



*Ainsdale Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

*5th July 2026*

**10am** CTiA Tent Service

**12th July** - 10.45am Joint Parade & Communion Service with Ainsdale Village Church led by Rev Patrick Evans  
- 6.30pm Circuit Service at Liverpool Road Church

*Image: Matthew 11:28*

## **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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**[methodist.org.uk](http://methodist.org.uk)**

# Lectionary Readings 5th July 2026

Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67; Psalm 45:10-17; Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Romans 7.15-25a; Matthew 11.16-19,25-30 (Year A)

## Prayer

Servant Lord, grant us both the opportunity and the will to serve you day by day. May all that we do and how we bear each other's burdens be our offering of love and service to the glory of your name. Amen.

## Bible Study

The next meeting is at church on Monday, 13th July, from 7 till 8.30pm when we will be continuing looking at Isaiah chapter 43.

Everyone is welcome.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:lucy@southportmethodist.org.uk) Thank you.

CELEBRATING  
40<sup>TH</sup>  
 ANNIVERSARY

Roundelay Choir

IN CONCERT

at

LEYLAND ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
 7.30PM

In aid of  
**Queenscourt**  
 where life is for living...

Registered Charity 518801

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS LOCAL PATIENTS  
 AND THEIR FAMILIES

Thank you for helping make every  
 moment matter

NO TICKETS — DONATIONS TO QUEENSCOURT *on the door* — THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Circuit Service to mark the

# Retirement

of

## Rev Patrick Evans

Join us as we say our farewells  
 to Patrick as his ministry as a  
 Circuit Minister comes to an end.

Sunday  
26th July

4pm

Ainsdale  
Methodist Church

Everyone is invited

The service will be followed by a faith tea.

One of the issues that arose during the recent Listening events process was the fact that some people from among our numbers seem not to have fully grasped how we are constituted. Since the earliest days Methodist churches have been governed by groups of people known as **trustees**. In the days before 1976 we had two groups whose responsibilities were slightly different (and sometimes this led to tension!) the trustees who were responsible for the property essentially, and the **Leaders' Meeting** who were responsible for the common life of the society (pastoral, church life, worship etc). I have to admit that I sadly do remember the 1976 Act coming into force because my father was cast aside as a trustee! Since 1976 we have had **church councils** who comprise a body of managing trustees made up of people who are appointed by the General Church Meeting (there is no such things as an AGM in Methodism!) or by virtue of the office they hold. We do not nor have we ever had a congregational sort of styled government where every member can vote on every topic. I recognise that other denominations have a more congregational system of governance but we have prized a system where we put our trust in certain representatives to decide on our behalf (not unlike electing Members of Parliament who vote on legislation on our behalf). The three Local Ecumenical Partnerships we have within the Circuit have a modified system of this form of governance with Ecumenical Church Councils made up of representatives of the denominations involved mindful that the property belongs to only a particular denomination in each case.

It may be that some wished things were different but that is how it is and amongst the promises ministers annually make, as well as affirming that they believe and preach **our doctrines** is the affirmation that they will accept and administer **our discipline**.

We had a significant presentation of the Listening Events process at the June Circuit Meeting (also a body of managing trustees!) and that meeting approved the next stage in the process as some form of Option 2 is discussed further, namely those churches that expressed a preference for some kind of hub must now discuss with whom they wish "to hub". You can read more about this in the Circuit News article Patrick Evans has written by way of a report. The next stages will take place in the Autumn.

So, in the meantime enjoy the tennis, football, cricket and rugby!

I hope to see you at the next Circuit Service as Lord Street West celebrates 50 years of coming together on 30th August at 11am.

Grace and peace,  
Chris Humble