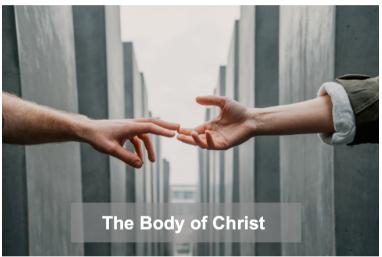


aptist hurch NEWS



Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## We are gradually getting back to normal ...

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".

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** – Last week we started the 'when I feel' series: our focus being 'when I feel worried.' However, interwoven with this, will be some other subjects as the weeks go by. One of those subjects features as part of today's talk, which is: the 'Body of Christ.' In time this will lead us onto talks about 'love' and 'spiritual gifts.' Today's text if from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

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.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday 4th March, 10.30a.m. Bognor Methodist Church. It is for anyone who wants to go and has been planned this year by ladies of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Barbara.

ALPHA 2022 - With our gradual emergence from COVID the time seems right to make available a new ALPHA course. ALPHA provides an opportunity over 11 weeks for individuals to explore what the Christian faith is all about in a friendly, informal and unhurried environment and where any issues or questions they might have can be raised and discussed properly. Our course will commence on Monday 21st February and will run until we hold a Sunday ALPHA Celebration Service on 15th May. Of course, we will be inviting interested people from our community but there may be those from our congregation who might feel that such a course would be helpful to them. If that is you, or perhaps you are in contact with someone from among your friends or family who might be interested, please ask for more details and/or sign-up forms. There are some invitation cards that can also be used if required. Clive.

**PRAYER FOR ALPHA** - Many of the church family are already praying for our upcoming Alpha, this is much appreciated. If you would like to gather together to pray, we can gather either in the prayer room at church or at our house, on Monday evenings from 7.00pm - 8.00pm (starting 21st) to pray and wait on the Lord for the group and team. Please let me know if you prefer a day time gathering, and I can arrange one. Please make a note of and pass any pictures or words of encourage/knowledge that you feel appropriate to share to either myself or Clive so that they can be released to those who need them. With grateful thanks, Lucienne Edwards 265527

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS - This weekend we have six birthdays to celebrate, so you are going to be busy wishing them all a big happy birthday. It is Fiona Huntley's on 14<sup>th</sup> (Monday), Lindsey Baxter (15<sup>th</sup>), Emily Downing (16<sup>th</sup>), Molly Hawkins (17<sup>th</sup>), Pam White (17<sup>th</sup>) and Christopher Mustchin (18<sup>th</sup>) – that's a lot of candles. 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). 5tr

This week, Arthur's reminds us again that even on the darkest day, we can always turn to Jesus.

## "Thank you Lord"

Once I was down in that deep pit. In that dark place With no exit. But then I saw His light, that penetrates the darkest night. Oh to feel the fresh air upon my face, to rest in his Amazing Grace. No longer a slave to sin and misery. Thank you Lord for the day you set me free on the cross at Calvary.

## Arthur Magee

**CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT** - have endured many difficult years, with terrorist attacks and other pressures, but the powerful witness of believers, who were dignified and forgiving in the face of violence, spoke volumes.

Today, many people want to meet Jesus for themselves.

Covid hit hard, with sickness, unemployment and death, resulting in people now turning to Scripture for hope and comfort. The Bible Society is trying to meet their needs as much as possible, now that thousands are wanting the Scriptures!!!

**QUARTERLY CHURCH MEETING** - Just to remind you we are 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.

The ballot forms are now available at the back of the church together with a box to put them in. You can also reply by email or by written response but not by phone. You need to list your preferences in order. 1 being your first choice and so on.

Derek

• **THE WELL - A NEW PRAYER INIATIVE** - We will be starting up a new prayer time called "The Well. This will take place on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10.30 till 11.30am, commencing 16th March.

Why "The Well" ? A well serves to provide water from a deep place, in our case this is the living water. In John 4: 13-14 Jesus says that He is the living water. If you want to go deeper in your relationship with Jesus why not join with others who desire the same. Together we will reflect, be still in his presence and drink from the water of life. As we wait in His presence He may choose to give us a prophetic word to share. "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he turned to me and heard my cry" Psalm 40:1

- **PETER VINCENT** Simon would like us to pray for Peter Vincent who has been diagnosed with macular degeneration (The macular is the central and most important part of our retinas. It is responsible for our central vision which we use every moment of everyday of our waking lives). Please pray for the correct treatment, healing and peace of mind.
- HAZEL BELL As you probably know Hazel is currently in hospital at Portsmouth with a possible heart condition. She will be having a regular procedure on her short very soon. If all goes well, she should then be home in a few days. She will then need to take easy for six weeks as she recovers. Please continue to pray for peace of mind and a successful procedure.
- PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR Janice Sprules, Eve Williams, Marjorie Flynn, Ruth (Anna's sister), 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)
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Treasurer/Elder	Derek Robinson (Tel: 866238)
	email: contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk
Deacons	Brenda (265984), Barbara (821789), John (837181)