

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

19 th Jan	10.30am	Epiphany 2 – All Age Service Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: John Williams Subject: 'The Will of the Father' Matt 12:38-50 Reader: Jeannette Collett Prayers: Clare Bean
	7.00pm	Love Bicester event – No 2 Speaker: Chris Duffett – Bicester Methodist Ch.
	7.00pm	Worship Central – No 3 Subject: "Leading Worship" – in Church
21 st Jan	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00am-12pm	Seniors Café – in Church
	8.00pm-9.30pm	LOVE BICESTER study group in Church – room 2 starts this week – all welcome
22 nd Jan	10 for 10.30am	Oasis – Small Group in the Church prayer room
23 rd Jan	6.00-7.30pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7-9
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 10-13
	8.00pm	Worship Group Practice – in Church
26 th Jan	10.30am	Epiphany 3 – Communion Service Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Roger Winson Subject: 'Feeding the 5000' Matt 14:13-21 Reader: John Thompson Prayers: Lonah Hebditch
28 th Jan	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00am-12pm	Seniors Café – in Church with a talk on 'Healthy Eating' by nurse Jo Balshaw
	7.45 for 8.00pm	PCC Meeting – in Church
30 th Jan	6.00-7.30pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7-9
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 10-13
	8.00pm	Worship Group Practice – in Church
1 st Feb	9.45-2.45pm	Prepared to Give an Answer – in Church Speaker: Michael Ramsden
A day course designed to help believers in their witness to those who have questions about the Christian faith. £3 for the day. Please bring your own lunch		
2 nd Feb	10.30am	Candlemas – Informal Service Leader: Al Bowen Preacher: Ian Biscoe Subject: 'Walking on Water' Matt 14:22-36 Reader: Dave Bambrook Prayers: Dora Potter



Welcome!

*to the church
at the heart
of the community*

19th January 2014

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk



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.

Katie Jenkinson writes:-

Over the Christmas break I was very aware of many people in our church and beyond who are having a difficult time, and was reflecting on the first Christmas and how, stripped of tinsel, glitter and the other things we have dressed it with, it was also a difficult time for the people concerned.

A time of difficult journeys: Leaving behind them the danger of stoning, Mary and Joseph made a difficult journey through a wilderness and tough terrain. Mary was heavily pregnant – and may have been walking unaided. A donkey is not mentioned in the Bible. Having said 'yes' to God did not guarantee her an easy time. On the contrary, things were as hard as they could be.

The magi also had a difficult journey, with an unclear destination – setting out to follow a star for hundreds of miles, on a journey of faith. They weren't even Jews, but Gentiles, not seen at that time as blessed by God.

A time of difficult arrivals: When Mary and Joseph arrive at Bethlehem there is no room for them. They must have been desperate. Mary would have been starting with her labour pains and had no shelter. In the end, they bed down with livestock. Jesus' first cradle is a manger. This has become trite and familiar to us – but a feeding trough in a dirty stable is not a good place for a baby – and not where you would expect to find God's Son.

A time of signs and prophecies surprisingly fulfilled: And yet, these difficult journeys and arrivals were all in God's hands – and to accomplish God's word. It was

prophesied that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph's difficult journey took them there. The gifts of the magi were symbolic: signifying kingship (gold), priesthood (frankincense), and death (myrrh). Finally, when the angels visit the shepherds, in an amazing and frightening demonstration of the supernatural glory and power of God, they talk about a sign that now seems expected to us – but which is actually startling and bizarre.

The sign of God's goodwill towards all people, the Messiah, our Lord is – a baby, wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." John 1:14

*Blessings,
Katie Jenkinson*

This week, **we ask you to pray for those in our church family or known to us** who are ill or for other reasons require our prayers, including:-

- >>Ken and Dora Potter as Ken continues in hospital
- >>Jadon Cuin-Wilson as he recovers from a brain infection
- >>Charlotte and Adrian Stone on the birth of their premature baby, Ruby
- >>**The Prayer Chain** has more details of people to pray for and their needs

*Any notices please to Roger Winson by
7 p.m. Wednesday at rogerwinson@btinternet.com*

ROTAS

Prayer Ministers

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 19 th Jan | Chris Shields |
| 26 th Jan | John Williams |
| | Communion, Anointers: Dorothy Williams & Tony Shields |
| 2 nd Feb | Katie Jenkinson |

Sunday Club

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 19 th Jan | Helle & Andrea |
| 26 th Jan | Doreen & Jane |
| 2 nd Feb | Karen & Natasha |

Splash

- | |
|-----------------------------|
| Andy & Vera & Fleur |
| Sandy & Karen & Jo/Nathan A |
| Andy & Vera & Fleur |

Sunday Club

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 19 th Jan | Karl & Debbie |
| 26 th Jan | Hannah & Sandy |
| 2 nd Feb | Karl & Sandy |

Crèche

- | |
|-----------------|
| Jane & Doyin |
| Jackie & Nicola |
| Vicky & Claire |

Welcome Team

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 19 th Jan | Dave Bambrook, Jeanette Collett, Peter Hill |
| 26 th Jan | Rachel Matheson, John Innes |
| 2 nd Feb | Lisa Verman, Tony Shields, Doreen & John Thompson |

Sunday and Christmas Team Duties (Refreshments, offering, the reading)

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|----------------------|---|
| 19 th Jan | Clare Bean's Small Group |
| 26 th Jan | Debbi Pardoe's Sunday Team |
| 2 nd Feb | Spirited (this is the official name of Jackie Meek's Small Group) |



LAUNCH EVENT #2

19th Jan 2014
7pm

BE INSPIRED!

Bicester Methodist Church
Speaker: Chris Duffett
(Mission Enabler)

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

19th Jan 7.00pm Bicester Methodist Church

Join in preparing for the forthcoming **Mission to Bicester**

Also **19th Jan 7.00pm (in Church)** the **Worship Central** course continues with session 3 – the topic is *"Leading Worship"*. The cafe will be open from 6.30pm

Badminton is every Thursday 8.30-9.30 pm at the Bicester Leisure Centre.

You are welcome to join