

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

8th January	10.30am	Interactive Worship Epiphany <i>Epiphany – Matt 2:1-12</i> Leader: Karen Stoddart Preacher: Jo Withers Reading & Prayers: Interactive Team
	7.00pm	Evening Service Just Ten – <i>Finding Contentment Exodus 20: 17</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe
9th January	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
	7.30-8.30pm	Prayer Meeting for Syria & The Middle East
10th January	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
11th January	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30-8.30pm	Mid-week Communion
12th January	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>
	8.15-9.15pm	Band practice
13th January	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
15th January	10.30am	Informal Worship Epiphany 2 <i>1 Corinthians 9:24-27</i> <i>Run to get the prize</i> Leader: Al Bowen Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Christine Thompson Prayers: Ian Brown
	12.45-2.30pm	Welcome Meal
	7.00pm	Evening Service Just Ten – <i>Hold to the Truth</i> <i>Exodus 20:16</i> Leader: Ben Biscoe Preacher: Sam Williams



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

8th January
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.

Rose Hunt writes:

Whatever the previous year has been like, and however hard or rewarding it may have been, we can have a sense of expectation and hope for what is to come and for what God will do in us and through us, both individually and corporately in 2017. As we think about the visit of the Magi to Jesus on this Epiphany Sunday, and wonder at the revelation of Jesus, the Christ child, sent by God to be our Saviour and to bring forgiveness and the hope of eternity with Him, this is a time for restoration, healing and fellowship. A time when we can commit ourselves afresh to love, honour and serve God and one another, just as Jesus commanded us to do. So how can we commit ourselves more fully to Him as we begin this new year?

I have found the words of the Methodist Covenant prayer very helpful as a fresh commitment to God as we surrender to Him once again at the start of a new year.

'I am no longer my own but yours.

Put me to what you will,

rank me with whom you will;

put me to doing,

put me to suffering;

let me be employed for you,

or laid aside for you,

exalted for you,

or brought low for you;

let me be full,

let me be empty,

let me have all things,

let me have nothing:

I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

you are mine and I am yours. So be it.

And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.'

This prayer is challenging and is not to be taken lightly. It embraces the whole of our

lives, in all its parts, and is tough to say and even harder to live out! 2 Chronicles 16:9 says 'God is always on the alert, constantly on the lookout for people who are totally committed to him.'

Let us reflect on these words and, if we have the courage, will and desire, pray this prayer as we commit ourselves fully and completely, holding nothing back, to our Father God this year.

If we can truly mean the words of this prayer and aim to live them out, it could be an amazing 2017 in the life of ECB, our family and friends, our communities, in Bicester and beyond!

Blessings Rose

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 will restart this week, 10th January.

Children's Society Collection

We have raised an amazing £500 for the Children's Society from the Christingle Service, Southwold School Carol Concert and the ECB Giant Christmas Card. However, if you would still like to donate then please give any monies to Karen in the Church Office by Friday 13th January at the latest.

Alpha Course – starting January 24th 2017

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Alpha course then please contact Karen in the church office, or speak to Ian, Carol, Peter or Christine.

Evening Services

There will be no evening service at ECB on Sunday 29th January as there is a Churches in Bicester evening service at Bicester Methodist Church which everyone is encouraged to attend.

Churches in Bicester Refugee Support Group is holding an open meeting on Sunday 5th February 2017, 4-6pm at the Salvation Army, Hart Place, Bicester, OX26 4FR.

The meeting will include a presentation and short film - Lines in the Sand (www.linesinthesand.co.uk) about the terrible human cost of the ongoing Syrian war. There will also be an update from Cherwell District Council on their progress with the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme.

There will be a presentation about the group's latest plans for supporting CDC in finding housing for Syrian families, a Q & A session with the steering group and further opportunities for you to support the work.

Contact Sophie (sophiemoys@gmail.com) if you'd like to know any more about what the Refugee Support Group is doing or if you'd like to help support Syrian refugees

ROTAS

Welcome Team

8th January Hugh White & Liz Winson
15th January Heather Hindmarsh & Tony Shields
22nd January Andrew & Jeanette Collett

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

8th January Living Waters and Tuesday 20's & 30's
15th January MSG and Monday 20's & 30's
22nd January Oasis and Wednesday 20's & 30's

Sunday Club

8th January
15th January
22nd January

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Interactive Service
Jane & Sophie
Vicky W &
Elizabeth A

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Interactive Service
Helle & Doyin
Heidi & Qi

Sunday Club

8th January
15th January
22nd January

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Interactive Service
Jackie & Sam B
TBC

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Interactive Service
And & Liz W
TBC

Youth

8th January
15th January
22nd January

The Grid (School year 7+)

Interactive Service
Karl & Fleur
Sam G & Debbie

Finance Team

8th January James Dunne & Geoff Saunders
15th January Roger Winson & Nick Hebditch
22nd January Pete Stoddart & Tom Mitchell

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