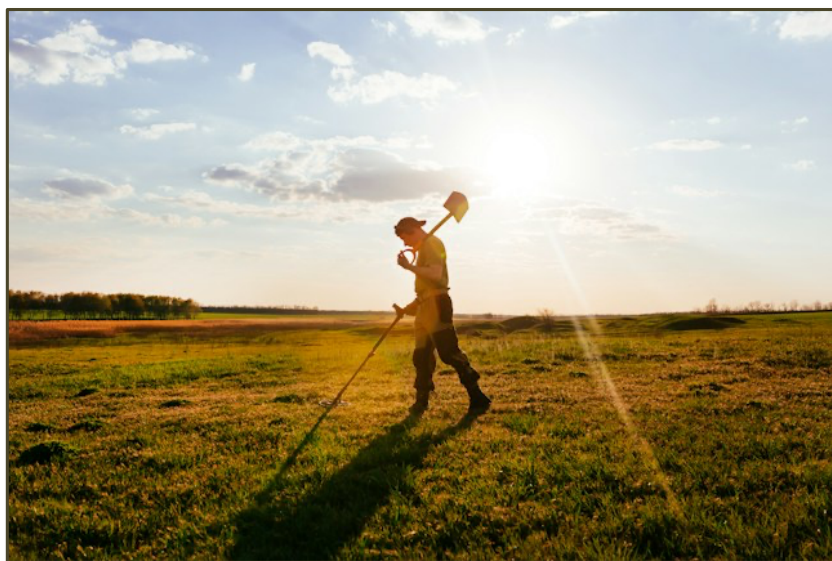


ABC NEWS

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Sunday 4th February 2024
Our Family Worship Service
Treasure in a field
Matthew 13:44
Simon Downing

THIS WEEKEND'S FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE - This will now include Breakfast Time which is open to all ages. Breakfast time is a place to encourage Christians and non-Christians alike, to share in some food together, before the family services begin. It is about using the gifts of relationships, hospitality, generosity, and kindness to make people feel valued. It is about helping people feel that they 'belong.' As relationships develop, the sharing of one's faith may also emerge in time.

- **Breakfast menu?** This will quality croissants, cereals, coffee, tea, and will be available from 9.30 in the morning, an hour before the service begins.
- **Most important** - We are all encouraged *no* to just talk to people we already know, but to befriend people they do not know so well.
- **Who might be coming?** The advertising for Breakfast Time, will be to all our contacts, such as those at Messy Church and Toddler Time.

If this venture goes well, and we will reassess it after 4 months, then it is possible it might develop further.

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>

AN INVITATION TO WALK THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT - You are invited to join other local Christians to enjoy a journey with an experienced guide who will encourage you to see God's word through the 'Big Picture.' You will experience fun and memorable sessions with such clarity that you will be able to retell the storyline to a friend.

- **Where?** St Mary Magdalene Church, Bersted Street, PO22 9QE.
- **When?** Part 1: Saturday 24th February, 2pm to 5pm. Part 2: Saturday 2nd March, 2pm – 4.30pm.
- **Cost?** £14 (Free for children aged 11-17).
- **Need more information?** Contact Rev Tim Crook 01243 862018 or timothycrook@hotmail.com

PRAY FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO SOLDIER ON – We know a lot of you have all sorts of problems that you tend to keep to yourselves. So please can we all pray for those amongst us who soldier on, often in pain, but are reluctant to ask for prayer. If this is you, then do share your problems with others. It does really help.

SASRA NEWS AND PRAYER UPDATE – If you would like to know more about SASRA (The Soldiers & Aviators Scripture Readers Association) then you can catch up by using this link: <https://mailchi.mp/sasra.org.uk/sasra-enewsletter-february-2024?e=c304c8b6ea>.

This week's poem

This week Arthur's poem reminds us that no matter where you go, you will always find God there before you – simply because God is everywhere. Now that is reassuring!

My God is everywhere

I see God's face
in a beautiful day
I see his joy
in a child at play
I see his wonder
in the stars at night
I see his freedom
in the birds in flight
I see his love
in a mother's eyes
I see his glory
in the golden sunrise
I see his beauty
in a kingfisher's wings
I feel his peace
when the Blackbird sings
Oh what joy it brings
when I see all these things
Yes, I see my God in all creation
His almighty power beyond imagination.

Arthur Magee

WANTED – NEW HOME GOUP LEADERS – We have several people who want to join a home group, but our current groups are bursting at the seams. We urgently need to start at least two more groups. Can you help? Please ask God if He is calling you into this rewarding ministry. Please talk to me if you would like more information. Derek

STREAMING PROBLEMS - As our online worshippers will know, we are currently experiencing problems with steaming services. Unfortunately, we are not sure why this is happening but hope to get it sorted soon.

And finally

FIRST RESPONDER - Simon is our first responder for all urgent matters for the time being. For less urgent problems, please use our pastoral care system by contacting your pastoral group coordinator. Derek.

RAY CRADDOCK - Heather Craddock has asked for prayers for her husband Ray He has many problems but at the moment he cannot get into bed as his hip is giving him such pain and is sleeping in his chair. Please pray for easing of this pain so that both he and Heather can get some good rest.

IAN SURRELL - On top of all Ian's existing problems and confirmation that his heart is getting weaker, he has had a fall at home and landed on his knees. Thankfully nothing is broken but it is very painful and bruised . In spite of everything, he still has his wonderful sense of humour and determination not to let things get on top of him. Please pray for healing and pain relief.

JOHN BELL - John is currently in a great deal of pain in his upper back. Please pray for pain relief and healing.

SIMON DOWNING - Please pray for Simon and the many people he visits every month, many of whom have very significant problems that he can not share with anyone.

EMILY DOWNING - Emily is now on a 5 week travelling holiday with her friend Freya. Please do pray for the Lord's protection over Emily and Freya as they go about their travels. Please pray too for peace of mind for the family back at home.

DEREK ROBINSON – I will back in hospital on Monday afternoon for another (small) operation. Please pray that the consultant has a steady hand and that all goes well.

OUR PASTORAL TEAM – Please pray for our pastoral team and the good work they are doing in monitoring your health and well being. If anyone else would like to join this team, then do let me know.

Contact and Church office information

Head of the Church Minister	Jesus Christ 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)