

BERT

BOOTHVILLE

EMMANUEL

&

FACTORY FARM

TIMES

Rejoice Always

Dear friends,

It's good to be writing to you as 2021 ticks over into August. Try as I might, I can't escape thinking in terms of academic years and so the period from the latter part of July through to August always feels like an opportunity to look back and be thankful for what has gone before. September somehow manages to feel a natural time to start new things too. And so it is as I sit here to write to you this month. In spite of what has been a very challenging year personally and for all of us, there's plenty to be thankful for and to look forward too.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 is a great trio of encouragements to us all as Christians. 'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'

How do you get on with those three things?

I'm finding that there's plenty to rejoice over at the moment. God is faithful. God has been faithful. I haven't, I'm always doing silly things. But it's my making a mess of things which is the very thing that draws God towards me. His rescue mission for humanity offers us chance upon chance, day by day, moment by moment, to accept his offer of life in all its fullness, not just in spite of me and my mistakes, but because of them. It's scandalous, this thing called grace, this undeserved favour from God, but it's on offer for anyone who trusts Jesus with their life, admits their failings and need for Him and seeks to live His way. That's something pretty great to be thankful for.

There's plenty of great things happening, with people of all ages, throughout the life of our Church and through Cafe Emm. It often feels like things are a little precarious or teetering on the brink in terms of resources of finance or people, but this leads us to rely on God, and to be thankful to Him, I think. To have reached this point in 2021 and to be connected to the community in so many ways is something which God has brought about through His grace and through the hard work and generosity of a lot of people. This makes me both rejoice and give thanks.

As we tentatively move towards Emmanuel being the third of our 'normal' congregations to gather weekly from the first Sunday in September, I'm so thankful to God for the ways that this is possible (hopefully) but I'm even more thankful that we have an online way of staying connected as a Church family for those of us for whom in-person gathering is not right quite yet. There's a lot more about these developments elsewhere in this edition of BERT. We're seeking to cover as many bases as well as we can at

this time and I'm really grateful for your patience as a Church family as we seek to get things right. Thank you.

We continue to pray, too. One of my favourite developments of this year is the Monday evening prayer meeting at 7.30 on Zoom. It's great that we've reached the end of July and this continues to have momentum. If you've not joined us before and you have Zoom and the time to do so, please do. If Zoom is not your 'thing' perhaps you'd consider praying for some time between 7.30 and 8.30 on a Monday evening, for the Church, the wider world and thanking God for his goodness, as well as bringing your needs and requests to Him. Not much of any positive consequence in the life of a Church happens without prayer, so please do keep on praying.

September promises to be a watershed moment for us as Rachael

Warnock joins the team as our new Free Church Minister. Her Institution Service is on 11th September and we will have details about who can attend and so on in good time. Do be praying for Rachael as she moves to Northampton from Plymouth, gets to know Northampton, and us, and prepares to start ministry among us. I'm so thankful to God for calling her, to Rachael for hearing the call and saying 'yes' and for all that's to come. I'd also like to publicly thank Kris, Gill, John and Maureen who have worked patiently and painstakingly over the last couple of years to get us to this point. Here's hoping and praying for a bright future for Rachael with us.

One of the hardest moments to give thanks is when life is painful. It is for many of our Church family and wider community at the moment. Even though lockdown restrictions have been removed in England, we've got a long road ahead of us I think, still. We need God and we need each other. Perhaps you can use 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 as a periodic

checklist of how you're doing and seek to redress the balance if you're finding one aspect is under-represented. One thing is for sure, though. God is always with His people, always for them and His love causes Him to draw towards us, not turn away, so if things are especially tough at the moment, reach out to Him. If you don't know how, ask one of us leaders, or a Christian friend you trust and, if you do, I can be as close to certain as it's possible to be that God will meet you in your time of need and provide what you need.

That's what He's been doing for Emmanuel in 2021, for 48 years before now and what He will do in the future, I have no doubt. Keep on rejoicing, keep on praying and, whenever you possibly can, find reason to be thankful.

Every blessing,

Haydon



July 22nd 2021

Emmanuel and 'Step 4'

As we've now reached Step 4 in the relaxation of restrictions relating to Covid-19, here's my attempt at a guide to what will stay the same and what will change at Emmanuel, both in terms of services and other events that take place in the building.

Overall Aims

We want our Church to be somewhere where all can come, belong and participate, whether online or in person. It's easy to say that we want to be a family of faith where there's always room for one more but this needs to be lived out in practice too. This includes finding ways for those who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable to play their part. At a time when it seems we're in a headlong rush to 'freedom' and 'normal' (we've left the phrase 'new normal' behind, it seems) it is crucial to me that we don't leave anyone behind or leave any individuals, families or groups feeling like they have been ignored or forgotten. Those who are 'vulnerable' should be given the place of greatest honour in our life together. I realise that each person or family's response will be individual, but I'd love to explore with you how we can set good principles and practice to enable all to be feel like they are taking part to the level they want.

I realise that the developments outlined below won't suit everybody. I can only apologise for that. I'm so grateful for the way that our Church family has been so calm and supportive during this season in our lives. It really has made leading our Church and all that we are and do seem a bit more possible. Thank you.

What We'd Like To Stay the Same

As before, please do not attend a service or event if you are unwell or have symptoms of Covid-19

We have now reached a moment when we can't compel anyone to do anything. Depending on how you feel about 'freedom' you'll think this is great, or you won't. I'd prefer to think of where we are now as being our having been given the freedom to care for one another. It's easy to think only of ourselves. I do that naturally and I expect you do too, but I think it is quite a powerful and prophetic statement to put others first and not be so concerned with our own needs/wishes/desires.

As has been stated previously, **we will continue our online services**. We now have four congregations and the online service continues to provide something that we weren't previously and connect with a lot of people.

We are requesting that when you are visiting our building for services or events indoors, you consider:

- carrying on wearing a mask,
- maintaining social distancing where you can
- and continuing with sanitising your hands.

If you wish to, you will be able to 'check in' with the NHS app, as our posters will remain up.

As I said, we can't make anyone do anything. It really is up to us to make choices about how we handle everything, but people watch what Christians do *all* the time and especially at times like this.

I hope we will choose the loving, life-giving, sensible, optimistic way forward.

So to recap, please

Keep wearing masks indoors when in the Emmanuel building. This is in line with what Weston Favell Centre would like people to do too.

Continue to 'check in' using the posters provided for the purpose

Continue to socially distance where possible

Sanitise your hands regularly using the sanitiser provided throughout the building.

You may not wish to socially distance any more, and we can't force you to, but please be aware that others will. Our aim, as I said, is to be a community where all are welcomed and feel able to play their part, please bear others in mind.

One suggestion you might wish to consider is leaving a chair between yourself/your household or bubble and the people next to you. It might seem silly but it also might make others feel more comfortable, perhaps even comfortable enough to join us when they wouldn't otherwise and that would be worth it.

We will be continuing with our planned service pattern of fortnightly services for Emmanuel through the summer holidays. This will change on September 5th when the aim is to go weekly. Boothville is now meeting weekly. Rectory Farm is about to begin meeting in the refurbished Community Centre.

Proposed Changes

Singing this is now permitted and we will be re-introducing singing to our gatherings for worship. It would be our preference that you sing wearing masks, for now at least.

Booking In is no longer needed *but* we would like it if you would help us by leaving us with contact information for one member of your household/bubble. This will help us keep in touch with you and also enable us to let you know if there's a Covid-related 'ping' you need to be aware of. Don't you just love these new phrases?

Communion at present we will not be using Chalices to distribute wine at Communion Whilst the new guidance we have been given from the Church of England says it is permissible to use what is called the 'common cup' now, I am wholly unconvinced that this is wise at the moment. As an ecumenical Church we have the possibility of using small glasses to share non-alcoholic wine and I am happy to explore that, provided that we have the right number of stewards for a service who are willing to assist with this. It may take us a bit of time to arrange what is needed for this, so if you come to a Communion service in the next few weeks and find it is in one kind, or bread only, please be patient as we work out the best way to handle this. Personally I feel that it will be some time until a Chalice is part of our Communion practice again. For now, we will continue to distribute Communion to you in your seats.

All of these developments will need to be reflected in an updated risk assessment, which will be completed in the coming days. They are all, as you might expect, subject to change and to developments.

If we're Christians, we know that the ultimate freedom all of us have is the one that Jesus set us free for, to know Him and to invite others to know Him too. No other freedoms will ever come close to that one and so, however you feel at the moment and however you choose to live in this phase of our lives together, hold on to Jesus, hold fast to Him.

Trusting in Him is always a good decision.

Every blessing,

Haydon

Special Info from family Ulmer from Bangladesh



We are still on the way with God and experience how differently God leads. Currently it is a special way - in several respects:

We have again received a rejection for our visa application. Therefore we will have to travel back to Germany on June 22.

So, unfortunately, the heaviness of the way is special. But it is also special that we may experience again and again that the way up to here was a blessed way. Just as special is the possibility to follow God in this way and in this situation and to be able to give testimony in a special way. The last time we were allowed to praise and glorify God for what He has done. Now we want to give Him the glory, **because we know who He is** - and that we can trust Him!

This morning we were privileged to read the Scripture from Hebrews 10:35: "Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward."

Of course, it is a setback now for the time being. But we will analyze the situation again in Germany and try another way together, hoping that our visa will then be approved.

So please pray for us! We need much wisdom now to discern God's way. We also want to listen carefully to how God wants to lead us and where HIS way leads!

As of now, we will work with the Bengali partner organization on a new way to Bangladesh, and are already looking forward to when we are back in Bangladesh!

THANKS

- for the still so precious time in Bangladesh
- For the certainty of His faithfulness, His love and His omnipotence
- for the relationships with local people that we have already been able to establish

PRAY

- for strength, wisdom and faith that we can go God's way with all our heart (This is still true!!!)
- for our visa: may God grant that we find a good way to Bangladesh
- for the new changeover: We will probably be in Germany for some time. We want to use this time wisely and fill it with things that can be helpful/valuable in the long run.

Thank you very much for all your prayers!

Best regards from Bangladesh,
Your Ulmers
Micha & Katrin



“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain”

(Psalm 127,1)

Community Care Update

August/September

Here we go again, with another update of what has been happening in the world of community.

Job Club

My role is now splitting in two, due to generous funding from the Methodist Church, a 1/3rd of my hours will be to run a job club over the next five years.

As I'm sure you can guess from the title, it is helping people get into employment. It will run alongside the foodbank, probably on Monday mornings when the foodbank is open for customers.

It's still in the early stages of planning, but I am looking to build a team of people who are skilled in preparing people for employment, whether that is CV writing, applying for jobs or preparing for interviews.

One person has already offered and would be good to have one or two more.

The other 2/3 of my job is not so secure at the moment as the funding runs out at the end of December. I value your prayers that Julie is able to find the funding pots to keep me going beyond December and to be able to continue with our other projects.

I was re-assured by my verse of the day today from my daily reading, it's from John 15 v 7

'If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.'

I have been in this position before, my first contract was meant to end in March 2020, and God provided me extensions until this point, please pray the same again. Whilst some projects are in the air, I just want to highlight what could and is happening.

Wellbeing café

A lot of our house groups have recently been using the book *Slow down, Show up and Pray* by Ruth Rice, I have spoken to people in the different groups and most found the study helpful.

It focuses on the three P's. **Being Present – Being Prayerful – Being Partnership.**

Wellbeing Cafes are simple cafe style spaces run by local churches where hobbies and activities are shared or co-produced. The cafe space is attached to a quiet room or prayer space where inner habits of wellbeing are shared.

Each church partners with a mental health professional from the local council to ensure good inclusive practices for safe spaces where it's OK not to be OK can be sustained.

We are hoping to start our own Wellbeing Cafe as soon as the time is right.

In the meantime I'm organising a Wellbeing Walk on 3rd September. Put it in your diary and look out for more details—or ask me!



You can contact me at the church office 402150
or email: paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

Money support centre

The centre continues to run alongside the foodbank. We regularly see a couple of people each week.

The main reasons people need to use the foodbank is often low income and/or debt, but many of the guests are reluctant to ask for help with these problems. Feelings of embarrassment or shame can keep them from coming to speak with one of the money support centre team. Please pray that those who need our help will find the courage to talk to us.

FISH

Is definitely happening this summer. It will be running every Tuesday between 12 & 2pm at Blackthorn Community Centre. We will be providing food and entertainment as usual.

It's been a while since FISH has run, so please pray that people come along to FISH to be fed and entertained.

Well that's me done for another couple of months. If you have any questions about anything, or want to help with anything, you can message me on paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk.



Paul

David Bell's... Boothville Diary



From Lockdown to Freedom Day!!

Covid restrictions have been with us for about 16 months and we have all adjusted to a different way of life. At Boothville we are a very close church family so communication was of upmost importance during this time. We still needed to function as a church community, particularly as many of us live alone and some without internet access. The following gives you some idea of how, with the Lord's help, we have strived to keep our church together.

On the Saturday before lock down I had just got back from a curtailed holiday in Sri Lanka. The men of the church were busy making the Mothering Sunday posies. On the Sunday they then delivered them to the doorstep of all the ladies in the congregation. The next day Boris officially announced lockdown . By then John Weaver had divided the congregation into 5 groups with one person given the responsibility of ringing everyone in their group on a weekly basis to make sure they were okay and to pass on news, prayers etc. This involved quite long conversations to begin with. Everyone was keen to know how others were getting on. It was obvious also that, as time went on, there were so many conversations between various members of the congregation As restrictions started to ease in the summer of 2020 there were tea parties in many gardens.

The prayer sheet that Fiona produces each week and is updated by both Pip Thompson and myself was so valuable both for prayer and communication As previously mentioned, we have quite a number of people not on line and others who have not the means to download anything. The prayer sheets were printed out at home and delivered to those not online. I must admit I walked miles in those early days. It is a long way from Boothville to Ecton Brook return via South fields!

Soon after lock down it was Palm Sunday. Everyone in the congregation received a palm cross either by post or hand delivered. More walking! By this time 'on line' services were in full flow thanks to Haydon and many of us settled

down to enjoy worship in this way. We were very concerned about the members of our congregation who were unable to worship. Haydon referred us to the Bishops Daily Hope Line and he also set up a local line where people could dial in to listen to the Emmanuel sermon each week. Both these lines were well used.

In May 2020 there was an email from a member of the congregation. 'What is happening about Christian Aid?' Once again more deliveries! This time it was Christian aid envelopes. The congregation returned them to me or to the hall at a specific time. We obviously collected from those unable to do this. Over £800 was raised and we did the same thing again in 2021 and over £700 was raised. What a result!

Throughout the lockdown Kathy Norris has posted out birthday cards to all in the congregation . Thank you Kathy. I don't think she expected it to go on for so long! We have had a second Mothering Sunday. This time Geoffrey Herbert had to make the posies at home himself due to restrictions. He and John delivered them. John even made the trip to Hunsbury for one member of the congregation. Palm crosses were delivered for a second time.

We had one or two false starts when it came to opening up our church but we managed to do this in October 2020. There were a number of whoops of delight when I rang to inform people of this. Obviously not all were ready to return for various reasons but we had over 25 people at our first service. It was interesting that those who lived on their own were all ready to return. Unfortunately, the Remembrance service was cancelled but Roy Harland had got the wreath so a few of us went down to the sign to remember. Others in the community came to join us.

What a joy to open our doors for two services over Christmas. Both were well attended. John and Elizabeth Weaver went into the hall to decorate before these services so it really was 'Joy to the World'. Of course another lock down followed, more weekly phone calls and then another opening up on Easter Sunday. After having services fortnightly for a few months it has been wonderful during the month of July this year to be at church each week. We do pray that this continues.

Mary Langley @ Boothville

MAKE EVERY EFFORT

TO KEEP

*The Unity of the Spirit
through the Bond of Peace*

EPHESIANS 4:3

The view from the front



The other week somebody asked me 'what it was like' taking part in a service from the front. It is hard to explain the privilege and also the sense of awe to have such a responsibility. It is also very important to remember, in humility, that I am worshipping in my community church, where the people who visit, are members of my church family. Everyone who attends on a Sunday are in there own way, leading the service. I thought I would let you know, what it looks like. You should try it sometime...

David Bell @ BOOTHVILLE

Journeying

If you are anxious
Just ask and I will hear
If you are suffering
Just ask and I will draw near
If you are in pain
Just ask and I will hear
If you feel overwhelmed
Just ask and I will draw near
I am here for you always
Just ask and I will hear.

A Celtic Prayer for Asking,
by Iain Tweedale

In the morning, O Lord, I will direct my song and my prayer unto You and will look up.

(Psalm 5:3)





We are located in a shop unit in Weston Favell Centre. Our work will continue as long as we have supplies.

The Foodbank is still experiencing a high demand for information and provision. The Edge Centre has been a new service available in the foodbank, offering advice and support to the foodbank guests.

OPENING TIMES FOR FOOD PARCEL COLLECTIONS

**Monday
13.00pm-15.00pm**

**Wednesday
10.00am-13.00pm**

OPENING TIMES For Donations

**Monday
10 - 14.00**

**Tuesday
10 - 14.00**

**Wednesday
10 - 14.00**

Thursday Closed

**Friday
10 - 14.00**

Friday Opening of the foodbank and the delivery project, which also happened on Fridays, was part of our response to the pandemic. We have struggled to resource these services at times and so we took the decision to close Friday foodbank and the Friday delivery service and revert to our normal opening times of Wednesday and Friday mornings. The Delivery project and Friday foodbank, will close on Friday 30th July. As we are now returning to some kind of normality, we felt that this was the right time to make these changes .

As the pandemic restrictions begin to lift we will be able to offer more support to foodbank guests to help them get their lives back on track. Supporting people to not only survive but thrive is key to the lives of foodbank guests. Mental Health is also a focus for us which will benefit foodbank guests to embrace opportunities moving forward.

IDEAS FOR FOOD DONATIONS

Tinned Fish	Tinned Meat
Tinned Veg	Tinned Beans/spaghetti
Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Fruit
Tinned or packet custard	Tinned Rice Pudding
Jam or marmalade	Biscuits
Tea bags and coffee	Dried Pasta
Long life fruit juice/squash	Long life milk
Packet Rice	Jars of pasta/curry sauce
Sugar	Cooking Oil
Salt	Toilet Rolls
Men's and Ladies Toiletries	Dog and Cat food
Washing up liquid	Washing tablets or gel pods
Baby nappies (all sizes)	Baby Wipes
Toothbrushes/toothbrushes	Razors

Ways to Give

However long this emergency lasts, people will still need our help. If you have given financially to foodbank or donated food, thank you so much for your support

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

Many people have asked if they can make a donation of money to the foodbank instead of food. This can be done via bank transfer to:

**EMMANUEL BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT
NATWEST
Sort code: 60-15-55
Acc no: 73955787**

You can download a standing order mandate from the Emmanuel Church/foodbank website: www.emmgroup.org.uk or you can donate money via the Weston Favell Centre foodbank page and follow the local giving link:

<https://locagiving.org/charity/weston-favell-cent-foodbank/>

***Thank you
for your support!***

Cllr Keith HD

It's now been nearly three months since I was elected to West Northamptonshire Council and Northampton Town Council; it feels longer at times! I'm learning loads! Casework is increasing, helping residents and tackling numerous issues.

Earlier today I attended a Fun day at Blackthorn organised by Growing Together which was a real pleasure.

Most things I am enjoying, especially supporting the grass roots community and faith organisations that do so much on the ground in our communities (including our group of Churches). I continue to take each day as it comes, knowing that I am utterly dependent on our Father to navigate the many issues and new situations I find myself in. I thank God for giving me the opportunities to serve, its a real challenge.



Blackthorn Fun Day

Cllr Keith Holland-Delamere, Billing & Rectory Farm keith.holland-delamere@westnorthants.gov.uk 07599 220762

Northampton Health Walks

Walks are FREE volunteer led walks, running right across Northampton.

Emmanuel Church WALK

Meeting Point:

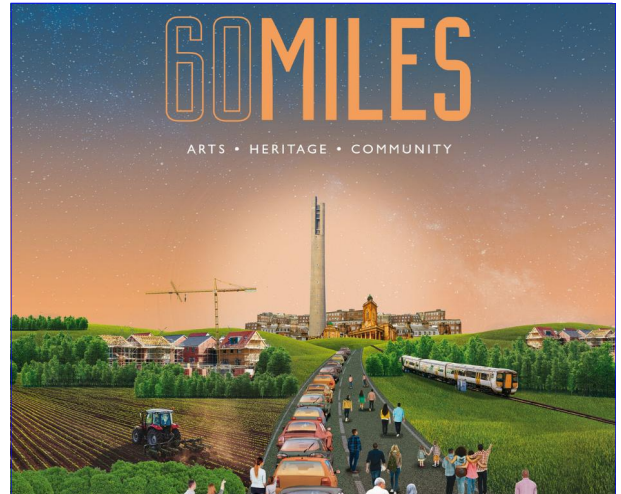
Emmanuel Church
(In the bus bay)
Weston Favell Centre
Billing Brook Road
NN3 8JR

Day	Walk	Time
Friday s	10:00am:	30-40 mins

Starting Friday 3rd September

- = Meet new people
- = Enjoy the fresh air
- = Explore Northampton's open spaces

For more information contact the Health and Wellbeing Development Team on 01604 838333 or visit www.trilogyleisure.co.uk



Become part of Northampton history! 60 Miles by Road or Rail - call for oral history and documentary film interviewees.

Did you live in Northampton or Corby when they became New Towns or did you move here as part of the expansions? Maybe you helped to build them or worked with their development corporations? Perhaps you, your parents or grandparents grew up here and you want to share your stories?

Visit our [website](http://www.60milesbyroadorrail.co.uk/) for more information about how to get involved.

<https://www.60milesbyroadorrail.co.uk/>

John Jeffreys

Electrical

☎ 01604 962055 T / 07903 534833 M
 @ john@johnjeffreyslectrical.co.uk
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DEADLINE

for items for the
Oct/Nov
EDITION

of

B.E.R.T

FRIDAY

24th
Sept.

Please send your
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liz@lizzywhizz.biz

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IN FULL COLOUR

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www.emmanuelgroup.org.uk



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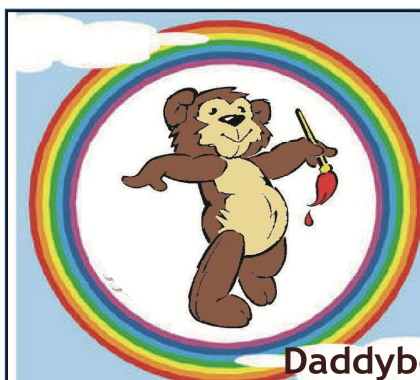
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Call Stuart on 07717378640
 or visit www.scb-automotive.co.uk

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

NORTHAMPTON

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



WE ARE RECRUITING PART-TIME MINI BUS DRIVER

Northampton Door-to-Door Service requires a driver for a specially adapted mini-bus, to transport elderly and disabled people to different locations within Northampton.

Applicants must have a current valid driving licence with category D1, a positive, friendly attitude, empathy with elderly & disabled people and good communications skills.

£8.91
Per Hour

Holiday
entitlement

Matched
Pension

For an application pack please contact:

01604 583553 (before 1pm)

or sally.jones@voluntaryimpact.org.uk

CRE News

CRE National, Sandown Park 12 - 14 October 2021
CRE South West, Exeter 23 - 24 February 2022

We may miss the 'old normal' but, being realistic, this 'new different' is the future. Our ever-creative exhibitors are rising to the challenge, too. I invite you to look through an online version of the [CRE National 2021 brochure](#). A hard copy has dropped through more than 30,000 letterboxes this week.

At Sandown Park (Oct 12-14) there'll be a comprehensive range of new resources for you and your church – in financial management, fund-raising, new technology, social media, streaming, worship, creative arts, home groups, mission, youth and children's work. Expert advice will be on hand in more than 50 seminars and special features.

When you've read through the [brochure](#), be sure to forward the link to others who will also benefit from a day of discovery at CRE National 2021 – and [buy your tickets](#) today for as little as £3 (day-of-entry £8).

This year, more than any other, please support our loyal exhibitors by bringing at least one full car from your church!

**Book now for CRE National 2021
Sandown Park 12-14 Oct 2021**

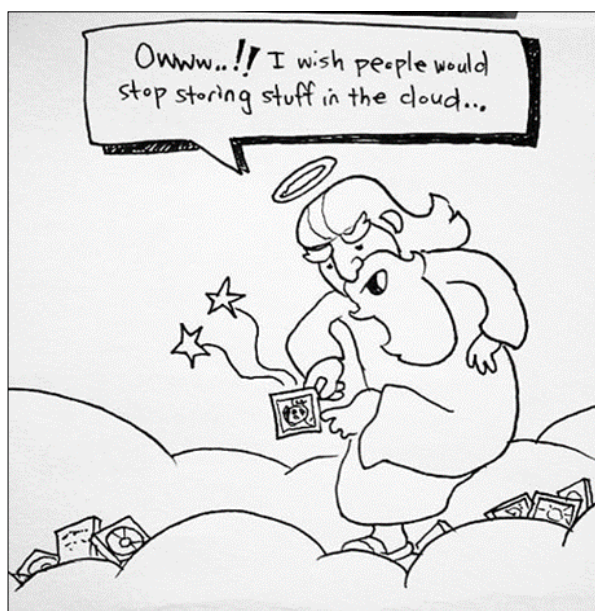
24/7 help available for those with mental health needs

Countywide Mental Health phone number

0800 448 0828

Please see also below a link through to a page for the countywide mental health phone number. The number will provide access to mental health navigators, at any time of the day or night.

<https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/mentalhealth-number/>



Can we help?

If you are in particular need of prayer or support during this difficult time, please do contact the Church, either by messaging our Facebook page or through our website at:

<https://emmgroupp.org.uk/contact/>

we will get through this time
together, with God
and with one another.

Northampton Street Pastors

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Understandably it has been a quiet year for our Street and School



Pastors but work has been ongoing in the background with online training, networking, planning, and of course raising funds (any contacts or assistance with the latter is always welcome!).

With the easing of lockdown, limited patrols of both Street and School Pastors have recommenced based on need and availability of team. We anticipate patrols gathering pace from September with the start of a new academic year, schools return, but also university students will start back, boosting the numbers out of an evening in the pubs and bars.

Of course, this important work is only possible through the committed efforts of our volunteer teams of Street and School Pastors. If you are interested in joining with us as we go out on to the streets to help protect and serve our community then we would love to hear from you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Worth

Chair of Trustees

WE ARE RECRUITING!!

Now is the time to come forward as we begin recruiting new people from our local churches to explore the roles and responsibilities of joining
Northampton Street Pastors.

Further training will be given to those who attend

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES DAY

SATURDAY 7TH AUGUST

9.30am – 4pm

at

KINGDOM LIFE CHURCH.

For more information and to book your place, please email:

northampton.admin@streetpastors.org.uk

THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

At our recent ordination of new curates I started my sermon by asking the candidates; “What did it feel like when they first looked in a mirror and saw themselves wearing a clerical blouse or shirt?”



**The Rt Revd John Holbrook
Bishop of Brixworth**

There’s a great book “Legacy” about the All Blacks, the New Zealand national rugby team by James Kerr. He offers a fascinating reflection on the All Black jersey which is regarded as a semi-sacred thing. One famous star player, on being given his first shirt, held it with religious awe for almost a minute before putting it on. Kerr comments; in that moment of donning the jersey he was changed – he wasn’t just wearing a rugby kit, he became an All Black. In a similar way, at their ordination, our new curates didn’t just start wearing a clergy collar, they became clergy.

During their pre-ordination retreat, Bishop Donald had led us through the letter to the Christians at Ephesus. It was appropriate that at the service in the Cathedral we heard words from the famous last chapter; “Put on the whole armour of God”. Again, it was good to be reminded that this isn’t just about dressing up, but about joining up. In putting on spiritual armour we become spiritual soldiers.

In my sermon, I spoke of Christian character, lifestyle, integrity and the unity of God’s people. In conclusion I drew one final lesson about being a deacon (literally a servant) from being an All Black. Quite often ministry is simply about showing up, sometimes about setting up, frequently it is about clearing up! At the end of every international rugby match, the All Blacks review the game and then the two most senior players each grab a brush and sweep the changing room. The greatest willing to be servants. May God bless our new deacons as they and we follow Jesus in serving His world.

+

With my prayers and best wishes,

Kathy clocks up 30 years

My dear friends I am writing to tell you that 2022 will be my last group holiday and day trips that I will be arranging I have been doing these group holidays and trips since 1992 and I now feel the time to give up doing them due to my age I will be nearly 76 next year which will make 30 years since I started the first one back in 1992 with a tour to Weymouth in a Havant caravan park.

I have seen a change over the years with having different coach companies to try and get the best prices, numbers have been going down as most of my friends I have made over and travelled with over years have been going into their late golden years and feel do not want to travel on a group holiday or they have taken their last tour to heaven.

The tour I have arranged for 2022 to Weymouth it is where I started and it is where I will finish, I have enjoyed so much fun and laughter doing the group holidays to many interesting and beautiful places we have been to every part of Britain, Scotland and a tour to Southern Ireland and to Paris for Disney.

I started doing five day group tours then when we went to Ireland it became eight days and since then it has stayed at eight days and people feel they have been away.

I have been very Blessed over the years and without my Lord by my side praying and asking to be led and guided by Him it may have been different I just trust Him to lead me forward.

Kathy Norris @ Boothville



"If I send my prayer as a text message, will I get a faster reply?"

VOLUNTARY
IMPACT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

● ● ● ● ●

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Our volunteer drivers transport elderly and disabled residents of Northampton to essential medically related and wellbeing appointments. We also cover many long distance appointments.

For an informal chat and more information please contact us 01604 628234 or carscheme@voluntaryimpact.org.uk

Full training & support given Use your own car
Expenses of 45p per mile paid
Rewarding role helping vulnerable people

JULIE'S NEWS — Summer 2021



The church in Mumbai at a time of crisis

The news updates from India have shocked us all as we heard how the virus has had such a devastating effect, especially in the densely populated cities. Last summer I had the privilege of sharing in the online service at the church in Mumbai where I was based in 95/96. After hearing of the situation in India, I contacted Pastor Sanjay Gawali to find out what the situation was like in Mumbai and how he and the church have been impacted during this crisis. He said that he and his wife were visiting their children in the USA when the situation started to escalate. The church continues to meet online and is strengthened through this, although they feel the loss of not meeting face to face.

Prayer Points:

Church members who have lost their jobs and finding it difficult to survive.

Students who have not received regular lessons and are struggling to complete their studies.

Older members of the church who are very scared and suffering with their mental health.

The church as it struggles to meet costs and to pay pastors, due to loss of income.

Members who are in need of healing including cancer.

God's protection over the medical workers who are caring for patients on Covid wards.

As lockdown restrictions began to ease in the spring, I was able to make

plans with my parents to come and stay with me. I had not seen them since the summer as our Christmas arrangements were cancelled at the last minute, as was the case for so many families. The day before they were due to visit it seemed they would have to cancel again. My Mum had tripped and injured her arm in the garden. At the hospital it was diagnosed as fractured and put into plaster. Thankfully, she had the OK to go ahead with the visit to Wales. At a recent follow-up appointment, she was discharged.

She has managed to continue her passion for taking photographs, calling out "press! press!" when she needs help with the shutter button. Please pray for the continued healing and strengthening of my Mum's arm

Taking on the challenge

My workload is full-on as I have lots of different 'balls in the air', but I am managing to juggle the different tasks. I am designing logos for ministries in Europe, promotional campaigns for international and national events, social media graphics, and internal communications. In addition, I have the challenge of building a new website.

With the appointment of a new World Horizons UK director (Simon) last year, a new vision is forming. Part of this reshaping will be giving a greater emphasis to our work with international communities around the UK. We will continue our global focus through our many connections and ministries overseas, including several new ventures.

Earlier this year I took on the challenge of a complete redesign of the website. I am currently mapping out the new structure and overseeing the written content. When I get to the design stage, I will be using a website builder that has greater capabilities than our current system. It is a bit of a learning curve, but a good opportunity to keep up with advances in digital design and to further develop my skills.

Prayer points

I would appreciate your prayers as I prioritise tasks, learn new skills in website development, design creative content and set realistic deadlines.

I will be taking part in a prophetic art and training week in early August held at a retreat centre on the Gower. Please pray that this would be a time of reconnecting with God and hearing his voice and direction.

The crafts business, 'Mary and Martha' in Mongolia (that I had expected to visit and work with last year) has managed to survive and keep going during this challenging time.

Please pray for Bill and Irene as they strive to keep their business afloat and to support the local artisans who are in need of regular income.

My thanks and appreciation as always, to those who support me financially and through prayer and encouragement.

Julie Goodlad

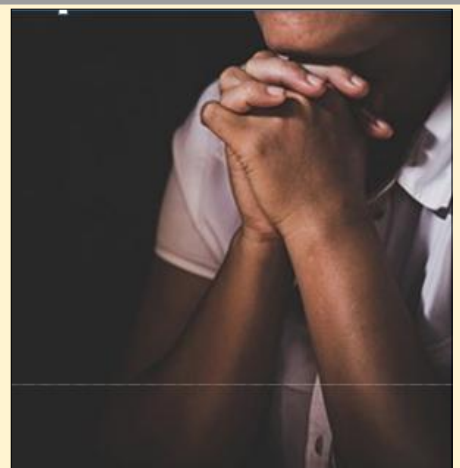
Monday Night Prayer

**Every Monday evening at 7.30pm
via zoom for an hour.**

We pray mostly for our local communities and for our church but also about issues from all over the world and, of course, for an end to the pandemic.

Anyone can pray as they feel led, or you can just be quiet and listen. We find it very encouraging. It is wonderful how much we can feel the Holy Spirit's presence in a zoom meeting!

Interested in joining us? Contact Haydon and he'll send you the zoom link.





2022 2022 2022 2022 2022

NEXT YEAR'S GROUP HOLIDAY

To Weymouth

Sat June 11th - Sat June 18th

Cost: £499.00 for eight days

**Staying at Berkeley Hotel
on the sea front**

Includes trips out to:

- West Bay (where they made the tv drama Broad-church).
- Monkey World (also televised)
- Norden to catch the steam train to Swanage
- Poole to catch a ferry to Brown sea island where you can see red squirrels and have a gentle walk.
- Beaulieu in the New Forest to the famous motor museum
- Palace house & gardens & ride the mono railway, if still running

There will also be two free days to enjoy Weymouth

A wonderful holiday for all!

**2022 will be the last year of 'Norris Tours'
as Kathy retires after 30 years.**



Day Trips 2021

Skegness Saturday 28th August

Skegness has an incredible Beach, it is huge, very clean and there are kiosks and Donkey Rides. You could visit the Seal Sanctuary, the aquarium, Fantasy Island theme park, Skegness Pier and much much more

Cost of trip is £19

Lincoln on Saturday September 11th

The cost of the trip is £17.00

Lincoln Cathedral is well worth a visit but involves an extra cost of: Adults £9, Concession £7.20 Children (5-16yrs) £4.80, Family Ticket £20.58 (2 Adults & up to 3 children) Under 5yrs are free. Tour is included in the price.

When King John agreed to the barons' demands for peace at Runnymede in 1215, copies of the charter were made and sealed. Lincoln Cathedral's Magna Carta is one of only four surviving originals and is currently displayed in the David PJ Ross Vault at Lincoln Castle.

