



Friends,

As I write, the sun is shining with great purpose. I may even need to be sensible and apply sun cream before too long to make sure I don't burn. What is this incredible phenomenon? Are we to experience summer? Wouldn't that be wonderful!

It's intriguing that when stuck for a good introductory paragraph for a letter like this, the tendency I have is to resort to talking about the weather. I'm so cliched. At least there's one way that I am, I suppose.

This edition of BERT is a double, to cover August as well. Thank you to all of those who have contributed to it. I've noted with great pleasure that there are an increasing number of articles and news items about things that are happening in the life of our Group of Churches going in every month. This is truly an encouragement. We've got so much going on, it's great to share so that everyone can hear about it. You'd be surprised how widely communication tools like BERT, and our online presences with a website, Facebook and so on, carry the message that not only is Emmanuel a family with faith in Jesus where there is always room for one more, but that we live out our faith openly, honestly and in ways which affect both people's spiritual lives and their physical and emotional lives too. Jesus came so that every part of every person might have the chance to have life, grasp it, live it to the full and share it as widely as possible.

Recently I visited a school for a potentially very challenging series of pastoral conversations. As you'll know, if you know about what we have been doing in schools over the last year or two, we have 15 in our parish. It is important that we pray for each and every one regularly, that they might flourish and children and staff might be brought up and educated to be hopeful and inquisitive.

We are privileged to be able to share about our faith so openly and widely. It is not a given that we would be given this opportunity. I am grateful to God and to all of the schools for their kindness. And, returning to the story, what kindness I received on this particular day. Arriving, I was given an office, tea and Oreos (always a good thing). During the course of introductory conversations, I thanked the staff who had welcomed me for their kindness. "Oh, no problem, we think of you as one of us" came the reply.

This, as I posted on social media, is both humbling and encouraging. We have been visiting the school periodically over the course of this academic year. It is incredible that it hasn't taken long not just for them to get used to me (I know how tough that can be!) but also to think of inviting us, Christians, people of peace, into the school during a very deep pastoral crisis and one form of support for the school community.

This feels like a breakthrough to me, not just showing that the work is bearing fruit but that through the way we live, show the love of God and are open-handed and hearted, some thing of what we want to be about, being Jesus-Shaped and Spirit-Filled is being seen as attractive in the local community. *This* is one of the things that I think is the primary aim of a family of faith that wishes to be 'successful'.

We seek to be faithful (failing often, but turning away, receiving mercy and going again) in talking about the love of God in our words and showing it in our actions, and then he does what only he can do and brings about transformation.

I don't share this story to say 'look at me'. I share it because I had the privilege of having built enough of a relationship and being available enough that I could answer the call to help when it came.

We can all do that. Who are you praying for? Who around you is in need? Ask God to show you, to remind you pray for them and when the opportunity comes to serve, solve a problem, give a listening ear, be ready to take it. It really is as simple as that. The secret, if there is one, is to be praying, as much as you can in whatever way suits you best. If we know Christ and the power of his resurrection, he will take us to where we are needed in order to show his love and point people to him.

I get told off for making these too long, so I won't write much more, We are nearly at the end of Spirit-Filled Church. Thank you for engaging in that with so much gusto. I know some of you have found it tough, even annoying. Sorry about that. Watch that independent streak though :-). Over the next couple of months once we are done with SFC and have let it sink in, we will be teaching on Sundays through Ephesians and then James. We'd like you to think in small groups, and in your own personal prayer and time you might spend thinking about the passages that come along the lines of the following three questions:

What does this passage tell me about God? What does this passage tell me about myself? What am I going to do in response to what this passage is saying?

Those are the only questions we want you to ask. Of course, flow around in conversation or thought, but those three are the only 'study" questions we'll be giving you (leaders will get some more information for preparation, fear not). Simple they may be, but these questions enable us to look at the Bible at whatever level of depth we are most comfortable. Our hope is our conversations around faith and around the Bible include those who don't know Jesus yet, or don't know the Bible or have experience of handling it. Alongside those who might be old hands at Bible Study. Our family exists at least in part for those who have not decided to be part of it yet. We always want to have room for one more. So please, trust Phil, Doug, Precious and I and give this a go. You might be pleasantly surprised.

