them. But then, it was not only about me.

I so often when I pray, try to remember that Jesus taught us to ask, not for what we think ought to happen. We are only to seek God's will. I prayed, "Dear God, show us what we should do about the future of the Tuesday Fellowship." We all prayed.

Then, out of the blue, it seemed to me, at a meeting in the early summer, Coral Soulsby said she would be willing to take on the secretary's role, if she had some help. That is how our dreaded Annual General Meeting came to be turned into a joyful occasion. Everyone had contributed to a party for Pearl, as a reward for her hard work over many years and we were assured that the Tuesday Fellowship will continue and hopefully go from strength to strength.

Thank you, God for listening to our prayers and may God bless Pearl, Coral and us all.

Angela M. Smith





**Coffee Morning**  
**At**  
**Princes Risborough**  
**Methodist Church**  
**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
**10.30am 12-30pm**  
**Everyone Welcome**



## **Cheddington News December 2018**

We continue to give thanks for the blessings that are bestowed upon us in Cheddington.

We had a wonderful afternoon of fellowship getting ready for the decoration of the hall and were delighted that, with an average age of 80+, we were still able to move furniture in preparation. For the removal of mountains of course, we do recognise that we will need help from our Good Lord and that He has that in hand.

The redecoration has now been completed, thanks in part to the generosity of village organisations who have given us financial support for this project and the kindness of our local decorator, who will help us to return items of furnishings to their original location.

Our 5 year plan is well underway with 2 of our members willing to join the Worship Leaders course; a Messy Church monthly Bible story Film Extra planned and in conjunction with our Anglican friends we will produce an invitation to services card highlighting 'What's on offer' in both churches. Watch out for news of our 'Angel Bombing' addition to our outdoors Nativity Scene. So many people will be involved in this, from the youngest to the oldest.

We recognise the support given to us by Donna, our minister, the Circuit and in particular the purchase of The Vine which is giving our LA services an additional dimension.

So much to be grateful for as we come to the end of 2018 and so much to look forward to in 2019 with God's help and blessing

# KARIBUNI: WHAT'S ON AUTUMN 2018

ELLESBOROUGH SILVER BAND  
FAIRFORD LEYS CHURCH  
13TH OCTOBER 7.30PM



THE LAID BACK  
BAND AND GROUP  
THERAPY  
AYLESBURY  
METHODIST  
CHURCH  
10TH NOVEMBER  
7.30PM



WYCOMBE  
COMMUNITY CHOIR  
AYLESBURY  
METHODIST CHURCH  
8TH DECEMBER

7.30PM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ALL OUR  
EVENTS: 01296 614887 OR  
[WWW.KARIBUNI.ORG.UK](http://WWW.KARIBUNI.ORG.UK)



## COVER STORY

The Stoke Mandeville Church is probably the last church to be built in the Circuit with the exception of the church at Fairford Leys. It replaced a building opened in 1815.

Our active membership has been reduced lately due to a number of factors so we ask for your support and prayers as we seek a way forward.

Although our numbers are small, we make a significant contribution to Circuit life. As we are fairly central in the circuit and have a decent car park, we are able to host a number of large meetings. We also house the global office of **KARIBUNI CHILDREN**.

The Cover Picture shows our hall being used for one of the training sessions for the **Safeguarding Refresher Course**.

During the past year we have hosted The **Circuit Meeting**, The **Worship Leaders and Local Preachers Meeting** and the very important **Circuit Consultation Meeting** when 74 members and



friends from all round the circuit gathered to exchange ideas and inspiration in order to respond to the



Conference call for a plan for the future. The evening was led by Keith, Donna and Peter.

We hope you found the evening useful and inspirational.

By the time you read this we will have hosted the first two **Worship Leader Training** sessions and we hope to see you at the other sessions that will take place before Christmas.



Our **First Friday Lunches** continue to attract a good number of folk from the village and the circuit. We hope we can develop more contacts with the local community, including our friends at St Marys.



## WHERE and WHEN TO MEET AROUND THE CIRCUIT

For a chat over a Cuppa or even a Meal



Aylesbury	Mon. To Sat. 10.00 am - 12 noon	Tea and Coffee
Cheddington	Open Doors— Fridays  10.00 am	Tea, Coffee , Light Refreshments & Fellowship
Fairford Leys	Saturdays 10.30 am - 12.00 noon	Coffee Morning coffee/tea and biscuits
Haddenham	Tuesdays 10.00 am - 12.00 noon	Maisie's Coffee Morning Fairtrade goods, bring and buy items usually on sale
North Marston - Wesley Centre	Friday 10am-12pm 2nd Wednesday in month 12pm-2pm.	Coffee mornings  Monthly Lunches
Stewkley	3rd Saturday each month 12 noon - 1.30 pm	Treat yourself to a 2 course lunch with tea or coffee for £7.50
Stoke Hammond	Wednesday 10.30 - 11.45 am	Coffee Morning
Stoke Mandeville	Most Fridays 2.00 - 4.00 pm Monthly: First Fridays 12.00 - 2.00 pm	'POP-IN' for a cup of tea/ coffee and a chat.  Light lunches £3.50
Thame Christchurch	Tuesdays & Fridays 10.00 am - 12 noon	Coffee Mornings

Waddesdon	Alternate Tuesdays. 11.00 am - 2.00 pm	Light lunches
Wingrave	Alternate Tuesdays	Nup End Cafe Lunches

## **Other Special Gatherings**

Cheddington	Mondays 9.30 -11.00 am (except holidays)	The Toast Baby & Toddler Group
Stewkley	Wednesday 10.30 – 11.30 am  Friday 7.30pm	Daisy Club for children from birth to school age— term time only.  Mutual Fellowship - Oct 12th & 26th, Nov 9th & 23rd and Dec 14th. Various Speakers. Contact John Jones 01525 217795
Swanbourne	Fridays 10-30am in the Chapel: stories, songs, prayers, nibbles, ba- bies, toddlers, mums & carers all very welcome	Pram Service will con- tinue—for next Services Contact : Frankie Fisher on 720454
Whitchurch	Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon 'Little Steps' fun for babies, toddlers and parents.	A mums & toddler group meeting. With toys, crafts music and snacks. Everyone is welcome.

## **LEARNING AND GROWING**

### **Aylesbury**

J Team (Sunday School) Sundays 10.30 am  
Contact: Mrs. Vivienne Kemp 01296 399315  
Girls Brigade Mondays 6.15 - 7.30 pm  
Contact: Sarah Davidge 01296 437852  
Banner Group Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00 pm  
Contact: Mrs. Brenda Horne 01296 428580  
Tuesday Fellowship 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 2.30 - 3.45 pm  
Contact: Mrs. Pearl Riley 01296 483547  
Boys Brigade Tuesdays 6.00 - 9.00 pm  
Contact: Mr Steve Kemp 01296 399315

### **Monthly Bible Study:**

Dates to be advised on website

### **Chinnor: Regular Activities**

#### **Weekly:**

Activity Club (Youth club for 7-11yr olds)  
Thurs 6.30 - 8.00 pm (term time)  
Traidcraft (Fairtrade) sales  
Bring and Buy table for nominated charities (Sunday)

#### **Fortnightly:**

Friday 7.00 - 9.00 pm (fortnightly) Friday Night Club (all ages)  
Table Tennis, Scrabble, Pizza etc.

