

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

3rd September	10.30am	All Age Worship – Trinity 12 <i>Mighty Warrior - Dedication of Finn Jolly</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Erika Biscoe Reading: Sandy Addison Prayers: Carol Hill
	7.00pm	Evening Service New series - Safe? <i>Bad news? Romans 3:9-18</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe
5th September	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
6th September	8.45-12.00	Emmanuel Café re-opens
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.15 for 7.30	Church Meal
9th September		Ride and Stride
10th September	10.30am	Café Church Trinity 13 Leader: Claire Palman-Brown Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: John Thompson Prayers: Jo Withers
	7.00pm	Evening Service Safe? – <i>Gods Solution. Romans 3:21-24</i> Leader: Lonah Hebditch Preacher: Ian Biscoe
11th September	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
12th September	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
13th September	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30pm	Midweek Communion
	7.30pm	CAP Money course
14th September	7:00pm	Youth Group for Years 7-11 (note new time)
	8:00pm	Standing Committee



Welcome!

**to the church
at the heart
of the community**

Prayer chain: prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

Notices: notices@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

**3rd Sept
2017**

We extend a warm welcome to regulars and visitors alike. If you are new at Emmanuel, or visiting, please do introduce yourself to one of the Welcome Team.

Katie Jenkinson writes:

Many years ago, I was in a church where someone gave the following word from God:

“Seek my face and not my hands”

This has stayed with me ever since. How much of our time is spent, I wonder, asking God for what he can do – rather than, like Mary Magdalene, sitting at the feet of Jesus, and just seeking God for who He is. It is my belief that, as we spend time seeking God’s face, He will start to be reflected in our faces and lives in the ways we relate to those around us.

I found a written passage in my study the other day. I don’t know who wrote it (not me!), but I’d like to share it now.

“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Cor 3:18)

Becoming more Christ-like doesn’t mean losing your individuality, and being a mindless clone. God created the characteristics that make you unique, so He certainly doesn’t want to destroy them. Christ-likeness is about transforming your character, not your personality.

Paul writes, *“...take on an entirely new way of life – a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you” (Eph 4:22-24 TM).*

Every time you forget that character, not comfort, is God’s first priority in your life you become frustrated and wonder, “Why is all this happening to me? Why doesn’t God do something about it?”

Abundant life isn’t the absence of adversity, it is growth in the midst of it.

“As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him.” You say, “Yes, but how does this happen in real life?”

Through our choices – we choose to do the right thing, then trust God’s Spirit to give us the power, love, faith, and wisdom to do it. Since His Spirit lives in us, these things are available for the asking. But when you ask and God tells you what to do, you must obey him. When Joshua stood at the River Jordan, its floodwaters only receded after he stepped in. Obedience unlocks God’s power! God waits for you to act on His instructions.

You can’t wait until you feel capable or confident, you must move ahead in your weakness, doing the right thing in spite of your fears. That’s how you co-operate with the Holy Spirit and how Christ-like character is developed in you.

God bless this anonymous writer!
And God bless you as you read this!

Katie

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk Weekly Tuesday prayers restart on 5th September.

CHURCH MEAL - Wednesday 6th September from 7:15pm. Book via Church Builder using the link below, or speak to Karen in the church office. https://emmanuelbicester.churchbuilder.org.uk/pjp/activitybookingtemplate/booking_page?abtid=18

CONTEMPLATIVE COMPLINE starts on 8th September, looking at some of the meditations of St Teresa of Avila and how we might apply her insights to our own journeys into prayer and connection with the Beloved. Services on a Friday evening from 7:30pm comprise Liturgy, Scripture reading, reflection on scripture and 30 mins of quiet, private meditation/contemplation. All welcome.

YOUTH GROUP for school years 7-11 restarts on Thursday 14th September at the new time of 7:00pm, finishing at 8:30pm.

RIDE AND STRIDE - 9th September 2017. Sponsor forms from the office. Speak to Karen if you can spare an hour to welcome riders and striders to ECB.

20/30's ketchup BBQ @ the Neil's house - 4pm on Sat 9th Sept. Time to reignite the 20/30's social scene for the new academic year. Children welcome - please respond via Facebook or the office.

CAP MONEY COURSE - Running at ECB on Wednesday evenings– 13th, 20th and 27th September. Book via Eventbrite - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cap-money-course-tickets-36436229744> or via the office.

ALPHA COURSE - We are planning to run an ALPHA course on a Tuesday evening starting in October. If you are interested in joining or know someone who is then please contact the office or speak to Ian.

ROTAS

Welcome Team

3rd September Debbie Winson & John Thompson
10th September Heather Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson
17th September Andrew & Jeanette Collett

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

3rd September Alpha Plus and Cherish
10th September Connect
17th September Hilarious

Sunday Club

3rd September
10th September
17th September

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

All Age Service
Café Church
TBC

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

All Age Service
Café Church
TBC

Sunday Club

3rd September
10th September
17th September

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

All Age Service
Café Church
TBC

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

All Age Service
Café Church
TBC

Youth

3rd September
10th September
17th September

The Grid (School year 7+)

All Age Service
Café Church
TBC

Finance Team

3rd September Roger Winson & Steve Willott
10th September James Dune & James Sheppard
17th September Pete Stoddart & Geoff Saunders

Any notices for next week to Karen by 7 p.m. Wednesday at administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk