

Welcome to Aylestone Baptist Church



GROWING, LEARNING, EXPERIENCING, & SHARING GOD'S LOVE

July & August
Church Magazine
2025

How Well Do You Know The Bible?

I'm not asking for how many verses you have memorised, how much time you spend in your Bible reading session each day, or how many times you've read through the Bible, cover to cover. Of course, those are great things to do, and I certainly encourage you to continue to read through and memorise the Bible.

But I wonder how well you know the Bible as a book? We've just finished a sermon series on the Bible, and we've looked specifically at Psalm 119. This single chapter – the longest in the entire Bible – is a song that overflows with love for God's Word.

Even after weeks of exploring the truth and beauty and power of the Holy Scriptures, there's still so much to learn.

Let me start with some basic Bible trivia that you may or may not be familiar with. Did you know the Bible was written over 1,500 years by about 40 different authors? Or that the shortest verse in English is just two words: "*Jesus wept*" (*John 11:35*)? Did you know that the word "Bible" comes from the Greek *biblia*, meaning books?

Psalm 119 reminds us that God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. But it's also an extraordinary book in history that has been preserved, translated, smuggled, memorised, and treasured. Whether you're new to the Bible or have read it for years, it's full of wonder. In the spirit of Psalm 119, here are some amazing facts that might deepen your appreciation for God's Word:

- **The Bible is the best-selling book of all time**, with over 5 billion copies sold.
- **Parts or all of the Bible has been translated into over 3,600 languages.**
- **The first English translation was from the Latin Vulgate by John Wycliffe** in the 1380s.
- **The first printed English New Testament was by William Tyndale** in 1526. He was executed for it.
- **The first full printed English Bible was by Miles Coverdale** in 1535.
- **The Geneva Bible** (1560) was the Bible used by the Pilgrims and early American settlers—more popular than the King James Version for a time.

- Though King James I initially opposed unauthorised English Bible translations, he wanted to assert royal control over the translation of Scripture and unify factions in the church. The result was the **King James Bible (1611)**, which became the most influential English translation in history.
- **Chapters were added by Stephen Langton**, Archbishop of Canterbury, around **AD 1227**.
- **Verse numbers were added by Robert Estienne** in the **1550s**.
- **The Dead Sea Scrolls**, discovered in 1947, include the oldest known manuscripts of parts of the Old Testament, dating back to around 200 BC.
- **Three consecutive psalms are quite interesting: Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter** in the Bible, **Psalm 118 is the middle chapter** (the 595th of 1,189 chapters), and Psalm 119 is the longest chapter.
- In these 1,189 chapters, there are a total of 31,102 verses (in the KJV). That's 23,145 in the Old Testament and 7,957 in the New Testament.
- **There are more than 300 prophecies in the Old Testament** that Christians believe are fulfilled in Jesus.
- **Isaiah 53** and **Psalm 22** are strikingly detailed prophecies about the suffering and death of Jesus, written hundreds of years before Christ.
- **The oldest nearly complete Bible** is the **Codex Sinaiticus**, dating to the 4th century AD.
- Some countries have banned the Bible, such as North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Yemen, and Afghanistan. Other countries heavily restrict owning or distributing Bibles.
- Even in the Maldives, locals cannot legally own a Bible (though tourists are allowed to bring them for personal use).

Of course, knowing these facts won't get us very far if we don't actually make it part of our lives. Psalm 119:11 says, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." Another interesting fact is that the Bible would only take about 70 hours to read at normal reading speed. That's about the time it takes to watch 35 movies, binge 5 seasons of your favourite one-hour show, or a few months of watching the news. If you read just 15 minutes of the Bible every day, you can read it all in about one year. So why not give it a try? Make God's Word part of your life every day. Learn to love it and celebrate it. You will certainly be blessed when you do.

In Christ,

will

OYEZ, OYEZ, OYEZ



“MARKET MAYHEM”

CHILDREN’S HOLIDAY CLUB 2025

AYLESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

MONDAY 28th JULY - FRIDAY 1st AUGUST

9.45am - 12.15pm

CHILDREN AGED 4 -11 / COST: £15 PER CHILD

ONLINE BOOKING

**SCAN THE QR CODE. IT WILL TAKE
YOU TO THE HOLIDAY CLUB 2025
REGISTRATION FORM.**



Cream Teas

Saturday 28th June – right in the middle of the heatwave – but the cream teas event went ahead although most seats had to be inside due to extreme temperatures, and there were some headaches due to melting cream!



Special thanks to Ruth, Angela and Tracy for the scones and strawberries, and to all who helped.

It was lovely as always to welcome in members of our community to enjoy the tea, go home laden with cakes and pies, books and knitted items, and have a talk with the lovely members of our church who so willingly give of their time.

A total of £450 was raised for church funds. Many thanks to all.

If you cry because the sun has gone out of your life,
your tears will prevent you from seeing the stars.

Author unknown.

What's on for the 3rd. Age....Lunch Club.

A two course roast dinner for £5. The lounge is open from 11am for coffee and chat, the meal served at 12.45. Open to all – no need to book just come along and be assured of a warm welcome.

Thursday 10th July – there will be a Thanksgiving service at 12 o'clock before lunch.

Lunch Club will then be closed for the summer break, Re-open 18th September.



The Open House

Open to all over 50s. Meet from 11am for coffee, chat, quizzes, knitting, have your nails painted – with lunch served at about 12.30, consisting of either home made soup or chilli and jacket potato, and a choice of up to 10 different puddings! Cost £5 includes unlimited tea and coffee.



Thursday 3rd July.

The Open House will then be closed for the summer break – re-open 11th September.

Tuesday Fellowship

For the over 50s, the group meets at about 11am for coffee and catch up, then a time of Bible Study and discussion – no matter where you are in your Christian journey, this is a chance to ask questions, share life stories, and enjoy studying a passage in the Bible. Also we share lunch at 12.30. You will be very welcome.



Tuesday 1st July

Tuesday 15th July - closed then for the summer break, re-open 9th September.

Have a lovely summer – and don't forget to book in for the Holiday@Home, And remember the church is there for you every Sunday, 10.30am. God bless.

Holiday@Home for the over 50's

This will be held on Tuesday 12th August and Thursday 14th August – details as follows:

Tuesday 12th Aug.: Arrive between 11 & 12 for coffee, tea, biscuits and a chat and quiz. Followed at 12.30 by a two course roast dinner.

Afternoon activities: have a go at crafts & flower arranging – try lots of different accessible and creative activities – or play board games and chat (always tea on hand).

Afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes will be served before home-time at about 5pm.

Thursday 14th Aug: Arrive at about 2pm for a “Posh” Afternoon Tea.

An elegant traditional tea, with entertainment. Finishing at about 5pm.



Cost for both days: £15. Booking essential.

Booking forms in the church lounge or 'phone/text Dorothy – 07825586677 or Stanley 07720384903. All welcome.

Brightening up Aylestone

When you walk down Marsden Lane, and come to the corner of Conaglen Road, you cannot help but be cheered up by the trimmed up Post Box. There have been seasonal displays, a tribute to war veterans, and currently Elephants at the beach. If you haven't been there – take the detour.

The brains and talent behind this crochet scene, we have discovered, is



Wendy Brown, a resident of Conaglen Road, and who volunteers at our Thursday Lunch Club. What a great thing to do !

Man Alive - Men's meetings

In May, for Christian Aid, some of our men put on a car wash and refreshments to raise funds. The car wash was a huge success, with cars queueing down the drive, but no-one was bored by the wait as they were able to enjoy bacon or sausage cobs and tea and cake. Many thanks to all who helped, a special thank you to Sandra for the fabulous cakes, and £300 was raised for Christian Aid. Lots of car owners were asking if they could do it again in a month's time – but I think they need a year to recover from it !



The men's group also enjoyed a breakfast at the Firs café. 13 were able to come along for a hearty feast and a lot of chat.



If you think this all sounds like fun – come along to the next get together on Thursday 24th July for a short walk and then meal at Glen Parva Manor. Meet in the car park at 6.30 for those taking part in the walk or 7.30pm for the meal. Reply to Don or Duncan.

Ladies Together



A group of lively ladies set off for a walk around Aylestone Meadows on 14th June. A group of “not so lively” ladies gathered in the Church lounge for a chat – then all joined together for a tea of sandwiches and cakes. It is so good for Christian ladies of all ages to have the opportunity to meet together. Our thanks to Mari Walters for organising these meetings.



Look out for the date of the next meeting in September.

Pentecost – the birthday of the church.



We celebrated with praise and worship – and also with party poppers and a cake – the children loved blowing out the candles.

The guest speaker was Dan Gower from Open Doors, who brought us up to date with the plight of the persecuted church worldwide.

We thank God that we are able to worship freely, without fear, please pray for our brothers and sisters who face persecution.

Church Family News

Congratulations to Mari and Don Walters on the birth of their granddaughter, Eliza Mabel. We send our love to Hannah and Steve and to Rory who is loving his new baby sister. It is lovely to see these little ones in our creche and pray for this little family that God will surround them with His love all the days of their lives.

Wendy Hall is suffering from severe back pain and finding life a struggle. Wendy, who is head of our Pastoral team, is not used to being the one who has to be cared for, and is determined to be back in harness very soon. We ask God's healing hand on her and pray she will be back to full health in the near future.

Diane Bland is due to go into a care home as her illness has progressed to the need of 24 hour care. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mike and the family as they continue to support and care for Diane and we thank God for His love at this very difficult time.

Our sympathies to Esfe Paston, whose father, in the Philippines, passed away. How hard it is to be away from family at times like this. It was a blessing that Esfe was able to visit him just before he died, and hurried back for the funeral. Thankfully the NHS were very understanding. Our thoughts and prayers are with Esfe, her mum and siblings, at this difficult time.

Our sympathy to Gerald and the family as Linda Wilkinson passed away. Linda had been a member of the church here for many years, and a stalwart at the Gateway Club. She will be missed by family and friends.

We thank God for new members to our fellowship –
Anthony Adeleke, Margaret Farrell, Hannah Hall and Geraldine McQuaid.
May God bless them and make them a blessing to our Fellowship.

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
And Such a Life as killeth death.
Author unknown.*

BMS Birthday Scheme

Happy Birthday and thank you to:

If you wish to join this scheme supporting BMS missionary work, please see Denise Vernon.

July 21st Grace Elliot
July 28th Maxine Elliot
July 25th Duncan Ellis
July 27th Sarah Brazier
July 29th Angela Wafforne
July 31st Steve Gray

Aug. 4th Sophie Gray
Aug. 4th Aaron Johnson Muskwe
Aug. 10th Annette Johnson
Aug. 18th Stanley Mackley
Aug. 23rd Katlyn Hall.



Smile a While

Church Notices:

“The preacher for Sunday next will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.”

“Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult, so it will be appreciated if parishioners cut the grass around their own graves.”

No worries !

“A 102-year-old lady was asked if she had any worries about the future. She replied “Not since I got my eldest son into an old people’s home.”

I bought a thesaurus yesterday. I find it useful, beneficial, advantageous and helpful.

Why We Love Our Mothers

Mother and Father were watching TV when Mum said, 'I'm tired, and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed.'

She went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next day's lunches, took the meat out of the freezer for dinner the following evening, checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table.

She then put some wet clothes in the dryer, put a load of clothes into the washer, ironed a shirt, and secured a loose button.

She picked up the game pieces left on the table, put the phone on the charger.

She watered the plants, emptied a wastebasket, and hung up a towel to dry.

Dad called out, 'I thought you were going to bed.' 'I'm on my way,' she said.

She put some water into the dog's dish and put the cat outside, then made sure the doors were locked.

