

# ABC NEWS

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The radiant face of Moses

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

## Things are changing ...

By now I am sure you all know that the Government has ended its Covid Plan B 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 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".

The Baptist Union has advised their members to proceed with caution. 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.

In line with the new guidelines, face coverings are no longer mandatory in our church and that wearing them will become optional and a matter of personal choice. Please do respect everyone individual decision. Derek

**TODAY'S SERVICE** – Simon's group will be leading the worship in today's service and Simon will also be preaching. His sermon is entitled "Moses and his radiant face" and will be based on Exodus 34:29-35. Chapter 34 tells the story of an amazing encounter between God and Moses at the top of Mount Sinai where God gives Moses a second copy of His covenant law. Following this encounter Moses' face is so radiant that the Israelites were afraid to come near him. This is the dramatic effect that encountering God can have on people. This has not changed over the ensuing years, an encounter with God will change your life forever. Be ready, be expectant and look for God's hand in every aspect of your life. We have a great God whose love endures forever. This service will be a special reflective service as we be gathering around the communion table which will be situated on ground level in front of the stage. This will give us an opportunity to remember what Jesus did on the cross but also to receive from God. Moses received the covenant law on two stone tablets, I wonder what God had in store for us this weekend?

**PRAYER MATTERS** - Let's pause to pray, taking some time to listen for God's still small voice using His Word as a springboard and the Holy Spirit as our guide. Bless you all. Continuing in prayer for your protection in His service. Angela

**ANSWERED PRAYER** – Jim and I want to thank God for answered prayer for my Dad, Malcolm, who is in a Bognor care home, and the staff caring for him. He is almost 92, with a number of serious health conditions, and tested positive for covid on Monday 24th Jan. He has mild illness (as have staff and 21 other residents) and has remained "chipper"! Bev.

**OUR LINK MISSIONARIES** – Good news our link missionaries Brian and Jackie Chilvers will be coming to Aldwick Baptist Church on Sunday 5 June 2022. 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** – Another apology, I missed Kay Tucker's birthday on Friday, so let's include her in this week's greetings. It is Janice Mandry's birthday today (Sunday) and Dorothy Ridley's birthday next Saturday, so let's wish them

a great big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** from us all. 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).

## 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.

### "Oh What Love"

When I think of how he suffered  
The way he bled and died.  
But our what love.  
How secure we are  
to know that he is alive.  
It's so easy to keep quiet  
To keep the good news inside  
But shout for Joy  
How wonderful our Jesus is alive.  
When we passed through that valley  
From fear we try to hide  
But do not be afraid  
Trust his love, He is your hope  
It cannot be denied  
Our Saviour is alive

Arthur Magee

**QUARTERLY CHURCH MEETING** - Just to remind you of our next church meeting which is scheduled for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 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.
- **JANICE SPRULES** – Wonderful news, Janice is now back at home. Her daughter is living with her and she has carers in 4 times a day so is being well cared for. The family have requested for us to give her a few days to settle into a new routine before phoning but would welcome calls after that. She is more cheerful, but her mobility is very poor. Do thank God that Janice is now back at home but do continue to pray for pain relief, peace of mind and a strong sense of God's presence with her
- **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. If you are going to crematorium, please **do take a mask** as we think these may still be needed. There will be refreshments after the service back at ABC.
- **EVE WILLIAMS** –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.
- **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. They miss the fellowship, and we miss them. Please do give some of them a ring this week let them know we do really care.

## Contact and Church office information

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