

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

Harvest Weekend Events

7th October	10.00am 4.00pm	Magic & Breakfast for dads and kids Harvest Celebration
8th October	10.30am	Café Church Harvest Festival Luke 8:5-8, 11-15 Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Roger Murphy Reading: Heather Hindmarsh Prayers: Jackie Meek
	7.00pm	Healing & Wholeness Service Luke 17:11-19 Leader: TFM Team Preacher: Roger Murphy
9th October	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
10th October	9.00am 10.00-12noon 7.00pm 7.15pm	Prayers in Church Rock of Ages Café Death and Cake ALPHA course begins
11th October	10.00 for 10.30 7.00pm 7.30pm	Oasis Small Group Prayers in church Midweek Communion
12th October	7.00-8.30pm	Youth Group for Years 7-11 Meeting at Bicester Green, not ECB
13th October	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline Dwelling Place – Psalm 45
15th October	10.30am	Informal Worship with Baptism Trinity 18 Stewardship – God's gifts Leader: Ben Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Susan Cuin Prayers: John Thompson
	7.00pm	Evening Service Safe? – Peace with God Romans 5:1-3 Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Carol Hill



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 October
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.

Debbie Winson writes,

You will probably have seen bread in the shops that has “Seven Seeds”. The seed mix in the packet we have is supposed to contain “toasted brown linseed, toasted sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, millet seeds, golden linseed and poppy seeds”. The poppy seeds are tiny, but show up because they are black, whereas pumpkin seeds are large enough to handle and dark green.



In the Bible, Jesus used seeds and sowing seeds in His teaching. In the parable of the sower in Matthew 13, the farmer scatters his seed somewhat indiscriminately (unlike in modern farming where a computer controls the seed drilling precisely depending to the fertility of the soil!).

Jesus likens the sowing of seeds to us telling our friends about the kingdom of heaven. He says that sometimes we talk about God's truth and people hear the message, but don't fully understand it, or other things get in the way of them taking it to heart. Other times, people are ready to hear more of what it means to have faith in God through Christ Jesus. They understand it and set about leading their lives following God's plan and His standards. They can come to a perfect God, not in their

own strength, but because Jesus has taken on our imperfections.

This year we have been sowing lots of different kinds of seeds to create food for our “Grown in Bicester” Harvest meal this Saturday. At the event we shall have a display of different kinds of seeds, and the plants/fruits that they grow into.

God’s creativity is shown in the diversity of plants and animals we have, and we are reminded to look after them carefully.

We will also have Roger Murphy’s Through Faith Mission team to help us sow seeds of faith.

God is very gracious and we have resources from Him that we can share with friends from our local community quite indiscriminately.

These resources include the café as a gathering space, people with gifts of growing and cooking food and God’s love to share.

A man with a special gifting, Paul, the Escapologist, will amaze us with his performance! We are seeing God at work through each other, and long for more people to be ready to share God’s blessing.

Blessings Debbie

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

PRISONS WEEK 8th- 14th OCTOBER

A week of prayer for those affected by prison; prisoners and their families, victims of crime, those who work and volunteer in prisons and the criminal justice system. Pick up a prayer diary for the week and speak to Peter Hill or Karen Stoddart if you’d like to find out more about the Bicester Prison Fellowship group.

BICESTER FOODBANK

Urgently require Tinned rice pudding, Jars of Jam, Sugar (500g and 1kg) and Tinned fish (salmon, tuna, pilchards etc). They are also starting to collect “treats” ready for Christmas. Please place any items in the blue box by the front door of church or bring to church over the Harvest weekend.
Janet is looking for volunteers to collect for an hour or two outside Tesco over the weekend of 30th Nov-2nd Dec.

DEATH and CAKE

Weekly Presentations and Discussions About End of Life and Ending Well. If you have elderly relatives, or if you *are* elderly and want to put your affairs in order, or if you are just ‘interested’ – please do come and join us on Tuesday evenings between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. through to and including 7th November. Pick up a flyer for more information or speak to *Carol Hill*.

HARVEST WEEKEND 5th – 8th October

Roger Murphy and a team from Through Faith Missions will be joining us to present the Christian faith. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to come to the various events and services over the weekend. The Magic and Breakfast and Harvest Celebration will be particularly geared to families, with various activities and food as well as an opportunity to hear some “Good News”.

HARVEST DONATIONS

We are being encouraged to bring first fruits offerings (Deuteronomy 26) for the Harvest weekend. If you have any produce that could be displayed and then shared please contact Debbie Winson. We will also have our usual collection for Bicester Food Bank – check with the office if you are unsure about what items are suitable.

ALPHA COURSE

This starts on Tuesday 10th October. The meal will be held in the Bure Farm pub - meet at 7:15pm to eat at 7:30pm - with the rest of the session in church. If you are interested in joining or know someone who is then please pick up a flyer with details or speak to Ian.

MARRIAGE MATTERS Saturday 21st October 9.30am – 4.30pm

A one-day relationships event for couples led by Clive and Helen Collier. Come and hear skilled presenters share insights which will deepen your relationship. Spend time as a couple talking and thinking together. This is a free event, you just need to bring a packed lunch. See flyer for more details and book your place by contacting the Church Office.

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