

ECB NOTICE BOARD

15th April	10:30am	Informal Worship Ephesians 4:1-6/11-13 Leader: Jackie Meek Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reader: Susan Cuin Prayers: Lonah Hebditch
	7pm	Evening Service (Café open from 6:30) Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe "Our Focus in 2018"
16th April	3:10pm	After School Club
17th April	9am	Church Prayer Meeting
	10am	Rock of Ages
	7pm	Prayers
	7:30pm	Peter Wright's Licensing @ St. Edberg's (Men's Curry night) see Colin for details
18th April	10am	Oasis small group
19th April	7:30pm	Peter Hill's Licensing
20th April	7pm	Prayers
	7:30pm	Contemplative Compline <i>Accepting the Beloved's advice (Phil 3:12-21)</i>
22nd April	10:30am	Informal Communion Luke 5:1-11 Leader: Peter Hill Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reader: Liz Winson Prayers: Mike Watermeyer
	7pm	Evening Service (Café open from 6:30) APCM Sunday "Being a chaplain" Isaiah 61 Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Peter Hill



15th April, 2018



*All notices to Autumn by 7pm Wednesday newsletter@emmanuelbicester.org.uk
Prayer Chain: prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk (email to receive)

*A Message From Our
Contributing Writer.....*

Someone said to me recently that the whole leadership team seem different lately. That we all seem much more “upwardly connected”. I have to say that is true – we are all feeling expectant, personally challenged by the Holy Spirit in our walk with God, and sensing this is a time of preparation.

We are trying to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in our personal lives. This is leading many of us into extended times of prayer, to putting relationships right, to being much more accountable with each other and challenging each other (in love), to repentance both public and privately with God.

For me, this is sometimes an uncomfortable process, and yet I also know – it is so right.

So why all the fuss? – well that’s the question we’ve been asking ourselves too! This period in the run up to Easter was particularly intense for me, lots of confrontation in

both the physical and spiritual realms. Neither of which were instigated by me, but orchestrated in such a way it could only have been God – in His wisdom and goodness illuminating things that need addressing and putting me into a place where I had no option but to address them. I said to someone recently at times I feel corralled – this is a process to wild break horses so they become compliant and willing.

Well that’s exactly it – we need to become compliant and willing to the Holy Spirit’s leading. To be aware of, and cooperate with what we see The Father doing. After all, if it was good enough for Jesus to only do The Father’s will, and for the disciples to follow the Holy Spirit’s leading - then it definitely should apply to us too!

So, how do we get there, is the question? Well for me it’s partly being led to my quiet place with our Father – to sit, be still and find “His Rest”. Then simply to maintain that place of rest in my daily life. As soon as I sense I’ve lost that rest, to go back to my prayer closet - and regain it.

This process is partly by His grace, and partly by discipline. I’m reminded of Hebrews 4 – where Paul talks about entering rest. Rest - being the opposite of striving. The end of our own strength and will - and the beginning of God’s will and His power.

In another recent conversation talking about what we are experiencing, I found myself saying “we cannot operate in the fullness of God’s power without first submitting fully to His will” – The Holy Spirit’s presence was so tangible as I spoke out these words – it stopped us from saying anything else – we were unable to speak at all, as these words settled into our hearts and understanding. I believe this is the prize – our loving Father to preparing all who will partner with Him - so we may know and allow His sovereign and redemptive love to lead us to minister within His manifest presence as He leads. This is for a time yet to come - but the practice and discipline of walking it, has started already.

It is my prayer, and my hope, you will partner with Him in this also.

*Every blessing in Christ to you all.
Phil Trout.*

Notices:

***Please can you check your details on the revised Electoral Roll which is pinned to the notice board near the front door. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact the church office.

APCM – 22nd April.

The Annual Meeting will take place after the morning service on Sunday 22nd April. To encourage attendance there will be bacon sandwiches provided! There are 7 vacancies for PCC members and 1 for a Deanery Synod rep. Only those on the Electoral Roll are eligible to vote. The 2017 Annual Report and Financial Statements will be circulated by email round the notice chain with some paper copies available in church.

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