Have a great couple of months



Ps, I forgot to mention that the school gave me fish and chips for lunch too as some of the staff were celebrating. That's what I call hospitality. What can we learn from them, I wonder?





Check out the back Page!

You might be a bit surprised when you look at the back of BERT and see what the service plan says for the last Sunday in August. I know some of you look at that first and plan which services to come to depending on who's leading and preaching and what kind of service it is before you read the rest of BERT. As an aside, perhaps we could agree to stop doing this, what do you think?

Anyway, on the last Sunday in August, Greenbelt takes place at Boughton House, near Kettering. At 10.30am there is a communion service for all who attend the festival. Every year, it is a glorious spectacle of expressions of faith in God which 'works' because it seeks to be honouring to God; offering something to those Christians who attend the festival and also be approachable for those who don't share our faith. It is a glorious expression of community, of family and of hope-filled faith in God; and that because of who he is, what he has done and what he offers to us, it is possible to be fed by him... and then go and change the world in his name.

Last year I had the joy of being one of a good number of people who took part in leading the service. The memory of that powerful time will stay with me for a long time.

And there's an even better bit. Are you ready?

If you don't go to the rest of the festival, you can go to the communion service, for free. Church should never cost money, after all. It really is an experience worth having, even if you don't know what Greenbelt is, or have heard of it and think that it isn't for you. And so, our Preachers and Leaders team have together decided that for the last Sunday in August, we're not going to to meet at Emmanuel and Rectory Farm and instead we're seeking that you all take a step of faith with us and join the thousands who are part of the Greenbelt family. We'll arrange transport nearer the time. In case it is necessary to add further reasoning, Bishop Donald has endorsed the idea of Churches in the Diocese of Peterborough meeting at Greenbelt for Communion rather than 'at home'.

You will see that Boothville is still open and will be meeting as usual that day. If you don't fancy Greenbelt, do go there instead, especially if you've not visited Boothville before or haven't for a long time. You can be sure that you will be made very welcome.

One last thing: At Greenbelt after the service finishes (at about 12) those who have gone for the communion alone are asked to leave the festival site unless they wish to buy a day ticket. So don't be surprised or appalled if you are asked to move on eventually! Have a great time

Haydon

DON'T MISS

The Emmanuel Congregational Meeting Sunday 8th July after the iPraise Service David Bell's...

Boothville Diary





The Boothville ladies relax while awaiting refreshments. But where are all the men???

Keen readers of BERT will have noticed that in June most of our Services had shared leaders.

On Sunday the17th at Boothville, I had the privilege to share the leading of a Service with Revd. Peter Goodlad. The picture opposite shows Peter chatting to John Weaver.

John is not only one of the Church Wardens he is also Chairman of the Boothville Community Hall so I'm sure they must be discussing something of great importance!



Every year Jean Goodlad organises a visit to a garden for members of the Boothville Congregation. So it was on June 19Th this year that 22 of us visited a beautiful garden in Harpole.



The large garden and pleasant weather gave everyone a chance to wander and admire a well established garden and pasture.

An interesting feature of the garden was that many types of antique varieties of roses grew around the fruit trees. One particular rose causing a lot of interest was the 'Rambling Rector' (ahem).

Following our wanderings we were treated to a splendid tea of assorted sandwiches, cakes and strawberries and cream. Thank you Jean, we are all looking forward to next year's visit.



"I am with you always"

The Church of Scotland

BAPTISTS



Churches urge end to hostile environment' policies

The Methodist Church

A group of major Churches is launching a campaign to challenge the government's approach to illegal immigration, which they say is leading to destitution, discrimination and distrust.

The Baptist Union, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church have joined forces to call on the government to review entirely the web of policies that have created the hostile environment. In a new report for church members, <u>Destitution, Discrimination and</u> <u>Distrust: the web of the hostile environment</u>, they set out how aspects of the policies run counter to Christian teaching.

The campaign follows recent revelations about how British citizens such as members of the 'Windrush generation' have lost their homes, jobs and access to NHS treatment because of the policies. But the report argues that the web of the hostile environment reaches much further.

Speaking on behalf of the denominations, the church leaders the Revd Lynn Green, General Secretary of the Baptist Union, the Revd Richard Frazer, convenor of the Church and Society Committee of the Church of Scotland, the Revd Loraine N Mellor, President of the Methodist Conference and the Revd Kevin Watson and Alan Yates, Moderators of the United Reformed Church, said:

"As a group of Church denominations, the injustices of the hostile environment alarm us. The impact of the hostile environment has gone well beyond immigrants who are in the country illegally. It is of deep concern that people who do

not look or sound 'British' are now facing increased levels of discrimination in finding homes and employment "We believe it is inhumane to use the threat of destitution as a policy tool to encourage people to leave the country and we call for an immediate end to indefinite detention "This is not about who we do or do not allow into the UK, but about how we relate to one another inside our borders. Due process, justice and the proper implementation of immigration policies should not require us to live in suspicion of our neighbour. The hostile environment spins a web of distrust and encourages suspicion. As Christians we believe that God calls us to offer welcome to the stranger and care for the vulnerable, whoever they are.

"Many of our churches support those who have suffered hardship as a result of the hostile environment. Our churches include some of the very people who are at risk of destitution and discrimination. Our Christian faith moves us to pray and work for a society where people are truly hospitable to one another.

"We are therefore calling for a review of immigration policy and practice to examine the damaging effects that the hostile environment is having on the whole of society."

The campaign launches during Refugee Week (18-24 JUNE 2018) and will run over four weeks with a report, stories, infographics and films of how a range of people have been affected by the hostile environment. On social media the hashtag #EndHostility will be used.

from: methodist-news.org.uk



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Great Billing Methodist Church You are invited to



A PRAYER BREAKFAST 8.30 – 9.30 a.m. Every third Tuesday of the

month 8.30am - a quiet, structured time of prayer for our world, our community and ourselves. **9.00am** - light breakfast of fruit juice, cereal & toast.

+ Reflective mornings at Great Billing

On the first Tuesday of each month. Enjoy a relaxed time of fellowship and reflection. Refreshments from 10.15am. Meeting 10.30 to 12 noon. More details from Joan Beswick (638687) or Norma Baxter (844316)

Mark and Tracy Ellis

Thank everyone for the love, gifts and support shown to us on our wedding day.





GROUP HOLIDAY 2019

TO EASTBOURNE June 7th to 14th 2019

Staying at the Albany Hotel on the seafront for eight days. The cost is £499.00 and includes a return journey on The Bluebell Steam Railway of 'Railway Children' fame, a return journey on Romney Hythe Dungeness Steam Railway, Chartwell House, the home of Winston Churchill, Rye, Battle and Hastings. One trip not included in the price is to Bentley Wildfowl and Motor Museum. A deposit of £50.00 and Travelinsurance £25.00 is due in the first week of September 2018. If you want a single room ask Kathy as soon as possible.

2018 DAY TRIPS

<u>Cotswold wildlife park and gardens</u> Saturday August 11th cost £24.00 Adults £20.50 OAPs and Children £19.00

Sheringham on Saturday June 23rd 2018 cost £15.00.

Lincoln and Lincoln Cathedral on Saturday September 8th cost £20.50

Southend on Sea on Saturday August 25th cost £15.00. Bury St Edmunds Christmas market Saturday November 24th cost £15.0

Available to all - and you can spread the cost over the next few months!



I THINK THAT YOU HAVE SOME SERIOUS FAITH ISSUES



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Community Care Update JULY 2018

F.I.S.H - Food (and Fun)

In School Holidays!

I wasn't able to be at FISH in May but I was so pleased to hear that it had about 60 children and adults turning up.

My **HUGE**, **HUGE** thanks to those who stepped up and ran it so well, including lots of first time helpers.

