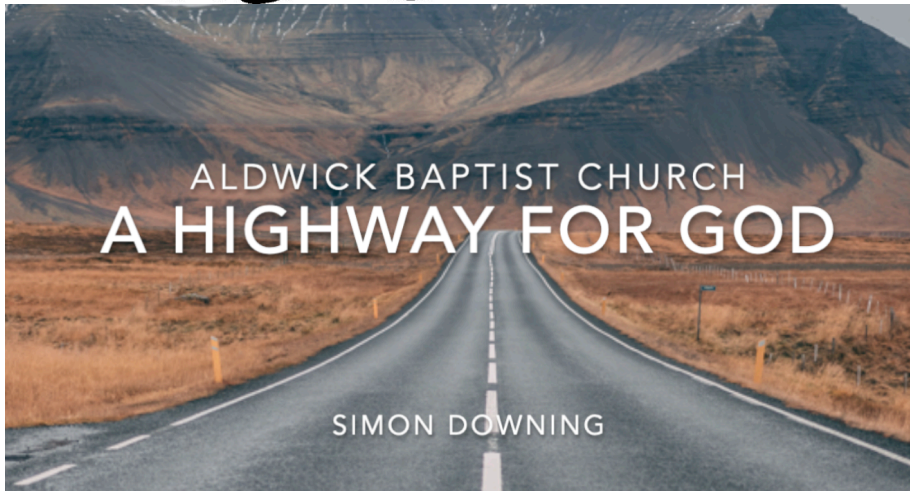


ABC NEWS

ldwick aptist hurch



ABC ONLINE – TWICE A WEEK – EVERY WEEK

This Sunday, the title of Simon's sermon is, 'A Highway for God'. His talk revolves around Isaiah's instructions to the Israelites, to 'make straight in the wilderness a highway for God.' Preparing a straight highway means removing obstacles and figuratively rolling out the red carpet for the coming of the Lord. The desert is a picture of life's trials and sufferings. As we all know too well in our present situation, we are not immune from such trials, but our faith need not be hindered by them. Isaiah told the people to prepare to see God work. John the Baptist used the same words as he challenged the people for the coming Messiah. The same voice is now calling us to, 'Prepare the way for the Lord; to make straight paths for Him.'

PLEASE JOIN SIMON FOR PRAYER - On Monday, Simon intends to pray for the church at 9.30am. He would like us all to set this time apart to join him in prayer before he sets out on his rounds.

Our online services

Our Sunday morning service will go "live" at 6pm on a Saturday evening. However, if possible, we would like you to join us on Sunday in prayer at around 10.20am before watching the service at 10.30am as normal. Please pray for your church family and for all the frontline workers who are keeping us going in these difficult times. Please pray too for our prime minister and the cabinet who have the unenviable task gradually easing lockdown. It is becoming clear that, as the lockdown continues, people will become more agitated, so, as we said last week, we need to keep our eyes firmly fixed on Jesus.

You [Click here](#) to go directly to the service page.

Our midweek service this week will continue with our theme of 'Repercussions of the Resurrection'. This week's message will be brought to us by Alistair Hornal and is entitled, 'Staring' and is based on Acts 1:1-11. This will go live at 6pm on Wednesday. In this talk, Alistair will be reminding us that history is moving towards a specific time when Jesus will return and rule over the earth. We are not to waste the 'in between times' by gazing into the sky but by working hard to share the Gospel with others, so that they will be able to share in God's great blessing.

If you missed any of earlier services these can be viewed online services by going to <http://www.alldwickbaptist.co.uk/latest-news/online-sermons>

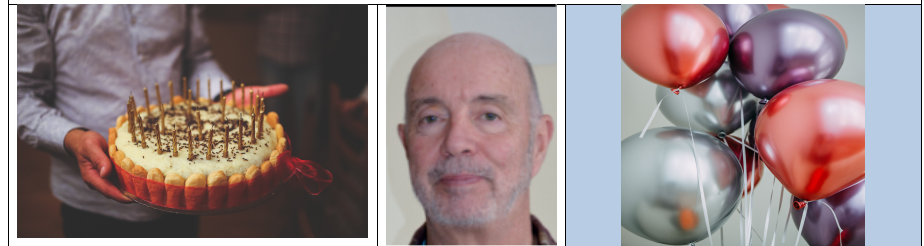
The response from you has been very encouraging so far but please do send in your reactions to contact@alldwickbaptist.co.uk.

