aldwickbaptistchurch

**Vision:** Loving God, Loving Each Other, Loving Lost People

# ABC NEWS

Aldwick Baptist Church




## Sunday 12th September 2021

## WE ARE BACK TO NORMAL …

… well almost. Following the Government's current guidelines and the subsequent advice from the Baptist Union, the church is now fully open for worship. The chairs are now all back in the church enabling people to sit together or sit alone as they choose. Masks are optional, and we urge you to make your own decision about this. Refreshments will be served in the church but you are encouraged to remain cautious and not to mingle too closely.

This week Clive will be leading worship with Simon preaching the first in a new mini-series. His talk is entitled, "Loving God 1 – Mary and Martha" based on Luke 10:38-42.

Do try to join us if you feel able. Derek.

For worshippers who are still unable to join us, we are continuing with our online service for the present. You can access that service by clicking here.



As we have been saying for a number of weeks, we firmly believe that as we come out of lockdown, God will be doing a new thing here at ABC, through his people - and that means all of us, including Simon but also including you and me. And so church family, today we must look at being prepared for change, because God is going to do something new, right here in Aldwick.

So off we go!

**Love Aldwick Community Café** opened for the first time on Tuesday, 7th September. There was a real buzz about the place – a delicious smell of coffee and a lovely atmosphere. It was the first day of the new "Love Aldwick" Community Café run by Perrie Sims and her enthusiastic team. Altogether 32 people (some already known to the church) and a number of new folk came together to enjoy one another's company, sitting in groups around some tables and sitting on some colourful chairs. Lynne Allard.



**Celebrating 25 years of ministry.**

On Saturday 12th September, we celebrated 25 years of ministry for our pastor, Simon. We were joined in these celebrations by visitors from Simon's previous church and a very proud mum! Brenda organised a splendid buffet lunch whilst David Hanchard and Helen Lawrey combined to make an equally splendid cake.





Derek reminded us all that being a pastor is an extremely demanding vocation, as he not only has to protect and nurture his own spiritual life, and that of his family but also the lives of those in his care. The true pastor assumes Jesus' role here on earth, as he is called to shepherd God's flock and to care for its well-being. This is Simon's role current role here at ABC and he does wonderfully well. At the conclusion of the celebration Simon was presented with a personal caricature drawn by well-known local caricaturist Bob Bond which was admired by all.

## THIS WEEK'S POEM

This week's poem reminds us that even when things look pretty bleak all around us, we just need to remember that one day we will be with the Lord – forever.

"**Joy in the morning**"

When we see the tragedy all around,
When we are overwhelmed
With grief and fear
Trust in our Lord, who is always near.
When we cannot understand
The sadness and the sorrow.
Remember his love is for ever and ever
Not just for tomorrow.
He's our anchor in the raging sea.
He is our rock, over hope our security.
Faith hope but most of all love, all for eternity.
Yes, when it lasts the trials on earth are over,
And we see that new day dawning.
Will praise our Lord
For the joy in the morning.

Arthur Magee

**THANK YOU FOR THE FLOWERS** - Arthur, who celebrated his birthday last week, would like to thank the church for the lovely flowers delivered by Peter and Joyce Kaufman.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE FLOWERS?** – This really is a great way of honouring a loved one or celebrating a special occasion. It's a worthwhile ministry as, courtesy of Joyce and Peter, the flowers are distributed to any who are sick or housebound. If anyone wishes to donate flowers, please contact Brenda. Currently, the following dates are free: 17th October, 7th and 21st November and the 5th and 12th December.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** – Tony Wood (13th), Lynne Allard (17th) and David Huntley (18th) all have birthdays this week, So don't forget to wish them a big "ABC Happy Birthday" on the appropriate day. As you know, we are trying to update our birthday list. Please contact Lynne Allard (265360) who is acting as our birthday monitor! If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda (265984).

## *… and finally*

- **TRANSPORT BUDDIES STILL URGENTLY NEEDED** – There are a number of church members and regular worshippers who can no longer drive but would love to come to church. Can you help? If you drive to church, would you be able to offer a lift to someone who lives nearby?. If those who would need a lift, or those we can offer lifts, could let me know I will endeavour to set up some transport buddies. Clive
- **DO YOU REMEMBER JOHN DOBLE?** If you do, then you might be interested to know that his family are organising a thanksgiving service for his life on Saturday 9th October at 2pm at Hemyock Baptist Church in mid Devon. John was the minister here some time before Paul Kerley.
- **FIRST RESPONDER** – As Simon is back, he is now acting as first responder in the event of emergencies and urgent prayer needs.
- **CHRISTINE GRANT** – As many of you will know, Chris feignted during Simon's celebration and was taken to St Richards for a check up. Please pray that the doctors are able to diagnose and treat her accordingly.
- **ABC CHURCH HISTORY BOOK** – As requested, more copies of ABC Church History are on order following the Love Aldwick day. Please contact me to order at £5 per book. Brenda.
- **MOLLY HAWKINS** – Molly is currently self-isolating prior to her planned hip replacement operation in the next few weeks. Please pray that Molly stays well, that the operation actually goes ahead and is successful.
- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** – Dorren Evans, Ann Tyler, Claire Millington, Polly Bennett, Kay and Ken Tucker, Perrie Sims, Mavis Eade, Vivienne Newman, Eve Williams, Janice Sprules, Hilary Naesmith, Michelle and Jon Crane, Chris Grant, Joan Brett, Val Collett and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time.
- **PLEASE PRAY TOO FOR** – Our members and friends who are still unable to worship with us through ongoing concerns about coronavirus especially as cases continue to rise across the country. They miss the fellowship, and we miss them.

### Contact and Church office information

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| Minister | Simon Downing (Tel. 07508815573) |
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