And finally

CAROLS IN THE CAR PARK – 6.00pm WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023 - Please invite your friends and neighbours as we would love to see as many of our community as possible come along to our car park with torches and lanterns to sing Christmas carols accompanied by the Salvation Army Band. Simon will welcome our visitors and give a short evangelical talk before we go into the church for Mince Pies and Hot Chocolate. The aim will be to finish around 7pm. If you can help with setting up the carpark beforehand, then do let Clive know.

REMINDER 1 - CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT – 6.00pm Sunday, 17th December.

MINCE PIES? – If possible, can you please donate boxes of mince pies from today for this service? Please speak to Brenda if you are able.

REMINDER 2 – MIDWEEK AFTERNOON CAROL SERVICE – Wednesday 20th December at 15.30pm

PRAYER NEEDED 1 – David Hanchard has another ulcer forming on his ankle which is on the opposite side to his first ulcer. The doctor hopes that he has nipped this in the bud, but David would like us to support this hope with prayer. He is also feeling pretty down about his ongoing problems, so do pray also for peace of mind and light at the end of the tunnel.

PRAYED NEEDED 2 - Heather Gertig has had a bad fall and has broken her ankle. She is currently in hospital awaiting a second operation now planned for Monday. Please pray for pain relief, healing and peace of mind.

DON'T SPEND CHRISTMAS ALONE- The Shore Church (Victoria Drive) are kindly inviting you to come and share Christmas with them. They will be serving a beautifully prepared traditional lunch with all the trimmings at 12 noon – absolutely free of charge. There will also be vegetarian options. Singles and couples are welcome. If you would like to join them, please contact the church office (office@theshorecommunity.church) and book by 14th December.

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: 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 10th December 2023

Series: Advent 2023

Advent 1: Highways

Isaiah 40:3-5

Simon Downing

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE – At this morning's service we will be lighting the second Advent candle. Simon's band is leading worship, so make sure you are in good voice, as we will certainly be singing some rousing songs.

Simon will also be bringing God's word to us based on a familiar passage form Isaiah 40:3-5 where the prophet reminds us of a voice calling us to "prepare the way for the Lord". This is still an urgent call for believers everywhere of our need to be prepared for the Lord's return and to make sure that our friends and families are prepared for the greatest day in history.

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

HOME MISSION – Every month you will receiving a **Home Mission Focus** from Paul Kerley. This will usually be in the form of a short video from one of our Home Mission supported churches. This month the SEBA Focus is on Life Community Church, Horsham, and it's a video from its minister, Rev Pete Dibden. The link for the video is at **on the SEBA Web Site -** https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show_media=314740&show_file=348179. Alternatively, the YouTube Link- https://youtu.be/UvGNVoso_NU

A MESSAGE FROM BERNARD AND LUCIENNE - Dear ABC family, we have fellowshipped with all at ABC for around four years now and we feel that the Lord has been speaking to us to leave ABC and move on elsewhere. Over our recent holiday on the Isle of Wight the Lord has emphasised to us that the time is now, so this is a friendly farewell to everybody. We have made many genuine friendships during our time at ABC which we hope will continue. Thank you for all you have done for us both, over the time we have spent with you. We have been particularly blessed by meeting each other and getting married at ABC. We really appreciate everybody's love and effort that made our wedding day such a success. With all our love, Bernard and Lucienne."

BACK DESK – With Lucienne's departure, we are now short of back desk operators. Is this something you can help with? You will receive full training and ongoing support. Please speak to Simon if you are able to help.

CALLING ALL CAKE MAKERS – We need your expertise! As you might remember from last year, we like to serve delicious home-made cakes after our mid-week afternoon Carol service. If you are able, can you make a cake for this year's service? If so, do speak to Liz as soon as possible or send me a message. This service lasts under an hour and is ideal for inviting friends, neighbours and relatives to join us – and enjoy the cakes! They will be made most welcome. Derek

A Christmas Ode for Aldwick Baptist Church

In Aldwick's heart, where spirits lift,
A tale of love, a Christmas gift.
Within our village, warm and grand,
Love Aldwick blooms across the land.

Kids Sunday Club, a joyful sound,
In echoes of laughter, hope is found.
Little hearts, like candles bright,
Illuminate the sacred night.

Coffee Time, a warming treat,
Where friendships brew and moments sweet.
Amidst the chatter, laughter weaves,
A tapestry of joy that cleaves.

Toddler Time, with steps so small,
A dance of wonder in the church hall.
Tiny hands and twinkling eyes,
Reflect the grace of starlit skies.

Community Cafe, a haven wide,
Where souls connect, side by side.
The table set with love and care,
A feast of fellowship we share.

In carols sung and candles aglow,
The Christmas tale begins to flow.
A babe in manger, pure and mild,
Embraced by Mary, heaven's child.

As Love Aldwick wraps its embrace,
Around the church, a warm hearthplace.
Christmas hymns, both old and new,
Resound with echoes, strong and true.

So, here's to you, Aldwick so dear,
In this season, drawing near.
May Love Aldwick brightly gleam,
A radiant star, a festive dream.

Anon