

# Eardisley Group Newsletter Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent

### Services at:

Almeley:	Holy Communion	11:00 am
Eardisley:	Family Service	11.00 am
Kinnersley:	Holy Communion	9:30 am

### Readings

Deuteronomy 30.15-end      1 Corinthians 3.1-9      Matthew 5.21-37

### Thought for the week:

*'We are God's servants, working together' 1 Corinthians 3*

The Church in ancient Corinth was a church that was not working. It was church that was riddled with factions. The church had been founded by St Paul but had been visited by other evangelists and preachers one of whom was called Apollos. Now it does not seem to be the case that Apollos was working against Paul or vice versa, as we shall see later, Paul commended the work of Apollos. It does seem to be the case that the church in Corinth had at least two factions, one that had gathered around Paul and the other that had gathered around Apollos. How very disappointing, and how very human, and pleasingly honest that Bible allows us to see something of this factional church.

Paul does not however respond by attempting to shore up his base, rather he appeals to everyone to work together, and he says of himself and Apollos, 'I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth'. He points away from himself and Apollos to God.

What can we learn from this? Paul says, and this can apply to us, 'We are God's servants, working together'. It is no accident that Paul's great hymn to love is found in his letter to the church at Corinth, for love is the antidote to factionalism. In it he tells us that we may be the most gifted people in the world, we may have faith that can move mountains, and have the power and eloquence to speak God's word, but all this nothing if we have no love. Love is the key to our life and work as community, because seeks the good of the other as other.

### Midweek Services:

#### Almeley

Tuesday                      Morning Prayer                      9:30 am

#### Eardisley

Wednesday,                      Holy Communion                      9:15 am

Thursday, Friday.                      Morning Prayer                      9:15 am

### Monday Almeley warm space

An opportunity to have a friendly chat with other members of the Almeley Community, old & new. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, and a bowl of delicious homemade soup & bread.

Mondays, February 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th **11am - 1pm**

No charge, but donations towards costs would be welcome

### Eardisley Sacred Space, Bible study and Prayer

Tuesday, Arboyne House, 7.30 pm

Contact Sue or Mike Hawthorne 01544 327058