

# ABC NEWS

aldwick baptist church



**Sunday 22nd December 2024**

**Series: Advent 2024**

**10.30 am - Our Nativity Service**

**6.30 pm – Our Carols by Candlelight Service**

**TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICES** – Today we have two very special but different services to experience. Yes, they have a common message in that both celebrate the birth of our Saviour whilst pointing to the reason that God sent His Son into the world. Just in case you are blinded by the hype of Christmas, let me remind you that God sent His Son into the world as part of His rescue plan for mankind, to bring light to our darkness and life to our souls. The morning Nativity service is built around 5 short dramas inspired which promise to be a bit different to previous years. Prepare to be surprised – just as the shepherds were when their night was interrupted by angels. Simon will be leading the worship. In the evening, we have our traditional 'Carols by Candlelight' service which is being led by Clive and Brenda's scratch band. Both services will be special, so make sure you are there!

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>.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** – There will be a short celebration service here at 10.30pm led by Simon. Do join us as we celebrate Jesus' birth!

**NEXT SUNDAY** – Our Advent season draws to a close with a rather more conventional service where the theme of my message will be 'New beginnings' based on 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. The theme of this service is that we should be embracing the new life, purpose, and mission we have in Christ as we enter a new year. The key verse is v 17 where we are told '*If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*' That, my friends, is the hope of the gospel. The promise of a *new beginning* in Christ. So do join us.  
Derek

**JOYCE AND PETER** – We would like to thank everyone for the many sympathy messages, cards, flowers and upholding prayers following the recent sudden death of their son Paul. Peter.

**THE CHRISTMAS HAMPERS** -Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the CAP Christmas hampers. Because of your generosity we were able to make up 3 very full hampers with a large box of spare donations which were passed to the Food Bank. 16 hampers in all were distributed to Bognor CAP clients this week who were overjoyed to receive them and one of whom also recently went debt free. CAP praises the Lord for his goodness towards their clients through supporters such as you.

**THANK YOU TOO** – For the wonderful cakes we were able to serve at our midweek carol service. 65 people attended with many of them not being regular church attendees, so that was very encouraging. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this service such a success.

## This week's poem

This week Arthur's poem reminds that for some Christmas isn't such a great time for everyone - especially if you live alone. So often the lonely get forgotten at Christmas, what are you going to do about it?

### Just a simple word

She sits there all alone  
Very rarely does  
she have any mail  
Or hear the telephone.  
She thinks of all the memories  
Of years gone by.  
Some that make her happy  
But some that make her cry.  
So many of her friends and loved ones  
Have passed away.  
How she yearns  
for yesterday.  
You will see her laugh and smile  
But it's just to hide  
The sadness  
she feels inside.  
If this reminds you  
Of someone you know –  
Just make the time to say 'Hello'.  
Just a simple word to say –  
But it will help to make her  
Christmas day.

Arthur Magee

**SEBA HOME MISSION FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER 2024** - Every month we receive a Home Mission Focus from Paul Kerley which is usually in the form of a short video from one of our Home Mission supported churches. This month the SEBA Focus is on Westvale Community Church, where their minister in training is Miranda Odysseos-Beaumont . The Link for the video on the SEBA Web Site is [https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show\\_media=333566&show\\_file=374007](https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/?show_media=333566&show_file=374007)  
YouTube Link - <https://youtu.be/8CNmPffu7CE>

**... and finally**  
**Prayer Board**

David Hanchard is having more problems with his teeth and really needs our prayers. He had an appointment with dentist this week who found an infection under a one of David's back teeth. It also needs root canal treatment and a filling, once the infection has been dealt. This could possibly be done on Monday (2 days before Christmas), if the infection has cleared by next Monday. Please pray for the situation please, as David is feeling pretty miserable about this.

Please pray for Gary Edgington, Vivienne's son-in-law, and his family who are in a state of shock following Gary's recent diagnosis of oesophageal cancer. This is extremely serious. Please pray for peace of mind and healing.

Please pray for Arthur our resident poet who is struggling with own health and is currently in a lot of pain. Pray too for his wife Eileen who is also very poorly

Some good news. Frank is feeling a bit better this week after the underlying cause of his problems was discovered Please do continue to pray for Frank as he slowly builds up his strength.

Please pray too for Molly Hawkins, Mary Bullock, Pam McClaren, Val Colette, Mo Howland, Vivienne Newman, Hazel Bell - all of whom need our prayers. Do continue to thank God that Simon has been able to rejoin us in church. Do pray for a gradual return to full health.