

# B E E M M A N U E L & R E C T O R Y F A R M T I M E S

## how are you?

Dear friends,  
How are you?

For some of us the reflex answer to that question has been 'fine' for so long that even if we don't mean it, especially if we don't mean it actually, that's what comes out of our mouths. Isn't that a little strange?

I hope you've had good times since Christmas and over the new year and that 2020 has started really well for you. If it has, let's celebrate, be thankful to God and use the stories of good things that have taken place as fuel, as energy for our prayers, our worship and our outreach at the start of this year.

If the last few months, the last few years even have been average, poor, rubbish even - and here's the key - let's use the stories we've gained, heard and that we can tell about what has happened as fuel, as energy for our prayers, our worship and our outreach at the start of this year.

People who put their trust in God and seek to live in the way that God asks people to live have never had it easy. In a lot of cases in the past and in the present and, I would fully expect, in the future, to say that you are seeking to go God's way is actually pretty likely to end up with life getting to be pretty difficult in a variety of ways, some fairly minor and others much more major.

So, what's good news about that? If I can't promise someone who has heard of Jesus that their life is going to become amazingly much better as soon as they put their trust in Him *on the surface* (and note that, friends), how will we get anyone to take the leap of faith and trust that turning to Jesus requires of us?

I often read passages such as 'You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy, that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever!' (Psalm 30:11-12)

and think: 'that feels so far away' whether I'm thinking about other people or situations or what is happening in the wider world, or even in my own life at times.

One thing I counsel myself with at times like this is that the job of the Church is first and foremost to introduce people to Jesus Christ, to worship Him as Lord and King ourselves

and to seek to do what the Bible tells us He would do, to make His priorities ours. The passage I quoted above does not say 'church services' or 'committee meeting' turned mourning into dancing and clothed people with joy that the psalmist might praise God and not be silent. These things might help us at times and be crucial at least some of the time, but they themselves don't cause us to thank God forever.- Some meetings do seem to go on forever, though..

It's knowing God, His life, love and freedom that I have seen make a person truly thankful, whatever the circumstances or situations life throws at them. It's only knowing God that truly makes the phrase 'trusting God' seem even vaguely realistic or possible when the stuff of life happens.

So as we talk about outreach and introducing people to Jesus over the next few months, much as I would love and will be glad to welcome new people joining us for services, house groups and any of the many, many other things we do, I hope what will gladden all of our hearts most of all is if we see people meeting Jesus for themselves, putting their trust in Him and, and this is something I'd love to see, us needing to make regular use of the Emmanuel baptistry!

As I write this, I'm thinking of Phil and Becky Snelson, two people who have spent many years living out this kind of faith, whatever has happened to them and their family.

Phil and Becky leave Emmanuel at the end of February for Phil to return to Circuit Ministry for the whole of his working week. I have loved working alongside Phil these last five and a half years. He is a good friend, a great minister, a very good man and I am very thankful for him and all he has done for me over the years. I am sure each reading this who knows him will think similarly.

Becky, too has given so much to the life of our Churches in ways that have been seen publicly and felt privately by many people too. We will miss them greatly. I pray that this next phase of Phil's ministry sees him, and them, flourish in work, leisure and health.

Have a great couple of months, everyone.

Every blessing,  
Haydon

# Love your Neighbour

**The Neighbourhood Prayer Network's vision is to see every one of the 260,000 streets in the UK covered in Christian Prayer. The statistics on Wednesday 22nd January 2020 were: Streets Prayed for 5,619, Houses Prayed for 567,519, People Prayed for 1,348,560.**

Their objective is to encourage individuals to take spiritual responsibility for the street where they live.

I signed up and registered my street about three years ago and while I don't pretend that I've done all the things that are suggested, I try to be a good neighbour and have been praying for them; including those I don't know yet. I have recently moved and so I now have a whole new set of neighbours to get to know!

## **The NPN Way is:**

### **Prayer, Care and Share to Transform our Nation.**

**Prayer** is to pray for a few of your neighbours every day. I began by praying for the people I knew by name and others by house number but it is good to find out more names along the way. It feels more personal, even though they may not know they are being prayed for.

**Care** is to show kindness for a Neighbour, each week if possible. That could be; offering a lift, getting some shopping, picking up a prescription, taking a bin out, or just have a chat and maybe a cuppa with a lonely neighbour, or invite someone over for food....

**Share** your faith with your Neighbours. Now that sounds scary! But it can be as easy as to send a card at Easter or Christmas, or arrange a Macmillan Coffee Morning or something similar and create opportunities for you to share your faith.



**There are several ways you can get involved with Neighbourhood Prayer Network.**

Go to their website to sign up and register your street. If you're not ready to sign up, you can receive their weekly email newsletter without registering to pray for your street. or have a look at their facebook page.

