



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

8th February 2026

10.45am Joint Service with Ainsdale Village Church led by Tabz

6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road Church

15th Feb - 9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW
- 10.45am Service led by Nigel Mawdsley

Image: Matthew 5.13-20

Mission Statement

To share locally and globally in the whole Church's purpose of the worship of God and the care of people.

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Lectionary Readings 8th February 2026

Isaiah 58.1-9a,(9b-12); Psalm 112.1-9(10); 1 Corinthians 2.1-12,(13-16); Matthew 5.13-20 (Year A - Ordinary 5)

Prayer

God our Father, whose Word has come among us: may the light of faith, kindled in our hearts, shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Bible Study

Bible Study is continuing on a fortnightly basis, with the next session taking place on Monday 9th February at 7pm at Cynthia and Frank's (17 Everton Road). All are welcome.

Gardening Club

Every Monday at 10am, meet in the church lounge. New faces are always welcome and no experience is needed. Enjoy some fresh air, friendly conversation and time in the garden, followed by tea, coffee and refreshments. Everyone is very welcome.

Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.

John Attwater

Many of you will already have heard the news that John Attwater went to be with his saviour last week. John was a huge part of life at Leyland Road and across the wider circuit and will be greatly missed by many. John asked the family to make it clear that he wanted us to mark his passing by celebrating the saving grace of God in his and our lives. For this reason, there will be a short family-only committal at the crematorium followed by a Celebration at **Leyland Road Methodist Church at 12.00pm on Friday 27th February** followed by sandwiches and refreshments to which everyone is warmly invited.

Churches Together in Ainsdale

**FROM
NOW ON**

**HOPE and REDEMPTION
a LENT COURSE**

The course is being run weekly on the following dates and venues at 2.00pm.

You can join any or all of the sessions.

No need to book, just turn up... it's free!

Week 1

2.00 pm: film screening of "The Greatest Showman"
Thursday 19 February at St John's Anglican Church

Week 2

2.00 pm: "A Million Dreams"
Wednesday 25 February at Ainsdale Village Church

Week 3

2.00 pm: "Come Alive"
Wednesday 4 March at Ainsdale Methodist Church

Week 4

2.00 pm: "Rewrite the Stars"
Tuesday 10 March at St. John's Stone Catholic Church

Week 5

2.00 pm: "Never Enough"
Tuesday 17 March at St John's Anglican Church

Week 6

2.00 pm: "From Now On"
Wednesday 25 March at Ainsdale Methodist Church

God is our Refuge

One of the most wonderful aspects of being a Christian is to know the truth of the old, beautiful verse:

'The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the ever-lasting arms'
(Deuteronomy 33.27, NIV).

This verse paints a picture of a God who is always there to hold us, to catch us if we are falling, a God who is neither fickle nor absent, but eternally, lovingly, present.

Part of the work of unpicking our fearful patterns of behaviour and thinking, is to re-examine who we think God is. This is vital because our image of God can either help or hinder our spiritual growth. If, for example, we think of God as unpredictable, punishing, emotionally distant, and physically remote, it's no wonder we would hesitate to put our trust in Him. However, if we think of the God who is made visible in Jesus – and Scripture tells us that Christ is 'the image of the Invisible God (Colossians 1.15) then, instead of viewing God as a faceless, ruthless judge, we can see someone who is loving, committed to bringing wholeness and healing, welcoming of sinners, wanting our good, full of grace and mercy, willing to risk everything for humanity.

God in Jesus, then, is a someone whom we can approach, who is trustworthy, whose right hand holds us fast no matter where we are, whatever we are doing. Looking to Christ helps us gain the trust we need to become less anxious and more able to grow in our experience and understanding of God. God in Jesus is truly our refuge in the difficult times and also the good ones.

Ernie