#### **Monthly:**

Exploring Faith. Monday 8.00 - 9.30 pm

### **Ecumenical Groups/ Activities:**

#### **Fortnightly:**

Mothers Bible Study 10.00 am -12.00 noon  
on Tues. or Weds. morning for mums  
Mums prayer group: Friday 9 - 9.30 am - for those attending  
St Andrew's School  
Ignite - Sunday 7.30 - 9.00 pm for 14yr olds to explore faith  
and life issues

## **Haddenham**

### **Monthly:**

Haddenham Fellowship Group— evening meetings, Contact Mrs Mary White 01844 291677

## **Princes Risborough**

### **Fortnightly:**

SALT (Sharing And Learning Together) Meets in homes on Thursdays

### **Monthly:**

"TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP - We meet at the Church on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Church at 2.00 pm for a time of Fellowship together with a varied programme, followed by a cup of tea and chat, everyone is welcome to join us. Contact Pam Scott 01844 346857

See... the **Circuit Website** for details of these meetings.

## **Stoke Mandeville**

### **Fortnightly:**

The Open Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Thursday in the month

Everyone is welcome to these meetings for an hour of fellowship, followed naturally by a cup of tea.

Table-tennis may normally be played from 7.00 to 9.00 pm in the main hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays in most months.

## **Stone**

### **Monthly:**

The Fourth Tuesday Fellowship meets at 2.30 pm

Contact Mrs. Sue Spinks 01296 748369

## **Waddesdon**

### **Monthly:**

1st. Monday Friendship Club especially for the Over 50s meeting at 2.30 - 4.30 pm. This is very much a social get together and anyone is welcome.

Contact Barbara Warne 01296 651417.

*/Over*

## **LEARNING AND GROWING**

### **Weedon**

**Monthly:** Monday Bible Study Group

### **Thame Christchurch.**

#### **Weekly**

Bible Study on Thursday at 7.30 pm

#### **Fortnightly**

Church Singers on 2nd and 4th Monday at 7.45 pm

#### **Monthly**

WIT (Women in Thame) on Monday at 7.30 pm Varied programme of talks, activities, and a visit to the theatre.

# **Parentalk**

**THE PRIMARY YEARS**

## **Family & Youth Work at AMC**

**Aylesbury Methodist Church and Centre**  
Buckingham Street  
Aylesbury  
HP20 2NQ

## **Let's Cook!**

Being a parent is one of life's greatest joys, but it is also one of its biggest challenges. Parentalk is for parents of children aged up to the early teenage years, giving you the opportunity to talk about the day-to-day challenges you face, as well as sharing the things that are going well.



### **What can you expect from Parentalk?**

Parents can have the opportunity to share experiences

Explore parenting principles

DVDs – Watch real life stories and animations

Humorous dramas

Opportunities to befriend other parents and more.

**Let's Cook** will provide the opportunity to cook, bake and eat together. **Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.**

**Please email Mel for a registration form:**

**Mel Brown**

**Family and Youth Worker**

**Email: familyworker.amc@mail.com**

**Mobile:077-171-21887**

**For further information contact Mel via the methods above**

## Summer Activities at Princes Risborough 2018

A number of activities have taken place and a number are planned to raise the profile of Princes Risborough Methodist Church in and around Princes Risborough.



The first activity was a "Coffee Morning" this was held on Saturday 14th July. It was organised by "The Men of The Church" the event was well attended, and a great atmosphere of fellowship was experienced. A significant number of non-church members were "drawn" in for coffee and made most welcome.

The next activity aimed at raising our profile in Princes Risborough was a "Summer Concert and Afternoon Tea".



The concert was given by "Downley Descant", a community choir directed by Louise Langley LRAM.



The church was full, the concert was excellent as was the tea provided by members of the church. The weather was brilliant, and many people took the opportunity to enjoy the tea in the garden of the church. The event attracted visitors from Princes Risborough who did not regularly attend a place of worship. Everyone was made very welcome and once again an atmosphere of good fellowship was experienced. The event raised over £400.00 for the churches charity fund.

Other activities have taken place within the fellowship of the church.



A church barbecue lunch was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.



It was well attended; the food was excellent as was the weather and the church garden venue.

# Traidcraft Fair Trade Catalogue

Thinking of others at Christmas?????

Browse through the TRAIDCRAFT catalogue for your Fairly Traded Christmas gifts and essentials.

