

## ECB NOTICE BOARD

14th January	10:30am	Season: Epiphany 2 Café Church Leader: Andrew Collett Preacher: Ian Biscoe
	7pm	Evening Service (Café open from 6:30) Epiphany 2, Beatitudes 2, Matthew 5:4,7 Leader: Jackie Meek Preacher: Roger Winson
16th January	9am	Church Prayer Meeting
	10am	Rock of Ages
	7pm	Prayers
	7:30pm	Men's Curry Night
17th January	10am	Oasis Small Group
18th January	7pm	"Dry" Performance
19th January	7:30pm	Friday Evening Compline
21st January	10:30am	Informal Worship- Epiphany 3 Surrender 2; Genesis 12:1-9 Leader: Roger Winson Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reader: Heather Hindmarsh Prayers: Ian Brown
	7pm	Evening Service (Café open from 6:30) Epiphany 3- Beatitudes 3 Matthew 5:5,6,9,10 Leader: Geoffrey Saunders Preacher: Carol Hill

\*\*All notices to Autumn by 7pm Wednesday newsletter@emmanuelbicester.org.uk

Prayer Chain: [prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk) (email to receive

Notices: [notices@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:notices@emmanuelbicester.org.uk) either of these)



# *Epiphany*

## *2*

14th January, 2018

**Welcome!**  
**To the church at the heart of the  
community.**



*A message from our  
contributing writer...*

Coming into the New Year I had reflected on some notes I made in 2017. It seems that repeated themes come up, the main one is love. I must admit I find this the hardest! The second not surprisingly, is doing versus being. We are commanded to love one another, yet my ego and my unhealed hurts still scream out and come jumping in the way. I don't know about you but most of the time I find doing easier than and less challenging than being who I am called to be.

Last year I joined a group of ECB people, meeting once a week in some one's home. We call ourselves Journeying. We have just finished reading a book by Michael Mitton, who was our last Church Away Day speaker. The book is called Travellers of the Heart, Exploring New Pathways on our Spiritual Journey. Michael outlines his journey to faith leading to ordination in the Church of England. He celebrates

relationships with those who have influenced him on the journey and their diverse spiritual backgrounds. Are there any people who have influenced you and who you would like to thank for journeying with you?

Chapters in the book cover:

- \* Anglican Plains
- \* Charismatic Streams
- \* Catholic Border Lands
- \* Celtic Mountains
- \* Liberal marshlands
- \* Missional Coastlands

At the end of each chapter we are asked some searching reflective questions on what Michael has shared. The process is very interesting and enlightening, given our individual experiences. It came up for me again Love; Loving; Accepting our Differences; Looking to what unites and empowers, so we can develop relationships that show we are his disciples by who we are being.

It was ironic that as we were

reading though Travellers of the Heart, that it was the 500-year Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. This period, sometimes called the great divorce, followed Martin Luther's public declaration against the conduct of the Church of Rome at that time. Following much journeying and reforming, the Catholic and Lithuanian Churches finally reconciled their differences in 1999. The Franciscan, Richard Rohr, says; the right spiritual decisions come from the heart, not the head. We are very blessed that the Churches in Bicester, are united. Leaders and Congregations, working, worshipping and serving the Town together. If you are visiting ECB today from any Church, or no church at all, you are most welcome. Please stay and join us for refreshments and a chat after the service.

*Every blessing,  
Howard*

*Please send prayer requests to:  
[prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)*