

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

21st May	10.30am	Informal Worship <i>Tongues</i>	Easter 6 <i>1 Corinthians 14:6-17</i>
		Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Christine Thompson Prayers: Clare Bean	
	7.00pm	Churches in Bicester Joint Evening Service <i>Lion and the Lamb</i>	<i>Revelation 5</i>
		Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Steve Barber (Orchard Baptist Church)	
	<i>Service ends at 8:30pm but will be followed by a time of open worship</i>		
22nd May	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6	
23rd May	9.00am	Prayers in Church	
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café	
	7.30pm	Prison Fellowship	
	7.30pm	Safeguarding Training	
24th May	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group	
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church	
25th May	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>	
26th May	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline <i>Abraham – A way through discord</i>	
28th May	10.30am	Informal Communion <i>Secrets of the Heart</i>	Easter 7 <i>1 Corinthians 14:18-25</i>
		Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Jeanette Collett Prayers: Lonah Hebditch	
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Natural Evangelism</i>	<i>Friendships</i>
		Leader: Lonah Hebditch Preacher: Ian Biscoe	
30th May	9.00am	Prayers in Church	
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café	



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

**21st May
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.

Rose Hunt writes:

I don't know how many of you use Facebook, but some time ago, people were posting 25 random things about themselves. It struck me, reading some of those facts that there are things I still don't know about people I consider very close to me.

Here are a few random facts about me.

1) I really love kid's sweets. 2) I'm a bit too obsessed with my hair straighteners. 3) I love going on holiday as long as the weather's good. If it's not, I'm unbelievably grumpy! How well do we know our friends, especially those here at Emmanuel?

Christian fellowship is essential for our growth. Rick Warren says, "The entire Bible is the story of God building a family who will love Him, honour Him, and reign with Him forever."

When we have fellowship with one another, we can provide comfort and compassion when someone is grieving over a loss; support a friend who is going through a difficult time at work or at home; give to a person in financial need, or help someone find the inner strength to keep going with God when they are tempted to give up.

Christian fellowship fosters trust, hope, a sense of belonging, security and involves affirming, encouraging and forgiving one another. Christian love looks at the heart, not at the outside. Genuine friendship truly loves, not just for what it can get in return.

True friendship risks, overlooks faults, and loves unconditionally, but it also involves being truthful, even when it hurts. Genuine friendship comes from God. The Lord Jesus calls us His friends and He laid down His life for us (John 15). Relationships involve different levels of friendships, and that's okay.

But God designed humans for lasting relationships. Often our individualistic society offers only shallow, empty relationships. God wants us to have healthy, strong and loving relationships with one another. More importantly, though, He wants us to have a relationship with Him. If our relationship with God is good, His Holy Spirit can help us to truly love others.

So what is at the heart of Christian love? In the 3rd Century, Tertullian quoted words spoken by Pagans of the time regarding Christian communities "See how they love one another."

Jesus said, "by this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
Last Sunday we sang 'show me how to love like you have loved me' - powerful words to pray if you have been challenged, as I have, to truly love one another.

Blessings

Rose

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk
Tuesday morning prayers are at 9am in the Community Room.

TRIO response forms – Please return to the Finance Team or Church Office if you haven't already done so. *Thank You.*

Safeguarding Training Courses being held on 23rd May (ECB) and 24th June (St Edburg's). Essential for all working with children and young people at ECB. Speak to Karen or Ian for details.

The **CAP Money Course** is a money management course that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. This course will help anyone to get more in control of their finances, so they can save, give and prevent debt. Running on Weds evenings 7th, 14th & 21st June from 7:30pm. Book via the Church Office or speak to *Roger Winson*.

BICESTER BIG LUNCH – 4th June

There will be no morning service at ECB on 4th June as everyone is encouraged to join in with the CIB service at the Bicester Big Lunch.

Starship Discovery Holiday Club 24th – 28th July 2017

Volunteers needed for a variety of roles within the club. Speak to Ian or pick up a Volunteer form from the Church Office. Bookings for the club are now open – see flyers for details.

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

ROTAS

Welcome Team

21st May Debbie Winson & John Thompson
28th May Heather Hindmarsh & Liz Winson
4th June *No Morning Service – BIG LUNCH*

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

21st May MSG and Mon 20's & 30's
28th May Oasis and Super small group
4th June *No Morning Service – BIG LUNCH*

Sunday Club

21st May
28th May
4th June

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Elizabeth & Rowan
TBC
No Morning Service

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Heidi & Mike
TBC & Doyin
No Morning Service

Sunday Club

21st May
28th May
4th June

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Jackie, Ken & Issy
TBC & Mike
No Morning Service

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

And & Ceri
Ceri & Maureen
No Morning Service

Youth

21st May
28th May
4th June

The Grid (School year 7+)

Sam W & Sandy
Sam G & Debbie
No Morning Service – BIG LUNCH

Finance Team

21st May
28th May
4th June

Roger Winson & Steve Willott
James Dunne & Tom Mitchell
No Morning Service – BIG LUNCH

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