



*Liverpool Road  
Methodist Church*

# Weekly Notices

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*10th December 2023*

**10.45am AAW Service led by Richard Cowan**

**6pm Circuit Carols around the Tree at Ainsdale**

**17th December - 10.45am Carol Service led by Colin Fyles**

**- 6.30pm Fellowship Time led by Andy Trimble**

## **Mission Statement**

*Liverpool Road Methodist Church exists to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the people of Birkdale and beyond can come to know God and grow in his love.*

# *Lectioary Readings 10th December 2023*

Isaiah 40.1-11; Psalm 85.1-2,8-13; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8

## *Prayer*

God of all time and space, who are we, that you should come to us? Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son. As we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, even your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

## *Sona*

The final meeting of 2023 will be on 14th December at 9.15am. Restarting on 11th January.

## *Bible Study*

The final meeting in 2023 will be the 11 December at 7pm. Restarting 8th January.

## *Facets*

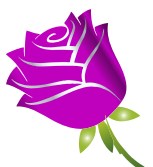
Enrolment for 2024 is on 2nd January 10am-11.15am. Classes then start on 9th Jan 9.30am.

## *Guild*

Tuesday 12th December in the New Room at 7.30pm. Christmas Praise & Faith Supper - Brian Simmons.

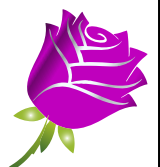
## *Aglow International*

Candlelight Ladies Group Invite you to an evening of Praise, Worship and Testimony At Leyland Road Methodist Church Coffee Lounge On Monday 11th December 2023 At 7pm Guest speaker is VERNON FULLER  
Bring a friend and be blessed



## *Flowers*

Our flowers this week have been provided by funds.





# Community Carol Concert

**Thursday 21st December at 7pm**

Leyland Road Methodist Church

Come and experience a joyful celebration of the Christmas story followed by refreshments.

Everyone welcome.

For further information please call 07801031694

## *Carols and Company*

Following our Carol Service on the morning of 17th December, we invite you to join us for a Faith Christmas Lunch in the New Room. If you could bring a savoury or sweet item for the buffet table that would be great. More importantly we would like this to be a time of fellowship as we look ahead to Christmas.

Best wishes  
Leadership Team

## *Food Pantry*

Thank you so much for your continuing support to supply goods for the food pantry.

In short supply at the moment are: Christmas biscuits/chocolates & assorted crisps.

## *Church Notices*

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



Dear Friends



*...as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"—"a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"*

*(Mark Ch 1 vs 2-3)*

This week our Advent focus is on John the Baptist who some describe as the last of the great prophets. Prophets often unwelcome as the spoke of an uncomfortable reality rooted in God that was not always to their listeners liking.

This week there were two news stories that caught my attention. The first was the former Prime Minister speaking at the Covid inquiry. The inquiry is currently exploring the core political and administrative governance and decision-making during Covid. One of the things that has struck me, not just from listening to Boris Johnson, but to other witnesses, has been the lack of someone in the machinery of government, set aside to consider the moral issues raised during the Covid crisis. We hear of discussions as to whether to let Covid rip through the country, verses the need to be cautious. There were even claims that some advocated that the elderly, who would suffer most, should be sacrificed for those younger in the population. There were obviously scientists, civil servants and politicians in the room(s), but who was the expert to offer the ballast on the moral implications? No one from what I can see. We have bishops and other faith leaders in the House of Lords who may have been able to provide such a voice; perhaps they are deemed irrelevant?

This week the government finally gave its response to the Hillsborough Independent Panel recommendations. The panel, you may recall, was headed by the The Right Reverend James Jones, then the Bishop of Liverpool, chosen for the role because he would be independent and deemed to be acceptable by all sides of the debate.

May people of faith, in whatever room they find themselves, be people who are able to bring a Kingdom of God perspective.

God bless

Patrick

