The Christian Community

Movement for Religious Renewal

Stourbridge

Advent 2025 - Epiphany 2026

Advent Twilight by Ingrid Skodbo

Twisted shivering branches

Waiting, wind swept.

Inch by inch, day by day

Light fades ever earlier,

Inviting deep silence.

Glowing shimmering Eastern stars

Herald new light, new hope

This Advent.

Acrostic poem by Kevin Street

Advent 2025

November

Sunday 30th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	**Seven – the number of becoming**
		Talk by *Erhard Keller*

December

Tuesday 2nd	8.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 4th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10	Gospel Study
Saturday 6th		Erhard in Ilkeston
Sunday 7th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	**Sophia through the ages**
		Talk by *Maarten Ekama*
Tuesday 9th	8.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	19.30	Council meeting
Wednesday 10th	19.30	**Carol Concert with the Elmfield choir**
		with refreshments afterwards and
		a retiring collection raising funds for the
		Motor Neurone Disease Association
Thursday 11th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10	Gospel Study
Sunday 14th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	**The Life and Writings of Dag Hammarskjöld**
		Talk by *Rev Carmel Iveson*
Tuesday 16th	8.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 18th	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10	Gospel Study
Sunday 21st	10.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30	**Christmas: a threefold incarnation**
		Talk by *Louise Madsen*
		Erhard in Ilkeston
Tuesday 23rd	8.00	The Act of Consecration of Man
	9.00	**Preparing the church for Christmas**

Christmas and the Twelve Holy Nights

Wednesday 24th	18.00 Christmas Eve Celebration
	24.00 Christmas Midnight Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 25th	8.00 Christmas Dawn Act of Consecration of Man
	9.15 Children's Christmas Service
	10.00 Christmas Day Act of Consecration of Man
	14.00 Christmas Dinner
	Organised by *John Thornborrow*
Friday 26th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
Saturday 27th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30 Piano Concert
	By *Mason Yeung*
Sunday 28th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30 Introducing the Book of Revelation
	Louise Madsen
	Erhard in Ilkeston
Monday 29th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15 Four times Seven
	an overview to the Book of Revelation
	Talk by *Erhard Keller*
Tuesday 30th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	15.00 -17.00 Further exploration into the Book of
	Revelation (1) organised by the *festival group*
Wednesday 31st	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15 Japanese Kamishibai New Year's Eve stories
	Presented by *Kumiko Ohashi*
	18.00 To live, and act, and serve the future hour
	New Year's Eve Sermon by *Louise Madsen*

January 2026

Thursday 1st	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15 Resolves for the year 2026
	Shared conversation

Friday 2nd	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	15.00 -17.00 Further exploration into the Book of Revelation (2) organised by the *festival group*
Saturday 3rd	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
Sunday 4th	10.00 Devotional Gathering
	Erhard in Ilkeston
Monday 5th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	17.00 The Epiphany Witch in which the three kings come to take away the Christmas tree
	Performance of the play by Anke Weihs
	Directed by *Marie-Reine Adams*

Epiphany

Tuesday 6th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.15 **Epiphany Gathering**
	Contributions welcome
Thursday 8th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10 Gospel Study
Sunday 11th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30 **The stars for 2026**
	Presentation by *Ian Bailey*
	Erhard in Ilkeston
Tuesday 13th	8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	19.30 Council meeting
Thursday 15th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10 Gospel Study
Sunday 18th	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.30 **Illness and Karma**
	Talk by *Rainer Klocke*
Tuesday 20th	8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 22nd	10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
	11.10 Gospel Study
Saturday 24th	Erhard in Ilkeston

Sunday 25th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.30 **Eros and Fable, a story by Novalis (part 2 of 3)**
Introduced and told by *Jane Sahin*

Tuesday 27th 8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
19.30 Finance Group Meeting

Thursday 29th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study

Saturday 31st **The Apocalypse – The Revelation of John**
Day workshop with *Sarah Kane and the Speech Ensemble (details to follow)*
19.00 **Apocalypse – The Revelation of John**
Presented by the *Speech Ensemble*

February

Sunday 1st 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.30 **The Apocalypse**
Conversation with *Sarah Kane*

Tuesday 3rd 8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man

Thursday 5th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study

Saturday 7th 9.00-12.00 Gardening morning

Trinity

Sunday 8th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.30 **Freedom in Old Age**
Introduction and discussion with *Louise Madsen*
Erhard in Ilkeston

Tuesday 10th 8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
19.30 Council meeting

Thursday 12th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study

Sunday 15th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.30 **Peeling away the onion skins**
Biographical talk by *Phoebe MacLeod*

