… and finally

FIRST RESPONDER - Simon is generally our first responder for all urgent matters, so do contact him in the case of emergencies. For less urgent problems, please use our pastoral care system by contacting your pastoral group coordinator.

THE WEATHER IS IMPROVING – Which means our ladies at Arun Lodge would quite like a trip to the seaside - which is only 100m away! So if you are able to push a wheelchair can you help? If you can then do talk to me as soon as possible. Derek.

WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS – Our three ladies in Arun Lodge and Mo in ??? all need your prayers. Val is not feeling too well at present. Kay has fallen over a few times and is a bit battered and bruised. But it was good to see Pam in church last week wasn't it – and that is an answer to prayer. Simon visited Mo at Westergate House Care Home, Fontwell this week and says she needs our prayers to adjust to her change in living conditions.

SEBA HOME MISSION FOCUS FOR APRIL 2024 - Every month we receive a Home Mission Focus from Paul Kerley which is usually in the form of a short video from one of our Home Mission supported churches. This month the SEBA Focus is on Chiddingfold Baptist Church where their Minister is Revd. Joao Bolzan. To view the video click on one of the following links.

https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show_media=322855&show_file=358326

or https://youtu.be/24OIIMU5D_o

NEXT SUNDAY – Brenda's band will be leading worship and Simon will be bringing God's word as he continues with our series, "Living securely in an insecure world". The title of Simon's talk will be "Living Alone" based on 1 Kings 18:1-40. As this is quite a long passage, it might be a good idea to read it beforehand.

Contact and Church office information

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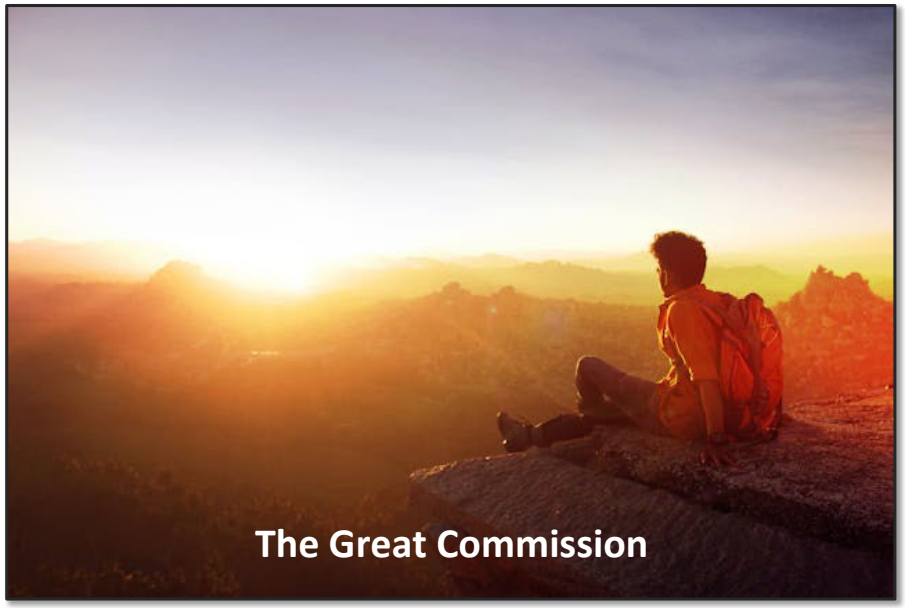
Church Secretary:	Clive Bennett (Tel: 930756)
	email: secretary@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 866238)
	email: contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Deacons	Brenda (265984), Barbara (821789), John (837181)
	Joy (837181)

aldwickbaptistchurch

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

ABC NEWS



Sunday 19th May 2024

Series: Bold Witness - Empowering Every Believer to Evangelise

Part 1 - The Great Commission

Matthew 28: 16 - 20

Derek Robinson

THIS WEEKEND'S WORSHIP SERVICE – Simon's band will be leading worship before Derek begins our new series entitled "Bold Witness – Empowering every believer to evangelise". We begin this new series in Matthew 28 where Jesus gives His disciples and all Christians that follow their instructions to go and make disciples of all nations. Now before you panic, in this series we not only want to emphasise the importance of this commission but to encourage you to see this as an opportunity to work with the Holy Spirit in sharing the good news that Jesus really is the Lord of creation. We want to make sharing the Gospel an enjoyable experience for you and those people you meet wherever that is. And in doing so, we will be doing exactly as Jesus commanded. We pray, "Thy will be done on earth" – but do we mean it? We say we do, so do come and listen to what God has to say to us.

Of course, we do hope you can join us for the service in the church but if you can't actually join us, you will be able to access the service at any time by going to: https://www.aldwickbaptist.co.uk/category/current-sermons

BOLD WITNESS – HOMEWORK – In preparation for this new series, during the coming week please make a list of four people you know that are not currently enjoying a relationship with God and then pray for them. They may be Christians that have pulled away from God. They may be Christians that are caught in legalism. They may be people who simply have no time for God. Whoever they are, pray that God will draw them towards Himself. The Bible says no one can come to Jesus unless the Father draws him (John 6:44). If you can't think of anyone, list 4 of your neighbours. This is step 1 on the road Jesus wants us all to travel. **So please take the first step**.

"EXCELLENCE IN SAFEGUARDING" TRAINING COURSE - Saturday 6th July - We are extremely grateful for all those who volunteer to help out with various activities in the church involving young people and vulnerable adults. In fact without you, we would not be in a position to provide these activities. That said we are, as a church, responsible for those in our charge and more so if we are involved directly with young people and adults who are particularly vulnerable.

To this end we are holding a training event in our church on Saturday 6th July. The day will be divided into morning and afternoon sessions providing training in Levels 2 and 3.

At the back of the church there are details of the course and information to help in deciding who will need to attend the training, whether for the whole day or half a day. Should you have any questions please see either John Smith or Bev McAlpine.

This week, Arthur brings us a poem he wrote while sitting in his garden and listening to a blackbird singing.

"Count your blessings"

Of what joy it brings in the sunrise
When the blackbird sings.
High in his nest in the tree
Where he sings his songs in perfect harmony.

He does not worry
About wealth or fame.
His wealth is in the sunshine
And in the summer rain.

I'm sure he has message
That he is trying to convey.
To count our blessings
On this lovely day.

Arthur Magee

ADVANCE NOTICE - Our annual general meeting will take place on Thursday, July 25th at 7pm. As you know our diaconate has shrunk to 5 over the past year - and that means we are all getting very tired! Can you help? Is God calling you to join the team? Do you recognise gifts in other people that indicate that they might be suitable to share in the responsibility of guiding this church? If this rings a bell, then please talk to one of the deacons and we will tell you more!

John and Brenda need to be re-elected at the meeting but they will need to be proposed and seconded by church members – and that is the responsibility of the membership rather than the deacons. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church or from Clive. New possible deacons will also need to be proposed and seconded.

NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST – 8.00am Saturday, 25th May at the Woolpack Inn, 71 Chichester Road, Fishbourne. The speaker retired High Court Judge, Sir Mark Hedley, will be joining us and we look forward to meeting Mark and listening to an interesting and inspiring talk. You need to book and pre-order your breakfast by clicking here.

NEXT SUNDAY – I will be preaching at Southbourne Free Church. Please do continue to pray for this small fellowship of believers and for my preparation this week. Derek