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

**For more information
or to book with a deposit of
£5.00pp**

Book with Kathy Norris

01604 494057 or 07923017619

The Ministry Team

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Emmanuel Group Weekly News-sheet

No news sheet at present

EMMANUEL GROUP of CHURCHES BILLING BROOK ROAD
 NORTHAMPTON NN3 8JR

RECTORY FARM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rectory Farm Community
 Centre Olden Road
 NN3 5DD

Sunday service at
4.30pm

(see back page)

NEW TIME
 NEW VENUE !

BOOTHVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Boothville Community Hall
 Booth Lane North

(access via the lane by the hairdressers)

Sunday service at 10.30 (see back page)

EMMANUEL CHURCH

Weston Favell Centre,
 Billing Brook Road

Sunday service at 10.30 (see back page)

Weds Communion at 11.30 am

Group Office - Mon - Fri 10 - 2

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

Online Church 10.30am every Sunday
 Find us on our website or facebook page
(see back page)

THE LORD IS GOOD, A REFUGE IN TIMES OF TROUBLE. HE CARES FOR THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM.

On our website:

www.emmanuelgroup.org.uk

If the pandemic has brought up questions about life, hope and faith for you, we understand because we too have questions about life and faith. That's healthy and the only way we can get to good answers which help us, is if we get there together. If you have a question, or would like to talk to someone, please get in touch with us via the Contact us page on our website. We'd love to spend time with you.

If you have requests for prayer or want to tell us all a story relating an answer to prayer, we have a Prayer and Praise Hub where you can do just that at: www.emmprayer.co.uk
(We will only share your requests or updates if you allow us to do so)

You can also find other things we are doing on our social media pages, facebook - Emmanuel Group of Churches website and Twitter -

We have lots of things for young people on Facebook and Instagram.

If you don't have access to the internet; and find yourself in need of help, a listening ear or something else, do get in touch with us at the Church Office. 01604 402150

We will do all we can to find the right way to support you.

If you know of someone who doesn't have internet access and may be in need of our support, please let us know.

Financially, these are tough times for everyone. Churches and charitable institutions will not be exempt from the struggle.

If you normally give financially to the Church, thank you. Please keep giving as generously as you are able to. If you would like to give regularly to the Church, you can do this via bank transfer:

EMMANUEL BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT
 NATWEST

Sort Code: 60-15-55

Bank Account Number: 73955787

If you'd prefer to give another way, you can give via:

<https://localgiving.org/charity/emmanuelgroup/>

which has the option for single or regular gifts.

Similarly, the Foodbank:

<https://localgiving.org/charity/weston-favell-centre-foodbank/>

Cafe Emm is also in need of support to enable them to keep delivering food to those who are most vulnerable.


Thank you

for helping us continue our work in our community


“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

ROMANS 8:31

SERVICES IN AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Emmanuel @ 10.30am	Boothville CC @ 10.30am	Rectory Farm CC @ 4pm	ONLINE SERVICES 10.30am	
1st Eph 4:1-16 John 6:24-35		Maureen Luke	Yvonne Desroches & Krissy Cressey	Haydon Spenceley	Communion
8th Eph 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51	Communion Yvonne Desroches	Communion Haydon Spenceley		Haydon Spenceley Yvonne Desroches	Every Wednesday
15th Eph 5:15-20 John 6:51-58		David Bell	Stuart Jenkins	Haydon Spenceley Stuart Jenkins	11.30am
22nd Eph 6:10-20 John 6:56-69	Communion Haydon Spenceley Ken Clarke	Communion Chris Pearson		Haydon Spenceley Chris Pearson	at Emmanuel
29th			Archdeacon	Archdeacon	

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Emmanuel 10.30 am	Boothville 10.30am	Rectory Farm 4pm	ONLINE SERVICES 10.30am	
5th Luke 10:1-20	Communion Haydon Spenceley & Methodist Guest	David Bell	Communion Yvonne Desroches	Continue Indefinitely Every Sunday Morning At 10.30pm	Communion
11th at 7pm - Rachael Warnock Institution Service at Emmanuel					
12th John 4:1-26, John 4:39-42	Communion Haydon Spenceley + Rachael Warnock	Communion Doug Spenceley	Yvonne Desroches + Fiona Potter	Continue Indefinitely Every Sunday Morning At 10.30pm	Every Wednesday
19th Hebrews 12:3. Acts 2:1-13 John 16:7-15	Communion Yvonne Desroches + Peter Angus	Maureen Luke + Haydon Spenceley	Kris Hatherly	Continue Indefinitely Every Sunday Morning At 10.30pm	11.30am at
26th 2 Cor 5:14-21 Luke 15:1-10	James Fearnley + Krissy Cressey	Communion Chris Pearson	Yvonne Desroches & Rachael Warnock	Continue Indefinitely Every Sunday Morning At 10.30pm	Emmanuel

And Join us online for a short time of prayer & praise on Wednesdays at 7pm
@ www.facebook.com/TheEmmanuelGroupOfChurches

Online services will continue for the foreseeable future
Even when there is a 'real life' church service

please visit our website for up to date information
www.emmgroupp.org.uk