



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

26th April 2026

10am Service at Ainsdale Village Church

6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church

3rd May - 10.45am Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Patrick Evans

Image: John 10.1-10

Mission Statement

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

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

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Lectionary Readings 26th April 2026

Acts 2.42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.19-25; John 10.1-10
(Year A - Easter 4)

Prayer

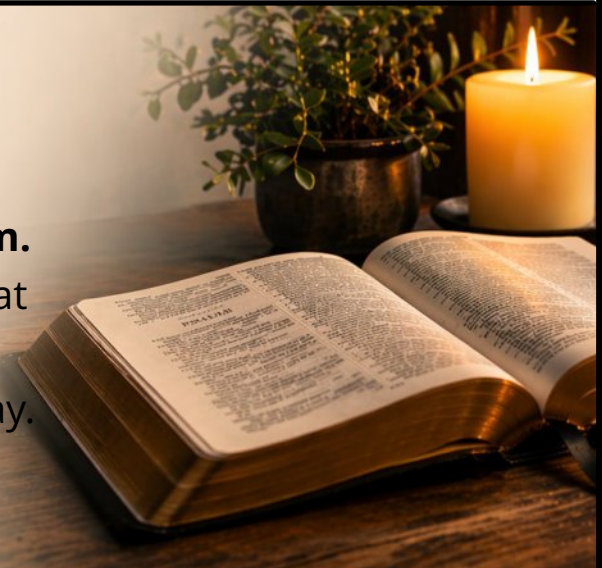
Good Shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold: feed us and we shall be satisfied; heal us and we shall be made whole; and lead us, that we may be with you; for you are alive and reign, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Bible Study

The new session of bible studies starts on **Monday, 27th April** at church from **7 till 8.30pm**. We will be continuing the Easter theme looking at the resurrection stories in the New Testament and seeing how they relate to hopeful living today.

Everyone is welcome to these informal, interesting and informative meetings.



Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All 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.

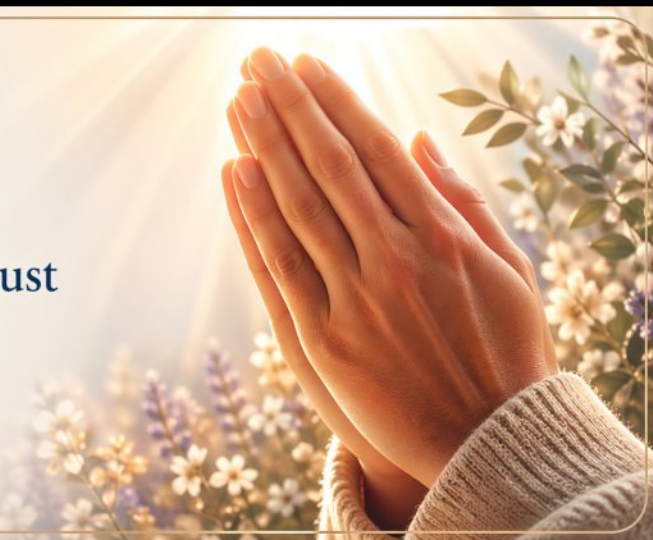
Everyone is very welcome.

You are all invited to a
prayer meeting
for the work of the
Southport and Area Schools Worker Trust

Monday 18th May | at 7 pm

at Liverpool Road Methodist Church

SASW trust



Wanted

The Parish Nurses are wanting to decorate their office. If anyone has any left over matt or gloss paint in VIBRANT colours they no longer need. Please leave at Leyland Road office or call or text Kathryn on 07803154929 for collection. Thank you.

Say It With Flowers

A new group for fellowship, creativity and fun with flowers.

- Entertaining stories
- A witness of our faith
- Tips on basic flower arranging
- Relaxing music
- Homemade refreshments

Led by Izy Liston in the Coffee Lounge
Leyland Road Methodist Church

Thursday afternoons, 2 - 4pm

All are very welcome – feel free to bring a friend

Programme

May 7th
“New Life & Resurrection”
A spring reflection

May 28th
“God’s Spirit Lives Among You”
Witness for Whitsun

June 25th
“Everything Beautiful in Its Time”
A celebration of June bursting out all over

July 30th
“Fearfully & Wonderfully Made”
A look at flowers in the Bible

Church Notices

If you have any items you want including in the notices, please advise Lucy Lloyd on 01704 536648 or email lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk Thank you.

Dear Friends

In last Sunday's service you probably heard the gospel reading of the Road to Emmaus. The climax of the encounter is when Jesus...

"...sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him but he disappeared from their sight.." (Luke Ch 24 vs 30-31).

I love how the gospel writer breaks down what Jesus does. Jesus...

takes something ordinary, bread;

blesses it and in so doing transforms it into something extra-ordinary; **breaks** it because how else can it be shared and eaten thus fulfilling it's purpose of feeding the hungry;

gives it away graciously and generously.

Through this act, their eyes were open. We know their eyes weren't physically closed, rather they see things in a new light. Not only do they see that it is Jesus whose been travelling and sharing with them, they also come to understand all that Jesus is to them and the world. They experience first hand that Jesus is with them even when he isn't, that is, even when they cannot see him.

If like me, you probably fall foul of not trusting that God is with us. Sometimes he can feel far away or not present at all. This is how the two men walking to Emmaus felt, not realising Jesus was with them the whole time. Even when he vanished in front of them they were excited to return to Jerusalem and tell their friends that Christ has risen.

It must still have been difficult for them to understand that even the blessed Son of God was broken and given to redeem the world. I also find it difficult in God's economy that sometimes things that have been blessed are then broken and given away. This is particularly so when many of the things I nostalgically cling onto cease to be, come to an end, and are in some sense given away.

As the writer of Ecclesiastes in Chapter 3 reflects, *"there is a time for everything"*. May you know God's presence with you, especially when things break.

God bless

Patrick