

# B E E M & E T

BOOTHVILLE EMMANUEL & FACTORY FARM TIMES

## All Change..

**As we near the end of another year, it's good to look back and reflect on what we have learnt and how far we have come.**

Almost overnight the pandemic changed everything and its effect had far more reach than we could ever imagine. Tragedy has hit countless families and many are still suffering. Thousands had lost their jobs whilst many more were working remotely. We had been cut off from family and friends and things that we would have taken for granted were turned on their heads. We were confused and fearful.

We have had to think about how we do every day things differently. Shifting priorities, adjusting shopping habits. Our economy has ebbed and flowed and the consequences for our country are yet to be fully realised.

As the months moved on, we started to see movement as Churches, gyms, cinemas, restaurants, hotels, leisure facilities, hairdressers, museums, galleries and theatres all reopened. Sporting activity resume and we now have a new normal.

Meetings have been faster and less frequent as we embraced technology and familiarised ourselves with Microsoft Team, Zoom and my other video conferencing platforms.

Public transport has changed and the need for social distancing has meant buses and trains have had their capacity reduce. Many people are still very concerned about infection and can't imagine travelling on packed public transport.

More people started cycling to their destinations and getting fitter in the process

We have become a nation of compliant queuers who are willing – if not necessarily happy – to keep our distance and wait our turn.

The sight of people wearing masks is now common and the amount of people who have the weekly shop delivered has risen significantly with click and collect option also on the rise. Many retailers were reluctant to handle cash, preferring contactless payment. People are cooking more meals from scratch and enjoying more family time. Online shopping is now commonplace with more retailers taking to selling their wares using these avenues.

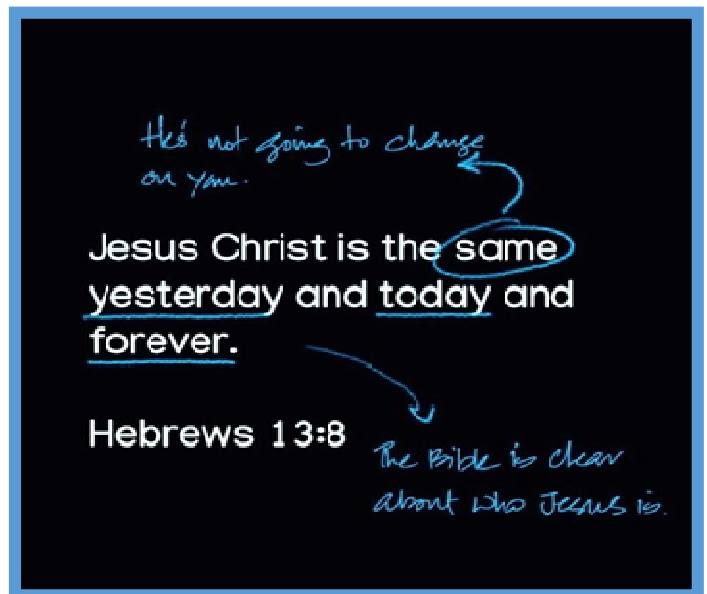
The way our children were education changed dramatically and remote learning presented its own challenges.

Visiting our GP was with done remotely or using digital health tools and delivery of medication is a positive for many patients.

The pandemic has changed many of the things that shape our lives: our relationships, our work, our interactions with technology and with one another. Even the way we worship has changed. With all the changes that the world has gone through, thankfully there are some things that never change. "Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

We do not have to fear anything the future holds. God is still on His throne, still in control and we can trust that all of His promises are true, There is no need for fear or anxiety. As Christians, we can take comfort in knowing that God never changes.

He is the same God who created the universe and walked in the garden with Adam and Eve. The same God who gave Moses the 10 Commandments, commanded Joshua and the people to walk around the walls of Jericho, cured Naaman of his leprosy, healed the blind, and the lame, raised the dead and cast out demons. He is the same God who sent His son to die for our sins, raised Jesus from the dead, hears our prayers, catches our tears and is with us EVERY SINGLE DAY!



As we head towards another year, I want to encourage you to stay focused on the one who holds your future, don't be distracted by the negativity that the world sees, God's power has not diminished, He is still the beginning and the end, so stay close to the one who sees you as the apple of his eye, hide under the shadow of his wing, put your trust in the one who never changes and be expectant for what God is going to do in 2022. Amen

**Precious**

# The Forty Days of Christmas

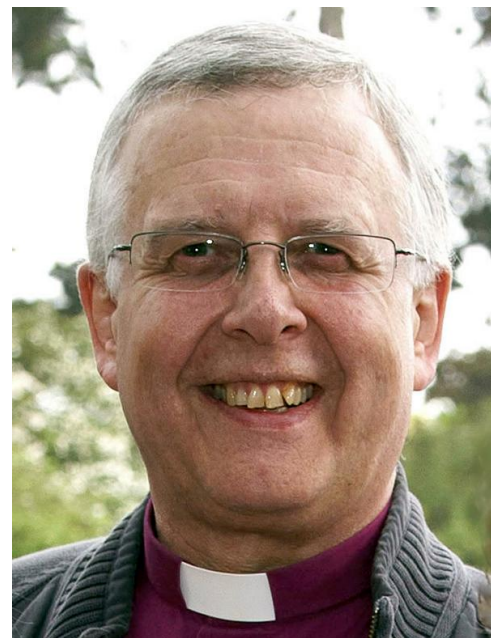
**W**henever I write a December letter, several people tell me off because I don't major on the theme of Christmas. I have my reasons, not least that I think Advent is important, neglected, and comes first. This year, though, I'll give in (partly) to the clamour.

I'm not against Christmas: I believe in and celebrate the virgin birth and incarnation of the fully human, fully divine, Jesus Christ. I understand that for all sorts of practical reasons we have to do some of the teaching and rejoicing before the day itself: for example, we celebrate with schools before they break up for their holidays, and we try to reach Christmas shoppers through carols and in other ways to help them see a bit more of the meaning of it all. I understand that we live in and reach out to the world as it is, full of commercialisation and shopping for things we don't remotely need which seems to begin earlier each year.

I do wish, though, that within our church communities we could experience the excitement and power, the peace and joy, of Christmas at the right time: from the evening of Christmas Eve, either to twelfth night and the Epiphany on 6 January; or, if we are bold enough, right through to the Presentation of Christ (Candlemas) on 2 February, forty days after we remember the birth. That would have the huge advantage of changing our perception of January to being a month of Christmas light and joy, rather than the dark and miserable time that it is for many now. And wouldn't it be good if we could help the world see the joy and celebration of Christmas flowing into and through the first month of the year?

On another note: Canon Tim Alban Jones steps down as my chaplain at the end of this month. His role has always been part Chaplain and part Cathedral Canon, but the Cathedral part has been expanding, and after six years this seems the right time for him to become full time Vice Dean. Tim has been a brilliant support to me and my office, and we will miss him very much from that role.

+ Donald



*We don't sing carols no more...  
you 'ave to listen to 'em off me iPod!*

## 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

- 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](http://www.trilogyleisure.co.uk)





## Special Christmas Services and Activities

Celebrate with us this Christmas



### 8<sup>th</sup> December

Tots Party Games Session 10am, Emmanuel

### 11<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Yarnbombing in the outdoor space between Emmanuel and Lings Leisure Centre 11am

### 15<sup>th</sup> December

Tots Christmas Session including Nativity, Santa, and Party Food 10am, Emmanuel

### 16<sup>th</sup> December

Carols at Lumbertubs Pub 7pm supported by Boothville Community Choir

### 19<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Style Café Service 10.30am at Emmanuel

### Carol Services:

Boothville 10.30am

Rectory Farm 4pm

Emmanuel 7pm & online

### 24<sup>th</sup> December

Carols at Elwes Arms Pub 8pm

### Midnight Services including Communion:

Boothville 11.30pm

Emmanuel 11.30pm & Online

### 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Morning Services

Boothville 10am, Emmanuel 10am





## Community Care Update

### December/January

Seems odd, wishing you a happy Christmas and happy new year, as I'm writing this in the middle of November. However, John Lewis advert is out and the decorations are up in the centre, so must be right.

