



DEC 2023/
JAN 2024



All Saints' Church
*Loving Jesus,
Loving Our Communities*

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas

If you like song lyrics, this could be the month for you....

For many of us this feels like the most wonderful time of the year. We deck the halls and hope to have ourselves a merry little Christmas although often it turns out bigger than we imagined. It is indeed cold outside, and this year we seem to have started a lot earlier than usual getting the decorations up, thinking where we left them last Christmas. Perhaps you have started making a Christmas list, all you want for Christmas underneath the tree.

God's gift to us at this time of year is joy.. When the shepherds harked the herald angels singing "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people", they meant it. Not just joy for some, but for all. What sort of joy did it mean? Not the joy of being comfortable, as even Jesus himself was pretty soon to be a refugee in Egypt. Not the joy of having stuff, as lots of people including the shepherds didn't have many possessions. Not even the joy of being with family, for again, many people don't have that and the angels promised joy to us all whoever we are.

So what is the joy promised? That for each one of us the door is now open. For each one of us the invitation has been made. We don't need to guess how God feels about us, for he showed us he loves us by coming in human form as Jesus.

So come all ye faithful, and all who feel a bit less than that; to remember that first noel when God showed he is not waiting for us to pass a test but instead he came down to earth from heaven because he wants you and me to know him. Come join the celebration at All Saints' to celebrate and discover the joy that is meant for you too. Wishing you a merry Christmas.

Matt & All At All Saints'

(PS Well done if you got all 11 song lyrics)



Goodbye to Jan

The year 2000 was the beginning of a new era for me as I enthusiastically began my role as Children's worker at All Saints church. 23 years and lots of wonderful memories later the time has now come to pass the baton on, and for me to start a new season as Children's Pastor at Redcar Baptist church which I feel God has called me to do. This was not an easy decision, but Chris and I believe God spoke to us in different ways and that we need to step out in faith. So, I applied for the role, went for an interview, and was offered the job. I start on 1st February.

We feel excited (also a bit nervous) to start a new adventure with the lovely people at Redcar Baptist, and feel it is a privilege to help develop the children's ministry there.

We will say our goodbyes and thank yous in the service on Sunday 21st January, but meanwhile a HUGE Thank you to everyone past and present who have served in children's ministry and supported me. You have been amazing, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Our years at All Saints have been very special. As well as the privilege and joy of serving the wonderful children and families both within our church and from the community, you have been our treasured church family, and the church our girls have grown up in and loved too. So many wonderful, loving, servant hearted people, lots of opportunities to grow spiritually, and many fun times! We have felt really blessed and we will really miss everyone.

Chris and I would appreciate your prayers as we prepare to leave, and wisdom for me to know how best to help develop the children's ministry at Redcar. Also, prayers please for the Pastors of Redcar Baptist, their wives and the congregation who are faithfully serving God and stepping out with vision and faith regularly in obedience to Him.

We will be keeping you in our prayers and pray God's richest blessings upon you.

Blessings, Jan and Chris



News from Anne, one of our Church Wardens

I previously featured in the newsletter in November 2020 when Karen Killick organised a question-and-answer interview with me when I officially started my term as Church Warden. Unofficially I had shadowed Martin and Karen several months earlier. Three years on I have been asked to comment about my personal experience as warden because I will not be standing for re-election next April.

The first year as warden was far from easy because All Saints was in vacancy and Covid19 reigned. In a strange way though I enjoyed the challenge, with the help of others, of ensuring that the church family was kept connected by various means, informed of the latest Covid 19 restrictions and safe when they were eventually permitted to return to the building. When Matt was appointed in March 2021 life became much easier because I was released from the extra duties I had taken on. Involvement with the day to day running of the Church and getting a true picture of what actually takes place behind the scenes has been great. It has been a wonderful opportunity and a privilege to serve both God and you in this way and to get to know a greater number of members than I would have done if I had remained just part of the congregation.

You may be wondering what a warden does? Well, the three main areas of responsibility are to ensure the buildings and grounds of the church are kept in good repair. A duty to care and pray for the vicar, ensuring the vicar takes time off, plus have a concern for his/her family. And lastly and importantly to share a vision of the church's life and mission.

On election, a warden automatically becomes a member of the PCC and Standing Committee which means attending two separate meetings in the evening once a month. In addition, there is a fortnightly wardens' meeting currently held in the morning.

Interested and want to know more? Contact me or Chris Vass and we can meet for coffee and a chat.

No pressure, just a gentle twist of the arm, quite painless!

Bless you, Anne Rolfe



We are having several services in the run up to Christmas and we would love to welcome you along with your friends and family.

Here are some more details about a couple of the services:

Christmas Families Event Sunday 10 Dec 3.15pm

This special event is for our church families and families from our community and is suitable for the whole family, from toddlers to early teens, with their grown-ups.

The first hour will include lots of Christmas and Nativity themed crafts, fun activities and games. Festive light snacks and drinks will be available. Then we move into church for an informal Nativity themed service with songs from our Puppets (including glow in the dark puppetry), carols, a fun game, an interactive talk and more! Children can dress up in nativity costumes if they would like to.

It will be a great opportunity for families to explore the Christmas story and message in a creative and fun way. **Places are limited so please book your family in ASAP on this link:**

<https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/s3nda8nl>

Youth and Young Adults Christmas Service Sunday 17 Dec 5pm

This service will have a special emphasis on welcoming young people who are in Secondary School or College, as well as young adults who are in their 20s and 30s! We would love to see lots of our young people and young adults from All Saints' there and this would also be a wonderful, relaxed place for them to invite their friends to explore faith at Christmas.

A warm welcome awaits all who attend, whether they have been attending church for a long time, or if this is their first time joining us. There will be free festive refreshments, well known Christmas carols led by our band, testimonies, and an opportunity to reflect on 'what Christmas means to me' at this laid back, café-style service. We will also be giving the opportunity to light candles and pray for peace in our world.

Christmas Gifts



At our services on **Sunday 3 December**, we will be collecting gifts for Purple Rose to distribute.

They support asylum seekers, refugees and everyone who needs help in the Stockton area. They would appreciate **unwrapped gifts for children, teenagers and adults.**

Thank you

Mince Pies



If you are able to donate some Mince Pies for after our Carol Service on **Saturday 16 December**, we would be very grateful.

Please drop them off in the centre in the week before the service.

Thank you

Do You Like Singing Carols?



If so then please join our scratch choir who will be leading us at our Carols by Candlelight service on **+ Saturday 16 December at 5pm.**

We will have **ONE REHEARSAL**,
Monday 11 December 6.30pm-7.30pm
Everyone welcome



22 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, TS16 0AB

CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN EVENT

Sunday 10th December, 3.15pm - 5.15pm @ All Saints' Church, Dunottar Ave, Eaglescliffe

Have fun
dressing
up in a nativity
costume



Lots of
great
Christmas
CRAFTS to
make, fun
ACTIVITIES
and GAMES

A short, atmospheric,
nativity themed
celebration in church with
Puppet songs, (watch
them glow in the dark).
Carols, a game and more!

DRINKS
and
christmas
SNACKS



Fun for the whole family. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Free admission. Places are limited. Pre-booking is advised.

Please book using this QR code or go to www.allsaints-church.net





GOING DEEPER

3 Mornings 9.00-12.30, 6 Topics,

Open to all who want to go deeper in their understanding of the bible and applying it to life.

- 2nd Dec * What is the big picture of the bible?
 *What does 'the bible is the word of God' mean?
- 9th March *What is Romans all about?
 *How have we got the church we have today? Whistle stop tour of key figures who have given us the church we have today.
- 11th May. *Science, Creation and Faith; understanding the world.
 *What is our hope? Understanding what comes next.

Christmas at All Saints'

Please come along and join us to celebrate Christmas
for more details about our events & services,
please see our website or scan the QR code