She headed for the bedroom. She stopped by the desk and wrote a note to the teacher, counted out some cash for the field trip, and pulled a text book out from hiding under the chair.

She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope, and wrote a quick note for the grocery store. She put both near her bag.

Mum then washed , brushed and flossed her teeth, and filed her nails.

She looked in on each of the kids and turned out their bedside lamps and TVs, hung up a shirt, threw some dirty socks into the laundry basket, and had a brief conversation with the one child up still doing homework.

In her own room, she set the alarm; laid out clothing for the next day.

She said her prayers and got into bed.

About that time, Dad turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular, 'I'm going to bed.'

And he did...without another thought.

Names of Jesus

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

Lamb of God

Word

Morning Star

Good Shepherd

Way

Son of God

Prince of Peace

Immanuel

Vine

Life

Messiah

Christ

Alpha and Omega

Savior

Light of the World

Truth

Son of Man

Jesus

Sigma update

Over the last few days I have received messages from Pastor Sukumar in Akividu. Thanking us for the continuing support through SIGMA and asking for our prayers for the continuing difficulties and opposition they are facing from extreme radical Hindu people. Their work has been appreciated by people of all faiths for many years, but now there are those who are trying to stir up trouble. Following the murder of a local pastor, the Church were warned not to talk about the incident. Sukumar writes to Sigma supporters and our Church

“Your support in continuing the ministry of my father after his death is great. We can’t express in words. With Your support, we are able to achieve his aspirations . Your support, inspiring many and informing many about the ministry taking place in India is invaluable. We pray that many donors will join this SIGMA project. Our God is a trustworthy God, a God who does more good than we can imagine. We are confident that He will surely hear our prayers and do wonderful things .

There are very terrible situations happening in our area now a days. Yesterday a church that we are supporting and working with us was demolished. There is no place to worship there and people are in great pain. Please pray for them .

On Saturday morning, the believers from that demolished worship building came to visit us. They are in great pain and anguish. It is very sad to see a church that has been worshipping there for many years being demolished. The worship building was demolished because it was on land now designated as government land. No locals opposed the church in the beginning, but now there is more opposition to Christianity and people are encouraged to oppose the Christianity. There are many reasons behind the demolition of this church building . At present, the members of the congregation are thinking of it is necessary for them to try and buy a small piece of land. Please pray for them. They all are feeling helpless.

The situation in the whole of our region is currently very difficult. We travel far and wide on motorbike every day and come home late at night. Please pray for our well-being every day.

In coming years we want to set up a medical clinic in the village where my father was born and raised. We hope that it will be a recognition of Your Friendship and bond with my father. We hope that photos of You and Sister Dorothy and our father and mother will be placed in that clinic so that people will remember Your friendship for generations to come. Our daughters Bhagya Rachel and Rose will work in medical clinic after they have completed their medical studies. It will be our way to give great honour my Father and Mother."

On Saturday 21st August we have our next fund raiser, please support that and in the mean time pray for our friends in Akividu.



Aylestone Baptist Church

Lutterworth Road Aylestone Leicester LE2 8PE

Church Minister Rev. Will Hall

Weekly & Fortnightly Activities:

Sunday

10.30am Morning Service / ABC Kids & ABC Teens / Creche Facilities

Tuesday

11am Tuesday Fellowship (3rd Age Bible Study) meet Fortnightly

Wednesday

9.30am ABC Tots
(For all babies & toddlers. Ages 0 – 4 open during School Term)

Thursday

11am Community Lunch Club (Meet Fortnightly)

11am The Open House (For the 50's & over. Meet Fortnightly)



Loop System Installed, Wheel Chair Access, & WC Facilities

To inquire about Baptism, Marriage, Funerals, Church Membership, House Groups,

The Community Lunch Club, The Open House, or any other activity,
Please contact the church.

Rev. Will Hall on 07878803387 or Email aylestonebc@gmail.com

Don't forget to visit our website

<https://www.aylestonebaptist.com/>

A warm welcome awaits you.