

## ECB's NOTICE BOARD

Summer Break – Most Groups have now stopped until September

**30<sup>th</sup> August** 10.30am **Informal Worship (Summer Pattern) – TRINITY 13**  
**Leader:** Karen Stoddart **Preacher:** Roger Winson  
*BBQ on the Beach John 21:15-19*  
**Reader:** Jeanette Collett  
**Prayers:** Lonah Hebditch

### ECB Café opens on Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> September

**3<sup>rd</sup> September** From 8pm **20's and 30's meet at Bure Farm**

**6<sup>th</sup> September** 10.30am **Informal Worship– TRINITY 14**  
**Leader:** Erika Biscoe **Preacher:** Ian Biscoe  
*Vision Sunday The Way Ahead*  
**Reader:** Peter Hill  
**Prayers:** Carol Hill

7.00pm **Evening Service**  
**Preacher:** Ian Biscoe  
*I didn't know the Bible said that*

**7<sup>th</sup> September** 3.10–4.15pm **After school club** for school years 4-6

**8<sup>th</sup> September** 9.00am **Prayers in Church**  
 10.00 - 12.00 **Seniors' Café (Crafts)**

**9<sup>th</sup> September** 10.00 for 10.30 **Oasis Small Group – Church Prayer Room**

**10<sup>th</sup> September** 6.30-8.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 7,8 & 9  
*Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm*

7.30-9.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 10+  
 8.15-9.15pm **Band practice**

**13<sup>th</sup> September** 10.30am **Interactive Worship– TRINITY 15**  
*Dedication of Merrian Moys*  
**Leaders:** John Bentley & Carol Hill  
**Preacher:** Mandy Bentley  
 Prophecy 1 Corinthians 12 v 8 - 10  
**Prayers:** Karen Stoddart

7.00pm **Evening Service**  
**Preacher:** John Williams  
*I didn't know the Bible said that*



to the church  
 at the heart  
 of the community

Prayer chain: [ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk)

Notices: [emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk](mailto:emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk)

email to receive either of these.

Website: [www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk)

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>  
 August 2015**

*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.*

#### **Tim Howard writes:**

'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few', where is that combine harvester when you need it! As I squelch through the rain sodden barley I call the contractor to see where we are on his list, an answerphone message, so, near the muddy bottom I suspect. This is my annual lesson in patience, the harvest will come, all in God's good time!

I squelch on to the next field where the lambs and their mums are enjoying the fresh flush of grass, every cloud has a silver lining. The lambs are unaware that their harvest time is also drawing closer, with an inevitability. Each year we keep the best ewe lambs to be replacements for the ewes that we lose. When I say 'best', that actually means 'friendliest'. The bottle fed ewe lambs without mums generally stay friendly, so have their 'ticket'. Even with moderately friendly mums, those lambs

in the main group rarely get friendly unless they spot a bucket in your hand. Some lambs though are just friendly from the start, right from day one, they are a delight, even the most professional shepherd will agree with me there. This year the first ewe to lamb, Bramble (don't ask me, ask Millie!) had twin ewe lambs, Tufty and Blobby (for obvious reasons), they have stayed friendly from day one, I suspect they have their tickets too. The second ewe to lamb had a ram lamb and a ewe lamb.

This little ewe lamb (imaginatively or perhaps unfortunately named 'No.2') was quite friendly to begin with. She would butt and chew your welly boots, but then she drifted, which was sad. However, just recently she has started 'hanging out' with Tufty and Blobby and has become increasingly friendly again, which is a joy. She is the 'Prodigal Lamb', and not a moment too soon as we will be 'sorting the lambs from the goats' later this week. I have my eye on others too, but the choice is theirs, an interesting mix of freewill and inevitability! Does any of this sound

familiar?

Clearly this is another of my rather sheepish attempts at a farmyard metaphor, but I don't think 'No.2' would have asked for her ticket if it hadn't been for the example and encouragement shown by Tufty and Blobby.

I sincerely pray that you are a Tufty or a Blobby, or even a Prodigal No.2, but please look around you, it's harvest time - and there are a lot of hungry sheep that are blissfully unaware - Jesus is pointing directly at YOU, and pleading with YOU, ***'Do YOU love ME? Then FEED MY SHEEP!!'***



(left to right: Tufty, No.2 and Blobby!!)

*Blessings Tim*

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one please email the ECB prayer chain [ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk). There will be people praying, although the weekly prayers in church has stopped over the summer break.

**SUMMER SERVICES** (26<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> August). There will be no Sunday Club over the Summer break, but services will be shorter in length and there will be activities arranged for the children upstairs during the sermon.

#### CHURCH MEAL – 9<sup>th</sup> September

Ian will be setting out the Vision for Emmanuel Church at the meal on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Sign-up sheet available after the Sunday service or email Karen to book (please advise of any dietary requirements).

#### CHURCH AWAY DAY – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015

Please sign up for the away day which will be held at CMS in Cowley. Our speaker is Rev Michael Mitton. Please book via Eventbrite or speak to Karen.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ecb-away-day-registration-18114549104>

**THANK YOU** – to anyone who was involved with “Holiday at Home” in any way. A good time was had by all and plans are underway to run it again next year.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sat 10 Oct** 4-6pm Harvest Supper - **“Grown in Bicester”**  
**Sat 14 Nov** 10am-4pm **“Be-Loved”**, Ladies’ craft and ministry day

**Badminton** every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre  
**ECB Cycle Club** will restart after the summer break

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#### ROTAS

##### Prayer Co-ordinator

30<sup>th</sup> August *Prayer Ministry Pool*

##### Sunday Club

30<sup>th</sup> August  
6<sup>th</sup> September  
13<sup>th</sup> September

##### Bubbles

*Summer Programme*  
*New Groups Begin*  
*New Groups*

##### Splash

*Summer Programme*  
*New Groups Begin*  
*New Groups*

##### Sunday Club

30<sup>th</sup> August  
6<sup>th</sup> September  
13<sup>th</sup> September

##### The Grid

*Summer Programme*  
*New Groups Begin*  
*New Groups*

##### Crèche

*Summer Programme*  
*New Groups Begin*  
*New Groups*

##### Welcome Team

30<sup>th</sup> August Sue White & Nathan Argyle  
6<sup>th</sup> September Heather Hindmarsh & Dave Bambrook  
13<sup>th</sup> September Doreen Thompson & Daniel Deng

##### Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

30<sup>th</sup> August Spirited  
6<sup>th</sup> September Hilarious  
13<sup>th</sup> September Connect

##### Finance Team

30<sup>th</sup> August Roger Winson & Ian Brown  
6<sup>th</sup> September Pete Stoddart & Tom Mitchell  
13<sup>th</sup> September James Dunne & James Sheppard

Any notices for next week please to Karen by 7 p.m. Wednesday  
at [administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk](mailto:administrator@emmanuelbicester.org.uk)