**[www.neighbourhoodprayer.net](http://www.neighbourhoodprayer.net)**

*Liz Bateman*



**[www.emmgroupp.org.uk](http://www.emmgroupp.org.uk)**

**We have a new website!**

If you haven't already had a look at our new website. Please go and have look now! You will find it at

**[www.emmgroupp.org.uk](http://www.emmgroupp.org.uk)**

The website is not quite finished but it is online and those who have been working hard on it would love you to use it, update your book-marks and share the address with others.



# David Bell's... Boothville Diary



## Christmas memories.....

Christmas is a very special time of the year, when we make many memories. A time when many families and friends gather together to celebrate. Christmas is also the herald of the coming of a new year and the rewards a New Year brings.

Christmas at Boothville Community Church gave us all the opportunity to Worship together and share with others the true meaning of Christmas; the birth of Jesus, We were blessed by many visitors to our various different Services over the Christmas period.



It was wisely decided to combine the Carol Service with the Christingle.

It gave us all time to reflect on the message of Christmas in song and symbolically. The family of the Church and our visitors were moved by the joy in the faces of all the children who attended.

We must not to forget those who worked behind the scenes, using their own time to make the service possible. We are so grateful to the ladies of the Church who prepared the Christingles.

Our ladies were assisted and encouraged by the group who attend the Coffee Club on Saturday morning at the Boothville Community hall so our thanks go to them too.

A special mention must go to Elizabeth Weaver, for her supervision of construction and coaching me through all stages of the planning.



## Community Care Update – February and March

It seems a long time ago now but hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year, so what's happening this year – read on to find out more.



### Christmas Thanks

I want to pass on my thanks to all we did over Christmas. Whether that was helping at Messy Christmas, joining the Christmas parade in the shopping centre, taking services to residential homes, singing at the Lumbertubs Pub and/or the Elwes Arms.

We continue to tell the Christmas story in new and different ways to those we meet at these various events. They were all special thanks to all of you.

### Debt Centre – Exciting News

We have signed the paperwork and will launch our debt centre at the end of March.

It will run on Wednesday mornings when foodbank operates, between 10am & 1pm. We will be based in the coffee shop to provide basic advice. If needed, we can move to middle-deck where it is more private and we can connect to Edge, who have a centralised advice centre, enabling us to work together to support the client during their crisis.

We still need a couple more people to join the team, so please consider whether you could help. You don't need to be a financial whizz; but be able to listen; and have a reasonable grasp of your own finances.

There is training pencilled in for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, and a pencilled launch date of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

### F.I.S.H (Food & Fun in School Holidays)

After a break for Christmas, we will be meeting again in February half-term. You may recall we support two FISH's. The new one is at Brookside Community Hub and will run on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb**. Blackthorn FISH, will be at the school again on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb**.

They both run between 12 & 2pm. We have a great team, but there is always room for more. Please talk to me if you are able to join us. Whether that be preparing food, setting up, washing up, drying up, packing up, you will be more than welcome to join the team.



You can contact me at the church office  
**402150 or email:**  
[paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)

### Board Games Cafe

From a slow start, Board game cafe continues to go from strength with more and more newbies coming along - but there's always room for more!

If you know of people who might want to join, we tend play cards, Uno or dominoes.

We meet on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the coffee shop between 2 & 3:30pm.

### Pastoral Care Training

You might recall I started a two-year course through the diocese, learning about Pastoral Care. I can't believe I'm on the final few months already.

It has been very challenging in many ways, but I have learnt so, so much. I give thanks that I have been able to manage the reading, homework and assignments and have been very aware that people have been praying for me throughout.

It's interesting to reflect how much what I have learned has already helped me through many situations, and I pray that God continues to use my training to help the people who I encounter. Whether that is at our church, at the community events I run, or when with others involved in community work.

*Paul*



# Lent Fasting

This month sees the start of Lent, the season of penitence, self-examination and fasting running up to Easter.

Fasting can be a neglected discipline, but it plays an important part in the Christian life. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and taught His disciples to fast (i.e. not *if* but *'when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen.'* (Matthew 6:17,18).

## Why Fast?

Firstly, giving up something in my life underlines my desire to put God first in my life. Secondly, fasting shows me how much I depend on things other than God in my life, so I can surrender my idols to Him. Thirdly, fasting encourages me to have a deeper hunger and dependency for God in my life. Therefore, fasting gives me space to humbly focus on God for His strength, provision, and wisdom and results in a more intimate relationship with Christ. It also enables the Holy Spirit to reveal my true spiritual condition, leading to brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life, with a heart more attentive to God.

