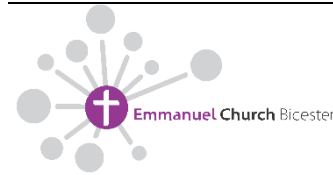


ECB's NOTICE BOARD

13 th August	10.30am	Café Church – Summer pattern Trinity 9 <i>Old Testament characters – Ezekiel (messages)</i> Leader: Helen Davies Preacher: Jo Withers Reading: Heather Hindmarsh Prayers : Susan Cuin
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Table Talk – Testimonies</i> Leader: Sam Gould
15 th – 17 th August Holiday at Home		
20 th August	10.30am	Informal Worship – Summer pattern Trinity 10 <i>New Testament Bible characters</i> Leader: Geoff Saunders Preacher: Carol Hill Reading: Christine Thompson Prayers : Jackie Meek
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Table Talk – Testimonies</i> Leader: Hugh White
25 th – 29 th August Youth at Soul Survivor		
27 th August	10.30am	Informal Communion– Summer pattern Trinity 11 <i>New Testament Bible characters</i> Leader: Peter Hill Preacher: Robert Jackson Reading: Lisa Verman Prayers : Hugh White
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Table Talk – Testimonies</i> Leaders: Phil & Annie Croxford
3 rd September	10.30am	All Age Worship – Trinity 12 <i>Dedication of Finn Jolly</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Erika Biscoe Reading: Sandy Addison Prayers : Ian Brown
	7.00pm	Evening Service



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

**13th August
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.

James Dunne writes:

How does our faith and trust in God affect how we interact with the world and what we experience on a day to day basis? In what way are we influenced by our faith in how we understand, act, and react to, the world around us?

To answer these questions, we must be clear about what we mean by faith. Many of us use the term I believe in discussions about our faith, but in the English language believe and its close relative belief can have different meanings dependent on the context of its use. We can use these words to communicate understanding, knowledge, assumption, as well as faith.

Though understanding and knowledge can be aspects of faith they, in themselves, are not faith. As Christ observed when casting out spirits, the spirits knew he was the Son of God,

they understood the power and authority he had, but this knowledge and understanding did not lead to trust in God.

So, what is faith? The apostle Paul writes of the living nature of our faith being expressed by 'the out-workings of the Holy Spirit' in our lives. Indeed, he specifically makes faith a gift of the Holy Spirit and a Gift of God. Faith therefore is not something that is intellectual and passive, but fundamentally spiritual and vibrant, alive and working in our innermost beings.

We can therefore rephrase those original questions to ask: Can we observe the Holy Spirit changing us from within? Can we observe the way in which we understand, act, and react to, the world around us being changed by the Spirits' out-workings within us? Can we observe fruit being borne in our life in terms of 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control'?

The Bible is clear that God's great concern is the inner-man. Whether we look at Hosea declaring 'For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings' or Christ teaching on cleaning the vessel from the inside rather than focussing on appearances, or Pauls' great teaching on the worthlessness of even mighty deeds done with the absence of love. The pre-eminence of inner purity is always there.

For our faith to impact the world around us it must first impact our inner self.

Through the Spirit our minds must be renewed, hurts healed, grievances forgiven, and perspectives changed. As this work is done within us then others will experience us in a different way. When this happens, we can be assured that our faith is impacting our actions and understanding in our daily lives.

Blessings

James

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

HOLIDAY AT HOME - 15th-17th August

Volunteers needed to help this event for seniors run smoothly. More details from *Elizabeth Taylor* – 01869 243479 or email home4ew@gmail.com
Booking forms available from the church office.

CAP MONEY COURSE - Running at ECB on Wednesday evenings– 13th, 20th and 27th September. Churches in Bicester are hoping to develop a CAP Money team to offer this course to the people of Bicester in the New Year – would you consider being part of this? The September course is open to all, but if you would like to consider becoming a CAP Money Coach this will be an opportunity to experience the course. Book via Eventbrite - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cap-money-course-tickets-36436229744>

ALPHA COURSE - We are planning to run an ALPHA course on a Tuesday evening starting in October. If you are interested in joining or know someone who is then please contact the office.

HARVEST WEEKEND – 7th & 8th October. Our harvest weekend coincides with a visit from evangelist Roger Murphy and his team. Look out for details of events nearer the time. We will have our usual "Grown in Bicester" Harvest Celebration, Saturday 7 October 4-6pm with activities and a meal made from locally grown ingredients. Julia Mills is taking the lead in preparing the food. She would be happy to know if you have anything you are growing that you could bring and share. Debbie Winson - email_drwinson@msn.com

ROTAS

Welcome Team

13th August Andrew & Jeanette Collett
20th August Del Hindmarsh & Rose Hunt
27th August Steve Willott & Sandy Addison

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

13th August Tuesday 20's & 30's
20th August MSG and Mon 20's & 30's
27th August Oasis & Super small group

Sunday Club

13th August
20th August
27th August

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Summer holidays
Summer holidays
Summer holidays

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Summer holidays
Summer holidays
Summer holidays

Sunday Club

13th August
20th August
27th August

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Summer holidays
Summer holidays
Summer holidays

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Summer holidays
Summer holidays
Summer holidays

Youth

13th August
20th August
27th August

The Grid (School year 7+)

Summer holidays
Summer holidays
Summer holidays

Finance Team

13th August James Dunne & Steve Willott
20th August Roger Winson & Ian Brown
27th August Pete Stoddart & Ian Brown

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