

FORMBY  
METHODIST  
CHURCH



# NEWSLETTER

September 2011

Minister	Rev John Ritson
Senior Stewards	Mr Ron Campbell
	Mr Mark Pickering
	Mrs Winnie Pickering
Treasurer	Mrs Wendy Lunt
Property Steward	Mr Colin Domville
Envelope Scheme	Mr Graham Marks
Gift Aid Secretary	Mr Bill Roberts
Church Council Secretary	Mrs Margaret Nicholas
Sunday School Leader	Mrs Margaret Nicholas
Booking Officer	Mrs Edna Gilmour

This Church is in Covenant Membership with other Churches of Formby, Altcar and Hightown and with Trinity United Church in Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.

We give a warm welcome to all visitors worshipping with us. Please make yourselves known to the Church Stewards in the Entrance. The services for the month are listed in the Newsletter. We hope you will take the opportunity to worship with us. Coffee is served in the Hall after the morning service.

Hearing Aid System: An inductive loop system is in operation. This enables you to sit wherever you wish. Please turn your hearing aid to the 'T' position.

Sunday School meets from 10.15 am.

Photocopying Contacts:- Wendy Lunt

Olva Clayton

Carol Shanks

Gordon Harrison

Margaret Carleton

Mark Pickering

Sue Ensor

Doris Shewring

Susan Howden

**Weekly Notices:** items can be by phone but **PREFERABLY** by e-mail to Irene Watts by 4.00pm on the Wednesday.

**Website:** [www.FormbyMethodistChurch.org.uk](http://www.FormbyMethodistChurch.org.uk)



**Formby Methodist Church in covenant with  
Trinity United Church, Peterborough, Canada.**



Volume 17i September 2011

Formby 01704 831439

Dear Friends

Well then, another Methodist New Year and on a personal note the beginning of our sixth year in the Crosby circuit. I'm writing this in the middle of August and nearing the end of our holiday in N Wales. The news is about rioting in London, David Cameron's zero tolerance on rioters and their families and questions about who is to blame for the mayhem and what can be done about our 'broken society.'

Britain is frequently described as a 'Secular Society' we read of or hear about Churchmen being patronised or ridiculed when they speak on issues about God or faith being relevant to society. Yet Paul's description of what happens when a society rejects God in Romans 1 fits modern Britain like a handmade glove.

Relationships come in many forms: some intimate, some social, some casual etc but all contribute to the richness of life. Without relationships people become lonely, isolated & dried up. Images of wealthy young sportsmen surrounded by the trappings of success: cars, houses, jewellery, beautiful young women, flash holidays all give an impression of success. Then we read of another one whose marriage is broken, or who has a drink or drug problem or is being cautioned for violent behaviour. Success in life isn't dependent on possessing things but that is the impression our society gives young people from a very early age.

Society is about relationship. Society is about relationship and taking responsibility for one another. Society is about relationship, responsibility and caring for one another. Our problem is we have become so used to the welfare state that we think 'it' should care for anyone in need and have forgotten that 'it' is 'we'.

When Jesus was asked 'What is the greatest commandment?' He answered with two Commandments which summed up the whole of the law:

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it:

'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Matt 22:37f

When asked 'Who is my neighbour?' Jesus told the story of the Good

Samaritan, a man who risked his life, gave time, money and energy to aid an enemy. That is the example for us.

John

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### Church Family News

Congratulations to Amy (Andrews) on the occasion of her baptism into the Church on the 21<sup>st</sup> August. Helen and Tim brought Amy to be baptised and our Minister John conducted the service which was a truly happy occasion. We are delighted to welcome Amy into the Church and look forward to seeing her grow in the love of our Lord.

Congratulations also to Clare Mason (now Darrity) who was married in August to Ian. Our best wishes go to them for a very happy future together.

More congratulations! This time to Judith and Geoff Makinson who have a new grandson, Thomas James. Gillian, their daughter, is Thomas' mum and he was born in July. We welcome the good news that Nicola and Neil Langton-Miller have a son, Jack Edward James, born on the 16<sup>th</sup> August and we congratulate them.

Still more congratulations and they are for Maureen and Andrew May who have been delighted by the news that granddaughter Amy has been awarded a scholarship to study for a Ph.D in Finance at Leeds University. Congratulations again this time to Alison Hall, Sybil's granddaughter, who has won a place in Kingston University. It's a double celebration for Beryl and Terry Broughton with the good news that Josh, Tony's son, has won a place in Leeds University to study music and Laura, Sandra's daughter, will be starting a PGCE course having gained her degree in Sociology. Celebrations too in the Davenport family with Joshua, Simon's son, gaining his degree in Environmental Geography.

We share in the joy of these successes and any other which we have not heard about. We also share in the disappointment any of our youngsters may have had through not gaining high enough grades - holding them in our prayers as they search for new things to do or repeat their studies.

Susan and Brian Howden have been very busy with family weddings. Mark Howden married Jan at the end of July and Helen Bousfield married Nick at the August Bank Holiday. Congratulations to all concerned.

We were saddened by the deaths of two old members who have not been able to attend church for quite a while. Mrs Anne Elliot, mother of Anne Loughlin, died in August at the age of 102, and Ted Beveridge who passed away in July. We remember their families in our prayers. Our sympathy also goes to John and Kathryn following the death of John's sister in July.

## Sunday Services

### September

|    |         |                 |                       |
|----|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 4  | 8.30am  | Rev J Ritson    | HOLY COMMUNION        |
|    | 10.30am | Rev J Ritson    |                       |
|    | 6.30pm  | Rev J Ritson    | HOLY COMMUNION        |
| 11 | 10.30am | Mrs J White     |                       |
|    | 6.30pm  | Rev S Hill      |                       |
| 18 | 10.30am | Rev K Briddock  | HOLY COMMUNION        |
|    | 6.30pm  | Rev J Ritson    |                       |
| 25 | 10.30am | Rev J Ritson    | BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY |
|    | 6.30pm  | Circuit Service |                       |

### October

|   |          |                   |                  |
|---|----------|-------------------|------------------|
| 2 | 8.30am   | Rev J Ritson      | HOLY COMMUNION   |
|   | 10..30am | Mrs C Booth       | HARVEST FESTIVAL |
|   | 6.30pm   | United Service at | HOLY TRINITY     |

It is good that Betty Davenport has finished her treatment and we pray her recovery will be complete. Also that Brown Owl Janet's husband, Keith Lomax, is making good progress at home after surgery in Broadgreen.

As most will be aware Brenda Horton has now moved into her new home - we wish her every happiness there.

As usual we remember our friends who are unable to come to worship with us and would like them to know they are always in our thoughts and prayers. Also in our thoughts and prayers are those who are, or will be, going for tests and treatment - may God's healing hand be upon them.

Thank you

Eileen Morgan

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### Sunday 2 October 2011

Following morning worship on Sunday 2 October, there will be a Harvest Lunch in the Family Centre. All are welcome.

If you intend coming and have any dietary requirements please let us know.

Margaret, Susan, Jean

## Church Weekend, Skipton, October 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> 2011

Doesn't time fly!

Just a gentle nudge to remind all those who are hoping to be part of this weekend (65 of us!) that the final payment of £100 per person is due over the next few weeks. We have now booked two additional rooms, which were the last available in the hotel.

Cheques made payable to Formby Methodist Church can be given to Katherine Ritson, Phil or Eileen Morgan, Val Moore or Liz Morris in an envelope marked with the names of the people for whom that payment is being made. The final date for payment will be Sunday 25th September. Can you also please make sure that you have informed us of any particular room or dietary requirements so that we can let the hotel know when we send in our final numbers.

Phil is currently looking into the possibility of arranging a canal boat trip for the Saturday afternoon. If you might be interested in this can you speak to Phil about it.

