

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

18th September	10.30am	Informal Worship Trinity 17 <i>A little yeast – 1 Cor. 5:1-13</i> Leader & Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Sandy Addison Prayers: Jackie Meek
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Kingsmere Update</i> Leader: Mandy Bentley Preacher: John Bentley
19th September	3.10–4.15pm 7.30pm	After school club for school years 4-6 Men's Curry Night at Anica (Deans Court)
20th September	9.00am 10.00-12noon 7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in Church Rock of Ages Café Prayers in church
21st September	10.00 for 10.30 7.00-7.30pm 8.00pm	Oasis Small Group Prayers in church PCC meeting
22nd September	6.30-8.00pm 7.30-9.00pm 8.15-9.15pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i> Youth Group in Church – Years 10+ Band practice
23rd September	7.00-7.30pm 7.30-8.30pm	Prayers in church Contemplative Compline <i>Mount of Temptation</i>
25th September	10.30am	Informal Communion Trinity 18 <i>Law suits – 1 Cor. 6:1-11</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: John Williams Reading: Andy Roberts Prayers: Katie Jenkinson
	7.00pm	Evening Service Encounter God Evening Leader: Rachel Bowen



Welcome!

*to the church
at the heart
of the community*

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

**Sunday 18th
Sept 2016**

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.

Tim Howard writes:

The combine harvester left the field last night and headed for home for another year, the straw is being baled and carted home for bedding the cattle over the winter. All that is left in the field is the stubble and the tramlines that are just visible, like a fossilised reminder of the year gone by. Weary heads hit the pillow as a season ends.

We have seasons too in our lives at church, in our individual journeys with Jesus.

All is not as it seems. The apparent emptiness of the post-harvest field masks a great deal of invisible activity, as the wildlife continue to go about their business building up their reserves for the winter while the farmer is busy elsewhere, perhaps planning the next season's cropping.

Seasons come to a natural completion, followed by a lull, a period of waiting, before the next one begins with inevitability. As farmers, we can plan as much as we like but we don't know what the next season holds, but we plant the seed in faith that the next season will be fruitful. Our earthly harvests vary from year to year!

Earlier this year, Ian and Erika told us that they felt ECB was going through a period of waiting. Perhaps like the wildlife gleaning the harvested fields, building up reserves. Last week, Ian and Erika shared their sense of ECB moving into a new season, one that will bring great opportunity for us all to walk more closely with Jesus, and most importantly, for the Kingdom of God, here in Bicester.

There is talk of 'settlers and pioneers', which are you, which am I? Perhaps a bit of both? Are we ready? Are we in the right place to take part? Perhaps we should just sit this one out? Want some answers, read on!

'A call has been placed on your life that is so idiosyncratic that only you can do the

things that God is calling you to do!' (Robert Madu)

'The person who does not serve God where they are will not serve God anywhere else'. (CH Spurgeon)

'God designed you with a purpose in mind, you are not an accident. Your life has huge significance. God loves you and you are of infinite value to him. Listen up! What we are teaches our children more than what we say, so we must be what we want them to become!' (Nicky Gumbel)

'I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it!' (Nelson Mandela)

One day we will need to give account for our lives, don't be part of a church that decided to 'sit this one out'.

Why?

Because 'God so loved the world [**yes, you!**] that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' (John 3:16)

How are you [**yes, you!**] going to respond to a love like that?!

Blessings Tim

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk or send an email to the church office on a Monday to be included in Tuesday morning prayers.

Men's Curry Night – Mon 19th September 7.30 pm

Join us for curry at Anica in Dean's court. £10 plus drinks. *Contact Colin Arter or Pete Stoddart for more details.*

Marriage Course

Starts on 5th October. Further details from *Nick & Rose Hunt or Andrew Collett*. Book via the Church Office. Cost £50 per couple.

HARVEST CELEBRATION SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER 4-6 PM

Book the date in your diary and sign up to join together for our "Grown in Bicester" meal. We also need volunteers for the event – can you help with setting up and decorating the church, food preparation and serving or activities for children and adults. Please speak to *Debbie Winson* if you can help in any way.

Abundant Life Conference – 18th-20th November 2016

Scott & Hilary Dalton will be leading this conference being held at ECB. There will be sessions on the Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday. More details and booking instructions to follow, but put the dates in your diary.

Social badminton for learners. Thursdays 20:30-21:30 at Bicester leisure centre.
Speak to Clare Bean if interested

ROTAS

Welcome Team

18th September Andrew Collett & Jeanette Collett
25th September Nathan Argyle & Steve Willott
2nd October John Thompson & Debbie Winson

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

18th September 20's & 30's
25th September Connect & MSG
2nd October Oasis & Living Waters

Sunday Club

18th September Jane G & Elizabeth A
25th September Vicky W & Rowan
2nd October Lindsay & Lonah

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Jane G & Elizabeth A
Vicky W & Rowan
Lindsay & Lonah

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Helle & Qi
Claire & Doyin
Heidi & Matt

Sunday Club

18th September Vicky H & Liz W
25th September Jackie & Steve
2nd October Sam B & Jo

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Vicky H & Liz W
Jackie & Steve
Sam B & Jo

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Jo & Maureen
And & Ceri
Sandy & Liz W

Youth

18th September Karl & Fleur
25th September Sam W & Sandy
2nd October Sam G & Debbie

The Grid (School year 7+)

Karl & Fleur
Sam W & Sandy
Sam G & Debbie

Finance Team

18th September James Dunne & Tom Mitchell
25th September James Dunne & James Sheppard
2nd October Roger Winson & Ian Brown

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