Cards - Paper - Wraps - Clothes -Food  
Confectionery - Household goods  
Jewellery - Gifts  
Hand crafted products  
Organic products available  
Recycled glassware

For your copy or further detail contact  
**ROD THORPE (01844 351565)**  
or visit  
[www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk)

(NB orders made via Rod Thorpe incur no delivery charge and 10% of product price goes to Christian Aid)



# Transforming Young Kenyan Lives

Registered UK Charity Number 1044872  
[www.karibuni.org.uk](http://www.karibuni.org.uk)

Mr R Kirk  
Aylesbury Methodist Church  
77 Aylesbury Road  
Bierton  
AYLESBURY  
Buckinghamshire  
HP22 5BT

**Reference the ‘Songs of  
Praise’ service on July 22nd**

25<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear Roger

Thank you so much for donating the collection from the recent circuit service held at Aylesbury Methodist Church to Karibuni Children. The amount of £393.23 is a welcome boost to our finances and is gratefully acknowledged. Please pass on our thanks to all of your members.

We do appreciate the continuing support of people at Aylesbury Methodist church and circuit; you will be well aware of the challenges we face and so your work on our behalf and on behalf of the children in Kenya is very welcome.

We are always very much aware of the seemingly unending needs in the slums of Kenya, but also we are encouraged by the fact that children in our care are continuing to do well in their studies and we hear some inspirational tales of lives transformed. We thank God for all that is achieved.

We are thankful for faithful, loyal supporters like you who enable the work to continue.

With thanks and best wishes to you,

Yours sincerely

Peter Wells, for Karibuni Children



## ACTS 29 – Northampton District Youth Event

In February approximately 100 young people from around the Northampton District, met for an exciting afternoon in Northampton for 'Acts 29.' Using various methods and activities, we explored and developed our understanding of who we are as 'God's People.' The young people were encouraged to reflect on who God is to them; who they really are; and what they could do in the world.

It was an energetic event, with vibrant worship, thoughtful reflections, drama, group work, crafts, games and a lot more. Prayer stations were placed around the church, so that the groups could express their requests and pray for others at different points of the day.

Creating a space where young people can meet other Christians, express their faith and enjoy themselves is essential. It encourages their faith, gives them a sense of belonging and reaffirms that there are other young people in other places who share the same beliefs as they do.

Over the coming months I am hoping that we can create spaces across the Vale of Aylesbury, where young people around the Circuit can meet, have fun, share faith and build relationships. It will go a long way in encouraging and showing them that they are not alone.

Many of us ‘older folks’ can probably attest to the value of having friends with the same beliefs when we were younger. I journeyed with friends near and far, drawing strength and encouragement from knowing that there were more young people out there like me. Those friendships were invaluable and they still remain.



## SO.....

Let’s do our best to create spaces around the Circuit, where young people can meet and build friendships; and let’s encourage them to go to District and National events.



23rd to 25th November at Pontins, Southport.

Booking opened on 24<sup>th</sup> April The Methodist Church website.

**Aylesbury Circuit Youth Events Coming soon!**

*Melvina Brown*

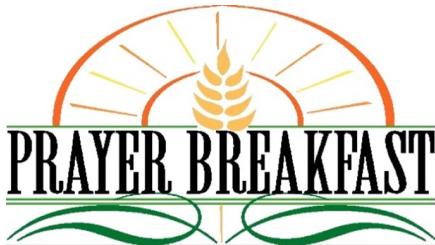


**Prayer Breakfast**  
At  
**Princes Risborough  
Methodist Church**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018**  
**From 8-00am**

**Everyone Welcome**





Provides an Opportunity for:

A Time of Prayer

A Time of Silence

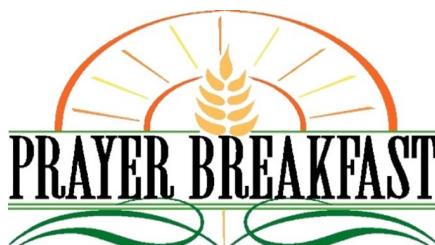
A Time of Quietness

A Time of Reflection

A Time of Meditation

A Time of Friendship

A Time of Fellowship



## Circuit Youth Event!

The Circuit Youth Event was held on July 7th. We kicked off the evening with prayer and worship led by Casey Leigh and the band from Aylesbury Vale Community Church (AVCC). The band helped to create a wonderful atmosphere from the very start by leading the group in a session of worship. The evening was divided into four sections: Donna encouraged the groups to think about and give



thanks for the things they were good at; and she led them in prayer about the areas which they thought they needed to develop. Keith shared a talk on Psalm 139:14, expanding on our theme, 'Be the best version of you.' Mel ran a drama activity, where the young people planned and demonstrated their interpretation of the theme; the younger group later performed their sketch to the entire group. Casey and Zac delivered a singing and music session; Casey taught the group a new song; whilst Zac gave a brief tutorial on how to play the drum box to a beat. 13 children and young people attended the event; the support from AVCC was overwhelming. Everyone confirmed that they enjoyed

the evening; friendships were formed and faith was encouraged.

Providing an opportunity for children and young people from around the Circuit, to get to know each other and experience faith forming exercises is invaluable. Widening their circle of Christian

friends will help to reaffirm that they are not on their own, but there are other young people in different places who share the same beliefs with similar experiences. I hope that in the future more of our children and young people around the Circuit, will take the opportunity to build friendships and share in faith building experiences together.





## Albert Stanley Gibbons

On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August about 150 people gathered at Stewkley Chapel to celebrate the life of, and to say farewell to, Stan Gibbons who had, after a short while in hospital passed away peacefully on 7<sup>th</sup> August. Methodist Church. The service was conducted by Rev Dr Jonathan Hustler, ably assisted by Rev Donna Broadbent-Kelly and a short tribute was given by Mervyn Appleby.

Stan grew up in North London where he was a member of the Boys' Brigade and later came into the Methodist Church, after volunteering for a concert party organised by Rev Jack Kaye who he met while working in Yorkshire. This eventually led to him becoming a local preacher; a role he played for 60 years. Most of us remember Stan as an excellent and highly respected preacher and a great support to the Churches in the Circuit. He was, for some while, a Circuit Steward for the Leighton Buzzard Circuit and had remained good friends with many of the ministers who served during his time in this position. I am sure they and many local preachers appreciated his help and support which were always happily given.

Stan and his wife Pam moved to Stewkley over forty years ago when he was working as a quantity surveyor for the company dealing with Milton Keynes centre and have remained in the same house ever since.

We all have our own special memories of Stan, who was always good company, very welcoming and a very good friend. Aside from his service to the Methodist Church he had a great interest in sport. He was a lifelong supporter of Arsenal Football Club, a keen cricket fan and member of Middlesex County Cricket Club, he also loved to play golf, becoming a member of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club when he retired. Stan could always be relied upon to tell many interesting stories involving his personal sporting experiences, his life in general and his association with the Methodist Church

# Friday Night Youth Group



Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>, October 26<sup>th</sup>,  
November 23<sup>rd</sup>, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
7pm - 9pm

**Who is it for?** Anyone in Secondary School.

**Cost?** £1

**Coming?** Please let Hannah or Charlie know.

**Adult Volunteers?** Would you like to be on a rota  
and **volunteer** to help? Please contact Mel  
[familyworker.amc@mail.com](mailto:familyworker.amc@mail.com)

Come and  
join us for:



At 4.00 pm



Lets Get Messy!

**Messy Church will be on:**

Saturday October 20th - I am the light of the world

Saturday November 17th - I am the good  
shepherd

Saturday December 22nd - Messy Christmas! (yeah!!)