Anyway, here's what's happening for the next couple of months.

### FISH (Food (& fun) in School Holidays)

We ran FISH in October half term. It was great morning, feeding 40 children and 16 adults, See photos below. This month we are running FISH for the first time in Christmas holidays. It will run on 21<sup>st</sup> December between 12 & 2.



Just a reminder that that wellbeing walks are still happening. They normally take 45 minutes and will start and end at our church. These run every **Friday morning at 10am**. Meet at the downstairs door of Emmanuel. We will be walking every week come rain or shine...

### Wellbeing Walk



### Look UP job club

You might recall we were successful in applying for some funding from the Methodist Church to start a job club helping unemployed people get back into work. It runs on Mondays in the WFC foodbank.

Please pray that we are able to reach the right people and help them in their quest of moving into work.

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](mailto:paul.foster@emmanuelgroup.org.uk).



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



### Christmas carols



You may have already seen an email from Rachael about Christmas, but I want to invite you to our annual carols at Lumbertubs pub. It all kicks off at 7pm on December 16th, and if you want to join us for food and a drink afterwards, we have a table booked (it's not free food I'm afraid) As always, it promises to be a good evening.

**Happy Christmas and a happy New year!**

*Paul*



## Abington Avenue United Reformed Church

is looking to recruit a **Coordinator for our Child Contact Centre**. This service offers supported contact in a safe, friendly and neutral place, where children of separated families can spend time with a parent who no longer lives with them. The centre is an accredited member of the National Association for Child Contact Centres.

We are looking to engage an enthusiastic, committed individual with excellent communication and interpersonal skills to take this vital service forward. You will be the first contact for all referrals and enquiries from families and professional bodies to the service. You will follow established procedures to progress these referrals to contact sessions or referral to other agencies. As you will be working closely with families, often at a time when they are attending courts or experiencing parental conflict, you must be confident and able to deal professionally and calmly with calls and emails.

Initially this post will be for **12 hours** per week but this could be increased as the service becomes busier. These hours are to be scheduled flexibly by arrangement over Mon -Fri. £10.40 per hour (subject to review)

**Applicants should be in sympathy with the vision and mission of Abington Avenue United Reformed Church.**

For a full Job description and Person Specification please contact office: office.aaurc@btconnect.com.

To apply please send your CV and covering letter, highlighting what you would bring to this role and why you want to join the team, to office.aaurc@btconnect.com, Abington Avenue URC, Abington Avenue, Northampton NN1 4QA quoting reference: **CCC/Coordinator**.

Closing date for applications:

26th November 2021

Interview date: December 7th 2021

**Churches Together in Northampton invite all Christians in Northampton to two united acts of worship in Advent 2021**

**DECEMBER 12TH 4 p.m. in Mount Pleasant Baptist Church – Kettering road**

A Service of Carols and Prayers for OPEN DOORS who have been Supporting Persecuted Christians for Over 60 Years

**DECEMBER 18TH 11-12 a.m. in the Town Centre Market Place** Singing Carols and sharing the stories proclaiming the birth of Immanuel, God with us in Jesus

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**HUNSBURY & BLISWORTH COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Musical Director Helen Thorman

**SATURDAY, 11TH DECEMBER**  
7pm at  
**St John the Baptist Church, Blisworth**

and..  
**SATURDAY 18th DECEMBER**  
7pm at  
**The Abbey Centre, Overslade Close Northampton NN4 0RZ**

**FREE ENTRY**

There will be collections at the end of the concerts to raise money for Cynthia Spencer Hospice and EVE

## CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

**Christmas Craft Fayre**

open from 10am-12noon on

**Saturday 4th December.**

It will take place in the main hall at New Life Church (formerly Kingdom Life Church), The Life Centre, 9 Tower Street, Northampton NN1 2SN.

**Free entry**

**Stalls for children and adults**

**Mixture of free stalls and some to pay for.**

**Refreshments available to purchase**

**Please book a place to help us know how many people will be coming at [www.klc.org.uk/craft](http://www.klc.org.uk/craft)**

**We look forward to seeing you there.**

# David Bell's... Boothville Diary



**Whenever we go into the period of Advent, I always find myself reflective of things that have happened in the past.**

In Charles Dickens book 'A Christmas Carol' we witness the main character being shown the past, present and future. The positive outcome is that he becomes a better person because of that experience.

