

## ECB's NOTICE BOARD

8 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	<b>Interactive Worship</b> <b>Easter 7</b> <i>1 Corinthians 1: 1-9</i> <b>Leader:</b> Jo Withers <b>Preacher:</b> John Bentley <b>Reading:</b> Interactive Team <b>Prayers:</b> Karen Stoddart
	7.00pm	<b>Evening Service</b> <i>Life changing Encounters – Brothers John 1:35-42</i> <b>Leader:</b> Geoff Saunders <b>Preacher:</b> Ian Biscoe
9 <sup>th</sup> May	1.00-2.30pm	<b>Parents small group in church</b>
	3.10-4.15pm	<b>After school club for school years 4-6</b>
	7.00-7.30pm	<b>Prayers in church</b>
	7.15 for 7.30	<b>Alpha course at the Bure Farm</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am	<b>Prayers in Church</b>
	10.00-12noon	<b>Rock of Ages Café</b>
	7.00-7.30pm	<b>Prayers in church</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 for 10.30	<b>Oasis Small Group</b>
	7.00-7.30pm	<b>Prayers in church</b>
	8.00-9.30pm	<b>Listening to God's Voice course</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30-8.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>
	7.30-9.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 10+
	8.15-9.15pm	<b>Band practice</b>
13 <sup>h</sup> May	7.00-7.30pm	<b>Prayers in church</b>
	7.30-8.30pm	<b>Contemplative Compline</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 -2.00	<b>Quiet Day for Pentecost</b>
	3.00-5.00pm	<b>Ladies Tea &amp; Pamper Party</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	<b>Informal Worship</b> <b>Pentecost</b> <i>1 Corinthians 1:10-17</i> <b>Leader:</b> Dorothy Williams <b>Preacher:</b> John Williams <b>Reading:</b> Andy Roberts <b>Prayers:</b> Chris Shields
	7.00pm	<b>Encounter God Evening - Pentecost</b> <b>Led by</b> Matt Shipman & Rach Bowen



# Welcome!

to the church  
at the heart  
of the community

Prayer chain: [ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk)

Notices: [emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk](mailto:emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk)

email to receive either of these.

Website: [www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>  
May 2016**

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.

**John Williams** writes:

The Apostle Paul urges Timothy with these words *...first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.* Tim.2.1-2

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> June we have a privilege that Paul and his fellow believers never had, to make a difference to how our country is to be politically governed for the foreseeable future. It is probably one of the biggest strategic decisions we will ever have to make.

The issues are so complex and the arguments from both sides can be so compelling that we are likely to 'freeze' as rabbits in a car's headlights. But as best we can, we have a responsibility to try and come to a judgment through prayer, listening to the arguments,

conversation with other believers, with at heart, what choice would be best for the Kingdom of God, not necessarily best for me.

One way to do this is to explore websites like [care.org.uk/eureferendum](http://care.org.uk/eureferendum) and Evangelical Alliance, [eauk.org.eu](http://eauk.org.eu) (who have majored their latest IDEA magazine on this topic,) it is an excellent comprehensive overview..

Care asks " Please pray:

- That the outcome would be according to God's will
- For both sides to explain their arguments clearly, so that people can make an informed decision on polling day
- That media coverage of the ongoing debate will be balanced and fair to all parties
- For many people to attend church-based & other community election meetings & for the discussions between opposing sides to be courteous & helpful.
- About the aftermath of the vote – for reconciliation between both

sides and wisdom for the Government moving forward.”

The Church of England has issued a European Referendum prayer  
*God of truth, give us grace to debate the issues in this referendum with honesty and openness. Give generosity to those who seek to form opinion and discernment to those who vote, that our nation may prosper and that with all the peoples of Europe we may work for peace and the common good; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, & He will establish your plans... in their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. Prov.16: 3, 9.

May you be blessed in all your thinking, talking and praying over this huge issue.

### *Blessings John*



**PRAYER REQUESTS** - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain [ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk) or pass details to Karen at the church office by 2pm on Monday so that they can be prayed for on Tuesday.

**LADIES' TEA AND PAMPER PARTY: Saturday 14 May, 3-5pm.**

Cake stands or decorative china – if we can borrow yours to help decorate the tables please speak to Erika. Flyers now available to invite your friends.

**QUIET DAY FOR PENTECOST – Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am to 2.00pm**

Many Voices - One Spirit. An opportunity to look at and share the experience of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. For more details, speak to Chris Shields.

**PLANT SWAP: Friday 20 May, 10am-12 noon, outside the Café.**

If you have plants to spare, please nurture them and bring them along to the Plant Swap and/or talk to Debbie Winson.

**CHURCHES IN BICESTER - WEEK OF PRAYER 23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May**

Please book this in your diary – more details to follow.

**VISIT OF MARCELO AND SILVANA VARGAS: 28 and 29 May.**

See enclosed sheet for programme of events and opportunities to meet them.

**MENS BREAKFAST – Sat 28<sup>th</sup> May at ECB from 8am to 11am**

Speaker is Marcelo Vargas. Suggested donation £3.00. Book via Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mens-breakfast-tickets-25049600028>

**Holiday Club – 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> July**

Plans are well underway for the “Adventure Cruise” Holiday Club at ECB and 2 other venues. Please pray for the week and if you are able to help in any way then please speak to Ian & Erika or complete a volunteer form available from the office.

**Social badminton for learners.** Thursdays 20:30-21:30 at Bicester leisure centre.

*Speak to Clare Bean if interested*

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### ROTAS

**Welcome Team**

8<sup>th</sup> May *Silver Birches*  
15<sup>th</sup> May Andrew Collett & Doreen Thompson  
22<sup>nd</sup> May Nathan Argyle & Tony Shields

**Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)**

8<sup>th</sup> May MSG & Men's Group  
15<sup>th</sup> May Oasis & Living Waters  
22<sup>nd</sup> May More

**Sunday Club**

8<sup>th</sup> May  
15<sup>th</sup> May  
22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Mustard Seeds** (crèche)

*Interactive Worship*  
Jude & Sophie  
Vicky & Jude

**Cherry Blossom** (Pre-school/Foundation)

*Interactive Worship*  
Claire & Doyin  
Jo & Matt

**Sunday Club**

8<sup>th</sup> May  
15<sup>th</sup> May  
22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Willows** (School yrs 1-3)

*Interactive Worship*  
Jackie & Ken  
Dorothy & Steve

**Silver Birches** (School yrs 4-6)

*Interactive Worship*  
Sandy & Beckie  
Nicola & Ellie

**Youth**

8<sup>th</sup> May  
15<sup>th</sup> May  
22<sup>nd</sup> May

**The Grid** (School year 7+)

*Interactive Worship*  
Sam W & Sandy  
Karl & Debbie

**Finance Team**

8<sup>th</sup> May Roger Winson & Nick Hebditch  
15<sup>th</sup> May Pete Stoddart & Tom Mitchell  
22<sup>nd</sup> May James Dunne & James Sheppard

Any notices for next week please to Karen by 7 p.m. Wednesday at [administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)