aldwickbaptistchurch

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

ABC NEWS

Aldwick Baptist Church



Sunday 19th December 2021

LATEST BAPTIST UNION GUIDELINES

As you probably know by now, the Government has moved to its Covid19 – Plan B. In this guidance the Government, has advised churches that face coverings much be worn in places of worship from 10th December, for those not exempt. In an email written directly to faith groups, the Government states that exceptions to this ruling exist for those leading a service, reading and so on, from the front. Although the government also say that "there is a reasonable excuse exemption which allows people to remove a face covering while singing", we disagree with this exemption and **would ask you to wear masks throughout the service.**

However, Simon would still like as many of you as possible to arrive at 10am for an impromptu prayer meeting in the prayer room, to pray specifically for the movement of the Holy Spirit.

TODAY'S SERVICE – We will be holding our Nativity Service at 10.30am and our "Carols by Candlelight" service at 6pm. Mince pies and hot drinks will be served after the service. Christmas gives an opportunity to invite your neighbours and friends to join us – so do invite as many people as possible. There will be an opportunity at both services to give to the Barnabas Fund as a freewill offering. You can watch both of these services through our website either live or later as a recoding by clicking here.

OUR CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE – Our Christmas morning service will be a family event beginning at 10.00am and last for approximately 45 minutes. Please invite all of your family. There will be no service on Sunday 26th December.

WHAT NO NEWS SHEET? – That's right - there will not be a news sheet next weekend as the editor has been told that he needs a rest! Derek

THIS WEEK'S FLOWERS – Today's flowers have been donated by Liz Palmer in memory of her late father whose birthday would have been on December 11th – Still much loved and sadly missed.

CHURCH MEETING MINUTES - The minutes of our last meeting will be available for collection at back of the church on Sunday.

STAMP COLLECTING - As Christmas rapidly draws nearer, a reminder to keep all used stamps as cards begin arriving. Last year, Baptist Missionary Society were able to make £13,500 from your used stamps, so every single one can really make a difference. Please remember to leave a border of at least 1inch/ 2.5cm round each stamp and put your stamps in the box on shelf at back of Church.

LOVE ALDICK PEACE TOGETHER PUZZLERS - If you enjoy doing jigsaw puzzles, this notice is for you. The Love Aldwick Peace Together Puzzlers will start on Saturday 8th January from 10-12 and will be held at ABC on the second Saturday of the month. It will be an opportunity to meet with others over a coffee and do a puzzle. Alternatively, you may wish to borrow a puzzle for the month to do at home. If you have any puzzles you no longer want, please pass them my way. Thank you in advance. Claire Millington

LET'S CELEBRATE THOSE SPECIAL OCCASIONS - If anyone wishes to commemorate a special occasion, birthday or to remember someone, would you consider donating the money for flowers in ABC? Not only does it help to decorate the Church for Sundays, but they are distributed every Monday to the housebound, those not well and anyone in need of a bit of cheer. Please contact me and I will add your name to the calendar. Many thanks in anticipation! Brenda.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD – There is still chance to sign the ABC Christmas card which is on the shelf in the Church for members and friends to sign in lieu of sending individual cards. Donations to Barnabas Fund if desired.

THIS WEEK'S POEM

"**Security**"

Where is your security?
When your life is just a moment,
Compared to eternity.
Where is your security?
When even the next second,
You cannot guarantee.
It's overwhelming to comprehend,
That we are all in infinite space,
That has no end.
Where is your security?
The Lord Jesus Christ,
The Son of God,
Who died for you and me.
Only he is your security
Amen

Arthur Magee

PRAYER DIRECTORY UPDATE - I am intending to publish a new Prayer Directory in January 2022 – as a number of details have changed over the past year or so. Normally I would produce a draft with your contact details included (that I believe to be correct) and ask you to show any changes. That is difficult at present as COVID has interfered with church attendance and not all members/attenders are on email. Therefore, I would ask the following:

Have a look at your current directory (if you have one) and advise:

- Do you not wish to be included in the future directory?
- Do you wish to be (but have not previously been) included in the directory and have you filled in a data protection form?
- Are there are any changes in your personal contact details?
- If you have not had a photo included before and want one can you please supply a photo or ask me to take one of you.

If none of the above apply I will assume that the entry will be as before.

Finally in view of the less-than-ideal way this updated directory will be produced it is anticipated there will still be errors in it and I would just hope that you will understand the reasons for that and make manual adjustments to your copies when you become aware.

Please advise me by e-mail or note before end of December please. Clive

… and finally

- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** – Over the next two week we have 2 birthdays, Clive Bennett (20th) and Corinne Cheffers (31st). If you want to be placed on our birthday list, please contact Lynne Allard (265360. If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda (265984).
- **VENTILATION AT ABC** – Please note that the government's advice remains there should be adequate ventilation where groups are meeting indoors. This is for our own safety. Please do not shut the windows but maybe wear something warm.
- **FIRST RESPONDER** – Simon will be acting as first responder in the event of emergencies and urgent prayer needs.
- **A MESSAGE FROM ARTHUR** – Our resident poet of the lockdown, Arthur Magee will unfortunately is leaving us to attend a church nearer his home which is more accessible for his wife Eileen. He would like to thank you all for your prayers and support in some difficult times. He would particularly like to thank Simon and Derek for their regular drop-ins.
- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** – Kay Tucker, Vivienne Newman, Bob Hobart, Molly Hawkins, Christine Grant, Doreen Evans, Ann Tyler, Polly Bennett, Mavis Eade, Eve Williams, Janice Sprules, Hilary Naesmith, Michelle and Jon Crane, Joan Brett, Val Collett.
- **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 OVERSEEERS WANTED** – We are looking for between 12 and 20 people to take keep a watchful eye on around 6 church members or regular attendees. This is part of the restructuring our pastoral care system by which we intend to show that we really do love each other and care for each other. Do let me know if you are willing to do this rewarding activity.Thank you for all you already do. Derek.

Contact and Church office information

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Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 866238)
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Deacons	Brenda (265984), Barbara (821789), John (837181)