

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

- 30th November 10.30am Advent Sunday - Informal worship**
Leader: Ian Biscoe **Preacher:** Andrew Collett
Subject: *Marriage* Matthew 22:23-33
Reader: Sandy Addison **Prayers:** Chris Shields
No Evening Meeting
- 1st December** 3.10pm – 4.15 pm **After school club** for school years 4-6
2nd December 9.00am **Prayers** in Church
10.00 to 12 noon **Seniors' Café**
7.30-9.00pm **Youth Small group** – Yrs. 12 & 13
3rd December 10.00 for 10.30 **Oasis Small Group** – Church Prayer Room
7.15 for 7.30pm **ALPHA** course
7.30 – 9.30 pm **Mathetes** course
4th December 8.00 pm-9.00 pm **Band practice**
6.30-8.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9
7.30-9.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 10 & 11
8pm **20's & 30's group** meet in Bure Farm pub
- 7th December 10.30am Advent 2 - Informal worship**
Leader: Roger Winson **Preacher:** Tim Howard
Subject: *Greatest Commandment* Matthew 22:34-40
Reader: Tom Mitchell **Prayers:** Carol Hill
7.00pm: Prayer Course – Session 4
- 8th December** 3.10pm – 4.15 pm **After school club** for school years 4-6
9th December 9.00am **Prayers** in Church
10.00 to 12 noon **Seniors' Café**
7.30-9.00pm **Youth Small group** – Yrs. 12 & 13
10th December 10.00 for 10.30 **Oasis Small Group** – Church Prayer Room
7.15 for 7.30pm **ALPHA** course
7.30 – 9.30 pm **Mathetes** course
11th December 8.00 pm-9.00 pm **Band practice**
6.30-8.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 7, 8 & 9
7.30-9.00pm **Youth Group** in Church – Years 10 & 11
13th December 4pm – 6pm **ECB Christmas Party**
Suitable for families – invite your friends
RSVP to church office by 10th Dec



Welcome!

*to the church
at the heart
of the community*

Prayer chain: ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk

Notices: emmanuelnotices@live.co.uk

30th November 2014

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.

Andrew Collett writes:

Last week James, a neighbour, helped me put up a large and heavy roller shutter door on one of my farm buildings. It took most of the day to complete as we hadn't any instructions as to how to do it. Finally we finished and surveyed our handiwork, congratulating ourselves that we had managed to succeed in the not- too-easy task.

Of course it fell to me to operate the door for the first time, and with great expectation I duly pulled on the chain to raise the door. The first two or three pulls seemed ok, but then it became progressively harder and harder to raise the door to its full height. Soon it

became apparent that this was a two man job, and James lent his weight to the 'Tug of War'.

Finally after much sweating and a few words describing what we thought of 'The Door', it arrived at the top of its travel. Then, James, in his usual encouraging way says, 'We had better see if it closes now'.

'Your turn' I reply, and James takes the chain and starts to lower the door. Without any warning the door comes crashing down, triggering the safety brake which stops the door a few feet from the ground. We are glad neither of us was under it and decide that this is the best place to leave it, as it is late Friday afternoon.

So Monday morning comes, and I telephone the door supplier to ask if being as strong as Arnie Schwarzenegger was the key to opening the door they had supplied!

'No, of course not' was their reply 'have you not pre tensioned the spring in the roller tube before fitting the door? 'No', was my answer,' I didn't know there was one'. So then I was given instructions as to how to do it. Later that day James helps me to tension the 'Spring' and, hey presto, the 'Door' now goes up and down effortlessly!

In our Christian life the 'Spring' can be likened to the Holy Spirit, which may not be obvious to see or hear, but is still there.

If we fail to use Him in our lives, then life can seem so hard, just like 'The Door' is heavy to open without the Spring.



May I encourage you to let the Holy Spirit in to enable you to open and close your 'Door' with God's help.

Blessings Andrew

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.

PRAYER COURSE – 7th December

Session 4 will be looking at Perseverance in Prayer: dealing with disappointments. Everyone welcome to come along at 7pm.

CHRISTINGLE COLLECTING CANDLES

These will be available this Sunday so that you can start collecting during Advent for the work of the Children's Society. Candles will be collected during the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. For more information about the work of The Children's Society - www.childrenssociety.org.uk

NATIVITY OUTFITS

Donations of dressing gowns, checked tea towels, cord, tinsel, crowns etc all welcomed for the Nativity celebration on Christmas eve. Speak to Sharon Martin or Karen Stoddart if you can help

CHRISTMAS LEAFLETS

These are now available to be distributed around the parish. Please sign up for a road or two as many hands do make light work! There will also be some for you to give to family & friends to invite them to the various activities and services.

Badminton every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre
ECB Cycle Club – contact Chris Bean for details

ROTAS

Prayer Co-ordinator

30th November Christine Thompson
7th December Chris Shields
14th December Katie Jenkinson

Sunday Club

30th November Dave & Jane
7th December Helle & Dave
14th December *All Age Service*

Sunday Club

30th November Sam & TBC
7th December Karl & Debbie
14th December *All Age Service*

Bubbles

Dave & Jane
Helle & Dave
All Age Service

The Grid

Sam & TBC
Karl & Debbie
All Age Service

Splash

Andy & Nicola
Sandy & Kate
All Age Service

Crèche

Doyin & Nicola
Jane & Tosin
All Age Service

Welcome Team

30th November Heather Hindmarsh & Tony Shields
7th December Nathan Argyle & Sue White
14th December Andrew Collett & Dave Bambrook

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

30th November Potting Shed (Heather)
7th December MSG
14th December Debbi

Finance Team

30th November Roger Winson & Tom Mitchell
7th December Pete Stoddart & Steve Willott
14th December James Dunne & Jo Withers

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