



22ND SEPTEMBER 2019

## Erika Biscoe writes...

*"If enough people will do their inner work." This soul work is the one thing that will pull us through any emergency.*

I was struck by this quote from Dr.Jung recently taken from Richard Rohr's daily meditation entitled 'Shadow work.'

Trying to summarise our sabbatical for me personally God has been and is continuing to sift through my shadow work. We shared at café church and last Sunday some things that God has been working on and showing us during our time away; please listen on the website to the last two Sunday mornings. We touched on the meaning of sabbatical and shared a key verse from Matthew 11:28, the message version, which has been my go-to verse along with worship songs, including, 'The more I seek you,' by Kari Jobe – Bethel music.

Ian and I also sensed from the beginning of the sabbatical that we were on a pilgrimage, particularly as we would be visiting different countries; Wales, Spain, France, California and Australia!! At the start of our pilgrimage I laid a stone at the foot of a wooden cross, known as the High cross, at Ffaly -d – Brenin, which had written on it 'Cariad' meaning love in Welsh. For me this marked the start of our sabbatical/pilgrimage we were about to embark on. In my journal that day I wrote that I already felt a release from responsibilities, that this time we had been given was a gift and that I wanted to use the time wisely, to recover physically, spiritually and to gain a 20/20 vision. Starting by the High cross reminded me of His love for me and I felt I was on a pilgrimage to re-discover who He was and who I was. I needed to re-wind, re-focus and be re-directed.

That was one of my first entries in my journal back in May and here we are four months on and what an amazing pilgrimage we have been on. For me it is what happened during the pilgrimage that was significant and all part of the journey. The people we met on the way at each destination and the conversations we had. Inviting God with us and helping Him to show us through his eyes what we might have missed.

Have I re-discovered who God is and who I am...YES. Am I still a work in progress...YES. Will I mess up and need to continue to turn back to God...YES...BUT.... what cannot be taken away is the gift of time that the sabbatical/pilgrimage has given me to learn the unforced rhythms of grace and 'real love.'



*Blessings, Erika*

# Notices

## HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

Sunday 29th September 12noon here at Emmanuel Church. We are gathering as a family to share lunch, get to know each other more and break bread together.

**There will be no morning service that day.** Please see Jeannie, Rose or someone from the welcome team to sign up. All welcome!

## ONE LEV IN CONCERT

Thursday 10th October 7.30pm here at Emmanuel Church. An international music group from the Galilee in Israel whose sole desire is to bless and share hope to all and bring honour and blessing to the Lord. Speak to Andrew and Jeanette Collett for more information.

## ENCOUNTER EVENING

Starting back up again at Gagle Brook school on Saturday 28th September 7-9pm. Please Search: [Encounter@Gaglebrook primary](#) for more details on Facebook.

## GARDEN TALK

Join us to chat about our gardening joys and sorrows over a cup of coffee.

Saturday 28th September 10.30—12noon here at Emmanuel Church.

## HARVEST CELEBRATION

4-6pm Saturday 12th October here at Emmanuel Church. Activities for children and adults around the theme of **Refuse, Re-use, Recycle, Upcycle**. Join us for our 'Grown in Bicester' meal. For more information contact the church office: **01869 320021** or email :[administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

## MUMS MATTER

Thursday 17th October 8pm here at Emmanuel Church. An evening tailored especially for mums, designed to encourage, inspire and affirm who you are and this important role of parenting. Run by Clive and Helen Collier and Jackie Meek.

For more details and to register, please call the church office **(01869) 320021** or email: [ministry.support@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:ministry.support@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

**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 22nd SEPTEMBER	10.30am	<b>Communion Service , Stewardship Series Week 2</b> <b>Placing what we have in God's hands</b> Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Nigel Crook
	7.00pm	<b>Evening Service</b> (Refreshments at 6.30pm) <b>Apologetics week 3, Bad things/good people</b> Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: Ian Biscoe
TUES 24th SEPTEMBER	9.00am	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Prison Fellowship</b>
WED 25th SEPTEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
	10.30am	<b>Oasis Small Group</b>
THURS 26th SEPTEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Board Games Evening</b>
FRI 27th SEPTEMBER	8.45-12noon	<b>Café open</b>
	9.30am	<b>Cherish Group</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Prayers</b>
	7.30pm	<b>Contemplative Compline</b>
SAT 28th SEPTEMBER	10.30am	<b>Garden Talk</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Encounter at GagleBrook school</b>
SUN 29th SEPTEMBER	12noon	<b>Hospitality Sunday—Bring and Share Meal</b> <b>NO MORNING SERVICE</b>
	7.00pm	<b>Evening Service</b> (Refreshments at 6.30pm) <b>Apologetics week 4, Why trust the Bible?</b> Leader: Helen Collier Preacher: Clive Collier

**Website:** [www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk) **Church Office:** 01869 320021

**Karen Stoddart:** [administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

**Lesley Wasley:** [ministrysupport@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:ministrysupport@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

**All notices to Admin Team by 7pm Wednesday**