

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

28 th February	10.30am	Informal Communion LENT 3 <i>Baptism of Lily Sheppard</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe <i>The Last Supper</i> <i>Luke 22:7-23</i> Reading: Jeanette Collett Prayers: Mark Verman
	7.00pm	"A heart for Worship" Speaker: Lesley Wasley
29 th February	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
1 st March	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00 -12.00	Rock Of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30pm	Family Easter Celebration planning and prayer meeting
2 nd March	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30-9.30pm	Connect small group
3 rd March	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>
	7.30-9.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 10+
	8.15-9.15pm	Band practice
	from 8pm	20's and 30's meet at Bure Farm
4 th March	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.30-8.30pm	Contemplative Compline
6 th March	9.15am	Ladies Breakfast for Mothering Sunday
	10.30am	Informal Worship LENT 4 <i>Mothering Sunday</i> Leader: Carol Hill Preacher: Robert Jackson <i>Jesus' Trial</i> <i>Luke22:16-23:25</i> Reading: John Thompson Prayers: Lonah Hebditch
	7.00pm	"What about the Trinity" Speaker: Roger Winson



Welcome!

to the church
at the heart
of the community

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

email to receive either of these.

Website: www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

**Sunday 28th
February 2016**

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.

Roger Winson writes:

The last two newsletter articles have focussed on the love of God, so to talk this week about money might seem as though we are moving uncomfortably from the sublime to the purely mercenary. However, Jesus frequently spoke about money and the place it should have in our thinking as Christians. The right use of our resources can definitely be a powerful expression of the love of God.

Sam Williams, who lead a mission team to Moldova last week, took a gift from ECB which was joyfully received and is now being used to bless a children's home in that very poor country. As Jesus said, "Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." Firstly, then, a big "thank-you" to all of you who support the Lord's work through ECB

whether financially or in other ways and here now is a brief update on how things have progressed since I last wrote in September.

On the positive side, I am pleased that we ended the year in surplus. Our income was a significant £186,639 and the surplus was just £422, but still that was better than expected. This was due to new donors signing up and to two large one-off gifts at the end of the year. It is particularly encouraging that there are now 64 individuals or families who make regular planned (and where possible tax-efficient) gifts each month to ECB. This is up from just 39 two years ago.

All that said, we are again anticipating a shortfall in 2016 even with this enhanced level of giving mainly because we will bear the extra ministry costs picked up in mid-2015 for the full year in 2016. At this early stage, the Finance Team estimate the shortfall will be approximately £20,000. Unfortunately, this is likely to prevent us increasing our mission and evangelism during the year and to build up problems for the future.

Many of us like to review our financial commitment to ECB as we approach the Annual Church Meeting so, unless you just have, please think and pray about increasing your giving. It is impossible to out-give God so, let's heed the words of Jesus, "Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full--pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."



Blessings Roger

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.

Children's Groups today

Silver Birches, Willows & Cherry Blossoms will be joining together today, so all children (except Mustard seeds) are in Meeting Room 2. Visitors are welcome to join them. The Grid young people will be staying in church.

Electoral Roll

The church Electoral Roll is being revised between 28th Feb and 3rd April. To be able to vote at the APCM on 24th April you will need to be on the Electoral Roll. Forms available in church to be returned to *Michelle Blackwell-Baker*.

Ladies Breakfast for Mothering Sunday

On Sunday 6th March from 9:15am until the start of the morning service. Sign-up sheet at the back of church or email Karen if you would like to come.

Posy making

This will take place on Saturday 5th March between 2pm and 4pm in the café. All helpers welcome. Let *Heather Hindmarsh* know if you can help.

Getting ready for Easter.

We are planning a **Family Easter Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday 26 March, 4-6pm to bless the families in our community. Please let me know if you can volunteer or come along to the prayer and planning meeting on Tues 1st March at 7:30pm. *Debbie Winson*. drwinson@msn.com

Real Easter Eggs – Today is the deadline for ordering, so please sign the sheet or speak to Karen if you would like one. www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Badminton every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre

ROTAS

Welcome Team

28th February Amanda Beaumont & John Thompson
6th March Debbie Winson & Tony Shields
13th March Jeanette Collett & Hugh White

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

28th February 20's & 30's
6th March Connect
13th March MSG & Men's Group

Sunday Club

28th February
6th March
13th March

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Sophie & Rowan
Vicky W & Rowan
Interactive Worship

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Meeting with Silver Birches
Helle & Qi
Interactive Worship

Sunday Club

28th February

6th March
13th March

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Meeting with Silver Birches
Peter & Liz W
Interactive Worship

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Nicola & Team

Andy & Maureen
Interactive Worship

Youth

28th February
6th March
13th March

The Grid (School year 7 +)

Staying in church
Sam W & Debbie
Interactive Worship

Finance Team

28th February James Dunne & James Sheppard
6th March Roger Winson & Steve Willott
13th March Pete Stoddart & Steve Willott

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