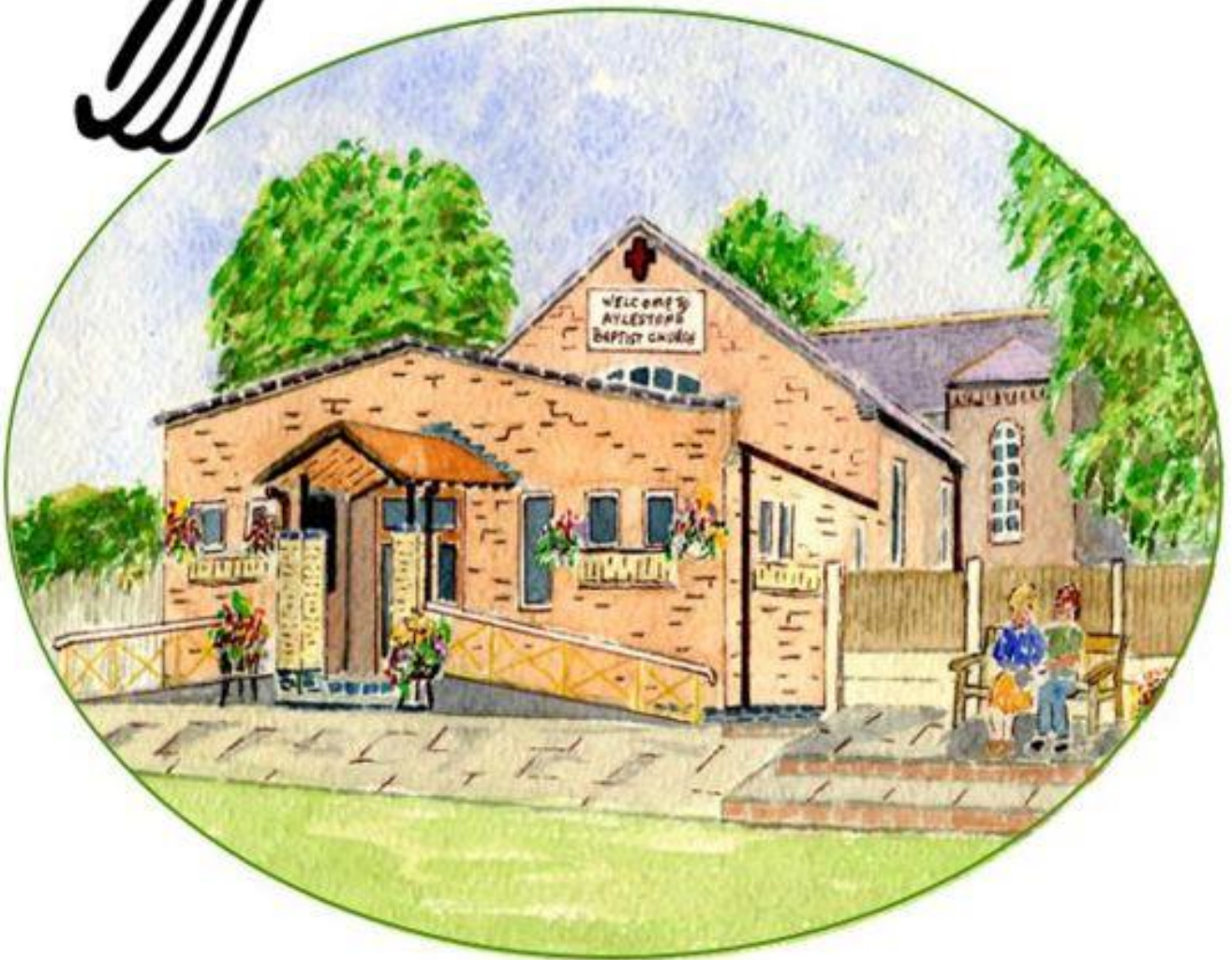




Aylestone Baptist Church
Learning God's Love, Sharing God's Love



**November & December
2019
Church Magazine**

Letter from our Moderator...

Every year, Christmas commercialism starts earlier - it used to be confined to December, but High Street shops and supermarkets begin displaying festive goods in early autumn. It would be easy to become blasé about the whole season but please don't.