My reflection is prompted not by a frightening Ghost, but by the Holy Spirit. I have been looking back on the times I have been part of the family of Boothville Community Church. It has been a privilege to see how the Church has grown and how its members have grown together.

It is important to realise how Boothville is coming out of the long period of the pandemic. A period of concern and the times we were not able to attend Church (thank God for the 'on line' Services).

My reflection has involved looking through my photo gallery. To the good times experienced by us all;

**Remembrance services  
outside on the green**



The long months of lock down, showed us that Faith is about Love, and Loving our neighbour.

We missed each other and now we are making up for this time by praising God together and thanking him for being with us at all times of fear and concern.

We are so proud that Boothville Community Church is a welcoming Church, a caring Church and a happy Church. On our holidays we often heard our tour operators say **'well worth a visit'**.

That certainly applies to our Church.

Hate has 4 letters, so does Love.  
Enemies has 7 letters, so does Friends.  
Lying has 5 letters, so does Truth.  
Negative has 8, so does Positive.  
Under has 5, so does Above.  
Cry has 3 letters, so does Joy.  
Anger has 5 letters, so does Happy.  
Right has 5 letters, so does wrong.  
Hurt has 4 letters, so does Heal.

*It means life is like double edged sword... So transform every negative side into an aura of positivity... We choose the better side of the life.*



**Dressing the cross  
for Harvest Festival**



**Carol Services**



Weston Favell  
Centre

foodbank

**OPENING TIMES  
For Donations****Monday****10 - 14.00****Tuesday****10 - 14.00****Wednesday****10 - 14.00****Thursday Closed****Friday****10 - 14.00****OPENING TIMES  
FOR FOOD PARCEL  
COLLECTIONS****Monday****13.00pm-15.00pm****Wednesday****10.00am-13.00pm****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

Foodbank has been given a face-lift! Our new screens make the place look more inviting.

As well as providing food parcels, we have been welcoming people to come and talk to our guests, to make sure they are getting the right support.

Community Law Service and Adult Social Services, as well as the new 'Look Up' job club have been made available in Foodbank to give people advice and a help to improve their lives and make changes for the better.

During the last couple of months we have been getting busier with people struggling to cope with the Universal Credit uplift being removed and the gas and electricity price increases.

This weekend we have been collecting food donations at the Trussell Trust Winter Collection event at Tesco Weston Favell and Mere-way. We are always humbled at the generosity of our local community.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please contact us. All the details are below:

With Xmas coming up we have been working with partners to support the foodbank guests as much as we can

Weston Favell Centre Wishing Tree have nominated our Foodbank as their local charity to give the Wishing Tree presents to. We are very grateful to the Weston Favell Centre Management.

**Happy Christmas!****Ways to Give**

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

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

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 Group of Churches -

- Sort Code - 60-15-55 Bank Account Number - 72882948

You can download a standing order mandate from the Emmanuel Church/foodbank website: [www.emmgroupp.org.uk](http://www.emmgroupp.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!**



Weston Favell  
Centre  
**foodbank**  
EMMANUEL  
GROUP OF CHURCHES

## CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Monday 20th December Open 1pm - 3pm  
Wednesday 22nd December Open 10am - 1pm  
Monday 27th December Closed  
Wednesday 29th December Open 10am - 1pm  
Monday 3rd January Open 1pm - 3pm  
January 5th 10.00am-13.00pm

*WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR GUESTS AND VOLUNTEERS  
A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS*

Weston Favell  
Centre  
**foodbank**  
EMMANUEL  
GROUP OF CHURCHES

## VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED!

**Could you offer a few hours to  
help out at our Food Bank?**



We are looking for  
Packers, Runners and  
Stockroom Helpers, and also  
Drivers to pick up donations  
from local supermarkets,  
then drop off at the Food Bank.