SERMON' NOTES – We will be emailing the notes from both Simon's talk and Clive's talk from last week together with the news sheet. If you don't have an email address, then we will be hand delivering both the news sheet and the notes to you early next week.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS – I am sure you have all missed our cheesy birthday greetings every Sunday morning. Well the good news is THEY ARE BACK. So, if you know of any pending birthdays, just let me know.

SO HERE WE GO WITH OUR FIRST (in isolation) BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO PHIL HIGSON



Our resident poet

Did you know that one of our congregation, Arthur Magee, is a well known local poet? He is feeling a little better but would still value your prayers for himself and for Eileen his wife, who has been unwell recently. He has kindly given us permission to print some of his poems. If you are feeling that our world is currently out of control, then today's poem reminds us that we live in the Lord's kingdom and "Power and Glory" belong to Him.

His Light

Sometimes it seems so hard
to face another day.
Now that the things we took for granted
have gone astray.
But then I see His light,
That penetrates the darkest night
That gives me hope and joy inside,
Who is my Saviour, friend and guide.
Yes, because of the cross,
we will never be afraid again.
He helps me overcome the fear and pain.
When all the trials of this world have faded away
We will spend forever with our lord
on that eternal day.

IT'S HALF TERM NEXT WEEK – Yes, we know that schools are not functioning as normal, but Simon will be taking a pre-planned and well-deserved break next week to spend some time with his family. If you need to speak to someone next week, please contact me or one of the other deacons. Derek

EXPANDING THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM – FINAL CALL - Although we have a team of 15 people, we are now looking for new recruits! We need people who are able to make 12 – 14 phone calls each week whilst this crisis continues and probably beyond. .

THANK YOU - Davina and Alan would like to thank the ABC Family for their prayers and comforting thoughts at this sad time in their lives. Your message is much appreciated.

FRIDAY NIGHT IS QUIZ NIGHT – Every Friday at 7.15pm, Jon Robinson (my son) is organising a quiz through his church website and on Facebook. It lasts around 20 minutes and is really good fun. If you want to take part then join via www.stjohnssouthbourne.com or through the We Love Southbourne Facebook page ([facebook.com/welovesouthbourne](https://www.facebook.com/welovesouthbourne)). Derek.

...and finally

HEART NEWSPAPER – Although the Heart newspaper is still being delivered to the church, we are unable to distribute at present. All is not lost, as you can access the contents online at <https://www.heartpublications.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Heart-April>

DIAL A HYMN - If you haven't already heard...For those who don't have access to the Internet or those not able to use it, the C of E has made available a freephone number to listen to hymn music, etc. Just dial 0800 804 8044 - Option 2 for hymn music.

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS - If you have, or know of, an urgent need for prayer in the coming week then please contact Derek as first responder. He will then activate the prayer chain as appropriate.

UPDATE ON PAT PARKER (AND MICK) – Mick is trying very hard to get Pat into a routine of eating and sleeping at the correct times of the day (and night) which would help them both to cope. Pat is beginning to eat small amounts and Mick has been able to take out of the house on a few occasions. They continue to rely on the Lord to get through each day and want to thank you for your prayers.

UPDATE ON MARIE STONEHAM – Marie has made some improvement this week and is feeling better. She really wants to thank you for your prayers. Marie is managing to eat (a little) and drink (a little) without being sick but finds everything a big effort at the moment. Please continue to pray for ongoing improvements and more energy.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR – Jim McAlpine, John and Michelle Crane, Kate Moss, Joy Smith, Pam Brown, Stella Filby, Maureen Jones, Joan Brett, Joy Puffett, Marion Bryant, Pat and Mick Parker, Val Collett, Pam Ryan, Tony Brock, George Woods, Sid Evans, and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time. Please also pray for all of us who have to self-isolate over the coming weeks.

POLLY (PAULINE) BENNETT'S MOBILE NUMBER – Is incorrect in the new directory. Her number is 07796670338. It was also wrong in the last directory!

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: 263998) email: secretary@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 866238) email: contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Deacons	Brenda (265984), Barbara (821789), John (837181)