



Ainsdale Methodist Church

Weekly Notices

3rd May 2026

10.45am Service of Holy Communion led by Rev Patrick Evans

10th May - 10.45am Local Arrangement Parade Service with AVC
- 6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road Church

Image: 1 Peter 2.2-10

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 3rd May 2026

1 Peter 2.2-10; Psalm 31.1-5,15-16; Acts 7.55-60; John 14.1-14
(Year A - Easter 5)

Prayer

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

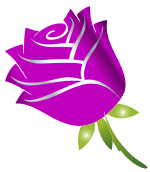
Bible Study

The next meeting is at church on Monday, 11th May, from 7 till 8.30pm when we will continue talking about the resurrected Jesus in Luke 24: 13-35.

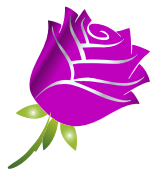
Everyone is welcome - it's informal, interesting and informative as well as helping our faith journey.

Mid-week Prayers

Wednesdays at 10am. All welcome.



Flowers



Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Barbara & Brian Biglands in memory of dearly loved sons Michael & Rob.

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



Christian Aid Week



Christian Aid Week is **10-16 May** and CTiA will be having our annual **BIG BREKKIE on Saturday, 16th May from 10am until 12 noon** at Ainsdale Village Church - hopefully, as in previous years, on the patio in the beautiful community garden. Please make a note of this now so that you won't miss out on a delicious cooked breakfast with all your food options catered for.

There will also be cakes and plants for sale and a raffle - **all in aid of Christian Aid**. If you can help that morning or if you can donate cakes, plants or a raffle prize, please let Lesley or Ann know.

Extra Church Council Meetings - Open to All

We are being asked to consider options for the future shape of churches within our Circuit. To support this, two Church Council meetings will be held at Ainsdale Methodist Church.

The first meeting will take place on Wednesday 13th May at 2pm, where Circuit officers will be present to explain the possible options and answer questions. This meeting is open to everyone, and all are welcome to attend and share their views.

The second Church Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd June at 2pm, where a vote will take place on the preferred option. While everyone is welcome to attend both meetings, please note that only Church Council members are able to vote.

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.



24TH MAY PENTECOST SUNDAY

— AND ALSO —

Aldersgate Sunday

— ✦ —

A PILGRIMAGE WALK *for the Circuit*

**A MARCH OF WITNESS
WITH TIMES OF REFLECTION**



START:
FORMBY METHODIST
2:00PM



CULMINATING AT:
AINSDALE METHODIST
ABOUT 4:00PM



REFRESHMENTS & FELLOWSHIP
at Ainsdale



YOU ARE WELCOME TO **JOIN US** FOR THE WALK
OR SIMPLY FOR THE **FELLOWSHIP & REFRESHMENTS** AT AINSDALE.

Ernie

Dear Friends,

I commend to you the video relating to the upcoming meetings designed to get you thinking about the future shapes and patterns within the Circuit. The process, begun in 2024, entitled the "Listening Events" is now reaching a critical point and some decisions will need to be made. The Circuit Leadership Team having listened to you are now offering various options by way of how we might proceed. Over recent years we have seen the number of ministerial staff reduce within the Circuit and as some colleagues have left without replacements made, so the existing staff have taken on extra responsibilities. This will happen again shortly. We will give thanks to Patrick as he sits down (please note there will be a Circuit Service at Ainsdale on Sunday 26th July at 4pm to express appreciation to Patrick for his years among us) and Ernie Grimshaw and myself look set to take on the three churches Patrick currently has pastoral charge of, unless something miraculous happens in the last stages of the stationing processes before the Methodist Conference next month (late June).

The current stage of the process is focusing on governance, in regard to the number of managing trustee bodies within the Circuit, but there are other issues to be addressed coming over the horizon. There are challenges in regard to worship patterns. We have not admitted a new local preacher for some years and need new people to take up the reins of this ministry as well as worship leading. If you feel God might be calling you to either of these ministries please speak to me or your own minister.

We also recently welcomed PJ Grayson among us as the new Circuit Children & Families Worker. You will surely see PJ at a church near you in coming weeks as he meets various groups and key people in the churches. He will be commissioned at the Circuit Service on Sunday 31 May at 11am at PPW.

Please do continue to pray for the staff and circuit stewards as we wrestle with the challenges we are facing.

Despite the challenges we face the focus of readings from the Book of Acts during the Easter season reminds us of the small beginnings in the life of the early church, where despite difficulties and challenges, God brought wonderful surprises to birth.

His spirit is still with us and can work wonders if we are open to that spirit. My prayer is that God will continue to lead us and guide us as we move forward into the next chapter of the story.

God bless,

Chris