If you feel you can volunteer,  
these are our opening hours:

**Mondays 9-12 & 12-3**  
**Tuesdays 9-12 & 12-3**  
**Wednesdays 9-12 & 12-3**

**We look forward to  
hearing from you**

[info@westonfavellcentre.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@westonfavellcentre.foodbank.org.uk)  
**07467 074 496**

# John Jeffreys

## Electrical



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john@johnjeffreyslectrical.co.uk



www.johnjeffreyslectrical.co.uk

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## DEADLINE

for items for the

## Dec/Jan

## EDITION

of

# B.E.R.T

## FRIDAY

## 21st

## JANUARY

Please send your  
articles and any  
other items for  
BERT to..

[liz@lizzywhizz.biz](mailto:liz@lizzywhizz.biz)

SEE BERT ONLINE  
IN FULL COLOUR

on our  
website:

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



## Faxing Service

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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
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### Receiving:

1st page	0.75
Following page/s	0.05

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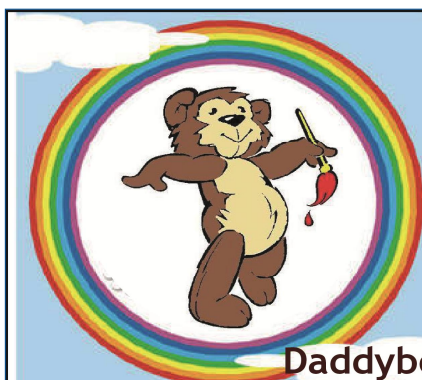
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or visit [www.scb-automotive.co.uk](http://www.scb-automotive.co.uk)

## 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](mailto:daddybear1973@yahoo.com)

## Daddybear Face Painting

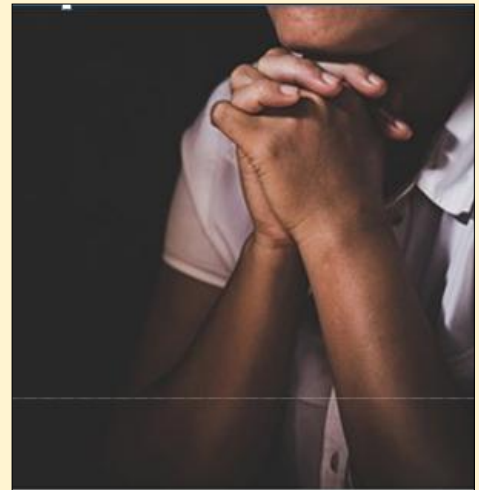


# Monday Night Prayer

**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.



## It's Christmas

The Bethlehem manger, shepherds, wise men, Jesus, Mary and Joseph – it's all so familiar to older people, who are shocked to hear that younger generations may be hazy or ignorant of them. Aren't they part of everyone's education?

Yet the first Christmas was restricted to just a few. What 21st Century Christians proclaim as the most significant event in history began in a remote corner of the Roman Empire, without the pomp and publicity we associate with kingship and power. What modern media have called 'The Greatest Story Ever Told', escaped everyone's attention in first century Palestine.

This year, Christmas is going to be a busier celebration than last year, but probably not yet back to the normal fuss we usually make each December. The streets will be crowded, but shops may struggle with supplies. Parties will take place, but many people will feel reluctant join in. Family gatherings are allowed again, but the vulnerable may hesitate. Christmas services will be held, but as singing has the potential for droplet and aerosol transmission, music will be muted this year. A Christmas without many carols!

Many will struggle to hold their 'usual' Christmas. Yet God does not neglect us. This may be the very opportunity to rekindle or deepen our faith in what really matters about Christmas. Away from the hordes, perhaps completely alone this Christmas, we may sit quietly and allow our heavenly Father to draw near to us. We may picture Mary inviting us to gaze with her at her Son, born to save us from our sins. In the silence of our imagination, we may join the chorus of angels announcing His birth to the shepherds:

***"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests."***



It was that chorus which inspired an American Minister, Edmund Sears, to write the Christmas hymn, 'It Came Upon a Midnight Clear'. Sears, troubled by the world's turbulent history and failure to hear the Christmas message, was himself recovering from a breakdown. Written in 1849, his words have a timeless ring about them:

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring;  
Oh, hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing.*

Ven John Barton





## THE LATEST NEWS.

**Maureen Timms** - Café Emm Trustee.

**Café Emm continues to increase in popularity. Our takings are still rising, which is very good news. Long may it continue.**

In November we started our Memory Café, which offers a variety of arts-based dementia friendly activities. We started on Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. and are open every other Wednesday from 2.30pm – 4.00 pm in the café.

