aldwickbaptistchurch

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

ABC NEWS

Aldwick Baptist Church



Sunday 23rd January 2022

Things are changing …

As you probably know by now, the Government will be ending its Covid Plan B measures from next Thursday, with mandatory face coverings in public places and Covid passports both dropped. This means we will be reverting to measure outlined in Plan A. This means that we all need to continue taking steps to keep the virus at bay, including hand washing, ventilating rooms and self-isolating if you test positive. This should not be seen as the "finish line" because the virus and future variants cannot be eradicated - instead "we must learn to live with Covid in the same way we live with flu".

This almost certainly means that from Sunday 30th January, face coverings are no longer mandatory in our church and that wearing them will become optional and a matter of personal choice.

TODAY'S SERVICE – Brenda's group will be leading the worship in today's service and Simon will be preaching. His sermon is entitled "A deeper worship" and will be based on Psalm 100. This is a psalm of thanksgiving and in it we are reminded that our own individual lives as Christians should reflect joy and gladness in the Lord! Why? Because "the Lord is good and his love endures forever."

PASTORAL CARE GROUP COORDINATORS – We are urgently looking for between 12 and 15 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. This is something anyone can do, so do let me know if you are willing to do this rewarding activity. Thank you for all you already do. Derek.

PRAYER MATTERS - Dear friends, here are many prayer requests by your brothers and sisters in the prayer room, please go in and pray them. There seems to be great need at this time. Thank you and bless you. Angela.

THANK YOU SO MUCH - I am pleased to tell you that I am now back at home and feeling much better. I am even able to take my lovely little dog for a walk twice a day. I do want to thank you so much for your prayers, as knowing you were praying for me kept me going as I faced the unexpected. Seeing so many people in distress whilst in hospital, reminded how we need each other so much. Emily Brown.

OUR LINK MISSIONARIES – If you want to know more about Brian and Jackie Chilvers our link missionaries. Then go to this link to https://www.bmsworldmission.org/people/brian-and-jackie-chilvers/

Let us all pray that they will be encouraged, guided and blessed in their individual roles and in their relationships with the local Chadians.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS – it's Janice Mandry's birthday on 30th January, so don't forget to wish her a wonderful birthday! If you want to be placed on our birthday list, and receive a celebratory slot in the news sheet, please contact Lynne Allard (265360. If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda (265984).

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.

THIS WEEK'S POEM

This week, we return to Arthur's poems as he reminds that, no matter how you are feeling, God is never far away.

"He is never far from you"

When you are feeling vulnerable,
insecure and lost.
Retrace your steps
And go back to the cross.

Yes, the path is narrow,
So easy to slip and fall.
But remember how He suffered,
Who died to save us all.

Sometimes we feel so far away,
But one thing I know is true.
You might feel far from Him
But He is never far from you.

So when you lose direction
Feeling so fearful and lost
Turn around, retrace your steps
And go back to the cross

Arthur Magee

QUARTERLY CHURCH MEETING - Just to remind you of our next church meeting which is scheduled for Sunday 6th February 2022. You will recall that the reason we are meeting on a Sunday this time as a trial, is because the last two church meetings have been poorly attended through a variety of reasons. The Leadership Team feel we must address this problem as it is of paramount importance that we all meet together, to discern the will of God for our church.

There will be short break after the service for you to get a cup of tea or coffee and then we will come together in the sanctuary for the meeting. The meeting should be over by 1.30pm at the latest.

We will then be seeking your opinion as to the best day and time for future quarterly church meetings. We would like you to all pray about this before making your decision.

The options to be considered are:

Thursday evening from 7pm; Saturday morning from 10am or
Sunday morning following the service.

In mid-February, we then ask you to make your preference known in a secret ballot.

… and finally

- **FIRST RESPONDER** – As Simon is back in action, He will be acting as first responder this week in the event of emergencies and urgent prayer needs.
- **SIMON** – Although Simon is back at work, he is still feeling very weak and tired. He needs your prayers now**.**
- **EVE WILLIAMS** – Simon tells me that Eve is currently in a small hospital in Horsham which focuses on rehabilitation. Eve is currently finding the exercises and stretching quite difficult. Please pray for the Lord to help her through the pain and towards recovery.
- **JANICE SPRULES** – Simon also reports that Janice in good spirits despite her ongoing pain. Please thank the Lord for her cheerfulness in the face of severe pain and pray that the hospital soon manage to sort out her pain relief plan and that she can then come home.
- **MARJORIE FLYNN** - The funeral of Marjorie's husband, John, will be at the crematorium on February 2nd at 1.15pm. Marjorie says that those who know her are welcome to attend. There will be refreshments after the service back at ABC.
- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** – Emily Brown, Kay Tucker, Vivienne Newman, Bob Hobart, Molly Hawkins, Christine Grant, Doreen Evans, Ann Tyler, Polly Bennett, Mavis Eade, 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. Please do give some of them a ring this week and do let them know we do really care.
- **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!

Contact and Church office information

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