## How can I fast?

Usually fasting involves missing one or two meals during the day, although some can't abstain from food for medical reasons. It might also include abstaining or limiting the time I give to television, alcohol or social media. However, Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines e.g. joining a study group, 'random acts of kindness', or giving more time to prayer and Bible study. Whatever you do, make Lent count this year!

***'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'* (Matthew 5:6).**

Revd Paul Hardingham



## What's in a Food Parcel?

Foodbanks provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally balanced, non-perishable tinned and dried foods that have been donated by the local community. Trussell Trust have worked with nutritionists to develop a food parcel that contains sufficient nutrition for adults and children, for at least three days of healthy, balanced meals for individuals and families. It is only supposed to be to fill a stop gap, not as their main means of shopping. Without your continued help we could not carry on with this very worthy cause so please give generously and **make a difference now.**

## Ways to Give

We don't think anyone should have to go hungry in the UK, but we need your help to make this happen.

Big or small, every gift you give helps transform lives.

We couldn't do what we do without your support.

**Please join us to help stop UK hunger.**

## Make a One-Off or a Regular Donation

Make a single donation using a cheque or by cash at the Emmanuel Church office, or you can download a standing order mandate from either the Emmanuel Church/Foodbank website and follow the directions for giving, or you can donate money via the foodbank page on facebook and follow the local giving link.



**Creations**  
HAIR COURSES & WORKSHOPS

## Workshop for styling children's hair

*A workshop for parents/guardians. You will learn different techniques on how to style children's hair. A fun session with some children's craft activities.*

**9<sup>th</sup> February 1pm to 3pm. Parklands Community Centre**

**Facebook- message Creations Hair Courses to book -£45**








Cop? what is it? Maybe some new programme. Just the thing to kick start your church into 2020? May be “Church of Purpose” – a new programme to release the purpose God has for you. Or perhaps, “Carry on Persevering” – helping you to keep on keeping on with God’s mission. Or even “Churches of Prayer” – that’s something we all need help with.

Well – and perhaps this will disappoint you – it’s none of those things. COP stands for the “Conference of the Parties” of the “United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change”. It’s when the nations of the world meet to try and agree what is to be done about the Climate Crisis. They have been meeting for a long time. November 2020 will see the twenty sixth meeting – COP26. You will hear a lot about it as its being hosted by the UK Government in Glasgow and they are bound to make a fuss! And COP26 is not something you should miss as a disciple of Jesus.

At the first meeting back in 1995, the nations present agreed to take steps to tackling climate change. And some progress has been made. Yet, since 1995, levels of Carbon Dioxide have risen by 14%. And people are noticing. In fact, some people were noticing before now.

Twelve years after that first meeting, just before COP13 was held on the Island of Bali in 2007, the Pacific Conference of Churches issued a call to their “sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the world to act in solidarity with us to reduce the causes of human-induced climate change”. Perhaps not a call that was heeded, for last December – 12 years later – President Hilda Heine of the Marshall Islands, a group of small islands in the west Pacific, spoke to COP26; “Water covers much of our land ... as we fight rising tides. It’s a fight to the death for anyone not prepared to flee. As a nation we refuse to flee. But we also refuse to die.”

Did people listen? By all accounts. The outcome of December’s COP25 in Madrid was a bit of a cop-out. Rich developed countries did not bring plans as to how they will further reduce their carbon dioxide emissions. Large developing nations were reluctant to commit to reducing their emissions before the large rich nations recognised their historic contribution to increasing carbon dioxide and took further steps. And the small, vulnerable nations like the Marshall Islands got caught in the middle.

Let’s hope, even pray, that COP26 will be more fruitful and honest. Hey, here’s an idea – perhaps when they come together, rather than presenting their plans and “bigging” them up with potential “greenwash” they need to heed the words of James – “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed” (James 5v16)

Maybe we need to listen too. For back in 2007, the call of the Pacific Conference of the Churches was not only to their Christian “brothers and sisters” across the globe to join in their concern and action over climate change. It went further and was more focused; “We issue this call especially to churches in the highly industrialized nations whose societies are historically responsible for the majority of polluting emissions.” A message directed at us. Ouch!

Perhaps we need to heed the words of James too. Of course, when we share communion, we need to prepare ourselves, but we seem to have lost the art of confession, especially the accountability of confession to one another. And yet, it comes with a huge promise – “that you may be healed”.

As you begin 2020, take time to listen to the voices of those impacted by climate change. Take time in your worship services to confess how our lives are impacting the environment and other people around the world. It’s been a while since this journey began, so why not take stock in your discipleship groups of how you are trying to reduce your carbon and environmental footprint. And where you are struggling, pray for each other so that together you can continue to take small steps into God’s future for the planet.