At present we are still a small group, but as word gets around we are hoping to build up numbers of people attending. If you're dealing with memory difficulties, or have friends that are in that position, please come along. If you would like more information, please call Annette on 07972364358, or email:

[annette.codrington@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:annette.codrington@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com).

We also have regular Board Games each Monday morning from 10.00am. Annette can tell you more about this too.

Sunday Lunches are proving very popular and bookings are now full until the New Year. Our normal Hot dinner days, of Tuesday and Thursday have a regular clientele and these are going well too.

We are fully booked for the Christmas Lunch which is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

We still have a need for more volunteers. We are very short at present as some of our regulars are unable to

come in because of personal issues. If you can help in any way or have any friends that have time to spare in the week, please let Julie know, she will be very happy to talk to you.

We are interviewing for a new cook at present and pray that we shall be successful this time. However, it is very unlikely that we will get anyone to start until the New Year.

Julie is taking a much-needed break, so in the week leading up to Christmas we shall be closed on Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, open Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec, then closed for Christmas until we open again on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022.

Café Emm always offers a warm welcome to everyone who comes in.

**We are open 10.00 – 2.00 Monday to Friday.**

We offer good quality, well cooked food, drinks and homemade cakes at very reasonable prices. Please do come and visit when you are in the shopping centre.

Café Emm is in need of financial support currently donations are quite low at £100.00 per month, so any form of cash injection would be welcome. If you want to donate by bank transfer the bank details for Café Emm are: Emmanuel Coffee Shop - Sort Code - 60-15-55 - Account Number - 73106291 Thank you.

**We wish all our customers, volunteers and supporters A happy and peaceful Christmas**





# Foodbanks - how it all started

**"It's amazing how many people are being fed because of this crazy little thing we started. We're feeding millions and it is not costing anyone anything" – John van Hengel**

It may surprise you to learn that the first food bank was opened in 1967 at St Mary's Basilica in Phoenix, Arizona. Today, there are food banks in over 80 countries but, sadly, the need for them is growing faster than ever.

John van Hengel, a devout Roman Catholic, is known as the 'Father of Food Banks'. He died, aged 83 in 2005. The idea came to him while working in a soup kitchen in Phoenix. In the evening he took leftovers to the homeless and, while doing this, he met a woman with 10 children, and whose husband was on death row. She was searching through bins for food that had been thrown away by a grocery store and suggested to John van Hengel that there ought to be a place somewhere that such food could be deposited for the hungry, something along the lines of a bank, where instead of depositing money you could put unwanted food, and the hungry could withdraw it.

John took the idea to his church, St Mary's Basilica, who gave him a derelict building and the money to set up the world's first food bank. He named it St Mary's. In 1976, John left St Mary's to create an organisation called America's Second Harvest — since 2008 it has been known as Feeding America. This organisation established food banking standards and guidelines and worked with large national companies to develop ways of supplying food banks in ways that, as well as helping the hungry, was financially beneficial for the companies. Today Feeding America distributes 2 billion pounds of groceries to feed 23 million Americans every year.

However, John van Hengel's work was not confined to America, he went on to help start food banks in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. He was involved in creating the Global Foodbanking Network (GFN) whose mission is 'to nourish the world's hungry through uniting and advancing food banks'.

GFN's statistics are amazing: 278,000 volunteers have served 40 million people in 44 countries with 2.4 billion meals, and they work with 59,000 food bank agencies. It is not difficult to see why John van Hengel is called the 'Father of Food Banks'. Most food banks continue to reflect his Christian outlook on life and most of them have been set up and run by churches from all denominations.

The first food bank in the UK was not opened until 2000 because our welfare service at that time meant that the demand was not as great as elsewhere in the world. However, following the coalition government's Welfare Reform Act of 2010 - which introduced Universal Credit - the demand soon increased.

The story behind the UK's first food bank follows a similar pattern to that of John van Hengel. Three years previously, in 1997, Carol and Paddy Henderson were left a legacy by Carol's mother, Betty Trussell. They created the Trussell Trust with the focus on helping more than 60 deprived children who slept at a railway station in Bulgaria.

However, in 2000, a Salisbury woman told them that she was struggling financially and had to send her children to bed hungry. Her call prompted them to look more closely at poverty in the UK and resulted in the Salisbury Food Bank being opened by Paddy in his garden shed.

The food bank aimed to provide three days of emergency food for local people in crises. Inspired by the words of Jesus: 'I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink' ... (Matthew 25: 35), the idea was soon picked up by churches around the country, many of which are now working in partnership with the Trussell Trust which supports about two thirds of all the UK food banks, including ours.

Many UK Food Banks come under the wings of smaller charitable trust funds set up mainly by churches. Our foodbank (Weston Favell Centre Foodbank) runs under the Emmanuel Group of Churches charity.

The greatest concern for all food banks everywhere in the world is an exponential demand for their services.



# THE HOLY LAND

## A 9 day Pilgrimage to Biblical Lands of Israel and Palestine

Led by

The Revd Doug Spenceley

'Emmanuel Group of Churches, Northampton'

6th - 14th June, 2022



**LIGHTLINE**  
PILGRIMAGES

*- The official and preferred Pilgrimage partner for the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem -*

## Walking in the footsteps of Jesus

It's been delayed twice during the last 18 months, but at last, it's here! Journey with me on a pilgrimage to that special place we call the Holy Land and allow the Bible and our faith come alive.

We'll be walking in the footsteps of Jesus and seeing how the ancient stones and landscapes speak into life today, both in that land and within ourselves. Many find their faith renewed in fresh ways and new friendships formed. We'll be meeting some of the people today living amongst the political challenges in this beautiful land of contrasts.

If you've often thought you'd like to come to the Holy Land, this

may be the right moment – it's a journey of a lifetime. I'm happy to chat if you want to know more. You can visit the Lightline website to look at the full details of the pilgrimage, and to book a place at: <https://www.lightline.org.uk/tour/the-holy-land-the-revd-doug-spenceley/>

I look forward to hearing from you.

Doug Spenceley

Email: [doug.spenceley@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:doug.spenceley@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)

or phone: 01604 407977



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew 2: 1-10

Around the time of Jesus' birth, in a land far to the east of Israel, there were men who studied the stars...

When they saw a new star they believed it showed a special King had been born. ☆ ☆



They set off to see that King.



They reached Jerusalem, the home of King Herod.



Where is the new King whose star we saw?

The Romans had made Herod king of the Jews about 30 years earlier. He was ruthless.



The Jews hated him and he was always worried that people were plotting against him.



He had them killed even if they were his wife or children...



So what the wise men said about a new King upset Herod



and that made everyone else afraid.

Herod got the teachers and priests together and asked about the king's birthplace.



That would be Little Bethlehem\*



\* Micah 5:2

Herod secretly met the wise men and asked when they had first seen the star.



Go to Bethlehem and look for the child. When you find him let me know so I can come and worship him.



As they left Jerusalem the wise men were elated to see the guiding star again. ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆





"I will be in Cafe Emm  
on Friday 3rd December and  
Thursday 9th December 11am-12pm  
creating Christmas style  
pom pom's  
to string up outside Emmanuel  
on the 11th December  
do pop in and join me if you are  
Free and would like to!

I will have some red and green  
wool as well as pom pom makers,  
please feel

free to bring from home too."

Hope to see you there

Thanks very much!

Rachael (Warnock)



**2022 2022 2022 2022 2022**

**NEXT YEAR'S GROUP HOLIDAY**

**To Weymouth**

**Sat June 11th - Sat June 18th**

**Cost: £499.00 for eight days**

**A wonderful holiday for all!**

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

Includes trips out to: West Bay (where they made the tv drama Broadchurch) 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

*This trip is 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

## DAY TRIPS 2022

**Saturday 30th April - Highclere Castle**

home of Downton Abbey Cost of entrance and coach is £33.50.

**Saturday May 21st - The Gloucester & Warwick**

**Steam Railway** back by popular request. Cost £40.50 per person for coach and 28 mile round trip on a steam train from Toddington in the Cotswolds.

**Saturday 9th July - Bourton-on-the-water** cost £14.00.

**Saturday August 27th - Great Yarmouth** £21.00 each.

**Saturday September 10th - St Albans Town Centre**

£13.00 each.

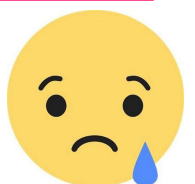
a £5.00 non-refundable deposit books your place

with Kathy Norris

01604 494057 or 07923017619

**2022**

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





## The Ministry Team

Revd Haydon Spenceley 244391 [haydon.spenceley@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:haydon.spenceley@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)  
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EMMANUEL GROUP of CHURCHES BILLING BROOK ROAD  
 NORTHAMPTON NN3 8JR

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

## 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

[\(see back page\)](#)

## On our website:

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

**If you have 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](http://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 DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Emmanuel @ 10.30am	Boothville CC @ 10.30am	Rectory Farm CC @ 4pm	Midweek Communion 11.30am	
<b>5th</b> Philippians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6	<b>Communion</b> Yvonne Desroches + Ken Clark	<b>Morning Worship</b> Maureen Luke	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley	<b>8th</b>	
<b>12th</b> Philippians 4.4-7 Luke 3.7-18	<b>Morning Worship</b> James Fearnley	<b>Communion</b> Doug Spenceley + Methodist Guest	<b>Communion</b> Obi Hez + Kris Hatherly	<b>15th</b>	
<b>19th</b> Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-55	<b>Communion</b> Rachael Warnock + Peter Angus	<b>Carol Service</b> David Bell	<b>Carol Service</b> Kris Hatherly + Yvonne Desroches	<b>22nd</b>	
<b>19th @ 7pm</b>	<b>Carol Service</b> Haydon Spenceley				
<b>Christmas Eve @ 11.30pm</b> Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-20	<b>Communion</b> Doug Spenceley	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley			
<b>Christmas Day @ 10am</b> Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-20	<b>Family Service</b> Rachael Warnock	<b>Family Service</b> Yvonne Desroches			
<b>26th SERVICE @ Boothville only</b>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>	<b>Communion</b> Colossians 3.12-17 Luke 2.41-52	<b>NO SERVICE</b>	<b>29th</b>	

# SERVICES IN JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Emmanuel 10.30 am	Boothville 10.30am	Rectory Farm 4pm	Midweek Communion 11.30am	
<b>2nd</b>	<b>Communion</b> Rachael Warnock Haydon Spenceley (Covenant)	<b>Morning Worship</b> Maureen Luke + Yvonne Desroches	<b>Communion</b> Yvonne Desroches + Haydon Spenceley	<b>5th</b>  <b>Yvonne</b>	
<b>9th</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> Haydon Spenceley + James Fearnley	<b>Communion</b> Doug Spenceley + Helen Cameron	<b>Morning Worship</b> Yvonne Desroches	<b>12th</b>  <b>Francis</b>	
<b>16th</b>	<b>Communion</b> Rachel Warnock + Ken Clark	<b>Morning Worship</b> David Bell	<b>Morning Worship</b> Obi Hez + Fiona Potter	<b>19th</b>  <b>Haydon</b>	
<b>23rd</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> Yvonne Desroches	<b>Communion</b> Chris Pearson	<b>Communion</b> Rachel Warnock	<b>26th</b>  <b>Doug</b>	
<b>30th</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> Peter Angus	<b>Communion</b> Haydon Spenceley	<b>Morning Worship</b> Keith Holland De- lamere + Yvonne Desroches	<b>(Feb 2nd)</b>  <b>Haydon</b>	

please visit our website for up to date information  
[www.emmgroupp.org.uk](http://www.emmgroupp.org.uk)