

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

25th January 10.30am **Informal Worship with Communion – Epiphany 3**
Leader: Ian Biscoe **Preacher:** Peter Hill
The End *Matthew 24:1-35*
Reader: Ellie Dommett **Prayers:** Ian Brown

7.00pm **Evening Service at St Edburg's**
 Churches in Bicester – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

26th January 3.10–4.15pm **After school club** for school years 4-6

27th January 9.00am **Prayers in Church**

10.00 to 12.00 **Seniors' Café**

7.30-9.00pm **Youth Small group** – Yrs. 12 & 13

7.30pm **Prison Fellowship**

28th January 10.00 for 10.30 **Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room**

7.30pm **Mathetes**

29th January 6.30-8.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 7,8 & 9

7.30-9.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 10 & 11

8.00-9.00pm **Band practice**

1st February 10.30am **Informal Worship – Candlemas**

Leader: Carol Hill **Preacher:** Roger Winson

An unknown time *Matthew 24:36-51*

Reader: Christine Thompson **Prayers:** Jackie Meek

12.45 – 2.30 pm **Welcome Lunch**

7.00pm **HTB Prayer Course – Spiritual Warfare**

Led by the Prayer Team

2nd February 3.10–4.15pm **After school club** for school years 4-6

3rd February 9.00am **Prayers in Church**

10.00 to 12.00 **Seniors' Café**

7.30-9.00pm **Youth Small group** – Yrs. 12 & 13

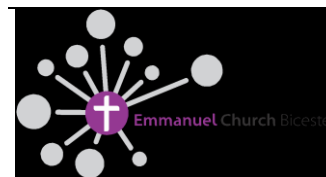
4th February 10.00 for 10.30 **Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room**

7.30pm **Mathetes**

5th February 6.30-8.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 7,8 & 9

7.30-9.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 10 & 11

8.00-9.00pm **Band practice**



**to the church
at the heart
of the community**

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

25th January 2015

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.

Angharad Davies writes:

Needless to say the last few months have been eventful. For me, I've been baptised, became an adult and survived the UCAS application process, and it has been easy to lose sight of God under the need to think about finances, university and the world outside Bicester.

The “spiritual highs” that many of us youth had during the Summer have now worn off and we are in the swing of our mundane, ordinary lives, preparing for mock exams and so forth, it has been easy to say “I have so much work, I'll skip Church/ Youth group/Respective Church-y stuff to catch up”. But this is a dangerous zone; one week can easily turn into a month and you'll find yourself four months down the line not even considering going to church and, worst case scenario, look back on the uplifting Summer thinking “that was just

a phase”.

Entering the real world again can be difficult, returning back to the familiar and the ordinary after something so extraordinary can result in a false interpretation of what Christianity is. Most of us fortunately don't reach the 'phase' point, we don't give up on God instead we prioritise other things above Him or not being bothered to get up and go to Church: Apathy. Not that we don't believe but that we don't care. I understand that there are reasons why people can't go to Church on a Sunday whether that be because of work timetables or families but it is when we don't make time to be with God all together.

Apathy is a rocky road, constantly pushing God out of your way and finding it hard to think of what started the change from the passion you once had.

Revelation 2:4 says “Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first” which may seem easier said than done - but we have God's power working in us from the

sacrifice that He made for us; we have the freedom to choose whether we live our lives with God, or not. However, by repenting and asking for His strength, we can overcome apathy and make sacrifices in our own lives for Him. We just need to remember the passion we felt at the start of our journey with God and return to it, beginning with being

active in our faith; making a sacrifice and attending our "Church/ Youth group/ Respective Church-y stuff".

Please also spare the time to pray for the Church's Youth.

Blessings, Angharad

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one please email the ECB prayer chain ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk or pass details to Karen at the church office by 2pm on Monday so that they can be prayed for at Tuesday prayers.

Preparation for Lent – Quiet Day on Saturday 14th Feb.

This will run from 10:00am to 14:00pm and be in the meeting rooms upstairs. Tea and coffee will be provided. *Speak to Chris Shields for more details.*

Valentines Meal – 14th February

Limited spaces available so please sign up if you would like to come. *Details from Clare & Chris Bean.*

Schools chaplaincy partnership

If you work in a paid or voluntary role within or supporting a school (Nursery, Primary and Secondary), we would love to hear from you. Please complete a schools leaflet so that we can keep in touch with you. *Further details from Robert Jackson, Rachel Woods or Mandy Bentley.*

DBS "surgery" - Today

Andrew Collett and Karen Stoddart will be holding a short session after church (12.15-1.00pm in the Church Office) today for those needed to apply for a DBS check or who have not yet completed the process.

To the Jew First ?– Why mission to Jewish people matters

A day conference organised by CWI and St Aldates. Speakers include Joseph Steinberg and Rev Simon Ponsonby. Saturday 7th Feb from 10am at St Aldates. Tickets £10 (£5 concessions). To book visit www.cwi.org.uk/events or phone 01959 565955

ECB Fitness Club

Starting Monday 2nd Feb from 8-9pm. A new fitness club to be held in the church. Sessions will include time for mini Bible study before getting down to some good physical fitness. *Speak to Sam Gould for more details.*

Badminton every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre
ECB Cycle Club – starts again in the Spring (watch this space)

ROTAS

Prayer Co-ordinator

25th January John & Dorothy Williams – Anointing at Communion
1st February Chris Shields
8th February Katie Jenkinson

Sunday Club

25th January Jackie, Tom & Angharad
1st February Helle & Sarah
8th February *Interactive Worship*

Bubbles

Jackie, Tom & Angharad
Helle & Sarah
Interactive Worship

Splash

Nicola & Nathan
And & Beckie
Interactive Worship

Sunday Club

25th January Sam W & Sandy
1st February Karl & Debbie
8th February *Interactive Worship*

The Grid

Sam W & Sandy
Karl & Debbie
Interactive Worship

Crèche

Claire & Toeni
Doyin & Vicky/Mike
Interactive Worship

Welcome Team

25th January Jeanette Collett & Peter Hill
1st February John Innes & Sue Hudson
8th February Tony Shields & Doreen Thompson

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

25th January Spirited
1st February Connect
8th February Potting Shed

Finance Team

25th January James Dunne & Jo Withers
1st February Roger Winson & Nick Hebditch
8th February Peter Stoddart & Tom Mitchell

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