

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

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|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 5 th March | 10.30am | Informal Worship Lent 1 <i>1 Corinthians 12: 1-11</i> <i>Spiritual Gifts</i> Leader: Geoff Saunders Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Sue White Prayers: Jackie Meek |
| | 7.00pm | Evening Service Just Ten – <i>Catch your breath</i> <i>Exodus 20:8-11</i> Leader: Lonah Hebditch Preacher: Roger Winson |
| 6 th March | 3.10–4.15pm | After school club for school years 4-6 |
| 7 th March | 9.00am | Prayers in Church |
| | 10.00-12noon | Rock of Ages Café |
| | 7.00-7.30pm | Prayers in church |
| | 7.15pm | ALPHA course (meet in Bure Farm) |
| 8 th March | 10.00 for 10.30 | Oasis Small Group |
| | 7.00-7.30pm | Prayers in church |
| | 7.45 for 8pm | Lent Course in church |
| 9 th March | 6.30-8.00pm | Youth Group – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i> |
| 10 th March | 7.00 for 7.30pm | Fairtrade Supper at Bicester Methodist Church |
| | 7.30-8.30pm | Contemplative Compline <i>Women Jesus met - Samaritan Woman (I Know You)</i> |
| 11 th March | 10.00-1.00 | Emmanuel Café open Praise Party & Fleur's Baptism |
| 12 th March | 10.30am | Interactive Worship Lent 2 <i>We are on a Journey</i> Leader: Jo Withers Preacher: Gemma Wilkinson Prayers: Karen Stoddart |
| | 7.00pm | Evening Service – Just Ten – <i>Take God Seriously</i> <i>Exodus 20:7</i> Preacher: Ian Biscoe |



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

5th March 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.

Rach Bowen writes:

Oscar Wilde famously said "I can resist anything but temptation". A saying I think we can all relate with!

We have just entered into the period of Lent – a time to remember Jesus being led by the Spirit into the desert, where he was tempted by the devil. You can read about this in *Luke chapter 4*. The passage begins by saying that after Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights, "*He was hungry.*" I love this – nothing like stating the obvious!

His first temptation is to use His God-given power and authority to turn some stones into bread to satisfy His hunger. However, Jesus recognises that God will provide and He needs to trust him. This made me think – where do I look for my satisfaction? Do I trust that God will provide?

The devil then shows Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and offers Him a shortcut to power and glory if He switches allegiance to Satan. Jesus quotes one of the 10 commandments in His reply "*It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'*" "The origins of the word "worship" are from "worth-ship" – it is all about what we give worth to, what we value.

As humans, we are created to worship. If we don't worship God, we end up worshipping other things – be it money, celebrities, power, possessions. Who (or what) is it that we give worth to? Who (or what) do we serve?

The third temptation is all about identity. The devil challenges Jesus to prove that He really is the Son of God. I was struck by the fact that this period in the desert comes just after Jesus was baptised and there is a voice from heaven "*You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.*"

Jesus knows who He is and who His Father is. Even on the cross, Jesus is challenged by bystanders with the same temptation

If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” He resists right to the end continuing to obey and trust God. Where is my identity? Am I secure, knowing that “I am no longer a slave to fear – I am a child of God”?. As we journey through Lent together, I pray that we all might find our satisfaction in our trustworthy God,

learning what it means to worship Him in spirit and in truth, and being secure in the knowledge that we are loved unconditionally and extravagantly by our heavenly Father.

Blessings Rach

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk Tuesday morning prayers are at 9am in the Community Room.

Lent course – If you are not in a small group or your group is not running the course and you would like to take part, the course will be run in church on a Wednesday evening – 7:45pm for an 8pm start. *Everyone Welcome*

GARDEN TALK. - An opportunity to talk about gardening and growing your own food. Saturdays 1 April and 29 April in the café, 10am-12 noon. *For more information chat to Jo Morey or Debbie Winson.*

Men’s Breakfast - Saturday 18th March. Booking via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/churches-in-bicester-mens-breakfast-tickets-32259714675>

Praise party & baptism – Saturday 11th March from 7pm. Come along for a night of Amazing Praise and Loud, Upbeat Worship as Fleur is baptized.

Real Easter Eggs – If you would like to order Fairtrade eggs with the Easter Story in the box, please speak to Karen or sign up on the sheet available. Orders needed by 5th March at the latest. www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Getting ready for Easter. We are planning a **Family Easter Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday 15th April, 4-6pm to bless the families in our community. Please let me know if you can volunteer. *Debbie Winson.* drwinson@msn.com

Ladies Breakfast for Mothering Sunday – 26th March. Book via Church Builder https://emmanuelbicester.churchbuilder.org.uk/pjp/activitybookingtemplate/booking_page?abtid=14

Prison Fellowship – Angel Tree for Mothering Sunday. The Bicester Prison Fellowship will be raising funds for this project over the next few weeks – please support this project if you can.

Electoral Roll - The Church Electoral Roll is being revised between 5th March and 9th April. To be able to vote at the APCM on 30th April you will need to be on the Electoral Roll. Forms available in church to be returned to Karen Stoddart.

Social badminton for learners. Thursdays 20:30-21:30 at Bicester leisure centre.
Speak to Clare Bean if interested

ROTAS

Welcome Team

5th March Del Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson
12th March Debbie Winson & John Thompson
19th March Hugh White & Liz Winson

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

5th March Oasis & Super small group
12th March Alpha plus & Cherish
19th March Connect

Sunday Club

5th March
12th March
19th March

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Jane & Sophie
Interactive Worship
Vicky W & Rowan

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Helle & Doyin
Interactive Worship
Heidi & Qi

Sunday Club

5th March
12th March
19th March

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Jo & Sam B
Interactive Worship
Jo & Mike W

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

And & Maureen
Interactive Worship
Ceri & And

Youth

5th March
12th March
19th March

The Grid (School year 7+)

Karl & Fleur
Interactive Worship
Sam G & Sandy

Finance Team

5th March James Dunne & Steve Willott
12th March Peter Stoddart & Tom Mitchell
19th March Roger Winson & Steve Willott

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