



Welcome to our morning Service led by Rev Geoff Felton, Mersey Synod Moderator.

Theme: The Rich Ruler  
Readings: Luke 18 v18-30

**Mission Group**

The next Mission Group will take place at **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm** at church. We will be praying, reflecting on the summer mission opportunities and seeking God's wisdom for the forthcoming months. All are welcome to join us. Speak to Stuart for more details.

**Taize Service**

There will be a Taize Service at church on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.**

**Enthusiastic helpers needed**



The Birchwood Churches Together are having a stall at the **artisan market on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** at the Birchwood shopping mall.

We are going to be doing some sticking etc to make a mirror reflecting ourselves as our theme is God's Creation we are fearfully and wonderfully made. I am making up a rota of hourly time slots of volunteers from 10am to 4pm.

**Please contact me if you can help. Blessings to all. Lynne Deason**

**Bible readings for the week ending 17.09.2023**

- Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
- Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13
- Romans 14:1-12

**Duties at church Sunday 17.09.2023**

Leader:	Mr Steven Mitchell
Welcome:	Guides
Readers:	Rachel Watts & Angela Davies
Prayers for others:	Stuart Nixon
Tea & Coffee:	Maggie Bowen & Kate Gartside

**Mission Update: September 17<sup>th</sup> 2023.**

Thomas Risley church family is aiming to re-launch our Children and Family worker post. Some 2 years ago our vision was to support and mission to the children and families in our area. On the 17<sup>th</sup> Sept Rev Stuart Nixon will give a short talk about the importance of the post and the need for this work in our community. We have a small team who are working on this project and our next key objective is to re-establish the finances that will enable us to recruit and sustain the post for the next 5 years. URC grants have been secured, however, as a church membership we need to find the money to contribute to our share of the budget.

We need all your prayers and your financial commitment if we are to succeed in creating this important mission role in our community.

(CFML Team; Stuart Nixon, Helen Bennett, Colin Burrows, David Gartside )

**Forthcoming dates**

**Church meeting** – 21.09.2023 at 7.30pm



**Birchwood Blokes Breakfast** – The next men's breakfast will be at 9:00-10.30am on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September at the Encounter Centre, Benson Road. There will be the usual Full English with some hearty discussion as well. Please invite a mate.

**Please let Stuart know if you and your friends are planning to come:**  
[birchwoodminister@urcmerseysynod.org.uk](mailto:birchwoodminister@urcmerseysynod.org.uk) or text 07946 582327

### Next TRotters Walk Dates



Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Please contact Diane for more information.

---

### Save the date

#### **4Front Theatre**

are coming to Birchwood this Christmas!

**2/12/23 3.00 pm at Birchwood High School**

More information to follow - don't miss out on this exciting new "pantivity" - a  
**pantomime and a nativity all in one!**

A live show for all the family at an affordable price brought to you by Birchwood  
Churches Together

---



If you have any news or items that you want to let people know about, just send an email to Maggie via [news@thomasrisley.org](mailto:news@thomasrisley.org) **before Thursday afternoon please**. If you would like to receive an email copy of the newsletter each week, you can request one either via our website, <http://www.thomasrisley.org> or by emailing [secretary@thomasrisley.org](mailto:secretary@thomasrisley.org). It is also published on our website

# Journeying With Jesus - Summer Challenge 2023

**Godly character.** In tough times and easy ones, with difficult people and delightful people, remember the fruit of the Spirit – **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness,** and **self-control**. Pray that you grow to be more like Christ.



**Good works.** What we do and how we do it! Doing good work that serves others and helps them and creation. Trying to do your tasks consciously for the Lord, in the Spirit and to his glory. Seeking God's wisdom, his strength, and his touch. Ask for the Holy Spirits transforming help to make your best really shine.



**Grace and love.** Practical care and kindness for those who need it. The way we respond in everyday situations. Especially the difficult ones! How do we engage with each person we meet? Consider the other person's long-term interests. Not just our own.



**Spark Change.** Begin with a few people and a few small actions. What things bother you? What are the values that underpin them? What could be done differently that would make it a better place for people to flourish? Pray for Guidance to make it more like God's will, here on earth.



**Speak Out for Truth & Justice.** There are times when being a disciple means **speaking against** things that are unfair, unhealthy, or untruthful. Or maybe **speaking for** things that are true and just and good. It takes courage, wisdom & prayer.



**Share the Good News.** Be ready 'to give a reason for the hope that is in you' (1 Peter 3:15). Ask for prayer and support. Rest in God, trust in his timing. Build trust and relationships, care for people, and share what Jesus has done in your life and what he offers to everyone.



*Adapted from Fruitfulness on the Front Line by Marshall & Warton*