From now until November 2020, and beyond, we need to be embraced by COP. We need to be the “Church of Purpose”, joining in God’s call to care for creation, a world created to fulfil his purpose. We will need to “Carry on Persevering”, being honest with one another, encouraging and challenging one another through our successes and failures. And we need to “Churches of Prayer” as we face the climate crisis. Remember “the prayer of the righteous a righteous person is powerful and effective.” (James 5v16b). It even shapes the climate – remember Elijah;

“Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.” (James 5v17,18)

So, let’s pray for ourselves and one another. Pray for the leaders of the world as they prepare to meet again in November 2020. Pray for the vulnerable affected today by climate change. And listen to them too. Perhaps we need to humbly ask the COP – the Churches of the Pacific – to pray for us all.

Dave Gregory

Dave Gregory is Ministry Team Leader at Croxley Green Baptist Church and a recent President of the Baptist Union sharing around the theme of “Divine Windows – Glimpses of God through Life, the Universe and Everything”.

He has a background in weather and climate research and is on the board of the John Ray Initiative – Connecting Environment, Science and Christianity.

Dave continues to take an interest in how science might shape Christian mission, ministry and spirituality in the 21st century. He also leads the Messy Church Does Science programme.



# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli..

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



No, I didn't call you

It happened again.



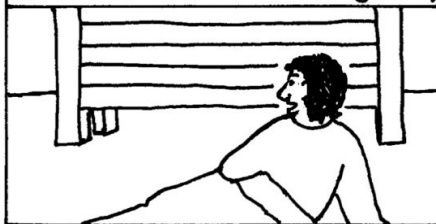
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

God called Samuel again,



and Samuel answered as he had been told.

I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.



The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.



God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.



# Opportunities to serve in our communities



Based at Emmanuel Church, the food bank is a joint operation between Emmanuel, St Peter's, Weston Favell and Storehouse churches.

There has been a significant increase in the number of people visiting, seeking support in the provision of food and other resources.

We need volunteers to help with all aspects of the preparation and provision of food and services to clients, including:

- Collection of food from donation centres
  - Sorting and storing
  - Preparing food parcels
  - Meeting and greeting clients
  - Providing referral support to clients
- Full training will be given.

**For further information, please contact Anne Woodley, Food Bank Manager at: [foodbank@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:foodbank@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)**

## We always need donations of...

Tinned Fruit  
Tinned Tomatoes  
Tinned Vegetables  
Tinned Fish  
Pasta/Curry Sauce  
Coffee - small and family jars  
Granulated Sugar  
UHT milk - All types  
Oil - Small and large bottles  
Salt  
Men's Toiletries  
Toilet rolls  
Squash - No added sugar  
Fruit Juice  
Rice

*Thank you!*

## Café Emm at Emmanuel

**Café Emm** can be found on the top floor of Emmanuel Church in Weston Favell Centre. The café supports those in the community who might not otherwise have anywhere to go. On Wednesdays it provides a place for food bank clients to relax, have a drink and something to eat while they are waiting,

On another day, there will be groups of people playing board games at Board Games café (you are welcome to join in). We also provide a space for friendship circle to meet. Not only that, the food is good!

Café Emm has a range of volunteers, of all ages and abilities. If you have two hours to spare, once a week (or more) we will be delighted to hear from you.

**For further information, please contact Café Emm manager: [coffee.shop@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:coffee.shop@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)**



***Is God calling you to take a step of faith and volunteer for a local Christian organisation, whose aim is to reduce crime in the county?***

C2C are a Northampton based Christian charity that enables offenders to break the cycle of offending through positive engagement, courses, groups, and support in a variety of ways.

They support any individual at any stage of the Criminal Justice System by inspiring and motivating them to take responsibility for their behaviour, in order to reduce re-offending. This has a huge impact on their lives, their children, wider families & local communities creating a safer, stronger Northamptonshire.

C2C provide their service to people Regardless of faith, or none, and regardless of their crimes, age, ethnic or cultural background, gender, sexuality or disability and are accessible to young people, men and women at any stage in the criminal justice system. Visit: [www.c2csocialaction.com](http://www.c2csocialaction.com) or call us: 01604 824 080

## Debt Centre@ Emmanuel

We will be launching our debt centre at the end of March. Based in Café Emm It will run on Wednesday mornings when foodbank operates, between 10am & 1pm. We still need a couple more people to join the team, so please consider whether you could help. You don't need to be a financial whizz; but be a good listener and have a reasonable grasp of your own finances. - Training provided. (see page 4 for more info)

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They both run between 12 & 2pm.

We have a great team, but there is always room for more. Please talk to me if you can join us. We need help with preparing food, setting up, washing up, drying up and packing up. (see page 4 for more details) **contact: Paul Foster at the church office: 402150 or email: [paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)**

## Have you ever thought of becoming a street pastor?

**Northampton Street Pastors** are based at night in Northampton Town centre.

**School Pastors** are based in the afternoon around schools in the Weston Favell area.

Both are recruiting team members, including **Prayer Pastors** and **Prayer Partners** who play an important supporting role.

