



*Liverpool Road
Methodist Church*

Weekly Notices

Minister: Rev Patrick Evans

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21st January 2024

10.45am Service led by Lesley Goddard

6.40pm Fellowship Time led by Andy Trimble

**28th January - 10.45am Covenant & Communion Service led by
Rev Patrick Evans**

- 6pm Raising Praise at Leyland Road Church

4th February - 9am Circuit Communion Service at PPW

- 11am Circuit Service at Leyland Road Church

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.

Lectionary Readings 21st January 2024

1 Samuel 3.1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139.1-6,13-18; 1 Corinthians 6.12-20; John 1.43-51

Prayer

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving love:
renew all your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain
us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Iona

Thursdays 9.15am. All welcome..

Bible Study

Mondays 7pm in the New Room

Facets

Classes every Tuesday starting at
9.30am.

Guild

Tuesday 23rd January in the New
Room at 7.30pm. Faith Studies.

Church Council

Our next Church council meeting will be on Thursday 25th January 7.30pm.

Raising Praise

The next Raising Praise will be Sunday 28th January, 6.00pm at Leyland
Road. All welcome!

Flowers

Our flowers this week have been kindly donated by Kath Moore in memory
of Tom.

Fund Raising Quiz Night

We are hosting a Quiz Night on Saturday 10th February 2024 at 7pm in the hall. You can enter a team of 6 people or come individually and join others to make up a team on the night. Light refreshments will be served during an interval. Donations (suggested amount £5 per person) will be welcome on the night for church funds and outreach. Please submit names to one of the people (below) at Liverpool Road Methodist in person or email doreen.iddon@btinternet.com or janet.oldham@btopenworld.com

Thank you.

Doreen Iddon Pam Christopher Craig Horan Julie Holland Janet Oldham

Worship Consultation

Our next worship consultation is at 18:45hrs on Thu 25th January 2024 in the church. All are welcome and it's your opportunity to share what you have found valuable (or not) in worship and what you would want to experience more of.

Ecumenical Prayer Meeting

7.30am Tuesdays in January at Shoreline Church.

Food Pantry

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

In short supply at the moment are: shower gels, shampoo, cleaning products & washing up liquid.

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.



Dear Friends



Whilst on vacation it was wonderful to attend Paynes Bay Methodist Church in Barbados on Sunday 7th January, which was the occasion of their Covenant Service. I especially value the Covenant Service, so it was good that I could participate without being involved in leading the service.

There are set readings offered as part of the Covenant Service, and the preacher chose ones of these; the vine and the branches from John Ch 15.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John Ch 15 vs 5)

Some translations have the word "abide" instead of "remain", which I find helpful. I think this weeks set gospel reading would also work well for a Covenant Service. It's the calling of the first disciples from Mark Ch 1 vs 14-20. In Mark's style the story moves at a fast pace.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him. (Mark Ch 1 vs 17-18)

I wonder what lead-up the fishermen had prior to this moment. How much had they known of Jesus or heard him themselves? We are reminded in this passage that there comes a point of making a decision to follow the way of Jesus. In many ways this can be the relatively easy part, for what follows is living it out in our daily lives. And so too with the Covenant Prayer, which whilst challenging, is relatively easy to speak. The hard part comes in the lived reality.

The encouragement is that the disciples also struggle with living their commitment to Jesus' calling. In the courtyard the night before the crucifixion, warming himself before the fire, Peter threatens to give up a lifetime of fidelity for a moment of fear.

Having made the Covenant commitment, when struggles come through this year, may we reach out to God in the midst of our fears.

God bless

Patrick