FISH will run weekly, every Tuesday in the school summer holidays.

July 24th, 31st July, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th August.

Please let me know if you are able to help in any way. We are always on the lookout for practical ways, i.e., setting uppers, food prep, cooking, serving or packing away. Or to just be there, to talk to those who come and trying to help them in their need.

Please continue to pray for FISH as we seek to run it at another school as well, and currently started talking with another school. And for guidance to the right school and catching the FISH vision, of being able to serve the hungry children in the community.

I am really really pleased to report we have secured funding from Northamptonshire Community Foundation, to run FISH in Blackthorn through to June 2019.



INCLIVES

Do you know someone who is lonely and isolated, lives in the area and would welcome a visit once a week? You can really make a difference to those lives by referring them (with their permission) to the Linking Lives Scheme.

Linking Lives is a free befriending scheme, which links isolated, lonely people to volunteers who visit them in their own homes, once a week.

If you want more information or fancy offering your services to Linking Lives as a volunteer, please contact Angie Kennedy on



Paul Foster

Contact me at the office 402150 or email paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

Litter pick On the morning of Saturday 14th July FROM 10 - 12, we will be cleaning the area immediately around



Emmanuel, Health Centre, Lings Forum, and possibly down the path to the nearside of Lings lake. Pickers, gloves and other equipment will be supplied. Please put this in your diary. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Drop-in.

There is a very high possibility we will be able to use the Brookside hub one morning a week. Please pray for this exciting venture.

Photography competition

I will report on the results in September and show some of the entries and, of course, the winners. Thank you to those who entered.

Board game cafe

If you have some complete board games you don't use anymore, would you consider donating them to the board game cafe. I'm looking for the sorts of games we've all played. e.g. monopoly, cluedo, snakes & ladders, dominoes, chess, draughts, scrabble... the list is endless... Please let me know if you have any to donate or if you have a game that you want to bring along and play, let me know of your interest. Particularly if it is one of these modern games. It's nearly here! Probably on a Monday at different times of the month.





YOU CAN BOOST YOUR GIVING.

without it costing you a penny!

If you pay income tax

Sign a GIFT AID FORM and use weekly or monthly envelopes (or bank standing orders). We can claim back the tax HMRC has deducted from your income before you get it, so we claim back an extra 25p for every £1 you donate each week or month.

If you don't pay income tax

and use monthly envelopes or banker's order for regular giving, consider using Weekly envelopes instead. The government gives a 25% (ie¼) top up to Charities for <u>small cash donations (£20 or less)</u> subject to certain limits.

NB - This is applicable to all such donations whether in loose cash or envelopes, but of course envelopes encourage regular giving. There fore, If you normally give say a) £40 or b) £50 using Emmanuel monthly envelopes or bankers order, instead give £10 each week using weekly envelopes and in a four Sunday month your boosted giving would be (£40 +25% of £40)

=£50.00. I n a five Sunday month your boosted giving would be: (£50 + 25% of £50) = £62.50

Geoffrey Herbert (Boothville) Gift Aid Secretary





Morning & Evening Prayer (a) Emmanuel Mon – Fri at 9am and 7pm. Open to ALL.				
DAY	MORNING 9.00am	EVENING 7pm		
MONDAY	Family Room	Chapel		
TUESDAY	Chapel	Family Room		
WEDNESDAY	Chapel	Coffee Shop		
THURSDAY	Chapel	Chapel		
FRIDAY	Chapel	твс		
*Family Room Ground Floor *Chapel 1st Floor *Coffee Shop 2nd Floor				

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B.E.R.T. THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE EMMANUEL GROUP OF CHURCHES



This is one of the stories that Jesus told. You can find it in the Bible in the book of Luke chapter 21 verses 1–4







From 11th August until 5th November, Peterborough Cathedral will be playing host to Tim Peake's Spacecraft

(presented by Samsung and the Science Museum Group).

