Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices Sunday Worship

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans Tel: 07813 211501 Email: <u>patrick.evans@methodist.org.uk</u>

26th February 2023

9.45am Service at Ainsdale Village Church 6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road

5th March - 9am Circuit Service at PPW - 10.45am Service led by Colin Fyles

Mission Statement

To share locally and globally in the whole Church's purpose of the worship of God and the care of people.

Lectionary Readings 26th February 2023

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11

Prayer

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right; that we, who can do no good thing without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



World Day of Prayer

Friday 3rd March Lord Street West United Reformed Church PR8 2BH 11am. All welcome.

Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.



If you have any items you want including in the notices please let Lucy Lloyd know on 01704 536648 or lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk.

Simon Hulme

The funeral service for Simon Hulme will take place at 11.15am on Friday 3rd March 2023 at Ainsdale Methodist Church. All are welcome.

Exploring the Inner



A short lent course at Victoria Centre, Sussex road. Wednesdays 15th, 22nd & 29th March. 7.30pm Led by Rev Graham Turner. All Welcome.



Raising Praise The next Raising Praise will be this Sunday February 26th, 6.00pm at

Leyland Road. All welcome!



Ainsdale Lunch & Leisure

Mondays 10am-11am - Fit 4 Life Class 12 noon - Lunch

Tuesdays

10am-11am - Ukulele Class 12 noon - Lunch 1pm–3pm - Music for All 2pm-3.30pm – Tai Chi

Wednesdays

12 noon - Lunch 1pm-3pm – Games Afternoon (Indoor Bowling, Table Tennis)

Thursdays

9.45am-10.45am – Gentle Gym Class 1 10.50am –11.50am – Gentle Gym Class 2 10am-12 noon – Art Class 12 noon - Lunch

Fridays

10am-12noon – Needlecraft Class 11am-12pm - Forever Fit Class 12 noon - Lunch 12.45pm-1.45pm - Singing for All

Chapel Café is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 10am-2pm

For any lunch bookings please call the ALL Office. 01704 574838

Churches Together in Ainsdale Lent

Course

The course starts on Wednesday 1st March and will run every Wednesday during March at 2pm at the Village Church.

We hope you will all enjoy this course. Each week is free-standing so don't worry if you can't make every session.



Bereavement

Journey Course

Course Start Date: Monday 27th February 7pm-9pm (6 week course) Ainsdale Methodist Church Contact Sally Eyes on <u>sally.eyes@southportmethodist.or</u> <u>g.uk</u> or phone 07743 660155



Dear Friends

Last Sunday I was looking online at the Circuit Service from Leyland Road earlier in the day (still available at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=770xFzvMFuY). Whilst scrolling through the Circuit page on Youtube I saw our online services from Easter Sunday in 2020, through to early 2022.

This immediately took me back to that era of lockdowns with its associated uncertainty, stress and emotions. We had to learn new skills quickly and adopt a different rhythm of life (pre recorded online services take far longer to prepare and record than the 40-60 minutes of the final edited service!).

It never ceases to surprise me that when reaching back into our memories of another time brings to the fore the strong emotions of that moment. Emotions that time hadn't forgotten, merely covered over. Is it healthy to pull back the covers?

As we follow the Christian year we quickly move from the joys and hope of Christmas, of God becoming flesh and dwelling among us, to the challenge of Lent. Looking at the online services brought back emotions of a difficult time, not just for me and my colleagues in that context, but for all of us in so many ways. Positively it made me reflect on how far we have come, of how well we adapted and succeeded. It made me consider how relatively easy I had it compared with those who suffered bereavements, and the sacrifices made by those working on the front line of our healthcare service. Too often we just move on, never pausing to look back and reflect.

Lent provides us with a time to consider how Jesus modelled a way of being during difficult times. In his divinity he was focused on the journey to the cross, whilst in his humanity he was fearful and frightened. I find that comforting. Whilst this can be a difficult season, looking back and reflecting can help to strengthen us to look forward with hope. What will you discover this Lent, as you look back and reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus?

God bless

Patrick