Tuesday 17th 8.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
Thursday 19th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study
Saturday 21st Erhard in Ilkeston
Sunday 22nd 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.30 **Getting your funeral wishes right**
Talk and conversation with *Kate Spohrer*
Tuesday 24th no service
24/2- 5/3 Erhard in Stuttgart for Ordinations and holiday
Thursday 26th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study

March

Sunday 1st 10.00 **Devotional Gathering**
15.00 **Family Concert**
Tuesday 3rd no service
Thursday 5th 10.00 The Act of Consecration of Man
11.10 Gospel Study
Saturday 7th 9.00-12.00 Gardening morning

Looking forward:
Sunday 8th March 2026 Passiontide begins

Dear Congregation

We plan to have a mimed **Nativity Play** based on the Gospel of Luke on Christmas Eve. Please let Erhard know if you can be part of it.

If you want to join the **Christmas Dinner**, please contact John Thornborrow (07783808702), who is coordinating the meal.

We are also planning a performance of the **Epiphany Witch Play** by Anke Weihs at the end of the Holy Nights. Please contact Marie-Reine if you can take part in it on the 5th of January.

At the end of January, we will offer a weekend workshop with Sarah Kane and the Speech Ensemble on the Theme of the **Apocalypse** – The

Revelation to John. Some of the talks in this programme are in preparation for this workshop.

At the beginning of March, we can enjoy again the **family concert**. Please contact Pam or Sajida with your contribution.

In our Thursday Gospel study, we continue to read and contemplate **Paul's letters** to the different congregations.

Warm greetings for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany!
Erhard (and Louise)

Gospel Readings

Advent		
Sunday, November 30	…	Luke 21:25-36
Sunday, December 7	…	Luke 21:25-36
Sunday, December 14	…	Luke 21:25-36
Sunday, December 21	…	Luke 21:25-36
Christmas		
Thursday, December 25		
Midnight	…	Matthew 1:1-25
Dawn	…	Luke 2:1-20
Morning	…	John 21:15-25
Epiphany		
Tuesday, January 6	…	Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday, January 11	…	Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday, January 18	…	Luke 2:41-52
Sunday, January 25	…	John 2:1-11
Sunday, February 1	…	Matthew 20:1-16
Sunday, February 8	…	Luke 8:1-18
Sunday, February 15	…	Luke 18:18-34
Sunday, February 22	…	Matthew 4:1-11
Sunday, March 1	…	Matthew 17:1-13

Office bearers:
Council: Kevin Street, Erhard Keller, Celine Labesse, Marie-Reine Adams, John Thornborrow
Finance Group: Rosie Phillpot, Paul Randon, Maigread Reynolds, Doug Huntley, Erhard Keller,
Devotional Gathering preparation: John Thornborrow, Geraldine Warren, Maigread Reynolds, David Adams
Concert Group: Kevin Street, Michael Jones, Erhard Keller
Exhibitions: Kevin Street, Erhard Keller
Office: Rosie Phillpot
Servers Rota: Jane Sahin
Vestry: Kim Dutton, Rosie Phillpot, Sue Bradley

Ironing: Maigread Reynolds, Rosie Phillpot
Bread baking: Rosie Phillpot
Flowers: Kate Henderson, Jane Sahin
Garden: Louise Madsen, Martin Dathan, Erhard Keller
Pond: Paul Randon, Martin Dathan
Cleaning: Ryan Walker
Maintenance: Maarten Ekama, Bill Warren, Erhard Keller
Music: Alan Stott, Maren Stott, Pam Street, Joris Boon
Books: Erhard Keller

For Children's Services, Religion lessons, Baptism, Wedding, Funeral or Sacramental Consultation please contact:

Rev. Erhard Keller 07716229409
3 Western Road
Stourbridge DY8 3XX
Email: erhard@tcc-mrr.co.uk

Rev. Louise Madsen (Emeritus) 01384 591719 (when Erhard is away)

Contact for Ilkeston: Daniel Bryant: dbryant@phonecoop.coop
Contact for Rev. Tom Ravetz (regional coordinator) lenker@tcc-mrr.co.uk
Contact for Chair of Trustees and Safeguarding Lead:
Inger Gordon chair@tcc-mrr.co.uk

The Christian Community owes its physical existence to the generous donations of its members and friends.
For details of standing orders, Gift Aid payments and legacies, please contact our honorary treasurer, Rosie Phillpot.

Our bank details are:
The Christian Community Reg Charity 210029
22 Baylie Street
Stourbridge DY8 1AZ
Sort code: 09 01 54 Account number: 15983908

Church office telephone number: 01384 377 190

www.stourbridge.thechristiancommunity.co.uk
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