

Minister: Revd. Andy Gore

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2023 Church Text: "And He made known to us, the mystery of His will, to bring everything together in Christ" Ephesians 1:9 & 10

Sunday 17th December 2023

Sunday 17th December

10.30am

Mrs Zania van Schalkwyk

**All Age
Family Carol Service**



Sunday 24th December

10.30am

Rev Andy Gore

Psalm 147: 'Hymn of Praise'

4.00pm

Rev Andy Gore

Carols by Candlelight



Monday 18th December

Toddlers	09.30 – 11.30
Jolt	15.30 – 17.00
Monday Prayers	19.00

Tuesday 19th December

Table Tennis	10.00 – 12.00
Hope & Light	15.45 – 16.45
Joyful Noise	19.00 – 20.30

Wednesday 20th December

J3	15.30 – 17.00
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Thursday 21st December

William Levick School	
Carol Service	14:00 – 15:00
J2	15.30 – 17.00
Ukulele Group	18.30

Friday 22nd December

Toddlers	09.30 – 11.30
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The notices for **December** will be typed by Heather Machin, please send by Wednesday to:

heathermachin@dronfieldbaptist.co.uk

Thank you

**The
WEEK
AHEAD**

Psalm of the Week

Monday (18th December):

Morning Psalm **44**

Evening Psalms **47, 49**

Tuesday (19th December):

Morning Psalms 144, **146**

Evening Psalms 10, **57**

Wednesday (20th December):

Morning Psalms **46, 95**

Evening Psalms **4, 9**

Thursday (21st December):

Morning Psalms **121, 122, 123**

Evening Psalms 80, **84**

Friday (22nd December):

Morning Psalms **124, 125, 126, 127**

Evening Psalms 24, **48**

Saturday (23rd December):

Morning Psalms 128, 129, **130, 131**

Evening Psalm **89 : 1 - 37**

"Eat this book"

"What do you think the
Psalmist is saying to you today?"



Songs of Praise from Sheffield.

Last month, in Sheffield City Hall, there were two recording sessions for Songs of Praise which will be broadcast on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve on BBC1. Taking part are Aled Jones, Katherine Jenkins and Michael Ball as well as the Gospel Choir. Several people from Dronfield churches attended, along with 2,000 others. Aled Jones will present on Christmas Eve and Katherine Jenkins will present on New Years Eve.



Job of the Week - Creche

Do you like spending time with babies and toddlers? If so then come and join us in creche. We currently have 2 children in creche and we have to have a minimum of 2 helpers per week. We have an excellent supply of toys to occupy the children but we are really short of helpers. We don't offer cover for All Age Services but cover is still needed for the other 3 or 4 Sundays per month. The current team undertake the role 5 or 6 times in a four-month period. Less often if more are willing to help!!

For more information contact Margaret Keen

Church Christmas Card



Chuck has gone and done it again!! He has drawn for us a fabulous Christmas card at the back of church which we would love you to sign.

Please write on the card itself, wherever you like, as a way of wishing all within church a very happy Christmas. As usual we will have a local and a national charity, and the two I would like to recommend is Life Dronfield who have completed their purchase of the Parish Hall and their heart and vision of it becoming a place for everyone. Then, secondly, I would like to recommend Spurgeon's Childcare which works with families who need help, support and encouragement in demanding times. I hope that you will be generous in your love and support.

Andy



URGENT: Unfortunately, the crisp packet recycling stream is no longer available to us from 20th December.

Please do not recycle anymore crisp packets in the porch after this date. Your crisp packets can be taken to the recycling points at Sainsburys, Co-op or Aldi providing they are completely empty with no crumbs left in them.

Thank you for your support of this, hopefully the scheme may start again in the future. For any queries, please contact Margaret Keen



Sunday Rotas

The new rotas for the next six months have been sent out. If you have not received yours, please let me know. Chris Turk

Christmas RE Workshops

It is my privilege to be like a chaplain in three of our local schools and in all of them they are enthusiastic for me to lead Christmas Workshops with them. Having attended several in the last couple of weeks, my last ones are this coming week.

- Tuesday 19th December - at William Levick Reception Nativity
- Wednesday 20th December - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 at Stonelow Juniors
- Thursday 21st December - William Levick Carol Service here at DBC at 2:00pm.

Please pray that all of the children will hear and respond to the message of Christmas in school and here in church.

Thanks, Andy

Thought for the week – Don

Consumer or Contributor?

Again, something that came up in my reading of Nicky Gumbel's Bible in One Year. Might seem an odd question to ask but do you see church membership as a consumer activity or a contributor one?

At its core Consumerism is primarily about selecting what suits you - building up your resources, being fed, having expectations met. It's a passive position focusing on the familiar and stuff that reinforces it. The main beneficiary is the Christian themselves

At its core Contributorism is primarily about getting involved - giving your energy, even leading. It's an active position needing lots of drive. The main beneficiary is other people.

There are dangers if we only exhibit consumerism or contributorism to the exclusion of the other in both our personal view of membership and in the way we focus the church.

The danger of total consumerism is the risk of thinking that others know best, are more spiritual, have more experience, God couldn't possibly want me to do "x". Total consumerism exhausts the Minister and leadership, isolates them and ultimately burns them out.

The danger of total contributorism is getting involved in everything, have loads of enthusiasm. Total contributorism becomes an almost impossible task - "spreading our butter too thinly over too much toast". Total contributorism can seem very healthy, very vibrant - a "live" church, but can also be unfocused and substitute discerning God's vision for a "scatter gun" approach.

Fortunately, God didn't give us cotton wool between the ears but a brain and a

sensitivity to guidance from the Holy Spirit. Individually and as a fellowship we need both Consumerism and Contributorism.

Guided by the Holy Spirit we all need a season of Consumerism - to grow and to consolidate, to refresh and re-invigorate. We all need a season of Contributorism to carry out our responsibilities to the "Great Commission" - *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* Matthew 28:19-20 NIVUK. Both rely heavily on being sensitive to the Holy Spirit so we can discern when the time is best for each.

It's been said that the church is the only organisation set up for its non-members. Consumers Consolidate whilst Contributors Transform. Non-members get the most benefit when we do both as a fellowship at the same time but the balance for individuals will fluctuate with season. Consolidating our understanding of the Bible, turning it into God's Word and getting our foundations right and, Transforming our relevance to the community we are in by being Jesus' hands and feet.

Both are needed in their season for healthy Christian maturing and living. Both are needed in season for a healthy church. We all need to take stock from time to time and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as to which is the most important season for us right now.

Verse for Today - *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:"* Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIVUK

Church Life

The Pastoral Team: The pastoral team is here for you and members are happy to help. Please make sure that we are made aware of anyone's needs. Do tell us, we really don't mind if more than one person contacts us.

Prayer Chain Contacts: If you would like to join the prayer chain or have a request that you would like us to pray for, please contact any of the following so that the message can be passed on to prayer chain members.

Alison Bygrave

Gill Smith

How are we doing?

The black letter box in the porch is for your feedback on church life.



It's important to know how things are affecting you, if we are to discern and fulfil God's vision for DBC and shape our future ministries together.