Remember what Christmas is really all about: remember the love and grace of a forgiving God who sent us a rescuer in the person of His Son, Jesus.

Imagine what it would be like to hear that, and to celebrate Christmas, for the first time! Nava is an isolated new believer from Iran. Last year was the first time she and her family celebrated Christmas. "It was just me, my mother and my little brother sitting at the dinner table, like we do each night. But this night, somehow automatically, I put down a fourth plate: for Jesus. It felt like Jesus was really present."

The family was too poor to have any gifts but they received spiritual ones, answers to prayer. "My mother was freed from anger issues. My brother, who used to see ghosts in his bedroom, got freed from them when he called on Jesus' name that night, and I was set free from a bad relationship with a married man."

Her wish for this Christmas is that it will be as special as her first: "It's not about physical presents, it's really about spending a special time with Jesus and my family."

The Christmas story is all about Jesus's presence with us: Immanuel, God with us. It would be a pity to lose the richness of that truth amidst all the commercialism, so take some time out of all the 'busyness', and set a place for Jesus in your home and heart this year.

Every blessing,

Ellie

Sunday Services for November/December 2019

Services are normally held at 10am and include Junior Church and creche facilities.

NOVEMBER

- Sunday 3rd Worship led by Maxine Elliott with David Billett
Preaching. Theme: Romans 8
- Sunday 10th **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
Led by Stan Mackley and will include
the Act of Remembrance.
- Sunday 17th Graham Hill will be leading and preaching.
Theme: Romans 12: 1-2. Service includes
Communion.
Following the Service there will be a Church Meeting
in the lounge, with a light lunch provided
- Sunday 24th Worship led by Wendy Hall with Derek Tidball
Preaching. Theme: Romans 12: 3-8

DECEMBER

- Sunday 1st 1st Sunday in Advent.
Service led by Lucy Satchell with David Statham
Preaching. Theme: Romans 12: 9-21
4pm Spirit of Aylestone Advent Service at ABC.
All the churches in Aylestone worshipping together.
- Sunday 8th 2nd Sunday in Advent
Worship led by Annette Johnson with Ellie Cockburn
Preaching. Theme: Romans 13.
- Sunday 15th 3rd Sunday in Advent
Worship led by Elaine Robinson with Ellie Cockburn
Preaching. Theme: Romans 14.
Service includes Communion.
- Sunday 22nd 4th Sunday in Advent
Worship led by Maxine Elliott with Ellie Cockburn
Preaching. Theme: Romans 15.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Sunday 22nd 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight led by Stan Mackley.
- Tuesday 24th 4.30pm Carols for Kids led by Beth Ellis.
11.30pm Late night Communion Service led by Stan Mackley.
- Wed. 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY at 9.30am** Service led by Wendy Hall.
- Sunday 29th Worship led by May Gweje with David Billett preaching.
Theme: Romans 16.

Other Dates for November/December.

November:

- Sat. 2nd. “Refresh” Women’s Conference, 9.30 – 3.45pm
- Sun. 3rd. Bible Study with Graham Hill, 6pm.
- Thurs. 7th Community Lunch Club.
- Sunday 10th Messy Church at ABC , 4.30pm.
- Thurs. 14th The Open House.
- Sunday 17th **Church Meeting** after service & including lunch.
- Sat. 23rd. Christmas Market.
- Thurs. 21st. Community Lunch Club.
- Sun. 24th Messy Church at Gilmorton Est. 4.30pm
6pm Bible Study with Graham Hill.
- Thurs. 28th The Open House.
- Sat. 30th 11am John Bell of the Iona Community and broadcaster,
will be speaking at St. Andrews Church.



