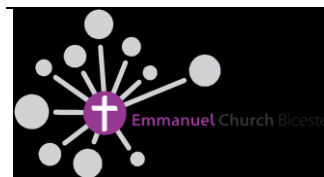


ECB's NOTICE BOARD

10 th May	10.30am	Interactive Worship – EASTER 6 Leader: John Bentley Preacher: Karen Stoddart <i>Who do you say I am? Matt 16:13-20</i> Prayers: Mandy Bentley
	3.00pm	20's and 30's Tea & Cakes (Kate & James' house)
	7.00pm	Evening Service - Preacher: Ian Biscoe
11 th May	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
12 th May	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00 - 12.00	Seniors' Café (Crafts)
13 th May	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Small group – Yrs. 12 & 13
	7.30pm	ALPHA
14 th May	7.30pm	Mathetes
	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7,8 & 9
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 10 & 11
16 th May	8.00-9.00pm	Band practice
	8.30- 10.30am	Men's Breakfast
17 th May	10.30am	Informal Worship – EASTER 7 Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Robert Jackson <i>Idols and Holiness Isaiah 6:1-5</i> Reader: Ellie Dommett Prayers: John Thompson
	7.00pm	Worship evening – led by the ECB Worship Team
18 th May	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
19 th May	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00 - 12.00	Seniors' Café (Beetle Drive)
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Small group – Yrs. 12 & 13
20 th May	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room
	7.30pm	ALPHA
	7.30pm	Mathetes
21 st May	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7,8 & 9
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 10 & 11
	8.00-9.00pm	Band practice
	8.00-10.00pm	PCC Meeting



Welcome!

**to the church
at the heart
of the community**

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

**Sunday 10th
May 2015**

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.

Denise Crook writes:

Joel and I decided to plant some seeds. The courgettes and sweet corn were growing really well and for once I remembered to water them. After a couple of weeks the sweetcorn, for no apparent reason, keeled over leaving only a couple. We then decided it would be a good time to plant out the courgettes only to find that the next three mornings were frosty! We are waiting to see what happens with these, after that and the slugs.



Fortunately the trusty potatoes are now breaking the surface for Joel to be encouraged, he just needs the gift of patience as we wait.

As I was thinking what to write the question, 'what do we do in the face of adversity?' came to mind and I fell upon the passage in Matthew where it talks about seed being planted in different conditions. Chapter 13 verse 20 reads;

'The seed cast in the gravel- this is the person who hears and instantly responds with enthusiasm. But there is no soil of character and so when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it.' It reminded me of the seed planting with Joel and wondering how deep were the roots, to thinking, 'how deep are our roots?' Do our roots go down deep into God where we can draw strength, rest for our souls and determination to keep going? Or have we shallow roots, looking to the world

to help us out and turning away from God?

Like Joel, sometimes we need a little patience as things work through (or grow) and sometimes we need a lot. But we can always be assured that the Holy Spirit is alongside us. Psalm 139 says; 'If I go up to heaven, you are there. If I go down to the place of the dead, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest

oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.'

God is faithful to His word. Sometimes we need to put in a bit of effort to see the fruit but with God, all things are possible!

I pray we all bear good fruit and have rewards for our efforts especially those with exams coming up!

Blessings Denise

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one please email the ECB prayer chain ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk or pass details to Karen at the church office by 2pm on Monday so that they can be prayed for at Tuesday prayers.

HOLIDAY CLUB AT ECB – 20th – 24th July

Plans are now underway for Megamakers – a 5 day Holiday Club for 5-11 year olds based on Matthew's gospel with lots of opportunities to discover how amazing God's love is. Volunteers are needed to lead small groups, play music, act in a drama, organise games, make refreshments, be creative, pray – but above all JOIN IN ! *If you would like to get involved then please speak to Ian or Karen and get a volunteer form. Child registration forms also available.*

Men's breakfast – Sat 16th May 8.30am – 10.30am

Book via Eventbrite - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mens-breakfast-tickets-16710726232> (Speak to Karen if you do not have internet access)

20s/30s Afternoon tea and cakes... Sunday 10th from 3pm at the Sheppard's (26 Field Street). All welcome! Just turn up!

Sunday 7th June – Bicester Big Lunch

Volunteers needed to run children's crafts on behalf of Churches in Bicester – speak to Karen if you can help.

Church Planting in and around a Garden City – Conference at ECB on Saturday 6th June 2015 9.30am to 3.00pm. To book go to -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/planting-churches-in-and-around-a-garden-city-tickets-15942974867> or speak to Karen.

Badminton every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre
ECB Cycle Club - Sundays 17th and 31st May. Meet at church at 8.15am for 12 mile bike ride (1hr approx.)

ROTAS

Prayer Co-ordinator

10th May Katie Jenkinson
17th May Christine Thompson
24th May John & Dorothy Williams – Anointing at Communion

Sunday Club

10th May
17th May Jackie & TBC
24th May TBC & Dave

Bubbles

Interactive Worship
Jackie & TBC
TBC & Dave

Splash

Interactive Worship
Sandy & Ellie
Nicola & Maureen

Sunday Club

10th May
17th May Karl & Sandy
24th May Sam G & Debbie

The Grid

Interactive Worship
Karl & Sandy
Sam G & Debbie

Crèche

Interactive Worship
Doyin & Vicky/Mike
Claire & Toeni

Welcome Team

10th May Dave Bambrook & Andrew Collett
17th May Doreen Thompson & Daniel Deng
24th May Del Hindmarsh & Amanda Beaumont

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

10th May Potting Shed
17th May MSG
24th May Oasis

Finance Team

10th May Pete Stoddart & James Sheppard
17th May Roger Winson & Nick Hebditch
24th May Pete Stoddart & Steve Willott

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