

# The Christian Community Stourbridge

*Movement for Religious Renewal*

***St. John's Tide to November 2016***



“Life beyond the Earth” Painting by Harry Scriven

*Like the Earth  
seen from space  
clothed in bright air  
So the future, unknown  
glimpsed through midsummer light and life  
- the Creating Word -  
Becomes  
Blessed, blue world.*

Poem by Peter Howe

## *Saint John's Tide*

### *June*

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	15.00	<b>CONCERT by EARTHWARDS</b> SONGS AND POEMS OF NATURE, THE HEART AND THE SEASONS composed and performed by Jehanne Mehta with Rob Mehta and Will Mercer
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study Matthew 3:1-12 (John the Baptist)

### *July*

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.00-4.30	In Remembrance of Trudi Weigert Summer tea party at the Elysia Therapeutic Centre
	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15	Children's service
	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'Oasis - Three Pathways to explore the 'Inner and Outer Journey' through biographical and artistic expression supported by the Foundation Stone Meditation'</b> Talk by <i>Melanie Taylor</i>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: John 1:19-28 (The Testimony of John the Baptist)
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	2-4.30	<b>Exhibition viewing with Harry Scriven</b> Pop in whenever you like
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Matthew 11:1-15 (The Baptist's Question)
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9-12	Gardening Day and Preparing for Party!
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>Monika's Farewell Party</b> with bring and share lunch
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	19.00	<b>'The Art of being Human'</b> Book Launch with Author Deborah Ravetz

## *Trinity*

Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
<i>August</i>		
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily'</b> Shared Reading of Goethe's Fairy Tale
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily'</b> Shared Study of Goethe's Fairy Tale
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily'</b> Shared Study of Goethe's Fairy Tale
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Devotional Gathering (Erhard in Ilkeston)
<i>September</i>		
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Luke 10:1-20 (Sending out the 70)
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	19.30	<b>"Shakespeare and the elements: air and fire; earth and water."</b> Talk 1 by <i>Christopher Hudson</i>
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:15	Children's Service
	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>"Shakespeare and the elements: air and fire; earth and water."</b> Talk 2 by <i>Christopher Hudson</i>
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Luke 17:5-24 (The servant's duty and the grateful Samaritan)
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'The Golden Fleece and its spiritual meaning'</b> Talk by <i>Garry Brooking</i> with excerpts from his play 'Ruthless Love'
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Matthew 6:19-34 (Learn from the lilies of the field)
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9-12	Gardening and house cleaning day
	17.00	Reading for the Dead

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'The Gift of Deaths'</b> - how losses have shaped my life – Talk by <i>Kate Spohrer</i>
	15.00	<b>'Tone, Sound and Noise and the Music of the future'</b> Lecture with piano recital by <i>Michael Jones</i>
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'Hermann Beekh: Spiritual Steersman'</b> Talk by <i>Alan Stott</i>
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
<b><i>Michaelmas</i></b>		
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	<b>'The Uncomfortably Earnest Gaze of Michael'</b> Talk with conversation by <i>Erhard Keller</i>
<b><i>October</i></b>		
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>'A Michaelic Way of Viewing the World'</b> Talk by <i>Louise Madsen</i>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Ephesians 6:10-18 (The armour of God)

**Dying and Becoming within the Act of Consecration of Man  
Exploring the 7 Life Processes and the 7 Intervals  
Michaelmas Conference**

With James Dyson, Susanne Steffen and Erhard Keller

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	19.00	Talk by James Dyson/ Susanne Steffen
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	15.00 - 21.15	Talks by James, Susanne and Erhard with bring and share festive supper and close of day service
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	The Children's service
	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30- 13.00	Concluding talks (see special poster)

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> no service

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> no service

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man  
11.30 Open conversation on whatever arises

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> 7.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

	11.00	Gospel Study Revelation 19:11-16 (The rider on the white horse)
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>“Portals”</b> Talk about her exhibition by <i>Marielle Uprichard</i>
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Revelation 1:10-20 (A figure like that of the Son of Man)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> until Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>		<b>“Loveless Boundaries or Boundless Love? Hope through Unity in Christ”</b> Annual Community Meeting in Manchester
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	19.00	Members Meeting with Lenker Tom Ravetz On the future of our congregations
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Revelation 14:1-20 (The Lamb and the 144 000)
<b>November</b>		
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Revelation 15:1-8 (The song of Moses and of the Lamb)
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9-12	Gardening and house cleaning day
	17.00	Reading for the Dead
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	The Children’s Service
	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	<b>Remembering those who have died</b>
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Revelation 21:1-27 (The New Jerusalem)
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	19.00	<b>‘Pioneers of Religious Renewal’</b> A History of The Christian Community in the English-Speaking World Talk by book author <i>Christian Maclean</i>
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15	<b>“Death Café”</b> with <i>Kate Spohrer</i>
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.00	Gospel Study: Luke 21:25-36 (The coming of the Son of Man)

**Farewell for Monika:** For nearly a decade Monika has been working here in Stourbridge with devotion, openness and creativity. A special time for the Stourbridge congregation has come to an end as she moves on to Forest Row. So come and add your thanks, memories and voice to her farewell on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July.

**"Come play with me!"** a parent and child group, inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner, is held at the Christian Community, Baylie Street, Stourbridge, on a Wednesday morning from 9.30 until 11.30. We welcome parents and carers of young children of pre-school age to join in our playing, baking and singing.

Please contact **Janet Klaar**, 01384 352177, if you would like to arrange to come.

### **Summer Course: "The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lilly"**

On three Sundays in August we would like to read together the fairy tale and live into its wonderful imaginations. If anyone wants to prepare a contribution on aspects of the fairy tale, they are very welcome. (The story can easily be downloaded from the internet.)

### **"The Golden Fleece and its spiritual meaning"**

*Garry Brooking* will give a talk on the quest for the Golden Fleece and the tragic meeting of Jason and Medea, with excerpts from his play *Ruthless Love*, a dramatic adaptation of a Homeric epic poem by Apollonius of Rhodes (250 BC). He explores themes of love and betrayal, kinship and exile, tyranny and justice, sin and expiation, fate and free will, in this story from the ancient world that resonates with our contemporary refugee crisis and its origins in lands beyond the Aegean Sea.

### **"Shakespeare and the four elements"**

Weekend Course with *Christopher Hudson*:

"Does not our life consist of the four elements?" (Twelfth Night)

1 THE ELEMENTS OF AIR AND FIRE IN SHAKESPEARE ( LOVE AND WRATH )

2 THE LIQUID ELEMENT IN SHAKESPEARE ( WATER AND BLOOD ) &  
THE ELEMENT OF EARTH IN SHAKESPEARE ( STONE AND METAL )

It is 400 years ago that William Shakespeare died. In Stroud, I (Christopher) gave seven lectures over the course of seven months, which looked at William Shakespeare's work from a multitude of perspectives. The lectures were given at The Christian Community in Stroud and all the proceeds went towards the fund for building a new church in Stroud. We managed to raise £1262.45. These two lectures in Stourbridge are part of the same initiative, as are three lectures at The Christian Community in Edinburgh. The initiative is simultaneously fund raising and cultural.

The first lecture will explore the central importance of the concept of Nothingness throughout Shakespeare's work, "airy Nothing". It will also look at the element of fire in Shakespeare: the fire of wrath, but also its transmutation as selfless love. This latter is almost the plot of King Lear in a nutshell.

The second lecture will explore the deep Christian symbolism in Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and Macbeth, plays that are, so to speak, saturated with the sacramental substances of blood and water. It will also explore the many layers of symbolic meaning surrounding the planetary metals, gold, silver and lead in The Merchant of Venice.

Christopher Hudson has worked in Rudolf Steiner education in a variety of capacities for three decades, currently at Ruskin Mill College in Nailsworth. He has an MA in History from Cambridge University and an MA in English Literature from York University. He is a member of the Christian Community, and lectures regularly on literary themes.

