



16th June 2019

Clive Collier writes...

Today is Father's Day. Often considered a commercial add-on to a historical Mothering Sunday to balance the books. It has however significant merit. Fathers are important (as are mums) and the reason is that God is, by definition, a parent. We are called to be Children of God.

Sometimes people think we have chosen the model of God as Father based on human experience but it's important to recognise that God is primarily a relational God who desires to grow a family in relationship with him.

(Ephesians 3:14) For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family (father) in Heaven and on Earth derives its name!

This is one of the reasons why we (my wife Helen and myself) are so committed to parenting initiatives which help all parents reconnect with who they are as parents and how to parent effectively. When we do this, we stand in that line of spiritual life and DNA of a father God who loves his children and wants both the best for them but also has a purpose for their lives.

Also today, Gill Gifford will be sharing about the Holy Spirit in our lives and, of course, it's by that self-same Spirit that we become children of God - become part of the family of God whatever our human background or situation.

Being a father for me has been and still is one of the most challenging and rewarding aspects of what is now becoming a long life. I've been so blessed when someone has come alongside me and encouraged me or even challenged me in love. To this end we are inviting all with a father's role to gather for an evening on 14th November to encourage and equip (a mums evening is planned for 17th October) so put the date in the diary as well!

Family is on God's heart. Fathers are on God's heart. Absence of fathers can be challenging and unfortunately many fathers have not reflected well the fatherhood of God in raising their own children. So today - on Father's Day - let's support and encourage those fathers who are trying to be both loving fathers but also godly men and encourage them in that role - in that calling!

Blessings, Clive

Notices

MEN'S CURRY EVENING AT SHAKIL'S

Tuesday 18th June 7.45pm . Please contact Colin Arter at colin@colinarter.co.uk if you wish to book.

MIDSUMMER FOREST CHURCH FRIDAY 21st JUNE 8-10PM

Meeting at Gagle Brook school at 8pm to walk to the woodland together. We will settle around the campfire for songs, readings and reflections. Please dress for the weather and be prepared to walk in and around rough woodland. All welcome!

Children must be under the responsibility of an accompanying adult.

For further details please contact Debbie Winson: drwinson@msn.com or April Beckerleg: aprilbe@icloud.com

ENCOUNTER EVENING

Meeting again at Gagle Brook school on Saturday 29th June 7-9pm. Please search: [Encounter@Gaglebrook primary](#) for more details on Facebook.

ISRAEL—MAY 2020

Join Helen and Clive as they lead a 9 day tour of Israel in the footsteps of Jesus.

Places are limited to 35 and you can reserve your place from now on. For more info talk to Clive and Helen ,visit: www.israel2020.co.uk or come to the information evening on Thursday 18th July 7.30pm here at Emmanuel Church.

GARDEN TALK

Join us to chat about our gardening joys and sorrows over a cup of coffee. Saturday 22nd June, 20th July, 24th Aug and 28th Sept. 10.30-12noon here at Emmanuel Church.

THE GREATEST SHOW HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August for ages 5-11. Booking open.

Please visit: www.lovebicester.com/children's-holiday-clubs or contact Karen Stoddart at Emmanuel Church office for more details.

ROTAS: If you need to check rotas please log on to Church Builder. If you need help with this or any other information about events, groups or who's who then please contact the church office. Details overleaf.

ECB DIARY

SUN 16th JUNE	10.30am	Informal Worship– Father’s Day Holy Spirit Week 4, In Outpouring of Power Leader: Phil Trout Preacher: Gill Gifford
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Holy Spirit Ministry Leader: Phil Croxford Preacher: Gill Gifford
MON 17th JUNE	10.00am	CAP Money Course
TUES 18th JUNE	9.00am	Prayers
	7.45pm	Men’s Curry Evening at Shakil’s
WED 19th JUNE	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	10.30am	Oasis Small Group
THURS 20th JUNE	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	7.45pm	Board Games Evening
FRI 21st JUNE	8.45am-12noon	Café open
	9.30am	Cherish Group
	7.00pm	Prayers
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline
	8.00pm	Forest Church
SAT 22nd JUNE	10.30am	Garden Talk
SUN 23rd JUNE	10.30am	Communion Service Holy Spirit Week 5, Prophetic Leading Leader: Peter Hill Preacher: Denis Niziol
	7.00pm	Evening service (café open at 6.30pm) Colossians, New Life in the World Leader: Al Bowen Preacher: Carol Hill

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All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday