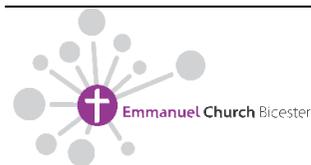


ECB'S NOTICE BOARD

15th October	10.30am	Informal Worship with Baptism Trinity 18 <i>Stewardship - God's gifts</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Susan Cuin Prayers: John Thompson
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Homes for Good – Fostering & adoption</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Rupert Garnett
16th October	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
17th October	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00pm	Death and Cake
	7.15pm	ALPHA course
18th October	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7.00pm	Prayers in church
19th October	7.00-8.30pm	Youth Group for Years 7-11
20th October	7.30pm	No Compline this week
22nd October	10.30am	Informal Worship with Communion Trinity 19 <i>Stewardship - Relationships</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Debbi Pardoe Prayers: Phil Trout
	7.00pm	Evening Service with Adult Baptisms <i>Safe? – Faith Romans 4:18-25</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Roger Winson
23rd October	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
24th October	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00pm	Death and Cake
	7.15pm	ALPHA course
	7.30pm	Prison Fellowship



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

**15th October
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.

Geoff Saunders writes,

Compassion – what is it? The dictionary definition tells us that it is a feeling of sorrow and pity for someone in trouble, e.g. compassionate leave – a special absence from work if we are bereaved.

Whatever compassion is, God seems to have an endless supply of it. We even declare this in our hymns. “Great is Thy faithfulness....Thy compassions they fail not.” There are dozens of references throughout the bible to compassion, and in all of them the feeling they convey to me is that compassion in the Godly sense is far more profound than in the dictionary definition.

It seems that compassion has a touch of mercy about it. So just as God's special love for His people in redeeming them from Egypt (Deuteronomy 13, 17 – 18)

and caring for them in the wilderness became the guiding principle for their treatment of others, so our redemption through Christ and His daily care in our lives is the basis of the Christian life.

Derek Prince, just before he died, in one of his last broadcasts said he felt privileged to have been a father to thirty or so Jewish orphans. You could hear the weeping in his voice that God had permitted him late in life to experience deep compassion for these kids, and that in apparent contradiction to his reputation as a learned scholar and theologian.

Jesus Himself, immediately He was told of the murder of John the Baptist, sought to escape the crowds by boat so that He might grieve in private. But they pursued Him on foot from the towns and, when He landed, Jesus had compassion on them and He healed their sick. So, Jesus put aside His own need to grieve in order to attend to the needs of the people. Wow!

So, we are starting to get a sense of the profound nature of compassion. It is not merely feeling sorrow and pity for someone. It is identifying with them in their distress and feeling their pain and their need. God comes right into our soul and shows us where it hurts most.

In 2 Corinthians 1, 3 Paul says "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion, and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all in our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received

from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives so also, through Christ, our comfort overflows. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation."

Do we, can we, enter into others' suffering and need, and thereby revolutionise our prayers for their salvation and healing?

Blessings Geoff

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

You are welcome at Tuesday morning prayers - 9am in the Community Room.

HARVEST CELEBRATION- A MASSIVE THANK YOU!

A great big thank you to the team of at least 20 people who grew things, brought things and cooked things for our Harvest Celebration last weekend! We had a wonderful feast and lots of time to chat. A special mention is due to Andy and Rachel who moved furniture and cleaned through the whole weekend, to Julia Mills who co-ordinated the meal, and to Steve Willott who was doing the washing up when I arrived at 12.30 on Saturday, was at the sink whenever I looked through the afternoon, and was still doing the washing up when I left about 8pm! *Debbie Winson.*

BICESTER FOODBANK

Urgently require Tinned rice pudding, Jars of Jam, Sugar (500g and 1kg) and Tinned fish (salmon, tuna, pilchards etc). They are also starting to collect "treats" ready for Christmas. Please place any items in the blue box by the front door of church or bring to church over the Harvest weekend. Janet is looking for volunteers to collect for an hour or two outside Tesco over the weekend of 30th Nov-2nd Dec.

DEATH and CAKE

Weekly Presentations and Discussions About End of Life and Ending Well. If you have elderly relatives, or if you *are* elderly and want to put your affairs in order, or if you are just 'interested' – please do come and join us on Tuesday evenings between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. through to and including 7th November. Pick up a flyer for more information or speak to *Carol Hill*.

ALPHA COURSE

Meeting every Tuesday evening. The meal will be held in the Bure Farm pub - meet at 7:15pm to eat at 7:30pm - with the rest of the session in church. If you are interested in joining or know someone who is then please pick up a flyer with details or speak to Ian.

MARRIAGE MATTERS Saturday 21st October 9.30am – 4.30pm

A one-day relationships event for couples led by Clive and Helen Collier. Come and hear skilled presenters share insights which will deepen your relationship. Spend time as a couple talking and thinking together. This is a free event, you just need to bring a packed lunch. See flyer for more details and book your place by contacting the Church Office.

CHERISH - LADIES CRAFT AND PAMPER DAY

Saturday 4th November - 10am-4pm. Tickets are £8 each and can be booked via the ECB website (www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk) Includes light lunch, refreshments, treatments and craft. Further details from *Erika Biscoe*.

Hosting with HOSTUK 2017-18

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:2

HOST UK is a charity whose mission is to give a welcome to international students in British homes for friendship and cultural exchange. We operate *all* year round including Christmas and New Year when being welcomed into a home is vastly preferable to lonely halls of residence. Hospitality can be offered for one day (daytime only), three days and two nights at the weekend, or at New Year, or four days and three nights during the Christmas festive period. If you should like to know more please look at our website: www.hostuk.org

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