

## Southport Methodist Circuit Advent Notices



### Action for Children's Starry Night ticket, silent auction and prize draw [www.starry-night.co.uk](http://www.starry-night.co.uk)

Hosted by Channel 4 News' Jon Snow, Action for Children's Starry Night will bring an evening of Christmas carols, sparkling entertainment and festive cheer to homes across the UK (and beyond!) on Tuesday 8 December 2020. An evening of exclusive entertainment, classic carols sung by The Epiphoni Consort, and appearances from some very special guests including Angellica Bell, Leona Lewis and Call the Midwife's Jenny Agutter OBE, and help us reach the thousands of children and young

people who are facing Christmas without a hot meal, a present or a safe place to sleep. Tickets are £10 per household. The silent auction starts is already open.

### Carols on the Doorstep [www.carolsonthedoortstep.co.uk](http://www.carolsonthedoortstep.co.uk)

#### 5:30pm on the 20th December

Carols on the Doorstep in partnership with Premier Radio.

Sunday 20th December at 5:30pm. Invite your neighbours and stand on your doorstep for to sing Hark the Herald Angel's Sing, O come all ye faithful and While shepherds Watched. Carol sheets can be downloaded and delivered to your neighbours - with sanitised hands! Tune your TV to channel 725 for Premier Christian Radio on Sunday 20th December at 5.30pm



### MHA

Christmas Friendship Appeal, you can make a real difference to loneliness and isolation for those in later life by sending a resident in our care a virtual Christmas card and message.

1



Write a Christmas message on an A4 piece of paper. If you're stuck for ideas, download our template. Be creative and decorate however you want.

2



Take a festive photo holding up or showing your message – it can be anything - you and your family in Christmas jumpers, a festive scene or your Christmas decorations.

3



Upload your images and Christmas message below. Leave the rest to us, we'll send your images to our homes (virtually) to pass round to residents.

Deadline for submissions is **Thursday 10 December 2020**, after this time MHA cannot guarantee your photo and message will be sent to a person in their care but they will do their best.

[www.mha.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/christmas-friendship-appeal/](http://www.mha.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/christmas-friendship-appeal/)

**Circuit YouTube Christmas Services:** <http://southportmethodist.org.uk/sundayservice>

**Advent 2** 6<sup>th</sup> December - Blue Christmas for those of us who struggle with Christmas

**Advent 3** 13<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity Service

**Advent 4** 20<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service

**Christmas Eve** A service on Holy Night at 11.30pm

**Christmas Day** Join us in your pj's with a mince pie to celebrate Jesus' birthday!

Please see your church notices for details of local services and events!

## Advent Calendars

A circuit team has prepared a double-sided Advent Calendar for the use of children and grownups. There is a challenge for each day of December. This has been distributed to schools across Southport. Please pray that it is well received and brings some hope to our community this Advent as we prepare for Christmas. You are invited to post your photographs and comment on our Facebook page Advent Actions. Don't forget to 'like' us to receive updates. It can be downloaded from circuit website and hard copies are available from church.



## Advent Reflections



These will be led by friends from the Church of England, United Reformed Church and from across the Circuit. A short evening reflection on Youtube is available to watch each night from Advent Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

We encourage you to watch it at either 6.30pm or 9.00pm, whatever fits in best with your day, as we come together for prayer as we watch and wait in these days of advent. <https://southportmethodist.org.uk/advent>

## Christmas Selfie

We are inviting you to send a Christmas selfie holding up your Christmas message for the circuit to be included as part of our Christmas circuit services. Please send your photo with your name, church and permission if including a child to [admin@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:admin@southportmethodist.org.uk) Don't forget that all important Christmas jumper/hat/ halo! We need them by Weds 9th December.

## Messy Christmas

An opportunity to share the Christmas message with children and their family. A circuit wide Messy Christmas will take place on Zoom on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm. For more information and the Zoom codes please contact Sarah McDonald-Howard at [sarah@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:sarah@southportmethodist.org.uk) There may be things to prepare so please register your interest early!



## Advent Readings

A booklet of daily Advent Readings for December has been prepared. This is attached in a digital format for those receiving the notices by email and will be delivered to those not on email. Hard copies are available through the circuit office [admin@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:admin@southportmethodist.org.uk)



## Take Time Meditations

Advent Meditations are online using the Advent Themes of Waiting (Preparation), Joy and Love. These will be on zoom on Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings from 4-4.45pm and Thursday evenings from 7-7.45pm until Christmas.

For more details, contact Rev. Ann Hall [ann.hall@methodist.org.uk](mailto:ann.hall@methodist.org.uk)

## Blue Christmas Ecumenical Service

We are invited to join Churches Together in Ainsdale for an online Blue Christmas Service. This will be available via the following link from 4pm on Saturday 19th December 2020 and thereafter - <https://southportmethodist.org.uk/blue-christmas>. A Blue Christmas Service recognises that Christmas can be a difficult time for some, especially those suffering grief or isolation, which is especially poignant this year given all the restriction we are having to endure.