



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

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18th February 2024

10.45am Communion Service led by Rev Patrick Evans

**25th February - 9.45am Service at Ainsdale Village Church
- 6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church**

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 18th February 2024

Genesis 9.8-17; Psalm 25.1-10; 1 Peter 3.18-22; Mark 1.9-15

Prayer

God of infinite mercy, grant that we who know your pity may rejoice in your forgiveness and gladly forgive others, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Churches Together in Ainsdale Lent Safari 2024

This years Lent Safari will take place at the following venues:-

Thursday 15th Feb 7pm - St John Stone RC church

Thursday 22nd Feb 7pm - St John Stone RC church

Thursday 29th Feb 2pm - Ainsdale Village church

Friday 8th Mar 2pm - St John's C of E church

Wednesday 13th Mar 10am - Ainsdale Methodist church

Wednesday 20th Mar 10am - Ainsdale Methodist church

All are 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.

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!

Circuit Lent Bible Study

Our Study of the Book of Amos is taking place between 7.30 and 9.00pm on Tuesdays in the New Room at Liverpool Road Methodist Church. All are welcome to any of the sessions...upcoming studies are:-

Tue 20th Feb - Tough love in the book of Amos led by Local Preacher Lesley Goddard

Tue 27th Feb - Wealth and justice among God's people. What went wrong in Israel? led by Rev Marie-Anne Kent

Tue 5th Mar - Visions of judgements and justice led by Local Preacher Colin Fyles

Tue 12th Mar - Hope for a better world led by Rev Patrick Evans

Tue 19th Mar - Easter Praise led by Local Preacher Brian Simmons

Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

Dear Friends

“How will you eat yours?” This is the question posed by Cadburys for how will you eat a Creme Egg. A few days ago I saw a bill board for Creme Egg on toast!

My questions this week are “how will you do yours?” That is, how will you do Lent? As with eating a Creme Egg, there is no right or wrong way, and the fact that someone chooses to eat theirs on toast does not mean we should all do that; and the same goes for Lent.

Today we often think about giving something up, to help us consider the sacrifice of Jesus in giving up his life upon the cross. It is important to check our motives for observing Lent. Christ told the disciples *“when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that others may see their fasting. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward”* (Matthew 6:16). The intent of Lent is to recognise that in our humanness through the year the bonds that tie us to God have loosened through our weakness and that we can once again draw closer to God as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter.

This year you may wish to sign up for daily reflections from the Methodist Church titled “Unbounded Love” at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/lent-and-easter/unbounded-love/>

Radio 4 has a series of Lent talks details of which are at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006xp1x/broadcasts/upcoming>

There are also numerous books and study guides to take us through the Lent season, or you may set your own journey, such as reading through the four gospels.

There are the three historic traditions of Lent. Prayer to improve our communion with God and strengthen our spiritual discipline. Fasting inspired by Jesus spending 40 days in the wilderness. Jesus’ command to *“love your neighbour as yourself”* inspires us to give from our resources of money, time and energy.

So how will you do yours?

God bless

Patrick