

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

30th October	10.30am	Informal Worship & Doing it Differently 4th Before Advent <i>Unmarried – 1 Cor7:25-40</i> Leader: Dorothy Williams Preacher: Ian Biscoe Reading: Christine Thompson Prayers: Hugh White
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Testimony Evening</i> Leader: Phil Trout Preacher: Ian Biscoe
31st October	3.10–4.15pm	After school club for school years 4-6
1st November	9.00am	Prayers in Church
	10.00-12noon	Rock of Ages Café
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
	7.15pm	Living Well in the End Times
2nd November	10.00 for 10.30	Oasis Small Group
	7pm	Marriage Course
	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church
3rd November	6.30-8.00pm	Youth Group in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9 <i>Includes STIR from 7:30 to 8:00pm</i>
	8.15-9.15pm	Band practice
	From 8pm	20's & 30's meet in the Bure Farm
4th November	7.30-8.30pm	NO Compline
6th November		Informal Worship 3rd Before Advent <i>Stumbling Blocks – 1 Cor 8:1-13</i> Leader: Tony Shields Preacher: Erika Biscoe Reading: Lisa Verman Prayers: Phil Trout
	7.00pm	Evening Service <i>Life changing Encounters – the Storm</i> <i>Acts 27: 13-26</i> Leader: Erika Biscoe Preacher: Ian Biscoe



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

**Sunday 30th
October 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.

Sam Gould writes:

As I am writing this I am looking across my desk and I can see an array of throat sweets, tissues, decongestant tablets, and other items. All evidence of this horrible cold I've been fighting off the last few days (or weeks to be fair). It seems I've always been fighting off something in my life, whether it be illness, stress from work, or fighting against the usual temptations that come our way.

It's funny isn't it, how quick we are to pop down to the chemist when we get a snuffle in our nose, but how many of us use the same promptness to deal with things of a more spiritual nature? I know I am guilty, that when a stressful situation appears or the devil launches one of his attacks that I try and shake it off myself or take the attitude of "It'll pass soon and I just have to push through it!"

We have the ultimate in defence against these situations, a remedy that doesn't just deal with the "head" but "goes right to source of the problem" as many adverts would say. Although as we all know we are called to keep ourselves spiritually healthy all the time, not just rely upon God's help and healing at the moment we find ourselves in a tight spot. During the time I was a member of my local church youth club back in Surrey many years ago, the answer most of us gave to our youth leader's questions was normally "read the bible and go to church".

This is definitely true, but there is so much more to it than that – too much for this short write up. As I look around at all the temptations we face, young and old, and the spiritual battles/temptations that face us, it's apparent that we need to apply the same strictness that a boxer or fighter does. We should make sure we are training hard and regularly, keeping our hearts and minds healthy, and using God's word to learn the techniques we need to defend against such pressures.

We also have to learn to LISTEN to our

coach in the corner when he's shouting instructions to us. Having fought in several live combat events in front of a crowd I know how hard it is to hear your corner team over the noise of the crowd and not get distracted, and the times I haven't tuned into and listened to my team are the times I've ended up flat on my bum with a sore head. It's only through constant dialogue with God that we can learn to discern his voice and avoid just hearing the crowd. I pray that we can hear God over all the noise in the coming weeks and that with his help we will stay spiritually strong and grow in our faith.

Keeping with the fighting theme of my write up, I am heading to America next month (18th Nov) to take part in a charity fight event run by a church I have links with in Virginia.

We are raising money to support orphans in Ethiopia – using our skills to fight for something other than ourselves. If you would like to hear how God steered me in this direction with one of those “nagging thoughts” nearly two years ago!!! then do ask and I'll tell you the whole story. If you would be interested in helping to hit my fundraising target, then that would also be great. Head on over to www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sam-gould to donate (all the donations go directly to the orphanage).

*God Bless
Sam*

PRAYER REQUESTS - If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one, please email the ECB prayer chain prayerchain@emmanuelbicester.org.uk or send an email to the church office on a Monday to be included in Tuesday morning prayers.

Smarties Challenge – Please bring any monies for Tearfund to church by this Sunday - 30th October at the latest. *Thank You.*

Living Well in the End Times (not the apocalypse!)

A short seminar series on logistics around the end of life, which you may find helpful. They run for 4 weeks at 7.15 on a Tuesday evening starting on 1st Nov. Flyers available with details at the back of church or if you would like to sign up please let me know – Carolghill@hotmail.co.uk.

Abundant Life Conference – 18th- 20th November 2016

Scott & Hilary Dalton will be leading this conference being held at ECB. There will be sessions on the Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday. More details and booking via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/abundant-life-conference-18th-20th-november-2016-tickets-27931115719> or speak to Karen in the office.

ROTAS

Welcome Team

30th October Andrew & Jeanette Collett
6th November Del Hindmarsh & Doreen Thompson
13th November Tony Shields & Nathan Argyle

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

30th October Connect & MSG
6th November Oasis & Living Waters
13th November More & Men's Group

Sunday Club

30th October
6th November
13th November

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

Doing it Differently
Vicky W & TBC
Interactive Worship

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

Doing it Differently
Heidi & Mike
Interactive Worship

Sunday Club

30th October
6th November
13th November

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

Doing it Differently
Jackie & Liz W
Interactive Worship

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

Doing it Differently
And & Maureen
Interactive Worship

Youth

30th October
6th November
13th November

The Grid (School year 7+)

Doing it Differently
Sam G & Debbie
Interactive Worship

Finance Team

30th October Karen Stoddart & Tom Mitchell
6th November James Dunne & James Sheppard
13th November Roger Winson & Ian Brown

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