

Dear Friends

I hope you've had a blessed Easter Day. We awoke on Easter Monday to the news that Pope Francis had died. The Methodist Church issued a statement, part of which says:

*The Methodist Church in Britain receives with deep sadness the news of the death of His Holiness Pope Francis, and gives thanks for his life and Christian witness... Methodists join in these days in prayer and sympathy with our Catholic sisters and brothers, who have lost their Holy Father, recognising the pain that this brings. Methodists will also offer prayers in the days ahead for the Catholic Church, as she navigates this period.*



This moment brings into focus once more, that despite being different denominations, "we believe in one

holy catholic and apostolic Church". These familiar words came from the Council of Nicaea, and this year marks the 1700th anniversary of its first council. The outcome of the Council was the Nicene Creed which is the most widely-accepted creed in the Christian faith, used by many denominations including our own. It is a reminder of the common faith we share, both with Christians around the world today and throughout history.

As I reference Pope Francis, I wonder if some feel it is inappropriate to do so given the schisms in the Church. This reminds me that the Church in so many ways is like a normal family, and by normal I of course mean dysfunctional! Like so many families we find from time to time relationships are strained with things we disagree with. Equally we can be drawn together when tragedy strikes. When one part of the Church hurts, we all hurt, when one part of the Church rejoices, we all rejoice.

At our Circuit Service on the 4th May at Leyland Road Methodist

Church, we will celebrate the gift that is the Nicene Creed. As the Methodist Circuit in Southport, we are reminded we are gathered from individual churches, into Districts and the Connexion. Locally we are one with our ecumenical friends, both locally and globally. In this anniversary year of the Nicene Creed, may we more than ever recognise all we share in common, rather than that which may seek to divide us.

God bless

*Patrick*

**Revd Patrick Evans  
Superintendent Minister  
07813 211501**

[Patrick.evans@methodist.org.uk](mailto:Patrick.evans@methodist.org.uk)

## **Calling All Singers**

Want to sing and rejoice in the Circuit Choir at the Circuit Service on Sunday 4th May? Then come to Choir practice at 7.30pm on Thursday 2nd May at Leyland Road Methodist Church, all are welcome.

## **Favourite Hymns - Born in Song**

Methodists are well known as enthusiastic singers, in choirs and congregations. Singing is still an important means of learning about, sharing and celebrating our faith.

As a Circuit we are gathering a list of our favourite hymns and songs, and we'd love to know what yours are. We will then use this to help inform our worship across the Circuit and at Circuit events. We will publish the top twenty hymns... Where will yours feature?

Please can you let us know by Tuesday 20th May as follows:-

- Complete the form overleaf and pass it to a Minister or Church Steward.
- Complete the form and post or pop it into the Circuit Office to: Margaret Sadler, Circuit Administrator, Leyland Road Methodist Church, Leyland Road, Southport, PR9 9JQ.
- Email your top five hymns to [margaret@southportmethodist.org.uk](mailto:margaret@southportmethodist.org.uk)

**CORNERSTONE  
METHODIST CHURCH  
BRUNCH**

**SATURDAY  
31ST MAY  
10.30 -1.00**



**Lord Street West  
United  
Church**

**Saturday 3rd May  
at 10.30am  
The theme is  
Here comes the Sun  
(the moon and the stars..)  
All the family  
Are  
WELCOME**



**At Leyland Road  
Methodist Church  
on Sunday 24th May  
at 6.00pm  
when we lift our thoughts,  
prayers, our voices  
and concerns  
to God  
in worship and fellowship  
ALL WELCOME**

**LORD STREET WEST  
UNITED CHURCH**

**MUSICAL AFTERNOON**

**MONDAY 7th July**

**At 2.30pm**

**With**

**A musical selection**

**by**

**The Revd Peter Hughes**

**Including refreshments**

**In aid of the**

**LSW Refurbishment**

**(A collection will be taken)**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Painting Pottery  
Sessions**

**Liverpool Road Methodist Church**

Open to children aged 4-12 years and their parents, there's no need to book - just come along and have fun! These sessions are designed for Southport young families and will take place on the **4th Saturday of each month from March to October, running from 1:30pm to 4pm.** They are completely free of charge.

For more details, please contact **Caroline Broadhurst** on **07967 971484.**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

**2pm**

PPW Lounge

Scarisbrick New Rd PR8 6QF



The truth is we are all going to die. But nobody wants to say anything. GraveTalk is a chance to talk about death, think about your funeral, ask questions, air your thoughts. For people of all faiths and doubts. There will be tea, cake and relaxed, informal conversation. It will be hosted by Rev Rachel Bray and reps from Moisters Coop funeral care on Sefton St. We'd love you to come along.

*\*If you're thinking of coming, please email [stppw.office@gmail.com](mailto:stppw.office@gmail.com) to help with an idea of numbers but this is not essential*

**MY FAVOURITE HYMNS & SONGS**

(please state the first line of the hymn/song and if you want, the hymn number and hymn book title - thank you)


1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



# News extra May 2025

**Circuit Service**  
**On Sunday 4th May 2025**  
**at Leyland Road**  
**Methodist Church**  
**at 11.00am**

**A big THANK YOU** for all the messages, support and sponsorship for the London Marathon. I now know the answer to the question 'How hard can it be!' It was a very hot day and 26.2 miles is a long way, but with your help I raised £8,500 for Christian Aid, for the people who really know how tough life can be.



My Justgiving page is still open if you would like to support those who have to walk long distances every day in the hot sun for what we take for granted; education, water, food and health care.



**PPW**  
 St Philip & St Paul with Wesley  
 PRESENTS

*Community*  
**FUN DAY**

**AT PPW CHURCH**  
**37 SCARISBRICK NEW RD**

**SATURDAY 17TH MAY**  
**11:00AM - 2:00PM**


*Event Highlights*  
**EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES**  
**FOOD & REFRESHMENTS**  
**FANTASTIC STALLS**  
**SOUTHPORT FIRE SERVICE**  
**RAFFLE & TOMBOLA**

If you would like to host a stall for just £15 (table included), please get in touch at [stppw.office@gmail.com](mailto:stppw.office@gmail.com)

Join Us for a Spectacular Family Fun Day!

**MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON**

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/marie-anne-kent-1732551019605?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/marie-anne-kent-1732551019605?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)  
 or just search Marie-Anne Kent on **Justgiving.com**  
**Many thanks to you all**




Marie-Anne Kent  
 01704 513128

**COMPASSION ACTS**

**Church Representative Opportunity**  
 To help ease the workload of our ministers, Compassion Acts are seeking a representative from each church to support this important mission.

If you would like to find out more about this please contact:  
 Revd Graham Turner on 07581 191014  
 or email [grahamturner@gmail.com](mailto:grahamturner@gmail.com).  
 Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a meaningful difference.



**Date for your Diary**  
 The former Liverpool District MWiB Summer Gathering will be held on Wednesday, 4th June 2025  
 Guest Speaker Deacon Denise Creed  
 Further details to follow