



*Ainsdale Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

**Minister: Rev Patrick Evans**

**Tel: 07813 211501**

**Email: [patrick.evans@](mailto:patrick.evans@methodist.org.uk)**

**[methodist.org.uk](http://methodist.org.uk)**

*11th February 2024*

**10.45am AAW Joint Service with AVC led by Lesley Goddard**

**6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road led by Rev Ernie Grimshaw**

**14th February - 10am Ash Wednesday Service**

**18th February - 10.45am Communion 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.*

# *Lectioary Readings 11th February 2024*

2 Kings 2.1-12; Psalm 50.1-6; 2 Corinthians 4.3-6; Mark 9.2-9

## *Prayer*

You alone, O God, can satisfy our deepest hunger, and protect us from the lure of wealth and power. Teach us to seek your kingdom above all else, that we may know the security and joy of those who put their trust in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## **Ash Wednesday Service**

**14th February**

**10am**

**Ainsdale Methodist Church**

## *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).

# *Ecumenical Prayer Meeting*

Revised venue this month. 7.30am Tuesdays in February at Sacred Heart Church.

## *Raising Praise*

The next Raising Praise will be Sunday 25th February, 6.00pm at Leyland Road. All welcome!

## *Ainsdale Lunch & Leisure*

### **FULLY FUNDED Sessions Available**



#### **Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure**

has secured funding to support older adults to take part in social activities until the end of March.

Support comes in the form of

### **Monday Social**

Taking place every Monday

**12.00-3.00 pm**

#### **INCLUDES:**

**Two Course Lunch, Tea/Coffee, Cards,  
Board Games, Bingo and Quiz**



**Completely 'FREE' for ages 65+**

**Places Limited - Advance Booking Essential**

**CALL US on 01704 574838**

**to secure your place**

Ainsdale Methodist Church, Liverpool Road, Southport PR8 3NQ  
registered charity 1129183

Dear Friends

*The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. (Proverbs Ch 22 vs 2)*

This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday which this year explores the movement of people from their homelands to the places they now call home, and examines the motivations behind this movement – the journeys made, and the reception received on arrival. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 'At least 108.4 million people around the world have been forced to flee their homes. Among them are nearly 35.3 million refugees, around 41 per cent of whom are under the age of 18.'

So what is the link between displacement, refugees and racial justice. Well, apart from the Ukraine, most of those seeking sanctuary have Black and Brown faces. The Bible is replete with verses that call upon God's people to offer sanctuary to the foreigner, the alien and the vulnerable.

There is a "Church of Sanctuary" movement that aims to support churches who seek to be a place of sanctuary to refugees regardless of their faith. Whilst in our neighbourhoods we may not have many refugees, particularly with Black or Brown faces, we do have people and groups that have been displaced, perhaps due to relationships ending, employment challenges, financial difficulties, disabilities and much more. What does it mean for us to be welcomed into a place of sanctuary, and in turn to offer a place of sanctuary to all?

### Prayer

Migrant God, free from borders, your presence spans all creation.

You take sanctuary in us, in you is our eternal sanctuary.

We behold you in community with those uprooted from their homes by war, poverty, persecution and extreme weather, especially those within our own neighbourhoods.

Be the shelter of their lives.

Bless their courage and resilience in seeking freedom and sanctuary.

Bring us to build cultures of welcome, hospitality and sanctuary for all;

Community where there is conflict;

Compassion where there is cruelty;

Humanity where there is hatred;

Hospitality where there is hostility;

And so, to practice and proclaim hope.

In the Name of Christ. Amen

God bless

Patrick