Thank-you.

Liz Morris

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### Thank you

I would just like to say how much I appreciated the gift of flowers while 'under the weather'. The floral display was much admired and lasted a good three weeks!!

I am pleased to say I have now recharged my batteries and am back on form. Thank you all.

Sincerely

Audrey Wright

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### Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for their best wishes, cards, flowers and care during the last few weeks whilst I have undergone treatment. To know that so many people are holding me in their prayers means such a lot to me.

Very many thanks

God Bless

Betty Davenport

## Sincere Thanks

My most sincere thanks to everyone for the offers of assistance and the many gifts of plants, flowers, chocolates and, especially, for the prayers following my spectacular fall down an escalator. A feat I shall not be repeating!

Maureen May

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## Contemporary Worship Songs

Following a get-together a few weeks ago, the Worship Leaders would like to invite anyone interested in learning some new worship songs to join them in church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 10-11.30am for another 'sing-along'. The plan is to listen and join in with CDs so musical ability is NOT a requirement! If you enjoy singing and are able to join us for all or part of the time, just come along. The puppets might also make an appearance for anyone who would like to 'have a go'.

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## Puppets

Many people have commented on how much they enjoyed the puppet team who helped lead our Church Anniversary Service. The puppets communicated Bible messages in a very different way. The Worship Leaders are hoping to include puppets in some future services. However, more help is needed in various areas to make this possible - scripts, props, music, or puppets. A training day is being held in Southport on 12<sup>th</sup> November to provide an introduction to Puppet Ministry. The day gives demonstrations and performances as well as hands on experience in the use of puppets. If you are interested in helping with puppets in our own church or in attending the training day, please speak to one of the Worship Leaders.

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## Thursday Housegroup

The Thursday Housegroup will recommence on 8<sup>th</sup> September. We meet 8-9.30pm every fortnight at 37 Harington Green for a time of discussion on a variety of themes. It is a very informal group who enjoy a time of fellowship together. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us. Please contact Winnie or Mark Pickering if you would like to know more.

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## **THEATRE GROUP**

We have sold all of our ticket allocation (plus extra) for The Formby Little Theatre's production of "I'LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT" on Thursday 13th October.

Booking will close today, Sunday 4th September, for The Birkdale Orpheus Society's production of "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" at Southport Little Theatre on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Tickets are £15.00 (Seniors £12.00) Curtain up at 7.30pm. Own transport arrangements.

Roy Allan

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## **Action for Children**

The recent house to house collection raised £628.90 which included over £100 from the envelopes in the Church Pews. I would like to thank everyone who contributed and especially the collectors, all of whom have been doing this for years but whose task is annually becoming more difficult. I have received a letter from the Action for Children Fund Raiser Co-ordinator thanking us for our efforts.

Margaret Nicholas

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## **AUCTION 2011**

The Auction, Saturday 8 October, is fast approaching. We would welcome some help in setting out the items, and cleaning them, anytime on Thursday 6 October and the afternoon of Friday 7 October. Being the biggest fundraiser for the Church means that a lot of manpower is also required on the Auction day itself (morning and afternoon) so please contact Lin, Graham and Peter if you are able to spare the odd hour or two on any or all of the three days.

Catalogues are now on sale costing £1.

We hope you are able to attend the Auction itself - please encourage friends and family to come along and buy the bargain of a lifetime.

Thank you

Auction Working Party

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## **Church Walk - Saturday 17 September 2011**

Cheesden Valley

This should have been the August walk but due to 'the other side of the

Pennines' having a bad weather day it was abandoned - decision made over a cuppa not far from the start of the walk. Some ladies took themselves off to Boundary Mill for retail therapy - much needed after the trauma of a walk being cancelled. Others took themselves back to sunny Formby!

This is a moderate walk of nearly 7 miles. It starts at Ashworth Moor Reservoir, between Haslingden and Rochdale.

