

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

22nd January	10.30am	Informal Communion Epiphany 3 <i>1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Beware of Idols</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Helle Angeleri Prayers: John Thompson
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Just Ten – Prosper with a clear conscience</i> <i>Exodus 20:15</i> Leader: Jadon Cuin-Wilson Preacher: Ian Biscoe
23rd January	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
	7.30-8.30pm	Prayer Meeting for Syria & The Middle East
24th January	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30pm	Prison Fellowship
25th January	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
26th January	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>
	8.00pm	PCC Meeting
27th January	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30pm	Contemplative Compline <i>Women Jesus met – Woman with Haemorrhage</i>
29th January	10.30am	Informal Worship & Doing it Differently Candlemas <i>1 Corinthians 10:14-22 Flee from Idolatry</i> Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Roger Winson Reading: Hugh White Prayers: Katie Jenkinson
	7.00pm	Churches in Bicester Service Bicester Methodist Church NO SERVICE AT ECB



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

22nd January 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.

Jo Withers writes:

The question came from a five-year-old, who had not got full marks in a test - 'will God drop me?' The sincerity of the question, brought me close to tears as we spoke of God's amazing unconditional love, and prayed together.

This conversation was the inspiration for the current series of teachings that cherry blossoms, willows and silver birches are doing at the moment. Over five weeks we are looking at the Lord's prayer, breaking it down line by line and thinking about who God is and the nature of His Kingdom.

Last week the groups used the story of Moses and the burning bush to think about who God is. This week we are thinking about the parable of the pearl and the nature of the kingdom of heaven. As we go through the weeks we will discover the rich biblical truths it

contains, as well as learning the prayer for ourselves to take with us wherever we go.

By thinking about the truth of the Lord's prayer, we are encouraging our children to look to their heavenly father for answers. What can be more reassuring?

So, Donald Trump is now the 45th president of the United States, and Britain is set to leave the single market. These are the realities of today, and the political environment in which our children are brought up. The ways in which we feel about these evolving realities are likely to be diverse, and may affect our outlook on the future.

Thinking about God's Kingdom, puts into perspective our current political situation and those which have been in the past and will come in the future. Whatever we think and feel about politics today, the truth remains that:

The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. (Psalm 103:19)

I love Spurgeon's description of God's throne - "His throne is fixed, for that is

the word; it is established, settled, immovable. His is the only universal monarchy, he is the blessed and only Potentate, King of kings and Lord of lords. A clear view of his ever active, and everywhere supreme providence, is one of the most delightful of spiritual gifts; he who has it cannot do otherwise than bless the Lord with all his soul.

Thus, has the sweet singer hymned the varied attributes of the Lord as seen in

nature, grace, and providence, and now he gathers up all his energies for one final outburst of adoration, in which he would have all unite, since all are subjects of the Great King."

The God whom we serve, is far bigger and greater than any political power, and this is the truth we must hold onto for ourselves and pass on to our children.

Blessings Jo

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.

Alpha Course – starting January 24th 2017

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Alpha course then please contact Karen in the church office, or speak to Ian, Carol, Peter or Christine.

Singers/Friendly people wanted to support Carol in offering a short service at Wyndham Hall nursing home. This will be on the last Thursday of the month at 11am. If you can help, then please contact Carol. carolghill@hotmail.co.uk

CIB service

There will be no evening service at ECB on Sunday 29th January as there is a Churches in Bicester evening service at Bicester Methodist Church - 7pm which everyone is encouraged to attend.

Churches in Bicester Refugee Support Group is holding an open meeting on Sunday 5th February 2017, 4-6pm at the Salvation Army, Hart Place, Bicester, OX26 4FR. Contact Sophie (sophiemoyoys@gmail.com) if you'd like to know any more about what the Refugee Support Group is doing.

Shoebox Appeal 2017

The Rock of Ages café are having a talk about the Shoebox Appeal at their meeting on Tuesday 31st January and everyone is welcome to come along. They are looking for any donations of unwanted gifts for a tombola and old Christmas cards. These can either be brought on 31st Jan or left with Karen in the church office.

Spring Events calendar is now available, containing dates for your diary between now and Easter.

ROTAS

Welcome Team

22 nd January	Andrew & Jeanette Collett
29 th January	Del Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson
5 th February	Debbie Winson & John Thompson

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

22 nd January	Oasis and "The Super Small Group"
29 th January	Alpha plus and Cherish
5 th February	Connect

Sunday Club

22 nd January
29 th January
5 th February

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Vicky W & Sophie
<i>Doing it Differently</i>
Jane & Sophie

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Jo W & Qi
<i>Doing it Differently</i>
Helle & Matt H

Sunday Club

22 nd January
29 th January
5 th February

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

And & Ken
<i>Doing it Differently</i>
And & TBC

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Maureen & Mike
<i>Doing it Differently</i>
Ceri & Maureen

Youth

22 nd January
29 th January
5 th February

The Grid (School year 7+)

Sam G & Debbie
<i>Doing it Differently</i>
Karl & Lynn

Finance Team

22 nd January	James & Tom Mitchell
29 th January	James Dunne & James Sheppard
5 th February	Roger Winson & Steve Willott

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