

REJOICE!

The newsletter of your local community church
Ardeen Road United Reformed Church Doncaster

Number
15

FEBRUARY 2026



Minister:

Rev. Matt Stone

07354 842542

matt.stone@cantab.net

Secretary:

Mrs. V. Morrison

01302 530109

valmorrison7@btinternet.com

Sunday Worship

11.00 am

Everyone welcome

Or join us on zoom

ID 869 1863 1774

Passcode 725344

<http://ardeenroadurc.org.uk>

Printed on recycled paper



ARDEEN ROAD
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
DONCASTER

CHAIR *-a-cise*

A Chair Support Exercise Group -
standing or sitting.



Breathing, joints and muscle improvement.

Led by a qualified instructor.

£3 per session.

EVERY MONDAY

11.30am-12.30pm

From Our Minister

Dear church family,
Psalm 150 declares:

Praise the Lord.

*Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.*

*Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.*

*Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre,*

*praise him with timbrel and dancing,
praise him with the strings and pipe,*

*praise him with the clash of cymbals,
praise him with resounding cymbals.*

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

What does it mean to you to “praise the Lord”? How do you “praise”?

In English, we have one word for “praise”, but in the original language of the Old Testament, Hebrew, there are several:

- there’s YADAH – which means lifting your hands in praise and thanksgiving.
- there’s SHABACH – which means to shout or to declare triumph.
- there’s TEHILLAH – which means a song of praise, and it can signify praise that’s due to God simply because of who He is, because of His glory.
- there’s BARAK – which means to bless or to kneel.
- there’s ZAMAR – which means to make music and implies the use of stringed instruments.
- there’s HALAL – the root of the word ‘Hallelujah’ – and it means to shine, to boast, or to celebrate, and it’s got a sense of exuberance and unrestrained joy about it.

As you can see, all of these words are very expressive. Praise in the Old Testament is not just standing still and quietly mumbling a few words – it involves our whole bodies: our hands, lifted up in thanksgiving or playing instruments; our lips shouting to declare God’s triumph and singing songs; our knees bending in humility; our feet dancing exuberantly – just as David did before the Ark in 2 Samuel 6.

I wonder: We might not be the most expressive of people, but how can we learn from our Jewish forebears? How might our praise



deepen and overflow, engaging all that we are? How might our adoration and thanksgiving be made visible?

As Psalm 63:5 (Passion translation) says, "I overflow with praise when I come before you, for the anointing of your presence satisfies me like nothing else. You are such a rich banquet of pleasure to my soul."

With love, and blessings Matt

WORSHIP LEADERS DURING THIS MONTH

Sunday February 1st	11.00am	Martin Johnson
Sunday February 8th	11.00am	Glen Howe
Sunday February 15 th	11.00am	Rev. Matt Stone
		HOLY COMMUNION
Sunday February 22 nd	11.00am	Sue Pickering

FLOWERS



There are more than 400,000 varieties of flower throughout the world and they play an important part in all aspects of our culture from when we are born to when we die. We celebrate special days by giving flowers, anniversaries, birthdays, get well, I am sorry, I love you and many other reasons. Children are given flower names, Daisy, Poppy, Rose and Marigold are just a few. This beautiful County of Yorkshire has been represented by the White Rose since the 15th century whilst the red Rose symbolises love and is given on Valentine's Day. The flowers on show at the Sunday Service present beauty, calmness and for some people remembrance of someone or a meaningful event. If anyone would like to celebrate or remember a special day please consider contributing to the Church Flower Fund, there is a list at the back of the Church where you can include your name.

WhatsApp Prayers

If anyone would like to join the **WhatsApp prayer group**, please let me know by phone or e-mail (both given in this newsletter). I will need your number please.

If you have a phone capable of receiving messages but not WhatsApp, please let me know so we can send out texts instead.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

God Bless Val

WHITBYS FISH & CHIP LUNCH



**The February visit to Whitby's will be on
Monday the 2nd at 1pm
please arrive early.**

Sign up on the sheet at the rear of the church
nearer the date if you intend to attend.



Pexels free images

SINGING GROUP

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in
learning new hymns and songs.
See Pat or Maureen for this months date

A.V. ROTA



pixabay

February 1st
February 8th
February 15th
February 22nd

Rod
Adam
Martin
Pat & Dena

Jesus Died to Save the Planet – Part 2

As we saw last month, God's plan is global in scale. It's for the reconciling of (that is, making peace with) all things. It's for the uniting and renewing of all things. It's achieved through the blood of Jesus Christ shed on the cross. And centre stage is his redemption of humanity – we have an important part to play in God's mission. We'll come to that. Before we do, though, we must look squarely at the coming storm.