The Soyuz TMA-19M spacecraft was used by British astronaut Tim Peake for his mission to the International Space Station between December 2015 and June 2016. It will be accompanied at the Cathedral by Tim Peake's own Sokol emergency spacesuit and the 25 metre diameter parachute deployed when the spacecraft landed back on earth in Kazakhstan.

There will also be a Space Descent VR experience - a unique virtual reality adventure that brings the descent experience alive using Samsung Gear VR technology (the module returned to Earth at speeds of 17,000 miles an hour!).

The Cathedral won the opportunity to host the module in March, following an open competition last year to be the sixth location on the spacecraft's national tour. As the most southerly showing of the spacecraft, visitors are expected to flock to the Cathedral during its three month stay. Indeed, the announcement that the Cathedral had won the competition was viewed on Facebook by over 120,000 people.

It is also anticipated that many children will want to visit the spacecraft, and so the Cathedral is providing Soyuz Spacecraftthemed workshops where schools can visit the Tim Peake's Spacecraft exhibition as part of an interactive tour of the Cathedral. The tour will explore the technology, science and religious links between the three-year-old spacecraft and the 900-year-old Cathedral. In addition, a space-themed holiday club -'Be An Astronaut for the Day' - will be held on various dates in August and October, giving 8 to 14s the chance to design their own spacesuits, set up astronaut-style experiments and to see how the world looks from up high.

This theme will also be enhanced by a talk from Revd David Wilkinson, Professor and Principal of St. John's College at Durham University, who will coming to the Cathedral to talk about 'Science and Faith' in November.

But the centrepiece will undoubtedly be Tim Peake's Spacecraft – and the Dean of Peterborough, the Very Revd Chris Dalliston, believes that the hosting of the spacecraft will be the ideal way to mark a momentous year:

"I'm absolutely delighted that we shall be hosting Tim Peake's Spacecraft in Peterborough, especially in the year we celebrate the Cathedral's 900th anniversary.

"Throughout the centuries, science and religion have been connected by a shared delight in the created world, a sense of wonder about its origins and destiny, and a desire to seek for the mechanisms and the meaning behind our universe. We hope that many who come to see Tim Peake's Spacecraft in our wonderful and ancient Cathedral will begin to get answers to both those questions, and delight in the astonishing inventiveness of humanity and the extraordinary creativity of God."

During it's stay; from 5th - 14th October the Cathedral will also see the arrival of Museum of the Moon – a new tour-

ing artwork by artist Luke Jerram.

Measuring seven metres in diameter, the moon installation will feature detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface and a surround sound composition created by BAFTA and Ivor Novello award-winning composer Dan Jones.

Museum of The Moon is being brought to Peterborough with the support of Vivacity – a cultural charity based in Peterborough - and the 'Without Walls' national arts initative, of which Vivacity is an Associate Touring Network partner.





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Laminating, Scans, Printing from Emails, Standard costs per copy + Admin Fee £2.50 per 15 minutes



REGULAR GIVING

emmanuelgroup.org.uk

If you give regularly to the work of The Emmanuel Group, please consider giving via the envelope scheme and, if you pay income tax...'Gift-aid' it so that we can claim tax back, maximising your gift.

For further information, enquire at Emmanuel church office (next door to our coffee shop) or ask a steward at one of our services.



THERE'S LOTS TO DO EVERY WEEK IN THE EMMANUEL GROUP OF CHURCHES

Monday	Prayer meeting
Wednesday	Family tots
	Family tots (session 2)
	Friendship circle

Friday R-Zone Youth club 8 - 13 years Jam out Christian Youth Group Emmanuel Emmanuel Emmanuel (fortnightly) R.F Community Centre

Emmanuel

7.30 - 9.00pm

9.45 - 11.30am 12.00 - 1.30pm 1.45pm

5 - 6.00pm (term time only)

7 - 9.00pm (term time only)

Family Tots

Wednesdays

9.45am - 11.30am or 12 - 1.30pm

at

Emmanuel Church

Weston Favell Shopping Centre

Top floor Coffee Shop entrance

£2.00 includes snack and drink

for the children

+ tea/coffee for parent/carer

(60p for additional adults)

Any profit goes towards

new equipment & extra activities

Emmanuel House Groups meet at various times & venues during the week

(see below)



PRAYER FOR NORTHAMPTON EAST AND FOR OUR CHURCHES.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT THE HOUR FLIES BY!!! WITH COFFEE AND DANISH

OF COURSE!