Please contact:

**Keith** [coordinator@northampton.streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@northampton.streetpastors.org.uk)

**Tracey** (School pastors) [northampton@schoolpastors.org.uk](mailto:northampton@schoolpastors.org.uk)



**Northampton**





# Now you don't need to go to church! (only joking)

Our sermons can now be listened to, without signing in, at:  
**<https://www.audiomack.com/artist/emmanuelnorthampton>**

or via the free Audiomack mobile phone app

(they can also be downloaded via the app for listening on the go)

search for: Emmanuel Northampton on the app:

**Or you can do it the old fashioned way and hear them live in church on Sunday mornings!**



## BAPTIST BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Baptist Birthday Scheme last year.

The total we sent was £220.

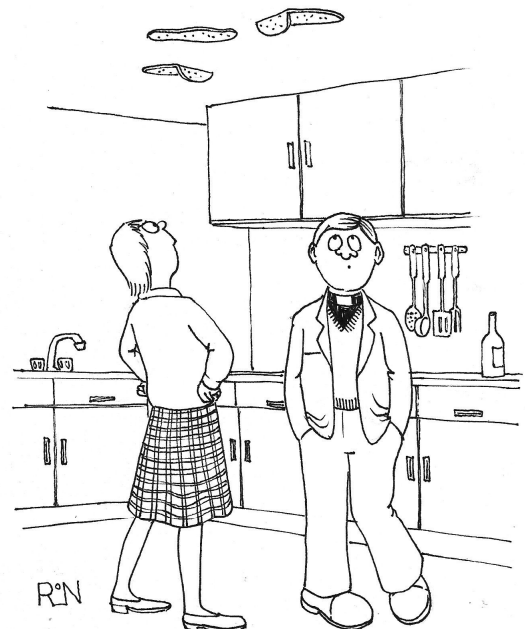
The BMS Birthday Scheme supports medical work and health ministries across the world. Projects like a new surgical centre and pharmacy in Chad, which encourages the use of local staff; and a counselling centre in Nepal "where people have suffered unimaginable trauma, and where there is a huge stigma attached to discussing mental health, suicide might seem like the only way out for some who are experiencing terrible suffering".

The scheme supports one aspect of the work of BMS (Baptist Missionary Society) which "works among some of the most marginalised and least evangelised people, in some of the most fragile places on earth. We aim to bring life in all its fullness through seven key ministries: church, development, education, health, justice, leadership and relief."

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/>.

If anyone would like to learn more about this scheme please contact me, Gillian Hill

on **01604 647611** or **[gillehill@aol.com](mailto:gillehill@aol.com)**.



"Pancake party?" said Simon,  
"What Pancake Party?"

# Emmanuel; God with us

# John Jeffreys

## Electrical

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## DEADLINE

for items for the  
**APRIL/MAY**  
**EDITION**  
 of  
**B.E.R.T**

**Friday**  
**20th**  
**MARCH**

**Please send your articles,**

testimonies, comments, funny stories, family news, local issues, etc. to...

**liz@lizzywhizz.biz**

or leave items for BERT at the church office.

**SEE BERT ONLINE IN FULL COLOUR**

at our

**NEW website:**

[www.emmgroupp.org.uk](http://www.emmgroupp.org.uk)



### Faxing Service

#### Sending:

UK & N. Ireland	1st page	1.70
	Following page/s	0.50
Europe & N.America	1st page	2.00
	Following page/s	1.00
Rest of the World	1st page	2.50
	Following page/s	1.25

#### Receiving:

1st page	0.75
Following page/s	0.05

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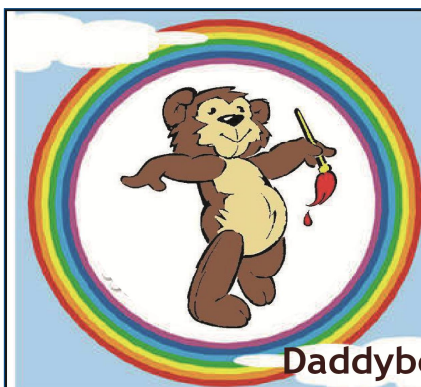
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Call Stuart on 07717378640  
 or visit [www.scb-automotive.co.uk](http://www.scb-automotive.co.uk)

## REGULAR GIVING

*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.*



Stephen Scott

01604 402253

07591 693843

daddybear1973@yahoo.com

**Daddybear Face Painting**





## World Day of Prayer: 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

This year's World Day of Prayer takes place on 6th March, with resources available at [www.wwdp.org.uk/2020-free-resources-to-download/](http://www.wwdp.org.uk/2020-free-resources-to-download/)

## Lent course from CTBI

This year's Lent course from CTBI is entitled *Opening the scriptures: setting our hearts on fire*. A number of churches in Britain and Ireland are keeping 2020 as 'the Year of the Word' so this course, with its focus on scripture, will be an ideal resource for Lent 2020. Visit the CTBI website at [www.ctbi.org.uk/lent](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/lent)

## The Abbey Centre – a Centre for Well-being

On each Friday afternoon in the month at 2.00pm we are hosting different activities focusing on improving our mental health and well-being.

