

DNC -March 2023



DERBY SOCIETY of the NEW CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

Hello again,

I hope this finds you well.

This month, I have been asked if we can make the theme of our newsletter one of Angels.

So who are angels? What do they look like? What do they do all day?

"Angels look indescribably beautiful. Love radiates from their faces, from their speech, from every detail of their behaviour." Heaven and Hell : 17

Swedenborg tells us why this is so and he also tells us a lot more about what happens to us when we die.

"In the spiritual world, each person's appearance is a direct result of the kind of goodness and love in that person's heart, and the perspective and thoughts that come from the love. The reason angels are in heaven is because their core life is some form of the two core loves that make up heaven : love of God and love of the neighbour."

Secrets of Heaven : 3804 - vol 5 (otherwise known as Arcana Celestial)

"Angels and spirits, or people after death, can meet all the people they have known in the world and people they have heard of - anyone they wish. They can see them face to face and talk with them, when the Lord allows it. And, remarkably, they are instantly present. So it is possible to talk not only with one's friends, who are encountered quite often, but also with others whom one has admired and respected."

Arcana Celestial 1114

"Yet angels have all the senses mortals have, far more exquisite, in fact."

"In the heavens, everything comes from the Lord in correspondence with the more inward natures of the angels"
Heaven and Hell 170-173;



A Prayer of Thanks

O, Lord our God and Heavenly Father.

I give thanks for the family and friends you surround me with.
Thanks for another day to celebrate life, for the food provided
and care given to us.

Thank you for your love where all good things come from.
May we use these gifts from you to us with thankful hearts and
in turn pass on these blessings from you to help and assist
others in need of comfort
and support.

Amen



"I have told you these things so that in me
you may have peace. In this
world you will have trouble. But take heart!
I have overcome the world."

John 16 : 33

"Be careful for nothing; but in
everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests be
made known to God".

Philippians 4: 6



Angels

If you look up 'angels' on the internet, you will find a lot of information, or misinformation. Christians are not the only people to believe in angels.

Generally, angels are said to be a separate creation by God. They are placed between God and mankind. They are not 'solid' and can fly about. As a result they are often depicted as having wings.

Different grades are quoted like archangels, cherubim and seraphim. As to their purpose in the scheme of things is not entirely clear. Some have names. Gabriel means 'God is my strength' and appeared to Mary. Michael means 'who is like God'. He appears in the book of Revelation fighting the dragon and his angles.

Fortunately, also appearing on the Internet, is a summary from the works of Emanuel Swedenborg. This states quite clearly that angels come from the human race. In other words, every angel of heaven once lived on this earth. He states very clearly that angels have bodies, no wings, and can move and speak and think and love as they did before. They continue to learn truths from the Word to eternity. Their delight is to be of service to one another. The great number of people entering the spiritual world have no idea about it. Angels minister to them and guide them.

It follows that all the devils and satans in hell were once human beings on earth. A sad thought. How are they controlled? By our Lord Himself working through angels. We will be looking more deeply into 'angels' in our next Study Group which you are all welcome to join and takes place at 18 Farley Road on 19th March.

By Geoffrey Bentley





On Sunday March 26th The Revs. Helen Brown and Christine Bank came to Derby to discuss a situation with the church committee which will affect our future here in our Derby Church life.

It was agreed that from sometime in March this year Paul Morgan would begin a six month placement with us as part of his developing ministry training. This will be a tremendous support to the Derby Society as well as an opportunity for Paul to develop his skills in our church and in the community.

The Committee has offered its total support of this move and we are sure all of you will want to show your support, too.

The Rev. Christine Bank will act as Paul's mentor during this period. Sue Chesworth, Christine and Helen will be working together overseeing the placement and it will be reviewed at the end of the six month period.



Services and Events

5th - Service at Purley Chase

12th - Derby to be conducted by Jenny Jones

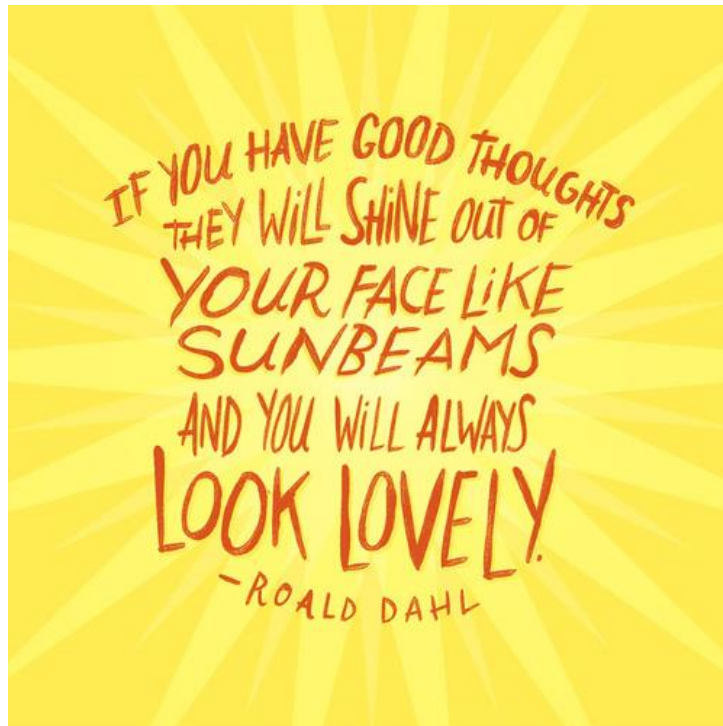
14th - Friendship Lunch

19th Discussion Group - 10.30 at Church

26th Service in Derby to be conducted by Michael

In April, Nigel and Chris are planning a Songs of Praise Service. If anyone has a particular hymn with a special memory attached to it, and would like to suggest it to be sung, please let us know. Perhaps you have fond memories of coming to Sunday School here or maybe being married at Derby Church? Maybe your babies were baptised here, or perhaps you came to worship and enjoy the friendship, and a chat over coffee and biscuits afterwards. Whatever it is we should appreciate your stories and memories of people who were here and made your visits meaningful. Names and memories from the past.





I wish you all well and please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to -
for a chat, or by e-mail or text message.

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