Book <u>the last</u> <u>Wednesday</u> of EVERY month in your diaries

Emmanuel House Groups

meet at various times & venues during the week

Area	Day & Time	Leader
Boothville	Tuesday – 7.30pm	Rachel
Goldenash	Tuesday - 1 - 2.30pm	Tracy/Vicky
Goldings	Wednesday – 7.30pm	Olu
Overstone Lodge	Wednesday - 7.30pm	Linda/Precious
Southfields	Wednesday – 7.30pm	Liz/Jasmyne
Great Billing	Thursday – 7.30pm	Gill

If you are interested in joining a group but can't do any of these days or times, please let us know. It may mean starting a new group!

For further information speak to any of the house group leaders

Every Monday Evening 7.45-9.00pm DRAYER in the chapel at Emmanuel Church Open to All

Please come and join us, you will be most welcome





BERT THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE EMMANUEL GROUP OF CHURCHES

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Assistant Administrator

At the Abbey Centre Baptist Church East Hunsbury

12 hours per week (Wed 2-4 Thurs 9-3 Fri 12-4) £8.75 per hour To commence September 3rd 2018 To take bookings and help oversee regular activities at the Abbey Centre; provide administrative support to the Church Trustees and provide support to the users of the building. You will be expected to work with regular volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the Abbey Centre For more information a job description & person specification contact Abbey Centre tel: 01604 767568 All applications: by covering letter and CV marked 'PRIVATE' to: Revd David Warrington,

Abbey Centre Baptist Church Overslade Close, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN4 ORZ

Closing date Tuesday 6th July Interview date Monday 16th July



Thank you to the Emmanuel Group of Churches for your ongoing prayers and support. Please pray for our work during the week Sunday 22nd July to Saturday 28th July.

We have Street Pastors teams serving on the nights of Friday 27th July and Saturday 28th July. Our School Pastors breakup for the summer holidays the previous week (Friday 20th July).

If you would like to pray for the teams while they are out please contact Keith Holland-Delamere

(Northampton Street Pastors Co-ordinator & member of Rectory Farm congregation) on coordinator@northampton.streetpastors.org.uk or 07719 090 780

Keith Holland-Delamere

streetpastors.org/locations/Northampton/prayer

Spirit Filled Church Programme

Sunday	Week / Title	JSP Theme	Bible
06-May	1. Healing in the temple	People	Acts 3.1-16, Matthew 12.5-28
13-May	2. Occult Threat	People	Acts 8.9-25, Luke 4.1-12
20-May	7. Pentecost	Prayer	Acts 2.1-21, John 7.37-39
27-May	8. Powerful Worship	Prayer	Acts 4.23-31, Luke 10.21-24
03-Jun	3. Guidance in the Spirit	Teaching	Acts 8.26-39, Luke 2.25-32
10-Jun	4. Healing Prejudice	Teaching	Acts 11.1-18, John 4.19-24
17-Jun	5. Common Life	Team Building	Acts 4.32-35, Luke 12.29-34
24-Jun	6. The Ministry Team	Team Building	Acts 6.1-7, Luke 10.1-11
01-Jul	9. Coping with opposition	Prophetic Action	Acts 4.1-22, Matthew 10.17-20
08-Jul	10. Persecution	Prophetic Action	Acts 7.48-8.3, John 15.18-25



Taizé is a small village in France. It's on the side of a hill. There are about 15 houses and a small church. Not much to look at really - it's about as quiet as it's possible to be - just the sound of the wind in the fields, and the birds singing. Every now and again, a train goes past, but there's no traffic noise, no loud music, no people shouting at each other. The church has a tiny graveyard, which is immaculately tidy most of the graves are planted with flowers and carefully looked after.

