



*Ainsdale Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

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*24th September 2023*

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

**1st October - 9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW  
- 10.45am Communion & PVD Service led by Rev  
Patrick Evans**

## **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 24th September 2023*

Jonah 3.10-4.11; Psalm 145.1-8; Philippians 1.21-30; Matthew 20.1-16

## *Prayer*

Loving God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *Church Council*

Church Council meeting Wednesday 4th October at 11am.

## *Bible Study*

Next meeting is Monday, 25th September, at 7pm in the Lounge when we'll be looking at the turning point in Jesus' ministry in Mark chapter 9 from verse 2. Everybody welcome. You can pick up the story from here!

## *Raising Praise*

The next Raising Praise will be this Sunday 24th September, 6.00pm at Leyland Road. All welcome!

## *Mid-week Prayers*

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

## *Church Notices*

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

## *Sunday 15th October*

We are delighted that Rev Sue Edwards will be leading the Church Anniversary service. This will also be our Gift Day. Gifts will be gratefully received towards the recent installation of new boilers. If the cost of these are exceeded the gifts will go towards the feasibility study for the Chapel. Following the service we will be having a faith lunch, so please bring something to share.

## *Flowers and Music with Posh Puddings*

A celebration evening hosted by Izy Liston at Leyland Road Methodist Church on Friday 13th October at 7pm. Musical Entertainment from members of Leyland Road Worship Group and local professional singing friends from Massam and Marshall Independent Funeral Directors.

Tickets £8.50 each from Diane Parkinson, Joan Hayward, Izy Liston 07773 561040 or the Church Office at Leyland Road.

Ticket sales to support the Community Garden Project.

## *Ainsdale Lunch & Leisure*

### **Mondays**

10am-11am - Fit 4 Life Class

12 noon - Lunch

1pm-3pm - Games afternoon which includes Cards, Dominoes, Jigsaws, Bingo, Quiz.

### **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

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



Dear Friends

*"...thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven."*

*(Extract from The Lord's Prayer)*

These words act as an aide-memoire for what we hope for on earth; that it will be like heaven. As we pray the Lord's Prayer it hopefully prompts us as Christians to become enablers of heaven on earth.

And what opens our access to heaven? For me it is grace; the free and unmerited favour of God bestowed upon us all, despite the fact that in our humanness we don't deserve it. In our humannesses we focus on self rather than being selfless. There is no distinction between any of us in this regard...

*"...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans Ch 3 vs 23)*

So if grace is the key to heaven, for earth to be as it is in heaven, grace must abound in the present; and so it does from God to us, although does it from us to others?

Jesus' story of the Labourers in the Vineyard illustrates what the kingdom of heaven is like. Those hired early in the day have an expectation that those hired later in the day will receive a lower wage. Nah, says Jesus, that's not how it works. Grace does not have a price list like the local chippy where a large portion costs more than a small portion. In the kingdom of heaven unlimited grace is given to all.

*"And about five o'clock he [the landowner] went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'"*  
*(Matthew Ch 20 vs 6-7)*

There is no limit for the landowner as to how many labourers can be hired. The landowner continuously seeks to welcome all, valuing each the same. I wonder if we pick and choose how much and to whom we offer grace. If so, is it really grace?

God bless

Patrick

