



The Link



The Magazine of

Marshside Road Methodist Church Southport

www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk



Priceless, but donations gratefully received

September 2016



Dan Mayor presenting a cheque for £447 to Carol Drury and John, the Manager of the Southport Foodbank. Dan raised the money by completing the 5k Colour Run with his mum, Tash, on the 10th of July.

Dear Friends,

Well, it's been a frustrating summer for me. Started off ok with a lovely week in Norfolk with Scott then the Saturday before holiday club was due to start I ended up in A and E for the day. The lower back pain that had been niggling for a few days and I was hoping would be gone in the morning, turned out to be a trapped sciatic nerve. It was painful, so I spent the day in A and E whilst the doctor tried to control the pain. They wanted me to stay in overnight but I was worried about the following morning and the following week. Eventually I was allowed home but it was clear that I wasn't going to be able to the baptism the next morning or join in with any of holiday club. I was gutted to say the least.

I was grounded for a week, unable even to dress myself. It must have been bad because I ate a whole packet of biscuits and I don't even like biscuits. I was like a caged animal, a bear with a sore head. I was missing holiday club; I couldn't move or drive or go to the gym. I missed three of the circuit evening services, something I had been looking forward to all year and I was thoroughly fed up.

Things didn't get much better when I got back to work either, my email account had been hacked and I had to spend time recovering it and my contacts and then to top it off I switched on the computer one morning ready to write the sermon for that Sunday and all the notes I'd made during the week had disappeared. After an hour trying to get them back I gave up and went and sat in the garden in tears of frustration, maybe I'm not called to ministry God?

As I poured out my frustration to God in the garden this scripture popped into my mind:

Matthew 6:25-26

Do not worry

25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Well that was me told. What on earth was I worrying for? Worry just shows a lack of faith in God. I went back inside and calmly started on my sermon.

I wonder what you are worrying about at the moment? Sometimes it's hard not to worry isn't it? But the same God who created you can be trusted with every detail of your life, pour out your worries to God in prayer and experience his peace, now.

I want to leave you with the words of Julian of Norwich (c. 8 November 1342 – c. 1416) "In this vision he showed me a little thing, the size of a hazelnut, and it was round as a ball. I looked at it with the eye of my understanding and thought "What may this be?" And it was generally answered thus: "It is all that is made." I marvelled how it might last, for it seemed it might suddenly have sunk into nothing because of its littleness. And I was answered in my understanding: "It lasts and ever shall, because God loves it."

Every blessing

Rev Jan

Monday Evening Fellowship

Our evening meetings will begin again on Monday October 3rd. At our A.G.M we decided to change our starting time to 7.30pm (Please note the new time).

Our group is a mixed group and we would welcome anyone who would like to join us, including friends who might be interested.

We have put together what we hope will be a very varied and interesting syllabus.

October 3rd - Rev Jan

October 10th - Rev Brian Trudegan - Experiences on Bargain Hunt, BBC T.V.

October 17th - Julie Rowlands - Camp for disadvantaged children in the Ukraine.

October 24th - David Wall - Birds of Marshside and Southport.

October 31st - Donald Lodge - The Life and Times of a Butler.

Also, please support the Fashion Show by the Edinburgh Woolen Mill on Monday September 26th, to raise money for speakers fees.

Joan Owen Tel : 220436

Crossens Luncheon Club Coffee Morning.

There will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday, October 1st, at St . John's Church, Rufford Road, from 10am until 12 noon, to raise funds to support the Luncheon Club. There will be a Cake Stall and a Raffle.

Worship Policy

For some time now the Leadership Team has been reflecting on our patterns of worship and what best suits our particular congregation. At the last Church Council meeting we brought our musing for discussion and Church Council agreed to adopt the following worship policy. This policy has been brought to the attention of the local Preacher's secretary and it is hoped that the local Preachers of the circuit will also subscribe to it when leading worship at Marshside.

As agreed at Church Council on 30th June 2016

1st Sunday of each month:

9am communion service following the liturgy of the Methodist Worship Book with short message and service lasting no more than 45 minutes.

10.30am All age parade service accompanied by the piano with lively worship and appropriate bible stories and prayers. Lasting no longer than 45 minutes

2nd & 4th Sundays of each month:

Start with 10-15minutes of all age worship using a least one duggie dug dug type song and appropriate worship, bible stories, prayers etc. Long or difficult bible readings and prayers kept until the young people and children have left for their own activities.

3rd Sunday of each month:

Communion service using Methodist Worship Book or other liturgy that is appropriate to the time and season, ie Family Friendly Churches. Children and young people will be in for the start of the service and will re-join us during the hymn before communion. Younger children leave after they have received communion.

5th Sunday, when there is one:

All age worship following the pattern of a parade service.

Twice a quarter:

Evening praise in the lounge. Contemporary/alternative forms of worship.

Resources available:

Worship leaders – Avril Merone and Stan Rimmer

Hymn books – Singing the Faith, Hymns and Psalms, Songs of Fellowship combined words edition.