The write-up in our book speaks of "secluded wooded gorges which once hummed with sounds of modest textile mills .... the remains of which add a melancholic air to this adventurous trail which threads along sylvan valleys, past millponds and through relict communities in a beautiful, austere countryside".

Could the author be guilty of hyperbole? Come and join the walk and decide for yourself!

We leave the Church at 9.30 am. There may be some muddy stretches and there are no tea-houses en route, so walking boots and a picnic lunch are essential.

For further information contact Maureen or Trevor Simpson

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## **CHRISTIAN AID HARVEST SUPPER**

Following last year's successful Harvest Supper and Barn Dance, this year there will be a Harvest Supper and a Quiz Night. I do hope you will support this new venture.

The Supper and Quiz are to be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity Church Hall. The Harvest Supper will be the traditional Hot Pot Supper. Please bring your own drinks.

Tickets are available from Brian Howden at a cost of £7.50 per person.

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## **Operation Christmas Child (Shoebox Charity)**

These are the dates for the Operation Christmas Child "Roadshow" this year:

|                     |                                |                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Moor Lane:</b>   | <b>Saturday 24th September</b> | <b>10am - 12noon</b> |
| <b>Mersey Road:</b> | <b>Saturday 1st October</b>    | <b>10am - 12noon</b> |
| <b>Elbow Lane:</b>  | <b>Saturday 22nd October</b>   | <b>10am - 12noon</b> |

Admission will be 50p (children accompanied by adults - free) which will include refreshments. Please tell your family, friends and neighbours - ALL are welcome.

We will have plenty of free, ready-decorated shoeboxes - thanks to the

Amazing Jessica and her crafty fingers. There will also be a full range of bargain items for your boxes, whether you are preparing one from scratch or topping up on what you've already collected!

Ready-packed boxes will also be available again this year and, despite the alarming increases in prices, we have decided to hold the price at £4 per box. Please speak to Andrew if you would like to avail yourself of this 'bespoke' service.

The service of collection will be in early November.

Every year, the number of potential recipients exceeds the number of boxes available, so please give this charity your support.

Maureen & Andrew May

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## **Elbow Lane Annual CRAFT FAIR**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**10.00 AM - 1.30 PM**

**Admission 75p includes tea/coffee and biscuit**

**STALLS with VARIOUS CRAFTS**

**COME ALONG AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!!**

**Your continued support would be appreciated for the teas and cakes table and in particular for the RAFFLE table. For any further information please contact**

**John Huntley**

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### **Open House**

The new season for Open House will commence on Tuesday 6th September at 8pm when Dorothy Hughes from the Lyric Singers will give a presentation on "Holidays around the World".

On Tuesday 20th September at 8pm the Journalist Angela Danby will give a talk on "Life as a Journalist"

Church members and friends are most welcome to join in our fellowship at Open House and enjoy talks from both outside speakers and our own members.

The OPEN HOUSE COFFEE MORNING will be held on Saturday 24th September from 10am to 12 noon with usual refreshments and stalls - please lend your support

Alan Tulley

**THE NEXT NEWSLETTER** will be published on **SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER**. Items to the news team by **MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**. Please include with each item submitted for publication your name and telephone number.

Newsletter Contribution E-mail:

[Newsletter@formbymethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:Newsletter@formbymethodistchurch.org.uk)

**Items**, for inclusion in the next issue on the Sunday prior to the deadline may be given to Brenda Horton, Jean Horne or Olva Clayton.

**N.B. Each newsletter costs AT LEAST 32p PLEASE TAKE AN ENVELOPE AND BECOME A SUBSCRIBER. Thank you.**

| September |    | Church Diary Edna Gilmour |                                                                 |
|-----------|----|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | 5  | 3.00-6.00pm               | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                                           |
| Tuesday   | 6  | 1.30-3.30pm               | <i>Jewellery Making (Circle)</i>                                |
|           |    | 7.30pm                    | <i>Sefton Ladies Choir (Circle)</i>                             |
|           |    | 8.00pm                    | Open House - Holidays around the World-<br>Dorothy Hughes (MLR) |
| Wednesday | 7  | 12.00-23.00pm             | <i>Getting Started (Circle)</i>                                 |
|           |    | 3.00-6.00pm               | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                                           |
|           |    | 7.30pm                    | <i>Emotions Anon (SMR)</i>                                      |
| Thursday  | 8  | 9.30-11.30am              | Toddlers (Hall & Circle)                                        |
|           |    | 2.30pm                    | Ladies Fellowship (MLR)                                         |
| Monday    | 12 | 3.00-6.00pm               | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                                           |
| Tuesday   | 13 | 1.30-3.30pm               | <i>Jewellery Making (Circle)</i>                                |
|           |    | 7.30pm                    | <i>Sefton Ladies Choir (Circle)</i>                             |
|           |    | 8.00pm                    | Bible Study (Church)                                            |
| Wednesday | 14 | 12.00-2.00pm              | <i>Getting Started (Circle)</i>                                 |
|           |    | 1.45-4.45pm               | <i>Sefton PCT Creative Alternatives (MLR)</i>                   |

## Church Diary Edna Gilmour

### September

|                |    |                 |                                                    |
|----------------|----|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday      | 14 | 3.00-6.00pm     | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                              |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | <i>Emotions Anon (SMR)</i>                         |
| Thursday       | 15 | 9.30-11.30am    | Toddlers (Hall & Circle)                           |
|                |    | 2.30pm          | Ladies Fellowship (MLR)                            |
| Saturday       | 17 | 10.30-12.00noon | Messy Church                                       |
| Monday         | 19 | 3.00-6.00pm     | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                              |
| Tuesday        | 20 | 1.30-3.30pm     | <i>Jewellery Making (Circle)</i>                   |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | <i>Sefton Ladies Choir (Circle)</i>                |
|                |    | 8.00pm          | Open House-Life as a Journalist-Angela Danby (MLR) |
| Wednesday      | 21 | 12.00-2.00pm    | Getting Started (Circle)                           |
|                |    | 1.45-4.45pm     | <i>Sefton PCT Creative Alternatives (MLR)</i>      |
|                |    | 3.00-6.00pm     | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                              |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | <i>Emotions Anon (SMR)</i>                         |
| Thursday       | 22 | 9.30-11.30am    | Toddlers (Hall & Circle)                           |
|                |    | 2.30pm          | Ladies Fellowship (MLR)                            |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | Circuit meeting at Mersey Road                     |
| Saturday       | 24 | 10.00-12.00noon | Open House Coffee morning (Hall)                   |
| Sunday         | 25 | 10.30am         | Back to Church Sunday-Rev John Ritson              |
|                |    | 5.00pm          | Haiti Presentation and Bring & Share Tea           |
|                |    | 6.30pm          | Circuit Service Elbow Lane                         |
| Monday         | 26 | 3.00-6.00pm     | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                              |
| Tuesday        | 27 | 1.30-3.30pm     | <i>Jewellery Making (Circle)</i>                   |
|                |    | 1.30-3.30pm     | <i>Flower Arranging (MLR)</i>                      |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | <i>Sefton Ladies Choir (Circle)</i>                |
|                |    | 8.00pm          | Bible Study (Church)                               |
| Wednesday      | 28 | 12.00-2.00pm    | Getting Started (Circle)                           |
|                |    | 1.45-4.45pm     | <i>Sefton PCT Creative Alternatives (MLR)</i>      |
|                |    | 3.00-6.00pm     | <i>Kumon (Circle)</i>                              |
|                |    | 7.30pm          | <i>Emotions Anon (SMR)</i>                         |
|                |    |                 | Church Council (Church)                            |
| Thursday       | 29 | 9.30-11.30am    | Toddlers (Hall & Circle)                           |
|                |    | 2.30pm          | Ladies Fellowship (MLR)                            |
| <b>October</b> |    |                 |                                                    |
| Saturday       | 1  | 10.00-4.00pm    | Training Day at Elbow Lane                         |
| Sunday         | 2  | 10.30am         | HARVEST FESTIVAL followed by Lunch                 |

