

ECB's NOTICE BOARD

20th December	10.30am	Carol Service Leader: Carol Hill Luke 1:39-56 My soul glorifies the Lord Reading: Holly Howard Prayers: Dora Potter	ADVENT 4
	7.00pm	Christmas Prayer stations Leader: Chris Shields	
23rd December	10am-12noon	Christingle making in church Refreshments provided	
24th December	3.00pm	Nativity Celebration Led by Erika Biscoe	
	4.00pm	Christingle Service Leader: Karen Stoddart Prayers: Jo Withers	
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Erika Biscoe Light of the World John1:1-14	
25th December	10.30am	All Age Christmas Praise	CHRISTMAS
27th December	10.30am	All Age Worship Leader: Ian Biscoe Preacher: Erica Biscoe Jesus at the Temple Luke 2:41-52 Reading: Sue White Prayers: Carol Hill	CHRISTMAS 1
3rd January	10.30am	All Age Worship Leader: Sam Gould Preacher: Robert Jackson Matthew 2:1-12 The Magi Reading: Andy Roberts Prayers: Katie Jenkinson	EPIPHANY
4th January	7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in church	
5th January	9.00am 10.00 -12.00 7.00-7.30pm	Prayers in Church Rock Of Ages Café Prayers in church	



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 20th
December 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.

Ian Biscoe writes:

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests." Luke 2

Do you know the peace and joy of Christ this Christmas time? I know for many this is not the case. You only have to watch the news to see the struggles across our world.

Let's look at Jeremiah 29:11 - *For I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.*

God's plan for the people of Israel was only for their good. Yet they wandered around in the wilderness for forty years on what was actually an eleven-day journey.

But Jesus has a different plan. He said, *"The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me . . . to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity]" (Luke 4:18).*

Jesus came to open the prison doors and set the captives free—and that includes you and me. However, we will not make any progress until we believe that we can really be set free and receive joy and peace. We have to get rid of our negative thinking and replace it with a positive

vision for life. We have to believe that neither our past nor our present can determine our future. Only then can Jesus free us from the bondage of the past and fill us with His joy and peace.

God's Word is true. Mark 9:23 assures us that with God all things are possible.

Reach out to God in faith this Christmas time and He will give you both His joy and His peace.

Blessings Ian



Some quotes taken from [Battlefield of the Mind Devotional](#) by Joyce Meyer.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would value prayer for yourself or a loved one please email the ECB prayer chain ecbprayerchain@hotmail.co.uk. Tuesday morning prayers will restart on 5th January after the Christmas break.

Christingle Preparation

We will be assembling the Christingles on Weds 23rd December between 10am and 12 noon in the café. Refreshments provided. Speak to *Debbie W* if you can help.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

24 th Dec	3.00pm	Nativity
	4.00pm	Christingle
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
25 th Dec	10.30am	All Age Christmas Praise

Children's groups

Groups meet for the last time today and will restart on 17th January. A big thanks you for all those involved in coordinating, leading and helping with the children's work on a Sunday morning. 😊

Church Meal

Advance notice that there will be a church meal on 12th January, starting at 7:15. A sign up sheet will be available at the beginning of January.

NGM Ladies weekend with Nancy Goudie – 29th – 31st Jan 2016

If you are interested in joining the group of ladies going from ECB then please speak to Nicola Collison.

Badminton every Thursday 8.30 – 9.30 at Bicester Leisure Centre

ROTAS

Welcome Team

20 th December	Nathan Argyle & Hannah Shipman
27 th December	Heather Hindmarsh & Dave Bambrook
3 rd January	Amanda Beaumont & Del Hindmarsh

Sunday Team Duties (Refreshments, taking up the offering)

20 th December	Hospitality Team and MSG
27 th December	Oasis
3 rd January	Spirited

Sunday Club

20 th December	Lonah & Vicky W
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Mustard Seeds (crèche)

20 th December	Lonah & Vicky W
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Cherry Blossom (Pre-school/Foundation)

20 th December	Claire & Doyin
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Sunday Club

20 th December	Jackie & Sam
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Willows (School yrs 1-3)

20 th December	Jackie & Sam
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Silver Birches (School yrs 4-6)

20 th December	Sandy & Ellie
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Youth

20 th December	Remain in Church
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

The Grid (School year 7 +)

20 th December	Remain in Church
27 th December	All Age service
3 rd January	All Age service

Finance Team

20 th December	Roger Winson & Steve Willott
27 th December	James Dunne & Geoff Saunders
3 rd January	Roger Winson & TBA

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