A storm of our own making - facing the breakdown

The planet, God's world, is in big trouble. Earth scientists are running out of words for urgency. As UN Secretary-General António Guterres put it, we're at 'Code red for humanity... the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.' It's getting much hotter, fast. Pollution and destruction are pushing life everywhere over the edge, with terrible consequences for us, our neighbours, and the creatures around us, the birds of the air, the swarming creatures of the waters, the creeping things and wild animals of the earth.

Temperatures over the last five years are (on average) 1.2°C hotter now than in 1850–1900. In 2023, the average temperature was nearly 1.5°C hotter (yet another unwanted record), even reaching over 2°C for a couple of days in November. Scientists expect it to take only a decade for these temperatures to become the norm. On the course we're on, we'll reach a catastrophic 3°C hotter by the end of the century.

Earth scientists fear that beyond 1.5°C – the so-called 'safe level' – the earth is increasingly likely to reach tipping points – such as the melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets and permafrost, and the dieback of forests and rainforests. For example, as the ice sheets melt, less of the Sun's heat is reflected back into space, instead being absorbed by land and oceans, leading to further heating. The result: a heating cascade we can't control.⁹

Just like in the human body, every degree makes a huge difference. Coral reefs – home to sharks and rays, barracuda, sun fish and angel fish, parrot fish and clown fish, and thousands of others – are dying. At 1.5°C hotter,

70–90% of coral reefs are lost, and at 2°C, more than 99%. Amazon and Congo Basin rainforests gradually become dry savannah. Closer to home, rising temperatures mean Atlantic Puffin breeding sites empty as heating oceans take their sand-eel prey too far from the colony. It's the same for ecosystem after ecosystem. Innumerable species pushed to the edge and then – as it gets hotter – gone.

A hotter world isn't just bad news for the living ecosystems around us. It's bad news for us, too. First the poorest and most vulnerable, then everyone. Orbisa, bringing up her nine children in Ethiopia, has seen no rain for three years. The riverbed dry, she now walks miles for water. In desperation she has slaughtered her livestock for food. She and her family must move to see if there is somewhere they can grow food or make a living.

Oceans emptied of teeming life, skies of soaring birds, and lands of 'creeping things and wild animals'. Hardly an ecosystem is not under threat from human activity. We make deserts, it seems, of all we touch. It's not just that these ecosystems provide us with clean air and water, flood defences, soil stability, and crop pollinators and help to keep the earth cool by absorbing greenhouse gases. It's that we also suffer the loss of the intricate beauty of the complex world around us. The planet – we and all life on earth – is in big trouble. But that's not how it's supposed to be!

Next month, we'll explore how restoring creation fits in with God's plans and purposes.

This article is taken from the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity's website (<https://licc.org.uk/resources/jesus-died-to-save-the-planet/>)

Carolathon – editors' correction



The total raised from this event was £170, not £70 as reported in the January issue.



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PUT
YOUR MUCH NEEDED
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
FOOD BANK IN THE BASKET
AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH

CRAFT CLUB

Forthcoming dates for the Craft Club Meetings are as follows.

Wednesday 11th February

Wednesday 11th March

Wednesday 8th April

Wednesday 13th May

Wednesday 10th June

Wednesday 8th July

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Wednesday 9th September

Wednesday 14th October

Wednesday 11th November

The December meeting will be replaced by the Carolathon.

All meetings start at 2pm.

Dates for your diary

Messy Church continues to meet in school holidays, with the following session **19th Feb** (2026) at Flintwood starting at 10am. If you're able to help, please speak to Ailsa.

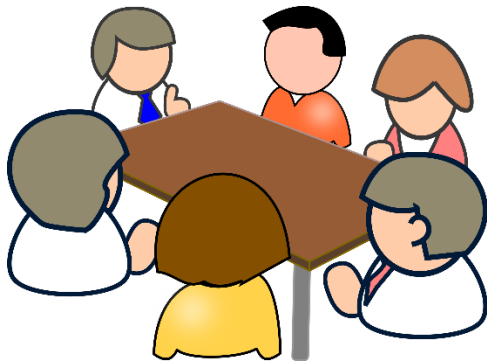
A book fell onto my head yesterday.....
.....I suppose I only have my shelf to blame.

I know a lot of jokes about retired people, but none of them work.

Bible Study

Our church Bible Study is an informal group that meets fortnightly to discuss the Bible passages we've looked at on Sunday mornings. This month, we meet on 3 and 17 February, 1.45-2.45pm. All are welcome!

Church Meetings



Our church meetings for the rest of the year are as follows (please note the new times):

Wed 22 April, 3.15pm (AGM)

Sun 5 July, 12.30pm

Wed 14 October, 3.15pm

Easter Outreach

The Open the Book Team continues to act out Bible stories in Intake and Plover Primary Schools, and we'll be acting out the Easter story on Monday 23rd March. For those wanting to take part, we have our first planning meeting and rehearsal on Tuesday 3rd March at 12.30pm at church. We've also been invited to lead an Easter Workshop with Year 5 on Wednesday 11th March at 11am. If you'd be interested in helping with this, please speak to Matt.

We will be leading an Easter 'Songs of Praise' at Sandalwood Day Centre on Thursday 26th March at 1pm. We need a good number of singers - please let Matt know if you can join us.

My son asked me to put his shoes on, but I don't think they'll fit me.

If a child refuses to nap, are they guilty of resisting a rest?

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

With Valentines Day in mind find the following surnames of romantic novel authors in the grid below.

Ashley, Austen, Balogh, Bronte, Brown, Carr, Cast, Coulter, Dare, Deveraux, Feehan, Foster, Gabaldon, Garwood, Henley, Heyer, Hill, Holly, Hoyt, Hunter, James, Joy, Kenyon, Kinsale, Kleypas, Kurland, Lea, Low, McNaught, Meyer, Milan, Morsi, Palmer, Quinn, Roberts, Robb, Scott, Thompson, Ward, Young.

The unused letters taken in turn will spell out the names of the big six romantic poets

K	E	R	E	Y	E	H	M	E	Y	E	R	A	M	T
S	H	G	O	L	A	B	S	E	H	E	L	G	C	L
E	Y	U	L	B	O	K	L	E	Y	P	A	S	N	T
R	N	D	B	S	E	N	B	L	Y	B	K	N	A	H
G	R	D	C	N	E	R	L	O	A	K	I	N	U	O
R	B	O	Y	H	O	O	T	L	L	U	N	A	G	M
E	T	O	E	W	H	Y	D	S	Q	R	S	K	H	P
T	N	W	N	T	O	O	O	E	W	L	A	T	T	S
N	O	R	W	H	N	A	T	J	R	A	L	C	E	O
U	J	A	M	E	S	O	N	S	D	N	E	O	S	N
H	R	G	W	H	O	A	R	L	A	D	R	U	A	T
D	W	O	L	H	H	C	E	B	B	C	L	L	I	H
A	D	E	V	E	R	A	U	X	A	B	I	T	O	L
R	Y	R	E	M	L	A	P	R	E	M	O	E	R	I
E	D	F	O	S	T	E	R	G	E	I	S	R	O	M

Contacts

Minister: Rev. Matt Stone 07354 842542 matt.stone@cantab.net

Secretary: Val Morrison 01302 530109 valmorrison7@btinternet.com

Treasurers: Tricia Larder & Rod Morrison

Newsletter: Martin Johnson

Room Hire: Ailsa Johnson

Flowers: Dena Hull

Property Stewards: Jim Harrison & Martin Johnson

Churches Together in Intake & Wheatley Hills

Messy
Church



NOTE THE DATES

**Thursday 19 February, 10-11.30am,
Flintwood Methodist Church**

**Monday 30 March, 10-11.30am,
Ardeen Road United Reformed
Church, Doncaster**

**Thursday 28 May, 10-11.30am,
Flintwood Methodist Church**

All families are welcome to
join us for free crafts, a Bible
story and celebration, and
refreshments.



February diary dates

Newsletter items for the March Issue to Martin by

Sunday 15th February please

Door Steward

- 1st Dena Hull**
8th Althea Burwell
15th Jean Brookes
22nd David Witham



Vestry Duty



- 1st Christine Jewison**
8th Tricia Larder
15th Ailsa Johnson
22nd Rod Morrison

Bible Readers



- 1st Ailsa Johnson**
8th Christine Jewison
15th Alison Shaw
22nd Geoff Shaw

Flower list

- 1st From the flower fund**
8th From the flower fund
15th Elwyn Edwards
22nd From the flower fund



Refreshment Rota



- 1st Steve Armitage & Pat Jordan**
8th Malcolm Stanley & Janet Chorlton
15th Pat Jordan & Dorothy Keen
22nd Janet Chorlton & Dena Hull