Why would anyone go there for a holiday?

Well, if you walk up the hill a little way, there's a bus stop, and next to it, a welcome sign in several different languages. The bus shelter looks home made, and the benches are just a bit too low to sit on comfortably if you're my age. But if you do sit there and wait, a bus will come along, and fifty or so people with rucksacks will get out and disappear into one of the buildings. Then another bus, and another fifty people, then another ... until the place is buzzing with voices.



They're all going to stay at Taizé the monastery, not Taizé the village. In June, there will only be about seven or eight hundred visitors a week, but in the summer, more than 6,000. Six. Thousand. People. In a monastery, all at the same time.

Lorraine and I stayed there a couple of weeks ago, and had a lovely time. We'd like to go again (and again). It's not a typical monastery. If you're young (many of the visitors are under 20) you will sleep in a tent. If you're older (over 50), you'll get a dormitory or a small room to stay in. And there's special accommodation for disabled visitors and family groups.

But what would you do there? Well, during a week in Taizé you would meet people from at least twenty other countries - from all over the world - almost all of them Christian, and all of them with very interesting faith stories to tell. And you get to know them quite well in your week, because you're living in community with all those people, and the Brothers who live permanently at the monastery.



In a way, it's a small slice of heaven, just for a week. You go to church three times a day, every day (the first time before breakfast) but it's not church as we know it - you could sit next to Orthodox, Catholic, Dutch Reformed, US Evangelical, (even Muslim).

Everyone eats together, everyone has a job and works in a team - from food serving to cleaning the showers and loos. After breakfast, every day, there's a group bible study led by one of the Brothers and translated into several different languages as you go. At the end of the study, the Brother will suggest several questions for discussion, and you'll break out into your groups to talk about the study. But the last thing people are interested in is how much you know about the Bible. If you start spouting your knowledge, you'll probably get told to shut up, even if you're a bishop.

The Brothers of Taizé are strong on bible knowledge, but when you visit they don't want you to show off yours, they want to see how you have put your faith into action. This can be quite a challenge. They put theirs into action by going to live in places where people have almost nothing, and working with them to help make their lives better. When you visit Taizé, they want you to show how you've used your faith in action.

If you've not had the chance to do that, to listen and learn and think about what other people have done, so that you can find something you can do in your community when you get home again.







And it doesn't matter if you're 15 or 30 or 75, it's the same challenge for everyone! Don't worry, though, if you're 15, you'll be in a group with other 15-year-olds, not a bunch of grumpy old people! Your group will be made up of people from many other countries, and you'll make long lasting friendships with them.

But there are other things to do, too. In the afternoons, there's time to get to know all those people who come from other countries and find out about how they live. There are activities and games to play, and there's never time to get bored. In the evening, you can get a group up to visit OYAK, which is the shop/ bar. Ice creams are 40c (about 35p) and a beer, if you're old enough to drink is less than a Euro. Take a guitar, or someone who's got one, and you'll be popular for the week. But OYAK is only open for 45 minutes in the evening, so be early!

Next - arranging Emmanuel group trips to Taizé in 2019 and 2020.

We've been discussing the possibility of a group visit with Haydon and Phil for a while. Now it's time to do something more positive and get on and organise it. We think that it would be a good idea to take a small group of adults in 2019, with some of those being potential leaders for a young people's visit in 2020.

It's not expensive (though money is not the point). If you're an adult, the return rail fare from St Pancras to Taizé is about £150, and adult (over 30) accommodation for the week (full board) from £120 to £170, depending on whether you take your own tent, or use Taizé accommodation and how much you can afford to pay.

During the summer, it's even less expensive, because you can go on the overnight coach from Victoria. The return coach fares for 2018 are: Adult - £140; youth (15-24) - £120; child (under 15) £75. Young people's (30 and under) accommodation and full board is £50-£68, depending on what you can afford.

Lorraine and I are happy to organise an adult trip for 2019, for up to 8 people - at least two of those should be consider leading a youth visit in 2020. It is possible that we will join up with a similar group from St Peter's, Weston Favell.