## SOME CHURCH CHUCKLES

- Despite growing inflation. The wages of Sin remain absolutely the same.  
"The wages of Sin is Death"----Rom 6:23.
- YOU DON'T STOP LAUGHING BECAUSE YOU GROW OLD.  
YOU GROW OLD BECAUSE YOU STOP LAUGHING.
- Please don't walk on the Church lawn. Grass grows by the inch but is worn down by the foot!
- Pot Luck Supper: Prayer and medication will follow.
- Report from the Church Meeting:  
The minister spoke briefly and delighted the audience.
- Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help!
- Next Sunday morning, Miss Shrill will sing a solo before the vicar preaches on the subject, 'Terrible Experiences, and how to survive them.'
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7.30pm next Wednesday in the Church hall. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

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## MORE SERIOUS THOUGHTS TO PONDER ON !

A NOTE FOUND IN A JEWISH GHETTO IN WARSAW AFTER WORLD WAR II.

Germans hated Jews and outside Cracow and Warsaw, naked Jews were stacked 16 deep in open graves.

THE NOTE READ:-

'On a damp, very dark day, I do not need to stand in sunshine to know that there is a sun and it is shining!

On those terrible days of fear, pain, suffering, torture and death among my Jewish brothers in their homeland, I still know that other Jews share Love and Peace and Harmony.

ALTHOUGH I CANNOT SEE GOD... I TRUST HIM AND TALK TO HIM EACH DAY!

David Watts

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**Flower Rota Vicky Jenions**

**September**

- 4 Mr & Mrs Campbell Vicky
- 11 Mr & Mrs Almond Barbara
- 18 Mrs Lunt Eve
- 25 Mr & Mrs Ellard Margaret

**Sunday Morning Crèche Rota**

**September**

- 4 Lynda & Kari
- 11 Margaret & Mo
- 18 Sybil & Janet
- 25 Karen & Lynda

**October**

- 2 Margaret & Kari

**Door Duty**

Roy Allan

**September**

- 4 Colin Shewring & Ken Yarnell
- 11 Trevor & Chris Hanson
- 18 Roger & Diane Watson
- 25 Mary Tripp & Mo Swain

**Wednesday Morning Coffee**

28 September 2011 - At the home of Vicky Jenions, 19 Glenmarsh Way

**Flower Distribution Margaret Tate**

**September**

- 4 Christina Clarke 834082
- 11 Ron Taylor 871011
- 18 Margaret Tate 87642
- 25 Janet Bowker 832630

**Sunday Refreshments**

Margaret Carleton

**September**

- 4 Theatre Group
- 11 O Clayton, B Davenport,  
K Yarnell
- 18 Methodist Homes for the  
Aged (E Gilmour)
- 25 C & T Hanson and J Horne

**October**

- 2 Choir

**CROSBY CIRCUIT**  
**WORLD CHURCH**  
**EVENT**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**  
**at**  
**Formby Methodist Church**

**10.30am**      **Back to Church Sunday**  
                    **Rev John Ritson**

**5.00pm**      **Presentation of Wirral**  
                    **Circuit's project in Haiti**  
                    **with Mrs Pam Simms**

**5.45pm**      **Bring & Share Tea**

**6.30pm**      **Circuit Service**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Please support this event**



**34th**

# **GRAND AUCTION** with



# **FLEA MARKET**

*VIEWING and FLEA MARKET*  
*10:30AM to 1:00PM*

**AUCTION START 1.30PM**



# **SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER**

**METHODIST CHURCH  
ELBOW LANE**



**OVER 300 LOTS**