Sun 10 Dec 3.15pm

Sat 16 Dec 5pm

Sun 17 Dec 5pm

Sun 24 Dec 9am & 10.30am

Sun 24 Dec 11.30pm

Mon 25 Dec 10.30am

Christmas Families Event

Carols by Candlelight

Youth & Young Adults Service

Morning Services

Midnight Communion

Christmas Day Service



All Saints' Church

*Loving Jesus,
Loving Our Communities*

22 Dunottar Avenue
Eaglescliffe TS16 0AB
www.allsaints-church.net



SERVICES DEC 2023

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER – Advent Sunday

Members of a Family

Ephesians 4:1-16, 1 Peter 2:9-10

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Kathryn Belmont

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER

Armed By God

Ephesians 6:10-20, Isaiah 11:1-5

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Youth Led Service

Speaker

9am Matt Levinsohn

10.30am Youth Team

You can watch our live-streamed 10.30am services on

<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER

The Long Awaited Messiah

Colossians 1:15-20, 2 Samuel 7: 8-16

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker: 9am David Emerton

10.30am Henry Silva

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER

A New Chapter Begins

Luke 1: 26-38

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Sarah Hope

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER

Looking Back and Celebrating, Looking Forward In Hope

Genesis 22: 13-19, Acts 1: 4-8

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

Dec 2023 Dates				
Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms	Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre	Hymn Singing for All <i>Back in January</i>
Prayer & Worship Sat 9 Dec 9am-10am Meeting Room	Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm – Centre	Play and Praise Fri <i>term time</i> 10am-11.30am – Centre	Going Deeper Sat 2 Dec 9am-12.30pm Meeting Room <i>More details above</i>
Young Adults Gathering Sun 3 Dec 7.30pm-9pm Church	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am services – Youth Rooms	Christmas Families Event Sun 10 Dec 3.15pm-5.15pm Centre	Scratch Choir Rehersal Mon 11 Dec 6.30pm-7.30pm Church <i>more details above</i>
Encounter <i>Back in January</i>	Connect Lunch Tues 12 Dec 11.45am-2pm Centre	Doulos Mon 18 Dec 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service - Centre & Meeting Room	
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Centre (not on Connect lunch days)	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 17 Dec during the 10.30am service	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tues 12 Dec 4.15pm-5.30pm Youth Room	
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	Youth Led Service Sun 10 Dec 10.30am Church	Puppet Practice Mon 7pm-9pm – Centre <i>term time</i>	
	Ukraine Support Café Party Thurs 14 Dec 6.30pm-8.30pm Youth Room	Café Church Weds 13 Dec 6pm-7.30pm Yarm Costa	Discovery Church <i>Back in 2024</i>	
		Youth & Young Adults Christmas Service Sun 17 Dec 5pm, Church		

Standing Committee Mon 4 Dec 7.30pm, The Vicarage, PCC Mon 11 Dec 7.30pm Meeting Room



Our office will be closed from
12pm on Fri 22 Dec until 9am on Tues 2 Jan.

Our building will be open for our services
over Christmas & New Year,
but any emails or answerphone messages
will only be responded to on Tues 2 Jan.

If the event of an emergency, please contact:
Matt Levinsohn 07816 386623

SUNDAY 7 JANUARY

The Church as family
Acts 4:32-37, 2 Corinthians: 9:12-15

9am Morning Worship
10.30am Communion

Speaker Ben Scott

SUNDAY 14 JANUARY

The Church as army
2 Timothy 2:1-10, Romans 8:31-39

9am Communion
10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

SUNDAY 21 JANUARY

The Church as called out
Galatians 3:23-29, Matthew 16:13-20

9am Morning Worship
10.30 Morning Worship

Speaker Mikey Davison

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY

The Church as worshipper
Isaiah 63: 7-9, Romans 12:1-8

9am Communion
10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Kathryn Belmont

Jan 2024 Dates				
Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms	Toddlers <i>Thurs term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre	Hymn Singing for All Mon 29 Jan 6.30pm-7.30pm Church
Prayer & Worship Sat 13 Jan 9am-10am Meeting Room	Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm – Centre	Discovery Church Sun 14 Jan 3.15-4.45pm Centre	
Young Adults Gathering Sun 7 Jan 7.30pm-9pm Venue to be confirmed	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am services – Youth Rooms	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tuesday 4.15m-5.15pm Youth Rooms <i>(dates to be confirmed)</i>	
Encounter Sun 28 Jan 6pm-7pm Church	Connect Lunch Tues 9 Jan 11.45am-2pm Centre	Doulos Mon 22 Jan 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service - Centre & Meeting Room	
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Centre (not on Connect lunch days)	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 21 Jan during the 10.30am service	Puppet Practice Mon 7pm-9pm <i>term time</i> Centre	
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	Refresh Sun 21 Jan 6pm-8pm Centre		
	Ukraine Support Café Thurs 11 & 25 Jan 7pm-9pm Youth Room	Café Church <i>Back soon</i>		

Standing Committee Mon 8 Jan 7.30pm, The Vicarage, PCC Mon 15 Jan 7.30pm Meeting Room