

## From The Revd Patrick Evans

At a recent Coffee Morning someone asked me what I thought would happen to a particular world leader...would they go to heaven or not? My response was to ask the questioner what they thought. Our conversation developed as we shared together our views about the world leader, although in reality our focus was on how we view God. In part this was based on scripture, but also with our lived experience and reasoning.



The following week I was with another group reflecting on scripture and spirituality. I made the comment that we are all theologians, to which some laughed, some looked bemused and others protested that they weren't clever enough. I quickly retorted because during the conversation to that point they had all been theologically reflecting. One had spoken about God's intricate attention to detail in the creation of delicate flowers she had seen in a local park, whilst another spoke about being overwhelmed with the awesome strength and presence of God when visiting the Grand Canyon.

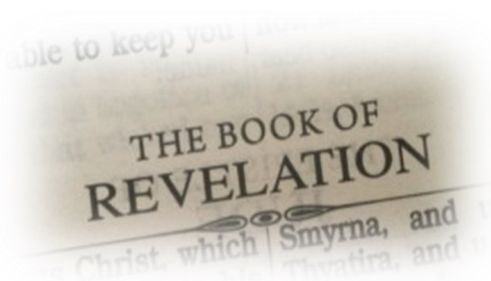
Like it or not, as Christians we are all theologians. "Theo" means God and "ology" means thinking about. So every time we think about God we are doing theology, and your thinking is as valid as the next persons. An oft repeated comment I hear is that people don't feel clever enough to go to a Bible Study. This saddens me, although I think for those of us who are not naturally "academic" we distort this to conclude we are not clever enough. Whilst we may not be academic, everyone brings different skills, gifts and insights whenever we gather.

So, to all you new found theologians out there, we invite you to join us this August as we journey together as a Circuit through the Book of Revelation. Each Sunday evening in August we will take an overview of the Revelation. See the side panel for further information.

If you cannot come to the sessions you could just read through Revelation during the month, and perhaps follow it with a Bible commentary—(William Barclay is very accessible at <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/eng/dsb/revelation.html>)

God bless

Patrick



## Bescar Lane Methodist Church



After much soul searching, the Church Council of Bescar Lane have decided to close as a church and join with St. Mark's Church in Scarisbrick.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The last Service at Bescar Lane is at 10.30am on Sunday 17th September. That week-end the Church will celebrate its 100th Anniversary. Further details of the 100th Anniversary events will be announced in due course.

## Formby Methodist Church, Elbow Lane, Formby



We are delighted that Liverpool District Synod approved the transfer of Formby Methodist Church to the Southport Circuit. We look forward to welcoming them and enriching one another in God's work.

**SAVE THE DATE:** On Sunday 10th September at 6.30pm, we will welcome Formby Methodist Church into the Circuit with a Circuit Service at Elbow Lane, Formby.

**COME AND JOIN US**

**BIBLE MONTH**  
**'REVELATION -**  
**A TEMPLATE FOR PRAISE'**  
6.30pm on Sunday 6th August  
St. Philip and St. Paul with Wesley  
(Chapters 1 - 3)  
**'The Church then and now'**

6.30pm on Sunday 13th August  
Lord Street West  
(Chapters 4 - 5)

**'The Triumph of the Lamb'**

6.30pm on Sunday 20th August  
Russell Road  
(Chapters 10 - 13)

**'Witness, Worship and Waiting'**

6.30pm on Sunday 27th August  
St. Francis of Assisi  
(Chapters 17 - 22)  
**'Heading Home'**

## **SAFEGUARDING**

Creating Safer Space



### **Safeguarding Training Foundation Course**

**Wednesday 12th July 2023**

**Starting at 9.30am**

**at Cornerstone**

(This course will last around 3 hours)

To book, please contact

Jack Watson, CSO

Either phone 07444 101130,

or Email:

[safeguarding@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@southportmethodist.org.uk)

**Circuit Evening Service  
at  
Liverpool Road Methodist  
Church  
at 6.30pm  
On Sunday 9th July 2023**

Come and join us  
for a Service of  
Reflection - Sharing  
and worship

As we gather  
around  
God's word

### **2023 Ecumenical Study Course and Discussion 'Digging Deeper'**

**First Wednesday of the month  
5th July 2023  
at 10.30**

At Leyland Road Church Lounge  
Arguments for and against  
'Same Sex' Marriage in church  
The Revd Marie-Anne Kent  
For further information  
contact Stewart on 07801 031694

**Climate Change and Eco Church  
Saturday 8th July 2.00 to 4.00pm**

**Wirral Methodist Centre  
17 Seven Acres Lane  
Thingwall CH61 7XZ**

Come and find out all you need to know  
to kick start action on climate change in  
your local church



**Christel Langdon-Griffiths  
Climate Change Campaigning  
With Christian Aid**

**Noel Sharp ECO CHURCH  
The Eco Church Scheme**

**Faiths4Change**

**Zarah Ross, Climate Change  
action on the Wirral**

There will be Q and A sessions,  
forum discussion  
tea and refreshments.

Zarah Ross, Faith and Climate  
Co-ordinator, Faiths4Change [https://  
www.faiths4change.org.uk/  
about.html](https://www.faiths4change.org.uk/about.html)

Christel Langdon-Griffiths, Christian  
Aid, Church Engagement Fundraising  
Officer, North West

[https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-  
involved/campaigns](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns)

For more information contact Rev

Noel Sharp

[noelsharp@wirralmethodist.org.uk](mailto:noelsharp@wirralmethodist.org.uk)

0151 633 2558

It is optional to book, but helpful to  
us if you do. You can do so here...

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/eco-  
church-and-climate-change-tickets-  
660312942787](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/eco-church-and-climate-change-tickets-660312942787)



**at Leyland Road  
Methodist Church  
on Sunday 23rd July  
at 6.00pm**

**when we lift our thoughts,  
prayers, our voices  
and concerns to God  
in worship and fellowship.**

### **Prayer Pointers**

- ♦ **Bescar Lane. ahead of their move to St. Mark's**
- ♦ **Cornerstone, having decided to sell their site**
- ♦ **Connell Court, MHA, Care Home which is to be sold.**
- ♦ **Welcoming Formby into Southport Circuit**



**St. Francis of Assisi  
On Saturday 1st July  
Strawberry Tea  
Come and enjoy Strawberries  
and cream & Meringues**

**Coffee or tea  
and a raffle -  
All for £3.50.**



**Celebration & Conference  
Saturday 15th July, 11am-5pm  
at Christ Church Southport**

Join us for a combination of both  
Southport & Area Schools Worker  
Trust Annual celebration and the  
Sonfest Christian music festival.

**11.00am, a time of celebration**  
amazing ways hope has been  
spreading throughout thousands of  
young people in schools this year  
**1.30pm keynote talks and  
round table discussion**  
**3.30pm a time of worship and prayer**  
for more information go to  
[www.saswtrust.com/hope](http://www.saswtrust.com/hope)