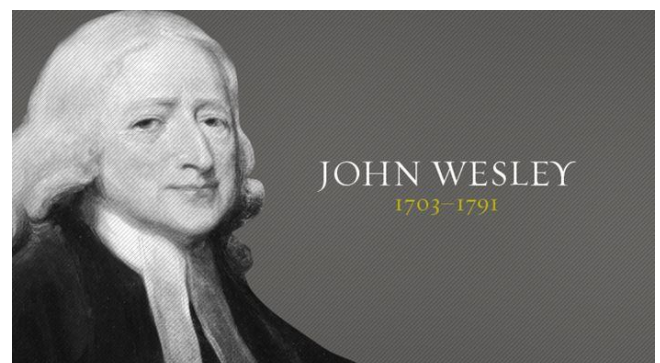
December

- Monday 2nd 3rd Age Film Afternoon, 2pm.
- Wed. 4th 7.15 Gateway Nativity Play and Service. Do come along and support the Gateway Club. You are assured of a Christmas treat. All welcome.
- Thurs. 5th Community Lunch Club.
- Sunday 8th Messy Church at ABC 4.30pm
- Tues. 10th Christmas Craft Fayre, 6 – 8pm.
- Thurs. 12th Community Lunch Club/ Open House Christmas Dinner & Carol Service, 12-0-clock.
- Sunday 15th **CAROLS in the PARK** at Aylestone Hall Gardens. 4.30pm.
- Tues. 17th **CAROLS in the PUB** at the Black Horse Pub. 7.30pm
- Sun. 22nd. **CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT, 6.30pm**
- Tues. 24th **CAROLS for KIDS** 4.30pm (if you are a kid at heart, you are Welcome!)
Late Night Communion Service 11.30pm.
- Wed. 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** Service at 9.30am.
- Sun. 29th Messy Church at Gilmorton Est. 4.30pm.



*Do all the good you can
By all the means you can.
In all the ways you can.
To all the people you can.
As long as ever you can.*

(John Wesley).



BMS UPDATES FROM JULIE

Chris and Debbie Carter in Albania October 2019



We are now settled back into a new term, and have a newly constructed music room, more space for Chris to teach in! We are involved in all the school assemblies (chapel). We are also thrilled to give thanks for the safe arrival of our third grandchild

Kayleigh Grace. Please pray for rain here in Tirana as water levels are diminishing. Prayer too for wisdom to plan the assemblies we are involved in and help as we seek to deepen the teenagers' faith.

Love Debbie and Chris

(It was wonderful to meet Debbie and Chris earlier in the year)

John and Sue Wilson in Lyon France Oct 2019

As 'long haul' missionaries of over 30 years we continue to give thanks and be grateful for all the support and encouragement we receive from so many people.

Sue has been busy running a training session for youth leaders and has had over 40 attend.

John has been arranging induction services for pastors who have moved churches

. We thank God for our congregation that continue to grow in confidence and share their faith. Our young people's group have taken the initiative to talk to people on the street and at university campus. Some choosing to spend time with those living rough and to express Gods love and compassion.

Thank you for your prayers , they are so important to us . John and Sue



Update from Lois and Joe Ovenden BMS Partners October 2019

My name is Innocent and they wanted me to die.

At the hospital they called me a “waste of oxygen” and chased my mum away. I had been into the ICU 19 times. I am Innocent. I have Down Syndrome. I am a God Plan. My mum tells me I am a God Plan.

I am Innocent and my father disowned me. Told my mum to “throw” me. To abandon me, in Gulu in Uganda, where we live. I am Innocent, I get infections easily, I took a long time to walk, a longer time to eat or drink than other children. I am different.

My grandma said that I look different, called me abnormal. Asked my mum to throw me. Her family disowned me. I like to dance. I am five years old. I am Innocent. I am Innocent and while I did not, could not, write these words, I’m important too.

Lois, a BMS speech therapist, started a group in September 2017 when she realised that many of the mothers she was meeting had not understood (or even received) a diagnosis of Down Syndrome for their children. They felt isolated and confused and so Lois brought them together to talk, share wisdom and dispel myths. Many felt amazing relief at knowing they were not alone.

There are many other children like Innocent, who are beautiful and friendly and joyful and kind, and who have been rejected by family and neighbours and society. Whose parents have suffered depression and financial hardship because people around them have not understood what Down Syndrome is.



“I’ve done a lot of the diagnosis,” says Lois Ovenden, a BMS World Mission worker based in Gulu. “People notice that there is something not typical, but they won’t know what it is. And sometimes doctors won’t give the diagnosis, even if they know it.” You can understand why. In Uganda, as in many countries, there is a stigma attached to disability, and reactions range from fear and disdain to blame. And there are practical problems too. Care is time-consuming and expensive.

To read the full reports, please see the notice board in
The Church lounge, or visit our website.

Julie Lovatt.

What's on for the 3rd Age in November / December



Community Lunch Club Dates for...

November – Thursday 7th / 21st

December - Thursday 5th / 12th - Christmas Dinner and Carol Service.

Carol Service starts at 12-o'clock followed by traditional Christmas meal.

Booking essential.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the loose change collections, we were able to donate £90 to LOROS and £45 to SIGMA India.

Lunch Club re-starts after the Christmas break on January 16th 2020.



The Open House Dates for...

November – Thursday 14th / 28th

December - Thursday 12th – Christmas dinner & Carol Service – see Lunch Club.

The Open House re-starts after Christmas break on January 23rd 2020.

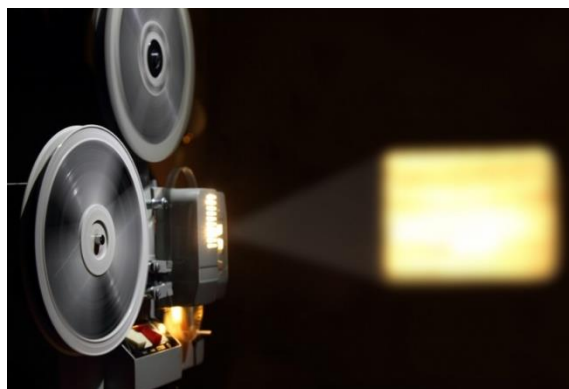
Tuesday Fellowship

Dates for ...

November - Tuesday 12th / 26th

December - Tuesday 10th – Christmas special, with Christmas readings, stories and poems, and followed by Christmas lunch.

Tuesday Fellowship re-starts after the Christmas break on January 7th 2020.



FILM AFTERNOON and AFTERNOON TEA.

Monday 2nd December at 2pm, all welcome, no booking required.

This is a free event and open to all over 50s.

Church Family News

Congratulations to Jill and Ron Walton on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Joshua Daniel. May God bless that family and may Joshua bring great joy to all.

It was a shock to all when Catriona arrived 2 months early and weighing only 1.43 kg. Thanks be to God that she has made very good progress and will hopefully be home from hospital soon. Congratulations to Lydia and Bulus Ezekiel, and Catriona's proud brothers, Sasilka and Reetek, and we pray for continued good progress, and that God will bless her throughout her life.

Congratulations to David and May Gweje on the birth of their 3rd grandchild.

We are pleased to report that Ruth Hopkins is now back at Grey Ferraers Nursing Home after a few weeks in hospital, and pray she will continue to gain strength.

Please remember Paul Onions, no longer able to worship with us, and becoming very frail.

A number of our Church fellowship are undergoing difficult times, we pray God will sustain them in His mercy.

BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME in aid of Medical Missionary Work.

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

Nov. 3 rd	Lee Wafforne
Nov. 5 th	Wendy Hall
Nov. 6 th	Amy Craston
Nov. 8 th	Keith Elliott
Nov. 27 th	Sam Elliot
Dec. 6 th	Susan Craston
Dec. 11 th	Hannah Mackley
Dec. 18 th	Isabelle Tait.
Dec. 22 nd	Christopher Sayer.



If you're spiritually alive,
you're going to love this!

If you're spiritually dead,
you won't want to read it.

If you're spiritually curious,
there is still hope!



WHY GO TO CHURCH?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.

But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

NEWS FROM INDIA

Our friends in Calvary Baptist Church have asked us to pray for Christians in their state – in a recent email Yesupadam wrote

My dear Brother and Sister Sorry to inform You, In Kakinada India some people very badly damaged te City's Baptist Church and Cross tower. We have organised a rally calling for the justice and protection for the Churches and Christians.

Kakinada is a city a few miles North of Akividu . These attacks on Churches and Christians are almost certainly carried out by Hindu extremist with the tacit approval of the government.



The government is reported to be requiring every staff member of Indian charities that receive donations from outside India to sign an affidavit that they will not be involved in any act of religious conversion. Christian leaders in India feel that this is aimed at Christian ministries serving the poor and marginalised.

When apostles Peter and James were commanded by the rulers of their country “not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus”, they replied “Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God’s sight to listen to you rather than God. For we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard” [Acts 4:18-20]

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will give wisdom and words to each Indian worker faced with this situation, and particularly the family in Akividu who do such great work amongst the poor people in their area with the help of the Sigma Project – our charity that supports their work through Calvary Baptist Church.

Civil War Deliverance

One lovely summer's day, some years ago, a party of tourists was sailing down the Potomac River.

One man had a fine voice and was asked to sing. He chose the hymn, "Jesu, lover of my soul."

When he had finished, a passenger asked if he had ever fought in the Civil War. The singer said he had, under the command of General Grant. The other man replied, "Well, I was very close to you one bright night when you were on guard duty. I crept near your post to finish you off, but as you paced back and forth you were quietly singing that hymn. I raised my gun to shoot, but then I heard you singing the words, "Cover my defenceless head with the shadow of Thy wing." Your prayer was answered. I could not shoot you after that."

A new convert wrote to the Tax Department saying, "I can't sleep at night, so I am enclosing £100 I forgot to declare.

PS, if I still can't sleep I will send the rest."

People never say "It's just a game" when they're winning.



Worry can do a lot of things TO you.
Prayer can do a lot of things FOR you.



Did you know ?



The habit of shaking hands goes back to the time of the ancient Romans. In those days most men carried swords and fights were common. So, when two men wanted to show they had no unfriendly intentions, they extended their right hands, indicating that they did not intend to use their sword.



Christmas Market

Saturday 23rd November 10.30am-1.30pm

Aylestone Baptist Church

There are many stalls to browse....

Home Made Cakes - Hand-Made Crafts

Bric-a-Brac & More.....

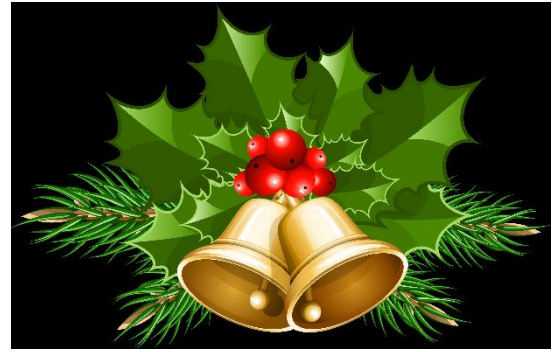


VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTTO
£1.50 PER CHILD



Here it is again – Christmas !
(I hope you didn't groan at the word).

It has become so commercialised and as a good Christian I am supposed to frown with distaste on the tinsel and glitter that Christmas has become.



But the truth is... I love it. I love buying presents for family and friends, searching unusual shops for that "something different". I love visiting garden centres with their glittering display of Christmas trees and decorations (I actually bought a singing Polar Bear head last year – it drove the family mad!). I love writing Christmas cards, often the only contact I have with far off family and friends, and if the recipient has had a bereavement, to send a word of comfort, take time to remember times past, and often shed a tear. I love the Christmas fayre, shunning the "aubergine bake" for the traditional turkey and Christmas pud, and crackers with paper hats and corny jokes.

I love singing carols – in Church, in the Park, in the Pub – every opportunity, how it all lights up the dark days of winter.

On that first Christmas only a handful of people knew. But Mary and Joseph had met Angels, and so had the shepherds – and who knows what celebrations were going on in heaven. The excitement, the knowledge that this would be the beginning of "The New Life" – I'm sure there would have been more sparkle in Heaven than our mere fairy lights.

However you celebrate Christmas, I hope it will be honouring to Jesus, filled with acts of kindness, remembrance, and worship, so that we can show to the world how much the Birth of Jesus means to us.

May God bless you at this special time,

Dorothy.



Christmas Word Find

G	C	P	M	E	H	E	F	F	N	Y	Y	A	S	E
V	F	I	O	G	K	N	O	C	Y	R	R	I	L	B
Z	H	S	J	Z	X	U	H	E	G	A	B	Z	N	B
H	A	T	I	D	U	R	X	S	Z	M	E	I	P	E
R	P	L	R	S	I	L	E	N	T	N	I	G	H	T
R	K	O	Q	S	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	A	J	H
Y	L	X	T	Y	Z	S	W	C	Z	S	P	E	P	L
M	I	M	F	H	T	B	P	N	S	J	V	E	K	E
J	A	B	T	T	Y	A	R	I	O	R	S	X	Z	H
S	A	I	Y	L	Y	T	E	K	V	O	F	L	W	E
H	A	Y	E	Y	T	I	G	N	J	I	O	E	E	M
F	A	M	K	R	H	V	N	A	E	V	U	G	P	E
M	A	A	N	W	A	I	A	R	S	A	S	O	H	F
C	I	H	O	T	C	T	M	F	U	S	O	A	H	F
D	J	E	D	K	Q	Y	S	V	S	W	T	E	K	Q

JESUS

MARY

JOSEPH

WISEMEN

MANGER

NATIVITY

BETHLEHEM

CAMEL

DONKEY

STAR

HAY

ANGEL

FAITH

HOPE

FRANKINCENSE

MYRRH

SILENTNIGHT

LORD

SAVIOR

CHRISTMAS





Christmas Craft Fair

Tuesday December 10th
6pm - 8pm

Aylestone Baptist Church
£1 Entry Fee: Includes Free Tea & Coffee



Stalls, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

Why Jesus is better than Santa Claus.....

Santa lives at the North Pole.

JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh.

JESUS rides on the wind and walks on water.

Santa comes once a year.

JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings
with goodies.

JESUS supplies all your needs

You have to wait in line to
see Santa.

*JESUS is as close as the mention
of His name.*

Santa lets you sit on his lap.

JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name. All he can say is "Hi little boy or girl,
What's your name?"

JESUS knew your name before you did. Not only does He know your name, He knows your address too. He knows your history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on your head.

Santa has a belly like a bowl of jelly.

JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO.

JESUS offers Health Help and Hope

Santa says, "you'd better not cry."

*JESUS says, "Cast all your cares on
me for I care for you."*

Santa's little helpers make toys.

*JESUS makes new life, mends
wounded hearts, repairs broken
homes & builds mansions in Him.*

Santa may make you chuckle, but..

*JESUS gives you joy that is your
strength.*

While Santa puts gifts under your tree.

*JESUS became our gift and died on
a cross made of wood.*

It's obvious there is really no comparison. We need to remember WHO

Christmas is all about. We need to put Christ back into CHRISTmas.

JESUS is still the Reason for the Season.

Carols in the Park

Sunday 15th December

Aylestone Hall Gardens

Starting at 4.30pm

“Celebrate the Christmas Story,
with music accompanied by
Southfields Brass Band
& Choirs from Aylestone Churches”

Bring a Torch....

Free Hot Drinks & Mince Pies will be available.

“Donations to Local Charities Welcomed”



www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk

Carols in the Pub

The Black Horse Pub
Narrow Lane Aylestone
Tuesday 17th December
Starting at 7.30pm
With Carols & Readings
Accompanied by:

The Wigston Enterprise Band
Refreshments will be on sale.

In support of Christian Aid &
The Rainbows Children's Hospice



www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk

Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Moderator Rev Elaine Cockbill / Youth Minister: Graham Hill

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities

Sunday

- 10.00am Morning Service / Junior Church / Crèche Facilities
Communion on the third Sunday of each month
4.30pm Messy Church Held on the second Sunday of each month

Monday

- 7.30pm Prayer Meeting

Tuesday

- 9.30am Babes & Toddlers Club
11.00am Seniors Fellowship & Bible Study (Fortnightly)

Wednesday

- 7.00pm Gateway Club (Adults with Learning Difficulties)

Thursday

- 11.00am The Open House. For the 50's & over. 3rd Age. (Fortnightly)
11.00am Community Lunch Club (Fortnightly / Alternate week to The Open House)
6.30pm Young People Meeting
7.30pm House Groups

Friday

- 6.30pm Family Night



Loop System Installed



Wheel Chair Access



WC Facilities

Church Membership, Baptism, Infants Dedication, Weddings, Funerals, House Groups, Community Lunch Club, Babes & Tots Club, Youth Club, The Open House, & Family Night.

To find out more about church membership, Baptism, etc. Or any of the activities
Please call us on 01162 832 527; by email:

minister@aylestonebaptistchurch.co.uk

or by visiting the Church website at, www.aylestonebaptistchurch.org.uk