

... and finally  
Prayer Board

Please do continue to pray for Clive, Polly and Brenda as they are still unwell. All three of them say they have little energy and are in need of healing. Pray for healing, an energy boost and peace of mind.

Please continue to 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 Haze who has a suspected bleeding cyst. I have been referred for an urgent scan and currently staying at home as long as I have been told to rest. We choose the 2nd option. We would really appreciate prayers for relief from pain & healing.

Please pray for Angela Halfacree as needs our prayer support. Her mobility is not as good as it once was, and so please pray for her general well-being as well as improvements in her walking.

Please pray for Ray and Heather Craddock who are also suffering with and have both been very poorly, coughing, sneezing, fatigue and feeling generally unwell. We would value your prayers please as we are both very tired and unable to 'get up and go' which has gone up and gone! . Please pray too for Athur Magee, Molly Hawkins, Mary Bullock, Pam McClaren, Val Colette, Mo Howland, Vivienne Newman, Hazel Bell - all of whom need our prayers. Do also continue to pray for Marie who is now back at home and thank God for her prompt treatment. Marie would like to thank you all for your prayers. If you have a prayer need, do let me know! Derek.

# ABC NEWS

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Sunday 5th January 2025

Our family worship service

New Beginnings II – Back to Basics

Colossians 1:9-14

John Smith

**TODAY'S FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE** – The theme for this service is “New Beginnings – Back to Basics”. Simon’s band will be leading whilst John will be coordinating the service. This service will also include Breakfast Time which is open to all ages from 9.30am. 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.

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>.

**NEXT WEEKEND'S WORSHIP SERVICE 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025** - The theme for this service is a word study based on the ‘Face of God’. Simon will be bringing his thoughts to us based on two specific verses - Psalm 4:6 where David asks the Lord to ‘Let the light of your face shine on us’; and Psalm 27:8 where David calls out to the Lord, ‘My heart says of you, “Seek his face! Your face, Lord, I will seek.’ This should be really interesting. Brenda’s band should be leading worship but as Brenda is currently unwell, this might have to change.

**A SHORT THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR** - As we close one chapter and prepare to step into a new year, let us remember that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His mercies are new every morning, and His plans for us are filled with hope and purpose. Whatever the past year held, we can trust that His grace will sustain us and His love will never fail. As we move onwards in the new year, let's do so with hearts full of gratitude and faith, ready to embrace all that God has in store for us, trusting Him to lead us into His promises.

**FIRST RESPONDER** –As Simon is continuing his phased return, I will continue to act as first responder for the time being, so please don't try to contact him, instead contact me in the case of problems.

**PLEASE NOTE THESE NEW NUMBERS** - Simon Downing (07411 919928); Church office (07743 257860).

**HOMEGROUPS** – Do you belong to a homegroup? If you do, then you know just how wonderful they are. There is usually a discussion based around a recent sermon, a time to share what's on your heart, a time for prayer and always a time for a cup of tea and some cake. If you not currently in a homegroup, then why not talk to me about joining an existing group or even starting a new one.

**MONTHLY FAMILY PRAYER MEETING** – We will be meeting in the church on Tuesday evening at 7 pm to seek God's direction for the church. Please do join us.

This week Arthur's poem reminds us that the miracle of creation is all around us. We only have to open our eyes and see a miracle every day.

**“I saw a miracle”**

The migrating birds flying  
Flying across the morning sky.  
To a place so far away  
Of what a privilege.  
I saw a miracle today.

The rainbow colours  
Reflecting across the morning sky.  
Such a glorious sight,  
So wonderful I close my eyes and pray  
Thank you, Lord  
For the miracle I saw today.

When I look up at the Milky Way  
The stars so many light years away.  
How it takes my breath away  
Yes I saw another miracle today.

I saw a caterpillar  
Turn into a beautiful butterfly.  
Even the unbeliever  
Must wonder why.

How can they take for granted  
The wonders that we see?  
Everything is a miracle –  
Even you and me.

Arthur Magee

**Contact and Church office information**

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Minister	Simon Downing (Tel. 07508815573)
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