



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

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1st October 2023

9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW

10.45am Communion & PVD Service led by Rev Patrick Evans

8th October - 10.45am Joint AAW Service with AVC led by Lesley Goddard

- 6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road

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 1st October 2023

Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32; Psalm 25.1-9; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32

Prayer

Father of all, you gave your only Son, to take upon himself the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross. Give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory; for he lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Church Council

Church Council meeting Wednesday 4th October at 11am.

Bible Study

Next meeting is Monday, 9th October, at 6pm in the Lounge when we'll be looking at Mark chapter 10.

Please note the earlier start; we are trying to find a mutually acceptable time and have provisionally decided 6 till 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome - come and follow Mark's account of Jesus' life journey.

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.

Mid-week Prayers

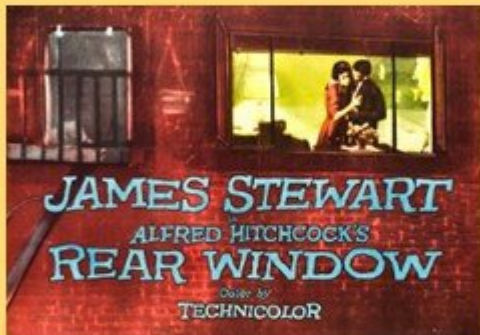
Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

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.

WELCOME TO OUR WARM WINTER PICTURE HOUSE!

Free Film Fridays with hot drinks and snacks



6 October REAR WINDOW

St John's C of E Church, Liverpool Road, Ainsdale
Film Show 2pm Doors Open 1.45pm

Autumn Bible Studies

Churches Together in Ainsdale in association with Southport and Formby URC
Team Ministry Present:

Autumn Bible Studies/Discussions focussing on the Pixar Movie Wall-E
Wednesdays at 2pm at Ainsdale Village Church on 11th, 18th and 25th
October with the film shown on the 11th

What has a cute elderly robot have to teach us about God's Creation, love and
other matters?

Come to these studies and find out!





Dear Friends

“God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” (John Ch 3 vs 17)

This passage offers a great insight into the mind of God and God’s relationship with humanity. God’s starting point is not to condemn, rather to save. It is to offer mercy and grace.

As I reflect on the passage I wonder what my starting point is. I would like to think it is one of grace, although I fear too often I probably start, in my mind at least, with a position of condemning. Within Methodist ministry we often use the word “affirming”. From training to be a Worship Leader through to becoming a Minister there are various hurdles to be jumped, with a formal process of assessment and interviewing. Such processes can be daunting, although as much as we can we hope they will be affirming.

Most of our lives are spent not in the formal settings I describe above but in the informal chit chat of everyday life. I wonder if we consider first and foremost how we can affirm someone rather than condemn them. I know I sometimes make throw away comments that have a sly dig at someone; overtime become hurtful in their repetitiveness. Tell a child they are stupid enough times and it will become their script...I must be stupid!

Sometimes I can do something that is stupid; I think we probably all do from time to time. My experience is that people are trying to do the best they can. My sense is that God is of the same opinion, which is why God’s starting point is to save. Saving is a positive action. Condemnation is a negative action. God wants what is positive for us.

So in our interactions with one another as a community, if we are to be reflective of God’s love, seeking to save rather than to condemn should be our starting point.

God bless

Patrick

