



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

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25th February 2024

9.45am Service at Ainsdale Village Church

6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church

3rd March - 9am Circuit Communion at PPW

- 10.45am Communion Service led by Rev Patrick Evans

- 6.30pm Circuit Service at Lord St West

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 25th February 2024

Genesis 17.1-7,15-16; Psalm 22.23-31; Romans 4.13-25; Mark 8.31-38

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.

Churches Together in Ainsdale

Lent Safari 2024

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

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.

Raising Praise

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

Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

7.30am Tuesdays in February at Sacred Heart Church.

World Day of Prayer

A Service for Everyone!

Friday 1st March 10am

St Marie's RC Church, Seabank Road PR9 0EJ

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 27th Feb - Wealth and justice among God's people. What went wrong in Israel?

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.

Lent is a time to draw closer and reconcile ourselves to God's ways. This often means letting go of some things. We may give something up as a demonstration of our letting go and commitment to his way.

I though, am like the disciple Peter; thinking I am doing it right, only to get it so wrong. Peter gives me hope! In Mark Ch 8 vs 31-38 Jesus is explaining he must suffer many things, be killed and after three days rise again. Peter rebukes Jesus and in turn Jesus rebukes Peter...

"Get behind me, Satan! You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." (Mark Ch 8 vs 33b)

It appears that Peter is trying to negotiate and compromise with Jesus. Peter can not comprehend that Jesus will suffer and be killed; this doesn't match his human understanding of the Messiah he is following. When we compromise with someone, it normally means we get something of what we want and they get something of what they want, although we both fail to get everything we want; it's a win/lose situation.

Jesus explains there can be no compromise, we need to be all in or nothing at all.

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?" (Mark Ch 8 vs 34b-37)

What Jesus wants is a win/win outcome all round. Full co-operation from us, is required so that we become collaborators with him. This means moving beyond compromising and trying to get God to fit into our ways and wants. Rather, we seek to understand that God wants the best for us, and when we let go of our transient human wants, we begin to receive life in all its fullness.

God bless
Patrick