**First Friday** in the month – Singing Together. We all know that singing can lift the spirits and give us the feel good factor. Singing with a group of people just for fun can enhance the experience, so do come along and join in.

**Second Friday** in the month – Creative Crafting. Getting Creative and exploring with others how we can use our creative skills to open us up to new things, and in being creative discover more about what makes us tick.

**Third Friday** in the month – Happiness and Well-being Café. It's good to talk. Getting together with others can be something of a lost art. Our Happiness cafe is just an opportunity to come together to chat and listen to each other's stories.

**Fourth Friday** in the month – Conversations & Reminiscence. Conversations & Reminiscence is a time when we can just sit and chat about times past, how things used to be done and in general remember things from our childhood. It may be a time to learn something new. Dementia Friendly

**All are welcome** to any or all of these activities. There is no charge but donations towards costs are always welcome.

**Volunteers** to help run these initiative would always be very welcome.



## Prayer 2020 resources

Pray in 2020 on the 20th of each month at 20:20 for 20 minutes.

**Pray ... that God will give many opportunities to speak about Christ (Colossians 4:3 NLT).**

There are people around the globe in church communities and organisations who are taking part. You can pray on your own or with a group at home, at church or with colleagues.

You can pray spontaneously or you can use prayers we have prepared.

*Father, as we start Prayer 2020, we ask that this year we will carry your light into every place we go and share your good news with those we meet. May we walk and work in unity to reveal your love and goodness (John 8:12). Prayers for the rest of the year can be downloaded from:*

<https://hopetogether.org.uk/Group/Group.aspx?ID=327007>

Or 'google' Hope Together Prayer 2020

## PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Are you worried, lonely, or unwell.

Do you need to talk?

Jesus set the example of servanthood for us to follow and the Pastoral Care Team are here to help.

Please contact Precious or Sheila

if you know of anyone who you think would appreciate our help.

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another. 1 Peter 4: 10

Precious Luke [preciousluke@emmgroupp.org.uk](mailto:preciousluke@emmgroupp.org.uk) - 07941 124159  
Sheila Angus [mailme5@btinternet.com](mailto:mailme5@btinternet.com) - 07779 681695





**SUNDAY**  
**10.30am**

**BLAST**

junior church for 4 - 18 years  
+  
creche for under 4's @ **emmanuel**  
on the 1st and 3rd  
Sunday of the month

**Jamout**

if you're secondary school age.  
😊

**The Christian youth group for you**

on top floor at emmanuel

**fridays 7-9pm**

★ **munch - food and fellowship**

★ **testimonies, film nights,**  
**group discussions, games nights** ★  
**social events and more....**



**'R-zone'**

is a free youth group for ages 8 - 13

from 5 'til 6pm on Fridays at  
Rectory Farm Community Centre

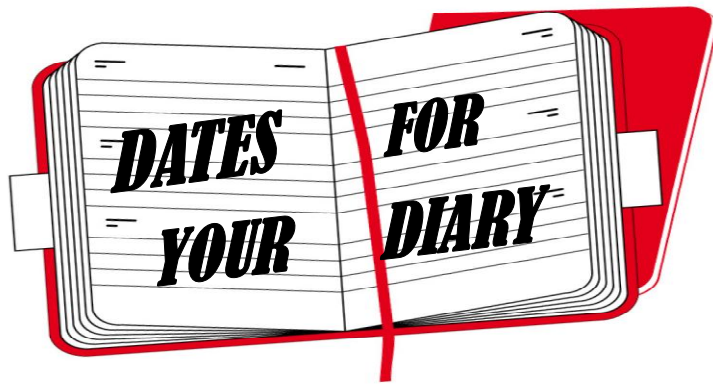
See our webpage @

[www.rfnorthampton.org.uk/r-zone](http://www.rfnorthampton.org.uk/r-zone)

want to know more?...

