aldwickbaptistchurch

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

ABC NEWS

Aldwick Baptist Church



Sunday 31st October 2021

GETTING BACK TO NORMAL …

… but that really needs to be God's normal, not ours. So please be open to God's Holy Spirit leading us in directions that might not be so familiar to you. After all God has promised us that He is doing a new thing at ABC, and we need to be in tune with His directions. My talk today will be based on Jesus' statement, "I am the Light of the World" taken from John 8:12-20. This statement, along with the other "I am" statements, clearly identifies Jesus as God in human flesh. Perhaps because we are so familiar with the idea of Jesus being the light of the world, that we somehow minimise the enormity of this revelation. It is such a powerful statement that it demands a response from everyone but for the Pharisees this was one step too far and widen the gulf between the religious leaders of the day and Jesus. You can access that service by clicking here. Do try to join us. Derek.

As we have been saying for several 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 be prepared!

ADVANCED NOTICE 1 – On Wednesday 3rd November we will be praying as a whole church at 10:30 through to 11:30. This is a whole church praying event based on the words that have been given recently and based on the letter that I sent out. It is very important that we gather and pray with authority in the name of Christ. Simon

ADVANCED NOTICE 2 – There will be an informal meeting in the church foyer for those who want to know more about the work of the Barnabas Fund on Sunday 21st November at 4pm. Their ministry raises awareness of the persecuted church across the world, encourages us to pray fort the persecuted church and includes giving financial support to Christians when they suffer discrimination, oppression and persecution as a consequence of their faith. Brian Goldsmith will be the main speaker. The Barnabas Fund is one of the missions we support as a church. There will be a "Bring and Share" 'Sunday afternoon tea' for all those who wish to attend. Barbara will be asking people later to let her know what sort of thing they would like to bring. Do let Barbara know if you would like to attend.

ADVANCE NOTICE 3 – We will be beginning our Christmas season by organising a collection of Christmas "goodies" for local homeless people who are supported by Stonepillow. This will be on Saturday 4th December from 10am to 12 noon. Stonepillow have advised us that they would like you to donate:

Tinned meat, sweet treats, biscuits, crisps, coffee and sugar, long life milk

Or simply extra funds as they can put them to where we need them. Brenda

PRAYER ROOM – Hello church family. Please go into the prayer room and pray the prayers which have been requested by your brothers and sisters. Do add your own requests onto the heart, they will remain for two weeks but can be easily updated. It may be a good opportunity to go into the prayer room at the end of Sunday service. Prayer brings us into the presence of our Father and carries much power. Bless you, Angela

LIGHT PARTY – This Sunday afternoon, there will be a Light Party for the children in the hall from 4pm to 6pm. There will be refreshments, games, craft and food. Your prayers and support would be most welcome

THIS WEEK'S POEM

This week Arthur's poem reminds us that, although we live in a highly technological age, where man's ability to create "stuff" sometimes seems to without limit – it is nothing compared to the wonder of God's creation. Although we all want to understand more, sometimes we have to step back, take a deep breath and be amazed at God's handiwork.

"**As a Child**"

It is so overwhelming to comprehend
the mystery of creation.
So many wonders
beyond our imagination.
All life is a miracle
In all the wonders that we see
God's wisdom is beyond humanity.
The more we tried to question,
the more we realise,
the only way to understand
Is through the eyes of a child.

Arthur Magee

OPERATION CHRISTMAS - A big thank you to all who took the shoe boxes to fill for Operation Christmas Child. As they have to be shipped to various countries, the final Sunday for bringing them to ABC is November 6th. Anything after that date cannot be sent. So please bring them along any time before that and place them on the "wall" of boxes on the platform. Any donations, please give to me rather than sending them individually, and then we can send one amount all together. Many thanks in anticipation!

SUNDAY MORNING LIVE – We are currently experimenting with broadcasting our Sunday morning service live. If you would like to take part in this trial do let me know because we value your opinion. Derek.

PEOPLE'S FRIEND MAGAZINE - 'Would anyone like 12 People's Friend magazines. They are full of short stories, brain teasers and interesting articles and are like new. It would be a shame to throw them away if someone would enjoy them. Just let Claire Millington know.'

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – This week we would like to say a big "Happy Birthday" to Anaya Downing on 5th November. birthday list. Please contact Lynne Allard (265360) if you want to be placed on our birthday list! If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda (265984).

… and finally

- **FIRST RESPONDER** – As Simon is now back he will be acting as first responder in the event of emergencies and urgent prayer needs.
- **JOY PUFFETT** – Joy's funeral service will be held here at 1pm on Monday 1st November. Please thank the Lord for her life and pray for Ernie as he comes to terms with his loss.
- **EILEEN MAGEE** – Eileen will be going into hospital on 10th November for a cataract operation which apparently may prove to be more complicated than usual. Eileen is a bit apprehensive about this and would welcome your prayer support.
- **KEN TUCKER** – Ken has a had another rough week in St. Richard's hospital and is not at all well. Please pray for healing, for pain relief and for peace of mind. Please pray too for Kay who is finding life quite stressful at present. If you can help with Kay's transport to and from the hospital, please let me know. Derek.
- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** – Bob Hobart, Molly Hawkins, Christine Grant, Doreen Evans, Ann Tyler, Polly Bennett, Kay and Ken Tucker, Mavis Eade, , 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.
- **PASTORAL CARE** – We are currently rethinking our pastoral care system to show that we really do love each other and care for each other. If you have any suggestions as to how we might do this, do let me know. I will be calling a meeting for the pastoral phone line team and anyone interested soon - do watch out for further updates. Thank you for all you already do. Derek.

Contact and Church office information

Head of the Church	Jesus Christ
Minister	Simon Downing (Tel. 07508815573)
email:	pastor@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Church Secretary:	Clive Bennett (Tel: 930756)
	mail: secretary@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 866238)
	email: contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Deacons	Brenda (265984), Barbara (821789), John (837181)