## **“Dying and Becoming within the Act of Consecration of Man Exploring the 7 Life Processes and the 7 Intervals”**

It is hundred years since the emergence of the concept of the 7 life processes (breathing, warming, nourishing, secretion, maintaining, growing, reproducing). James Dyson has been working with them for many decades and I am very grateful that we can explore together how the life processes work not only as cosmic archetypes or within the human body but also within the Act of Consecration of Man. Seven times during a service congregational members are invited to inscribe the Trinity into their body through the three crosses. Do these very same three sentences subtly change during the Act of Consecration? Susanne Steffen writes: The intervals are windows into the archetypal process of transformation which is also at work in the Act of Consecration. We will be exploring the gesture and sounding essence of the 7 intervals at the places, where the crosses appear.

## **“Loveless Boundaries or Boundless Love? Hope through Unity in Christ”**

Please look at the programme for the Annual Meeting of The Christian Community, which will take place in Manchester on the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 We can share cars for traveling, but it is advised to book accommodation soon.

Nearly every Saturday from 9 to 11:30 Louise is faithfully gardening around the church and the house. Her steady work has created quite a sanctuary! She does appreciate if sometimes someone comes and joins her. We have now bought a new garden shed which is located in the far corner of the garden. The old one will go in August and make space for a friendlier entrance to the church.

## **“Playing With Fire *Pentecostal Fire - the gift of freedom*”**

Next year from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2017 there will be again an **International Whitsun Conference of the Christian Community in Rotterdam, The Netherlands**. The International Whitsun Conference is the biggest gathering of the Christian Community. It is a wonderful opportunity for people from all over the world to meet with each other and to discuss ideas and possibilities together in an inspiring environment. Does anyone plan to go to that conference and wishes to prepare for it?

Monika Knight and Erhard Keller

Priests' times away:

25/6-26/6	Erhard in Ilkeston
29/6	Erhard in Sheffield for funeral of Bernard Morton
9-10/7	Erhard in Ilkeston
11/7	Erhard in Stroud
17/7	Monika's last service and farewell
18/7-1/8	Erhard on holiday
5/8-6/8	Erhard in Ilkeston
15/8-20/8	Erhard on holiday
27/8- 28/8	Erhard in Ilkeston
10/9	Erhard in Ilkeston
20/9-22/9	Rosie, Rosemary, Philippa and Erhard for AGM in Aberdeen
24/9	Erhard in Manchester
1/10-2/10	Erhard in Ilkeston
10/10-14/10	Louise and Erhard at Synod in Ireland
15/10	Erhard in Ilkeston
28/10-30/10	Erhard at Annual Community Meeting in Manchester
5/11-6/11	Erhard in Ilkeston
8/11-9/11	Erhard at EC meeting in Temple Lodge
19/11	Erhard in Manchester
26/11	Erhard in Ilkeston

**Gospel Readings****June 2016 – November 2016****St. Johns Tide**

Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Mark 1
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Mark 1
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Matthew 3:1-12
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	John 1:19-28
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Matthew 11:1-15
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Mark 8:27-37
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Matthew 7:1-14
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	Luke 15:11-32
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Luke 9:1-17
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Luke 18:35-43
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	Mark 7:31-37
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Luke 10:1-20
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Luke 17:5-24
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Matthew 6:19-34
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Luke 7:11-17

**Michaelmas**

Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Matthew 22:1-14
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Matthew 22:1-14
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Ephesians 6: 10-18
Sunday 16 October	Revelation 12:1-12
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Revelation 19:11-16
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Revelation 1:10-20
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Revelation 14:1-20
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Revelation 15:1-8
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Revelation 21:1-27

**For Religion lessons, Baptism, Wedding, Funeral or Sacramental****Consultation:** Please contact one of the priests:Rev. Monika Knight until 17<sup>th</sup> of July

Rev. Erhard Keller 07716229409

Email: [erhard@tcc-mrr.co.uk](mailto:erhard@tcc-mrr.co.uk)

Rev. Louise Madsen (Emeritus) 01384 591719

The Christian Community is funded by the donations of members and friends.

For details of standing orders and Gift Aid payments,  
please contact Rosie Phillpot of the Finance Group.

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[www.stourbridge.thechristiancommunity.co.uk](http://www.stourbridge.thechristiancommunity.co.uk)