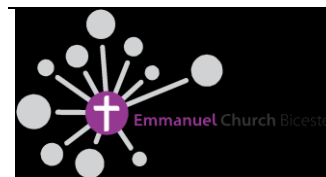


ECB's NOTICE BOARD

12 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am	<b>Interactive Worship – EASTER 2</b> <b>Leader:</b> Ian Biscoe <b>Preacher:</b> John Bentley <i>Road to Emmaus</i> <i>Luke 24:13-32</i> <b>Prayers:</b> Mandy Bentley
	7.00pm	<b>“Meet the candidates”</b> <i>A chance to question those standing locally at the general election</i>
13 <sup>th</sup> April	3.10–4.15pm	<b>After school club</b> for school years 4-6
14 <sup>th</sup> April	9.00am	<b>Prayers in Church</b>
	10.00 - 12.00	<b>Seniors' Café</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30-9.00pm	<b>Youth Small group</b> – Yrs. 12 & 13
	10.00 for 10.30	<b>Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm	<b>ALPHA</b>
	6.30-8.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 7,8 & 9
	7.30-9.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 10 & 11
19 <sup>th</sup> April	8.00-9.00pm	<b>Band practice</b>
	10.30am	<b>Informal Worship – EASTER 3</b> <b>Leader:</b> Ian Biscoe <b>Preacher:</b> Roger Winson <i>Humble service in the Body of Christ Rom 12:1-13</i> <b>Reader:</b> Lisa Verman <b>Prayers:</b> Lona Hebditch
	12.00 approx.	<b>Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b> <i>Followed by Bacon baps</i>
20 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00pm	<b>Praise &amp; Worship evening</b> <i>Led by the Worship Team</i>
	3.10–4.15pm	<b>After school club</b> for school years 4-6
	9.00am	<b>Prayers in Church</b>
	10.00 - 12.00	<b>Seniors' Café</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> April	7.30-9.00pm	<b>Youth Small group</b> – Yrs. 12 & 13
	10.00 for 10.30	<b>Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	7.30pm	<b>ALPHA</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Church Meal</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	6.30-8.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 7,8 & 9
	7.30-9.00pm	<b>Youth Group</b> in Church – Years 10 & 11
	8.00-9.00pm	<b>Band practice</b>



*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 12<sup>th</sup>  
April 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.*

**Roger Winson writes:**

**This morning**, John Bentley preaches on Christ's appearing to the disciples on the Road to Emmaus. This Gospel story is a powerful witness to Christ's resurrection life.

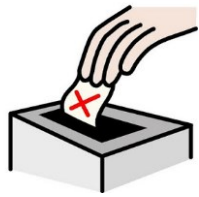
**This afternoon at 3pm** we are invited to join with Vicky and Gary at a thanksgiving service for the amazing recovery of baby Joel. It too seems like a resurrection as the news, once so bleak, turned into rejoicing as Joel finally returned home on Easter Saturday.

**This evening**, Emmanuel Church welcomes Churches in Bicester and the six parliamentary candidates for North Oxfordshire at a hustings meeting chaired by Robert Jackson.

It is probably our only chance to meet the candidates and ask questions prior to the election on 7<sup>th</sup> May. The candidates taking part are, in strictly alphabetical order, Dickie Bird, UKIP; Roseanne Edwards, National Health Action; John Howson, LD; Ian Middleton, Green; Victoria Prentis, Conservative; Sean Woodcock, Labour.

An Evangelical Alliance survey finds that Christians regard the personal integrity of candidates to be at least as important as their policies. We remember pledges which failed to be honoured in the past. Some people have become cynical. Even amongst Christians today apparently less than one in ten are expecting politicians to honour their promises. Little has changed. The great 18<sup>th</sup> century man of letters, Dr Johnson, defined a politician as "a man of artifice, one of deep contrivance."

St Paul recognises the importance of the role of government and in Romans 13 says that those who govern deserve respect, not because they are perfect – none of us are, but because of the office they hold. I expect this is not a popular view but I believe that those who formulate good political policies and implement them fairly and effectively should receive our support as Christian citizens. As Christians we claim to care about the greater good of society and now we have an opportunity to vote not just in our own interests but also for the good of others.



Some of the themes that the EA survey highlighted as particularly important to Christians were: liberty and freedom of expression, alleviation of poverty, human trafficking, same-sex marriage and euthanasia. By contrast, the country generally is apparently most concerned about the economy, health and welfare, education, housing and defence to name but a few. May I encourage you to bring your questions in these or other areas to the meeting and get involved? It would be great if in the *next* hustings one or more of the candidates might be from the Churches in Bicester.

*Blessings Roger*

#### 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 at Tuesday prayers.

#### CHURCH MEAL

If you would like to get more involved in the life of Emmanuel Church then please come along to our next church meal at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April where the ECB teams will be explaining what they do and how you can get involved. Sign-up sheet at the back of church.

**Church Planting in and around a Garden City** – Conference at ECB on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 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>

**Badminton** every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre  
**ECB Cycle Club** – starts again in the Spring (watch this space)

#### ROTAS

##### Prayer Co-ordinator

12<sup>th</sup> April Chris Shields  
 19<sup>th</sup> April Christine Thompson  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Katie Jenkinson

##### Sunday Club

12<sup>th</sup> April *Interactive Worship*  
 19<sup>th</sup> April Jo & Michelle  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Jackie & Dave

##### Sunday Club

12<sup>th</sup> April *Interactive Worship*  
 19<sup>th</sup> April Sam W & Sandy  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Sam G & Debbie

##### Welcome Team

12<sup>th</sup> April Hannah Shipman & Hugh White  
 19<sup>th</sup> April Debbie Winson & Steve Willott  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Sue White & Nathan Argyle

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

12<sup>th</sup> April Oasis  
 19<sup>th</sup> April Spirited  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Hilarious

##### Finance Team

12<sup>th</sup> April Peter Stoddart & Steve Willott  
 19<sup>th</sup> April James Dunne & Jo Withers  
 26<sup>th</sup> April Roger Winson & Ian Brown

##### Bubbles

*Interactive Worship*  
 Jo & Michelle  
 Jackie & Dave

##### The Grid

*Interactive Worship*  
 Sam W & Sandy  
 Sam G & Debbie

##### Splash

*Interactive Worship*  
 Sandy & Maureen  
 Nicola & Ellie

##### Crèche

*Interactive Worship*  
 Doyin & Vicky/Mike  
 Claire & Toeni

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