Organists – Glenn Howard and Marjory Jewell

Pianist – Liz Tomkins

Choir – Glenn Howard (choir master)

Screens including internet access – Mike Owen

Situations vacant

We have a two key office roles within the church that need to be fulfilled:

Church Council Secretary and Pastoral Secretary

Church Council Secretary is responsible for taking minutes at church council and ensuring that all members have a copy of the minutes. They are responsible for gathering and distributing all reports before meetings and helping to write the agenda. Joanna Simpson has been doing a fantastic job as Church council secretary for the last 8 years but feels it is now time to step down. If you are interested in the role Joanna is ready to help and advise. Our next church council meeting is on the 18th October. If you feel called to this role, please speak to Rev Jan

Pastoral Secretary is a church council appointment and very important role within the church. The pastoral secretary has oversight of all the pastoral visitors, keeps the membership list up to date, arranges pastoral meetings and writes the agenda for them and informs the minister of any members needing the minister's attention. Joan Owen has been faithfully and skilfully fulfilling this role for the church for over 20 years, thank you Joan, but now it is time for someone else to take on the role. Joan is stepping down on the 1st September 2017 and is ready to help and advise anyone who feels called to become our new pastoral secretary. If you feel called to this role please speak to Rev Jan.

Choir members I would also like to bring to your attention the need for more members of the choir. Our choir enhance our worship every Sunday morning but we are in danger of losing the choir. Membership has dropped for various reasons over the last few years and numbers have dwindled. Those who are left are faithfully carrying on but we need some new members if we are to continue to enjoy a choir on Sundays. Choir practice is on a Thursday evening, and believe you will thoroughly enjoy choir practice. Please consider whether you are being called to become a member of the choir.

Please prayerfully consider whether you are called to any of these roles; they are quite important roles in terms of the functioning of the church and if we can't fulfil them we may need to ask serious questions as to whether we are viable as a functioning local church.

Rev Jan

Foodbank Fundraiser

Dan Mayor is 14 and goes to Marshside Road Methodist Church, who are raising money this year for the Foodbank. Dan decided he wanted to do the Galloways Society for the Blind 5K Colour Blast on 10th July to raise money for us. He and his Mum, Natasha, trained hard in the weeks before the run and on the day they both finished the race. Dan was exhausted in addition to being covered in many colours of paint! But he scrubbed up well and on 23rd August Dan presented a cheque for £447 to the Foodbank.

Well done and thank you, Dan!

John and Carol, Foodbank Managers

Fashion Show

Monday 26th September 2pm in the lounge. Clothes by Edinburgh Woollen Mill. Tickets £3 from Dorothy Mitchell or Joan Owen. Proceeds towards the cost of speakers for Monday Evening Fellowship. Everyone welcome. Refreshments.

Joan and Dorothy

Next Issue

The next edition of **The Link** will be published on the **Sunday the 2nd of October 2016**. Therefore, items for inclusion in the next edition need to reach me by **Sunday the 25th of September**.

Thanks, Mike (MikeOwen10@aol.com)

Marshside Road Methodist Church, Southport, PR9 9TL

www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk

Ministers : Revd. Jan Fraser

Tel : 01704 227296

Email : revjanfraser@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday Services

09:00 am.	Holy Communion – first Sunday of each Month
10:30 am.	Morning Worship – including Crèche, J Team and Teenscene
18:30 am.	Evening Fellowship – see Weekly Notices

Weekly Programme

Day	Meeting	Time	Contact
Monday	Parent, Carer & Toddler Group	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)
	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Monday Evening Fellowship	20:00 –	Mrs Joan Owen (220436)
Tuesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Bible Study Fellowship	10:45 –	Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)
	Prayer Fellowship	19:00 – 20:00	Mrs Pat Wright (213647)
	Knit & Craft Club, see website for details	13:00 – 16:00	Mrs Dorothy Mitchell (228430)
Wednesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Brigade	18:30 – 21:30	Mrs Kay Owen (225126) Miss Heather Jackson (532977)
	Wednesday Group - every 4 th Wednesday		Mrs Sheila Jones (227661)
Thursday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Thought for the Day	10:15 –	Mr George Phillips (514795)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Choir Practice	19:30 – 21:00	Mr Glenn Howard (840485)
Friday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	16:00 – 19:15	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
Saturday	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	09:15 – 15:00	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
	Monthly Messy Church (see Website)	16:00 – 18:00	See the Church Website for details
Other Contacts :	Church Notices		Mrs Dorothy Simpkin (229987)
	Cradle Roll		Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)
	Magazine/Website Editor		Mr Mike Owen (225126)
	Action for Children Co-ordinator		Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)
	Pastoral Committee		Mrs Joan Owen (220436)
	Premises Letting Officer		Mr David Goldson (514390)
	World Missions		Mrs Lin Mayor (212059)

Disclaimer :

The views and opinions expressed in this Church Magazine are solely those of the author of the individual article and not necessarily the views of the Church, Leadership Team or Minister.