



*Leyland Road
Methodist Church*

Weekly Notices

26th January 2025

10.30am Service led by Deacon Alison McCauley

6pm Raising Praise

2nd February - 10.30am Joint Service with Cornerstone led by Rev Brian Trudgian

Image: Psalm 19

**Our Mission is to share the heart of
God at the heart of the community**

Minister:

Rev Ernie Grimshaw

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Lectionary Readings 26th January 2025

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a; Luke 4.14-21

Weekly Activities

Mondays	10am-4pm Warm Space
Tuesdays	7.30am Ecumenical Prayers at Sacred Heart Church 2.30pm Fellowship Group
Wednesdays	12pm Prayer Time
Thursdays	10am Toddler Group
Fridays	9.30am Spanish Tots Class 10.30am Spanish Babies Class

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.

Bra Bank

The Bra Bank is back! Please place your donations in either the box in the lounge or in the school rooms. Thank you



Dining Club

Next Diners Club will be on Thursday 20th February 12.30pm at the Mount. Please place completed Menu Choices in the Box as usual **by Sunday 16th**. Thank you.

Welcome Lunch

Everyone is invited to a lunch to welcome Ernie & Nicky on Sunday 9th February at 1pm in the Parlour. If you would like to attend please let Elizabeth Wallbank or Margaret Crosby know so we know numbers for catering, please also inform of any dietary requirements.

Listening Together

As the new year begins, Ernie is encouraging us to focus on what God has in store for us as a church moving forwards. As part of this the stewards, local preachers and worship leaders are planning a day away early February so we can pray together and listen to God. We are very conscious that God speaks to all of us and in many different ways, so we would also like to invite any or all of you all to input into this process. The bible is littered with examples of God speaking through unexpected channels so this invite is open to everyone, particularly those who may not speak-up often or may not normally be involved in the decision making of the church.

If you are experiencing a sense of excitement about our future together or feel that God is putting something specific on your heart, please can you let us know. Please speak with either Elizabeth Wallbank or David Attwater and they will then explore with you how you can contribute in a way that is comfortable for you.

Thank you in advance and we look forward to hearing what God has to say through us all.

David and Elizabeth

Southport **BOOK** **LAUNCH**

7.30pm Thursday 30th January

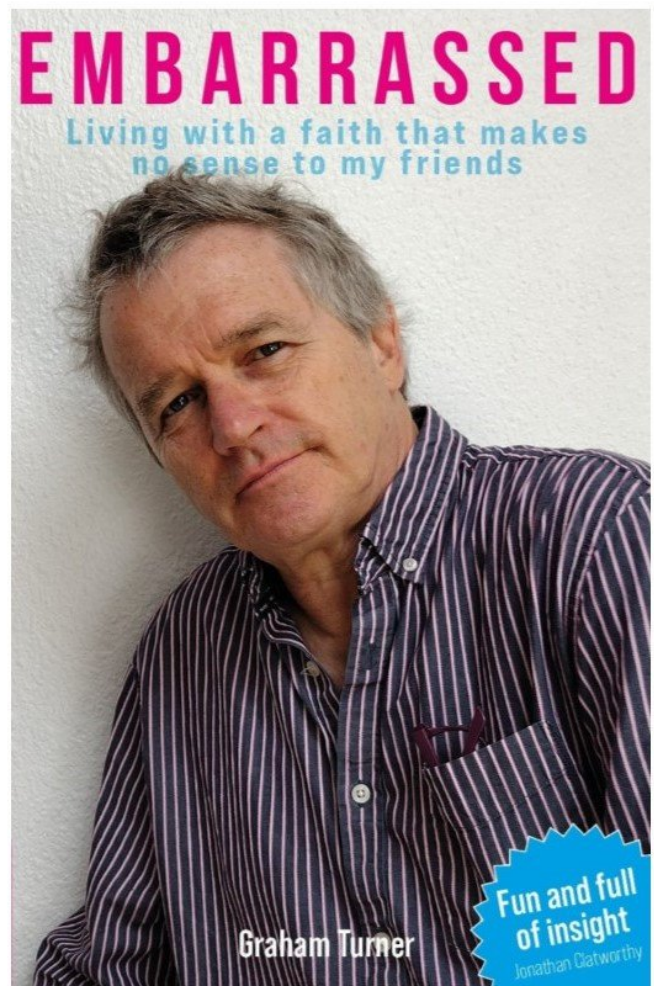
St Philip & St Paul, with Wesley

Southport PR8 6QF

*"Told in a light-hearted
and delightfully
entertaining manner"*

"This is his 'coming out'"

*"Makes for compelling
reading for anyone"*



Dear Friends

'My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one – I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.' John Ch 17 vs 20-23.

We are in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and this year is the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed which was the outcome of the Nicene Council. Constantine was the Roman Emperor in 325 and had become a Christian in 313. I wonder as the leader of the Roman Empire whether he contrasted the diversity (and schisms) of the church with some of the uniformity he was able to exert across the Roman Empire. One of the significant areas of disagreement was around the divinity of Jesus. As examples some Christians thought Jesus was a good exemplary human to whom God bestowed divinity; others thought that within the Holy Trinity there was a hierarchy, with God the Father "senior" to God the Son.

The achievement of the Nicene Council in agreeing the Nicene Creed was and remains monumental. The Council brought together about 300 church leaders from Africa, Asia and Europe to thrash out some of these differences and seek to land on an agreed understanding. Unsurprisingly the Council met for two months.

Why did it take so long? I wonder if it took a number of weeks for people to firstly allow themselves to consider "could it be that I am wrong", and then secondly some more weeks to listen carefully to the views of others. Do we today need to apply these two approaches, whether within our own congregations, with our local ecumenical partners, or within and beyond our own denominations?

God bless

Patrick