Aylesbury Methodist Church,

Buckingham Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2NQ

## BIG THANKS FROM AYLESBURY

When last October's Circuit Meeting supported a £20,000 grant application for Aylesbury's Church Welcome Project they started a very welcome trend. Since then, the £105,000 programme to revamp the church welcome area at Buckingham Street has received further grants from our Northampton District and the wider Methodist Connexion. Other generous support has come from WREN, and Allchurches Trust. Including our own fund-raising so far, this now totals £93,000, enabling us to start the work.



The common denominator for all the grants is the fact that this is not just about improving the appearance of the front of the church and coffee bar, though it will do that. More important is that it will enable us to increase our outreach and enrich the lives of many more people within the town centre and wider communities we seek to serve. How we aim to do that is set out in the brochure we presented to the circuit meeting and our other funders. The Methodist Church's Connexional Grants Committee (CGC), in awarding us the full amount we had requested, said, "The property stream of the CGC were very enthusiastic about your project."



Similar sentiments were expressed by WREN, a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, biodiversity and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund. Established in 1997, WREN has provided over £200m to more than 7,000 community and environmental projects throughout the UK. Penny Horne WREN's local grant manager says: "We are delighted to be supporting the Aylesbury Methodist Church Welcome Project and pleased that our funding from WREN's FCC Community Action Fund will provide such a fantastic facility for the local community. WREN is always happy to consider grant applications for projects that make a difference to local communities and we're really looking forward to seeing this one take shape soon."



Allchurches Trust welcomes inspiring applications from a wide range of organisations promoting Christian principles, our Christian heritage and the good of society. Allchurches Trust Grants Officer, Jeremy Noles, said: "We're really pleased to have been able to offer our support to this project, which will provide a warm and welcoming place for the whole community to come together and a listening ear for those who need it. We were particularly impressed with Aylesbury Methodists' plans to reach out to those who may be feeling isolated or who are struggling within the local area and enable them to connect both with each other in the church space and with the wider world through free internet access."

On timing, we aim to receive tenders back by mid-October, appoint a builder by the end of November, start work early January and complete by Easter. So when you come to support the 34<sup>th</sup> annual organ concert on 8th May 2019, organised by Derrick Matthews and featuring Jonathan and Tom Scott on organ and piano, you can all see the physical changes that your Circuit funding has helped to create. Our plans to deliver our outreach initiatives will be a future topic for this magazine. So thank you for your help thus far and we will appreciate your continued prayerful support.

Peter Green

## **ITEMS FOR THE MAGAZINE:**

**Items for the Jan– March 2019 issue** should be forwarded to the following Email addresses:

Solomon Awadzi 01296 489384

Email: [solokawadzi@hotmail.com](mailto:solokawadzi@hotmail.com)

Items for the Magazine should be copied to Roy Collis see below.

**Please submit Magazine Items by the 15th Nov 2018**

## **AMENDMENTS to CIRCUIT Database:**

Details of changes to existing information in the **Circuit Database** should be sent immediately they occur to:  
Rev Helen Kirk: [revhelenkirk@sky.com](mailto:revhelenkirk@sky.com) and to:  
[r.collis245@btinternet.com](mailto:r.collis245@btinternet.com)

**NB: New names must be accompanied by a Consent Notice**

## **ITEMS FOR PUBLISHING ON THE WEBSITES:**

### **WEBSITE ADDRESSES:**

**Circuit:** [www.aylesburyvale.org.uk](http://www.aylesburyvale.org.uk)

**Aylesbury:** [www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk](http://www.aylesburymethodists.org.uk)

**Fairford Leys:** [www.fairfordleyschurch.org.uk](http://www.fairfordleyschurch.org.uk)

All enquiries or suggestions should be addressed to::

**Peter Green** for the **AMC Website** :

peterb.green@ntlworld.com 01296 424653

**Roy Collis** for the **Circuit Website**:

r.collis245@btinternet.com **01296 630989**

or

**Rev. Keith Edwards** [ulysee798@gmail.com](mailto:ulysee798@gmail.com) **01296 423363**