

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

11th December	10.30am	Interactive Communion <i>Communion 1 Cor 11:23-26</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Carol Hill Reading: Andy Roberts Prayers: Jo Withers	Advent 3
	7.00pm	Evening Service Carols by Candlelight Led by Robert Jackson	
12th December	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6	
13th December	9.00am 10.00-12noon 7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in Church Rock of Ages Café Prayers in church	
14th December	10.00 for 10.30 7.00-7.30pm 7.30pm	Oasis Small Group Prayers in church Comedians & Carols (Tickets from Church Office)	
15th December	6.30-8.00pm 8.15-9.15pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Christmas Celebration</i> Band practice	
16th December	4.00pm 7.30pm	John Williams funeral Banbury Crematorium Contemplative Compline <i>Sources of Grace</i>	
17th December	2.00pm	Thanksgiving Service for John Williams at ECB	
18th December	10.30am 7.00pm	Carol Service Leader: Jo Withers Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Hugh White Prayers: Lonah Hebditch Evening Service <i>An Angel of the Lord – Matthew 1:18-25</i> Preacher: Ian Biscoe	



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

Sunday 11th

December 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.

Joe Hemmings writes:

Hi everybody !

For those of you who have no idea who I am, I'm the cafe manager here at ECB, so if you haven't met me yet feel free to pop in and say hi anytime.

As we near Christmas time, I find myself thinking a lot about gifts, mostly because I haven't bought any yet. I'm sure a lot of you can relate to this, I find it happening every year. I'm sure others of you find this lack of organisation in others particularly frustrating as all of your gifts were bought and wrapped before the end of November. Unlike me, our Father in heaven doesn't do last minute gift giving, in fact he's already given gifts to each of us (How about that for a smooth segue?).

Ephesians 4 says:

⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers.

So it says that to **EACH** one of us, grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. So that means me. And that means **YOU!** Now that's good news. So we know that God has given us a gift, because he says that he has.

Now let's look at these gifts. For some of you, you might already know where your gifting lies. Others of you might never have thought about it before. It's worth thinking about. Understanding how God made you and how you fit into the Body of Christ, his Church, is amazingly empowering.

The Apostle

Apostle means sent one. Apostles often enjoy pioneering and starting new things. They often find themselves renewed by ideas and by the wider vision.

Prophets

Prophets often hear from God very clearly and enjoy relating to others exactly what it is that God is saying to them specifically and to the Church as a whole. They often

find themselves renewed by spending time alone with God.

Evangelists

Evangelists feel an urge to share the good news with those who don't believe. They enjoy relating with non-believers and will find themselves naturally spending much of their time doing that.

Pastors/Shepherds

Pastors love building up, developing and comforting other believers. They are refreshed by seeing individuals healed inside and growing in faith.

Teachers

Teachers also enjoy developing people, particularly by guiding people in what God is saying through his word. How they communicate is really important to them, because they understand the importance of the word for growth.

Maybe have a think about these gifts. Are any of them jumping out to you as something God is developing in your life?

God's plan is to have his whole body operating in these gifts. *Verse 16 says: We are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.*

That's God's amazing plan for his Church! So I'll leave you with two questions. Are you embracing your Giftedness? And are you embracing that the body needs all these gifts in order to grow, are you embracing your limitedness? Peace and blessings to you all over this Christmas period.

Joe

Comedians & Carols – Wed 14th December at 7:30pm

Tickets are still available from the office at £8 adult/£5 concession. A great opportunity to bring your friends and neighbours so get your tickets now.

Giant Christmas Card

If anyone would like to sign a giant card and make a donation to the Children's Society the card will be on display each Sunday during December.

Thank you, decorations team.

Thank you everyone who helped create our stunning Christmas decorations this year, and a special thanks to Lyndie Spolander who taught us how to make the Christmas tree Chrismons, celebrating Jesus Christ! *Debbie Winson.*

Help required, Christingle assembly.

Please could you volunteer to join the Christingle assembly line on Friday 23 December at 10am. Mince pies provided! Further information from Debbie Winson, drwinson@msn.com

ROTAS

Welcome Team

11th December Andrew & Jeanette Collett
18th December Del Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson
25th December ECB Church Family

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

11th December Oasis & Living Waters
18th December More & Men's Group
25th December *No Refreshments*

Sunday Club

11th December
18th December
25th December

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Interactive Service
Sophie & Lindsay
All Age service

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Interactive Service
Claire & Qi
All Age service

Sunday Club

11th December
18th December
25th December

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Interactive Service
Maureen & Ken
All Age service

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Interactive Service
Sandy & And
All Age service

Youth

11th December
18th December
25th December

The Grid (School year 7+)

Interactive Service
Grid Remain in church
All Age service

Finance Team

11th December Pete Stoddart & Tom Mitchell
18th December James Dunne & James Sheppard
25th December Roger Winson & Ian Brown

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