CAinsdale Methodist Church Weekly Notices

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans Tel: 07813 211501 Email: <u>patrick.evans@</u> <u>methodist.org.uk</u>

16th June 2024

10.45am Service led by Rev Martin Abrams

23rd June - 10am Service at Ainsdale Village Church led by Nigel Mawdsley

- 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 16th June 2024

1 Samuel 15:34–16:13; Psalm 20; 2 Corinthians 5.6-10(11-13)14-17; Mark 4.26-34

Prayer

Generous God, you gather your people and lavish your gifts upon us, day by day. Grant that each experience of your pardon may enlarge our own love, until it meets the measure of your extravagant forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bazaar

On Saturday 15th June between 10.30am - 3.00pm, Ainsdale Village Church will be holding a Bazaar in the garden, run by the visitors to the warm space cafe, to raise funds. There will also be a collection of food donations (dry goods) for the Southport Soup kitchen.

Property Matters

Dripping Tap? Light Not Working? If you notice any issues with the church buildings/grounds please report these to the Caretaker (email: <u>amc-caretaker@southportmethodist.org.uk</u> or to any of the Stewards and we will ensure they are followed up.

Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

Church Motices

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



Howers

Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Gill & Rob Hemmings in memory of Gill's parents Winnie & Peter Fearnside.

You are invited to the Liverpool District MWiB Summer Gathering Wednesday 19th June 2024 11am Drinks on arrival - 11.30am Start - 3pm Conclusion WiB Emmanuel Methodist/UR Church 38 Derby Street, Ormskirk

Dear Friends

in Jesus' time faith seemed daunting because of what man had made it; full of rules and laws that tangled and choked people. Can it sometimes feel like that for us?

In our gospel passage this week Jesus simplifies the Kingdom of God with agri-based parables (Mark Ch 4 vs 26-34). I've recently 'reclaimed' my allotment from the perils of weeds, and the story below has been my encouragement.

A brother fell when he was tempted, and in his distress he stopped practising his monastic rule. He really longed to take it up again, but his own misery prevented him. He would say to himself, 'When shall I be able to be holy in the way I used to be before?'

He went to see one of the old men, and told him all about himself. And when the old man learned of his stress he said: 'There was a man who had a plot of land, full of weeds and brambles. So he said to his son, "Go and weed the ground." The son went off to weed it, saw all the brambles and despaired. He said to himself, "How long will it take before I have uprooted and reclaimed all that?" So he lay down and went to sleep for several days. His father came to see how he was getting on and found he had done nothing at all. "Why have you done nothing?" he said. The son replied, "Father, when I started to look at this and saw how many weeds and brambles there were, I was so depressed that I could do nothing but lie down on the ground." His father said, "Child, just go over the surface of the plot every day and you will make some progress." So he did this, and before long the whole plot was weeded. The same is true for you, brother: work just a little bit without getting discouraged, and God by his grace will reestablish you.'

I've been away for a week so I need to re-establish my pattern at the allotment. I'm excited to see how the seeds I've planted have faired, although I'll have to reclaim the plot from the weeds. May we do so in our faith.

> God bless Patrick