- call Mell on 402150 (church office)





## 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 time of quiet, structured 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)



Pop in for  
**Coffee, cake and chat**  
*Or tea and biscuits (or both!)*  
**Thursdays 9 to 12**  
*Except school holidays*  
*Hosted by*  
**Emmanuel Church,  
Weston Favell Centre**  
**@Brookside  
Hub**  
**Billing Brook Rd  
Northampton  
NN3 8NP**

**All Welcome**



## GROUP HOLIDAY 2020

### To North Wales

**Chatsworth House Hotel Llandudno**

**Saturday June 6th to Saturday**

**13th June 2020**

**The hotel has a indoor heated  
swimming pool.**

**Cost is £499.00 for eight days**

**£20.00 deposit to book yourself a place**

## Day Trips 2020

Easton Walled Gardens Lincolnshire on Wednesday May 20th  
the cost is £20.00 original gardens plus several walled enclosures, glass houses fine trees, turf maze, yew tunnel and much more.

Gloucester/ Warwick steam railway on Saturday June 27th  
cost is £32.00 Adults £31.50 OAPs visiting Toddington station to catch a steam train at 10.30am a shop, engine sheds and cafe a most enjoyable journey.

Tewkesbury on Saturday 25th July cost £15.00 extraordinary riverside medieval shopping town, plus a market and a town that enters the Britian in Bloom.

Weston Super Mare on Saturday August 29th cost £18.00 a great seaside resort with plenty of things to do plus the wonderful sand sculptures, big wheel and plenty of shops.

Lincoln on Saturday September 12th cost is £15.00 where you can visit the Cathedral for around £8.00 or take in the many shops in the quirky streets and shopping centres.

*These trips are available to all and you can  
spread the cost over the next few months!*

**Book with Kathy Norris at 'Cafe Emm'**

**Weston Favell Centre on Tuesdays**

**OR PHONE**

**01604 494057 or 07923017619**

**to book your place with a deposit of**

**£5.00.**



# LOTS GOING ON EVERY WEEK IN THE EMMANUEL GROUP OF CHURCHES

<b>Monday</b>	Prayer meeting	Emmanuel	7.30 - 8.45pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Family tots	Emmanuel –sports hall	9.45 - 11.30am
	Family tots (session 2)	Emmanuel	12.00 - 1.30pm
	Friendship circle	Emmanuel (fortnightly)	1.45pm
<b>Friday</b>	R-Zone Youth club 8 - 13 years	Rectory Farm Community Centre	5 - 6.00pm (term time only)
	Jam out Christian Youth Group	Emmanuel	7 - 9.00pm (term time only)

Emmanuel House Groups meet at various times & venues during the week  
(see below)

**COME  
&  
PRAY**  
Book the last  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**of each month**  
**7am - 8am**

**JOINT  
PRAYER MEETING  
WITH  
STOREHOUSE  
CHURCH**

AND THE  
**SALVATION**  
**ARMY**  
PENISTONE ROAD

AT  
**CAFÉ EMM**  
EMMANUEL CHURCH

**PRAYER FOR  
NORTHAMPTON  
EAST  
AND FOR OUR  
CHURCHES.**

## 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
Sywell	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*

## **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**

## **Every Monday Evening**

7.30-8.45pm

## **PRAYER**

in the chapel  
at

**Emmanuel  
Church**

**Open to All**

Please come and join us,  
you will be most welcome

## **THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE**



ALTERNATE WEDNESDAYS

IN THE COFFEE SHOP AT EMMANUEL WESTON FAVELL CENTRE  
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: KATHY NORRIS or JEAN MARKS

**It all adds up to**

# **Livability**

**Emmanuel is a learning  
disability friendly church  
everyone welcome**



## The Ministry Team

Revd Phil Snelson 401540 philip.snelson@methodist.org.uk  
 Revd Haydon Spenceley 244391 haydon.spenceley@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Revd Douglas Spenceley 402150 doug.spenceley@gmail.com  
 Revd Stuart Jenkins 402150 stuartpauljenkins@gmail.com  
 Revd Chris Pearson 402150 c.pearson1@homecall.co.uk

## Emmanuel Group Office - 01604 402150

Administrator Linda Withers Linda.withers@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Community Care co-ordinator Paul Foster paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Coffee Shop Manager Terry-Ann Fleck 402150 (church office)  
 Safeguarding co-ordinator Kristin Hatherly 402150

**B.E.R.T** Editor Liz Bateman liz@lizzywhizz.biz

## Emmanuel Group Weekly News-sheets

Emmanuel Jasmyne Price 07747 052 679 jasmyne.price@gmail.com

## 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 Road  
Sunday service at 10.30 am  
Weds Communion at 1.30pm (30 min)  
Group Office - Mon - Fri 10 - 2 pm

EMMANUEL GROUP of CHURCHES BILLING BROOK ROAD  
 NORTHAMPTON NN3 8JR

## Psalm 23 Garden coming to RHS Chelsea

The Bible Society has announced that "We're absolutely thrilled to be working with award-winning garden designer Sarah Eberle, to bring Psalm 23 to life at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in May 2020!"

The Psalm 23 Garden at RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2020, designed by Sarah Eberle, will offer visitors the chance "to stop, reflect, and feel refreshed".

The Bible Society said: "This powerful psalm, with its visual imagery of green pastures, still waters and the valley of the shadow of death, just cries out to be turned into a garden.

"We hope you'll love it. And after the Chelsea Flower Show, the garden will find a permanent home at the Winchester Hospice in Hampshire, where it will be a blessing to patients and families."

The Bible Society says it is also hoping that people will "join us in creating community gardens across the country inspired by the Psalm 23 Garden. You can do this outside your office, in your school grounds, or in your churchyard.

Let's get gardening!"

You can follow the project on Facebook,  
 Twitter and

instagram, and join us on the road to Chelsea.

## Goodbye Phil & Becky

It is with great sadness that we say Goodbye to Revd Phil and Becky Snelson on Sunday 23rd Feb 10.30 am at an Emmanuel Group Service at Emmanuel. This will be a communion service followed by a shared lunch.

Phil, and Becky, have been with us for 11 years and we have shared many wonderful moments together in that time. To show appreciation for all they have brought us we invite you to make a donation towards a leaving gift for them.

Special envelopes for this will be available for all 3 congregations from next Sunday. Please use these and put in the



collection plate or hand in to the church office.

The service will be followed by a Hot buffet lunch in the Sports Hall

We will be asking for help and donations of hot food in casseroles, slow cookers etc. and also desserts.

Watch the weekly news sheet for more details.



**Emmanuel Church Hall,  
 Middle Deck,  
 NN3 8JZ**

Weston Favell Centre, Northampton  
 Mon 10.00am, Sat 8.30am & 9.30am

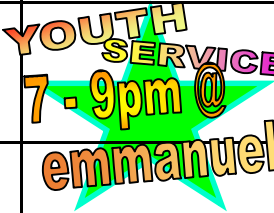
**JOIN OUR COMMUNITY**  
 0345 677 7788

\*Standard network charges apply

# Services in February 2020

Date	Emmanuel 10.30am	Boothville 10.30am	Rectory Farm 10.30am	YOUTH GROUPS
Sunday 2nd	<b>Communion</b> Phil Snelson	<b>Morning Worship</b> Haydon Spenceley	<b>Morning Worship</b> Maureen Luke + Kristin Hatherly	<u>Rectory Farm</u> Praise & Prayer  <u>Emmanuel</u> Own Group
Sunday 9th	<b>iPraise</b> Haydon Spenceley iPraise Team Followed by Emmanuel Meeting	<b>Holy Communion</b> Phil Snelson	<b>Communion</b> Doug Spenceley + Obi Hez	<u>Rectory Farm</u> Own Group  <u>Emmanuel ipraise</u>
Sunday 16th	<b>Morning Worship</b> Peter Angus & Ken Clark	<b>Morning Worship</b> David Bell & Maureen Luke	<b>Morning Worship</b> Stuart Jenkins	<u>all together</u>  <b>@ McDonalds</b>
Sunday 23rd	<b>Emmanuel Group Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley & Phil Snelson	<b>Emmanuel Group Communion @ Emmanuel</b>	<b>Emmanuel Group Communion @ Emmanuel</b>	<b>Café Church</b> @ Emmanuel

# Services in March 2020

Date	Emmanuel 10:30am	Boothville 10:30am	Rectory Farm 10:30am	YOUTH GROUPS
Sunday 1st	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley & Ken Clark	<b>Morning Worship</b> Maureen Luke	<b>Morning Worship</b> Keith Holland Delamere + Paul Foster	<u>Rectory Farm</u> Praise & Prayer  <u>Emmanuel</u> Own Group
Sunday 8th	<b>ipraise</b> James Fearnley + ipraise team	<b>Communion</b> Doug Spenceley	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley + Kristin Hatherly	<u>Rectory Farm</u> Own Group  <u>Emmanuel ipraise</u>
Sunday 15th	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley & Paul Adams	<b>Morning Worship</b> David Bell	<b>Morning Worship</b> Ministry from the Methodist Circuit	<u>All together</u> @ McDonalds
Sunday 22nd	<b>Café church</b> Maureen Luke + Jo Pearson	<b>Communion</b> Chris Pearson	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley & Peter Angus	
Sunday 29th	<b>Morning Worship</b> Peter Angus	<b>Communion</b> Peter Goodlad	<b>Morning Worship</b> Obi Hez + Team	

and - **COMMUNION EVERY WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME at 1.30pm**

a simple 30 minute service in the chapel @ Emmanuel

**PLUS ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE ON 26TH FEBRUARY AT 7.00pm**