The 2019 visit will take place from 2-9 June. Both Sundays would be travel days. Sunday 9th is Pentecost, so it will be an exciting time at Taizé in the week we'd be there, as there will be special activities and celebrations.

If you are interested, please let either Lorraine or me know as soon as possible. We will arrange an evening meeting to discuss the visit in more detail, and give you some information to help you think about your own planning.

God bless,

Nick Bewley-Tippler

The Ministry Team

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Weekly News-sheets

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EMMANUEL GROUP of CHURCHES BILLING BROOK ROAD NORTHAMPTON NN3 8JR

RECTORY FARM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rectory Farm Primary School Olden Road (opposite the local shop) Sunday service at 10.30 am

BOOTHVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Boothville Community Hall Booth Lane North (access via the lane by the hairdressers) Sunday service at 10.30 am

EMMANUEL CHURCH

Weston Favell Centre,Billing Brook RoadSunday service at 10.30 amWedsCommunion at 1.30pm(30 min)

Group Office - Mon - Fri 10 - 2 pm

Café Em (coffee shop) - Mon - Fri 10am - 2 pm

Services in July 2018

Date	Emmanuel 10:30am	Boothville 10:30am	Rectory Farm 10:30am	YOUTH GROUPS
	Y CHURCH in JULY or A See you in September!	AUGUST + N	O 'BLAST' or JUN During school s	
Sunday 1st	Communion + BLAST Haydon Spenceley & James Fearnley	Morning Worship David Bell	All Age Worship Phil Snelson	Rectory Farm Praise & Prayer Emmanuel Own Group
Sunday 8th	Ipraise —Taize Doug Spenceley & Nick Bewley -Tippler <i>followed by</i> Emmanuel Meeting	Communion Haydon Spenceley Phil Snelson	Morning Worship + Junior Church Phil Snelson	Rectory Farm Own Group Emmanuel ipraise
Sunday 15th	Communion + BLAST + BAPTISM Haydon Spenceley PROSPECTS GROUP (lower floor)	Morning Worship Maureen Luke	Praise & Pray Keith Holland Delamere + David Bell	Rectory Farm & Emmanuel at McDonalds
Sunday 22nd	Café church Phil Snelson	Communion Chris Pearson	Communion + Junior Church Kris Hatherly	Rectory Farm Emmanuel Café church
Sunday 29th	Morning Worship Nick Bewley - Tippler	Morning Worship Peter Goodlad	Morning Worship James Fearnley	EVENING YOUTH SERVICE 7-9pm @ Emmanuel
Se	ervices i	in Aug	just 20)18
Date	Emmanuel 10:30am	Boothville 10:30am	Rectory Farm 10:30am	YOUTH GROUPS
	IURCH IN JULY OR AUGU	st + no) 'BLAST' or JUNION During school sume	
ounday 5th	All Age Communion Haydon Spenceley	Morning Worship Maureen Luke	All Age Worship To be arranged	<u>Rectory Farm</u> Praise & Prayer <u>Emmanuel</u> Own Group
Sunday L2th	i Praise Haydon Spenceley James Fearnley	Communion Doug Spenceley + Nick Bewley Tippler	Morning Worship + Junior church David Bell & Ken Clarke	Rectory Farm Own Group Emmanuel ipraise
Sunday L9th	All Age Communion Chris Pearson PROSPECTS GROUP (lower floor)	Morning Worship David Bell	All Age Communion Praise & Pray Phil Snelson	Rectory Farm <u>& Emmanuel</u> at McDonalds
Sunday 26th	@ Greenbelt or Boothville	All Age Communion (Joint Service) Phil Snelson	@ Greenbelt or Boothville	EVENING YOUTH SERVICE 7-9pm @ Emmanuel
and	d - <u>COMMUNION EVE</u>	RY WEDNESDAY	<i>LUNCHTIME</i> at	
	a simple 30 minut	e service in the ch	apel @ Emmanuel	

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