



6TH OCTOBER 2019

Katie Jenkinson writes...

A little time ago, while praying, I had an image of Jesus washing my feet. He looked up and asked: “What sort of leader do you want to be?”

I had such a strong sense that I wanted to be kneeling beside Jesus, loving and serving others – while at the same time knowing how poor I am at doing this.

I have been pondering this story ever since (John 13). It takes place before the Last Supper, on the night when Judas leaves to betray Jesus. Then I realised that Jesus washed Judas’ feet alongside all the other disciples. Loving and serving people I like is a bit of a challenge. Loving and serving someone who has harmed, or is about to, harm me – that’s a whole other ball game.

As I think about the image of Jesus kneeling to wash the, doubtless, not very beautiful feet of his disciples, including his betrayer, I realise that in this act, Jesus combines both love and holiness, in the most extraordinary way.

In Galatians, Paul writes of the fruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)

This fruit grows in us as we mature as Christians – but it is actually a description of the character of the Holy Spirit and so shows us what holiness looks like in human beings. And Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, is the one who perfectly demonstrates love and holiness throughout his life.

I think we often think that love and holiness are in conflict. But if holiness looks like the humility of Jesus, the vulnerability of Jesus, the forgiveness of Jesus, the compassion of Jesus, the purity of Jesus that heals and purifies the unclean – then these two characteristics are actually one.

And so the King of heaven, who is our Lord and our God, kneels and washes his disciples’ feet. And Jesus is asking each one of us – “Who do you want to be?”

Blessings, Katie

Notices

WHO LET THE BLOKES OUT!

Meeting up again on Saturday 12th October **9.15am** to 12 noon in the ECB café. A chance to meet up with other men to chat and chill. Bring your children and let them play. Bacon sandwiches, tea and coffee. **Please note the earlier start time as England are playing in the Rugby World Cup.**

ONE LEV IN CONCERT

Thursday 10th October 7.30pm here at Emmanuel Church. An international music group from the Galilee in Israel whose sole desire is to bless and share hope to all and bring honour and blessing to the Lord. Speak to Andrew and Jeanette Collett for more information.

HARVEST CELEBRATION 2019 SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER 4-6 PM.

Please come and join our Harvest Meal with “Grown in Bicester” ingredients; sign-up sheet in the café! We have a **“Refuse, Re-use, Recycle, Upcycle”** theme, so please bring your used ink-jet cartridges, old spectacles and plastic bags for recycling. Please also volunteer: Jeannie and Rose will need help in the kitchen from about midday, and we will need clearing up help after 6pm.

For further information speak to Debbie Winson: email drwinson@msn.com

MEN'S CURRY EVENING AT SHAKIL'S

Coming up on Tuesday 15th October 7.45pm. To book please contact Colin Arter: **07717 875566**

MUMS MATTER

Thursday 17th October 8pm here at Emmanuel Church. An evening tailored especially for mums, designed to encourage, inspire and affirm who you are and this important role of parenting. Run by Clive and Helen Collier and Jackie Meek.

For more details and to register, please call the church office **(01869) 320021** or email: ministry.support@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. If you need help with this or any other information about events, groups or who's who then please contact the church office. Details overleaf.

ECB DIARY

SUN 6th OCTOBER	10.30am	Informal Worship, Stewardship Series Week 3 God's plan for giving Leader: Helen Collier Preacher: Clive Collier
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Apologetics week 5, AI - Robots Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Nigel Crook
TUES 8th OCTOBER	9.00am	Prayers
	7.00pm	Prayers
WED 9th OCTOBER	8.45-12noon	Café open
	10.30am	Oasis Small Group
THURS 10th OCTOBER	8.45-12noon	Café open
	7.30pm	Board Games Evening
	7.30pm	One Lev in concert
FRI 11th OCTOBER	8.45-12noon	Café open
	9.30am	Cherish Group
	7.00pm	Prayers
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
SAT 12th OCTOBER	9.15am	Who Let the Blokes Out!
SUN 13th OCTOBER	10.30am	Café Church Leader: Helen Davies Preacher: Ian Biscoe
	7.00pm	Evening Service (Refreshments at 6.30pm) Apologetics week 6, Pain and Suffering Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: James Kennedy

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk **Church Office:** **01869 320021**

Karen Stoddart: administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

Lesley Wasley: ministrysupport@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday