

# 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

## What is the Church and What is it for???

Some members of a church are standing by the side of the road holding up a sign that reads, 'The end is near! Turn around now before it's too late!' They hold up the sign to cars passing by. "Leave us alone, you religious idiots!" yells the first driver as he speeds by. From around the curve they hear the squealing of tyres, followed by a big splash.... "Do you think," says one of the members to the others "we should put up a sign that says 'Bridge Out' instead?"

**June sees the beginning a new Sermon series:**

**What is the Church? and What is it for?**

I'm sure you can come up with many different answers to those questions and there are indeed many answers to them. Over the next few months we will be exploring the image and role of the church and it's message in and to society, which is of course a wide and multidimensional topic.

Why? you may wonder. Many churches in the U.K are in decline, and it is suggested that many have simply not adapted to the changes in society. Simply put, many churches have carried on trying to do the same thing knowing that it is not having the impact it used to. But what does a healthy church look like? Are numbers everything? How can the church survive in a multicultural, increasingly skeptical and secular society?

I am excited about exploring different approaches and answers to these questions. This is because I am convinced that the Church is God's chosen instrument to be beacons of His light in our communities. Principally the church exists because God has ordained her to be his hands and feet in the world, to a mouthpiece of righteousness to point people into God's Kingdom. This is by no mean feat and is not an easy calling. The Church without God is dead. A church that is not fired up for the gospel is no better, and a church that is resource rich is not necessarily at more of an advantage either.

The Church is not perfect, the concept is, because God is.



But as people we are fallible. There are many analogies for this such as as: 'The church is one beggar telling another where they can find bread' or 'If you find the perfect church, you can't attend because you will spoil it.' The truth of the church is that we are collection of fallen people gathered together to celebrate the God of redemption and forgiveness.

So, yes the word church can mean different things for different people, it can also mean different things at different times. When I 'returned to church' in 1999 (Culloden Baptist) I was going through a rough time in my life. A member of the diaconate (leader) said to me that Sunday to Sunday can be a long time, why not join a small group. I did and that helped to firm my foundation in Christ and grow in faith once again. The point here is that Church is not just something we do or go to get something out of, Church is part of our identity in Jesus Christ and in being church we respond to and with God in our lives.

It truly is our prayer that as we approach this series we come afresh to the question of what it means to be 'church' and hear something of what God may be calling us to, as we seek to be guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit together, so that we can celebrate what was, be grateful for what is and dare to hope and pray for the times to come.

Stewart Betts

# "When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place"

I had the pleasure of attending Baptist Assembly 17th-19th May. It was an opportunity to gather together, catch up, be inspired and to celebrate!

It was a joy to celebrate those who received their handshake into fully accredited ministry, to welcome the incoming president and to worship together.

We were inspired by hearing passages connected to Pentecost being spoken on from four different perspectives. We enjoyed hearing powerful words from Lynne Green, the Baptist secretary too.

**Rachael Warnock**



We all love to have beautiful green gardens- but it's important to think about how we can garden responsibly to save water, protect our environment, enhance local wildlife and to make sure we have enough for future generations.

As we approach (hopefully) warmer weather, most people are excited to spend more time outdoors. Here are some water-saving tips to help save every drop in our gardens and allotments.

Long grass gives shade to the soil and stops it getting too dry – and can encourage wildflowers to grow, creating a haven for pollinators in the garden. In dry weather, water young plants and vegetables first and leave your other older plants to wait a little longer.

Collecting rainwater in a water butt can fill up a watering can 27 times for free. Use a water butt or even a bucket to collect rain to use in dry spells. You don't need a water butt to start collecting rainwater. You can simply use an old bucket, bin or container you likely already have at home. If you use a plastic container, you'll also be giving the plastic a new lease of life and preventing it from heading to landfill.

Be sure to weed regularly. Weeds compete with your plants for water and nutrients. Adding mulch, wood chip or bark to your garden beds allows the rain to penetrate through whilst minimising the amount of water lost due to evaporation - it also helps to keep weeds out.

## Northampton Carnival '24

**Saturday 8 June**

**Racecourse Park, Northampton, NN1 4LG**  
**Start Time: 12:00 Noon until 7:30pm**

The theme this year "A Festival for All Cultures" has been chosen, to give hope and the opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate!

The Emmanuel Group is taking part this year with a NOAHS ARK float and a stall. This is being led by our community team who are looking for people to help with and on the float and also on the stall.

**Contact:**

[gemma.broadhead@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:gemma.broadhead@emmanuelgroup.org.uk) or  
[lynne.nelson@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:lynne.nelson@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)

## SAVE THIS DATE 21ST SEPTEMBER !

An 'Away Day' for everyone is planned  
at Grendon Hall.

Arrival - 10am for tea and coffee.

We will start at 10:30am, finishing at 3pm.

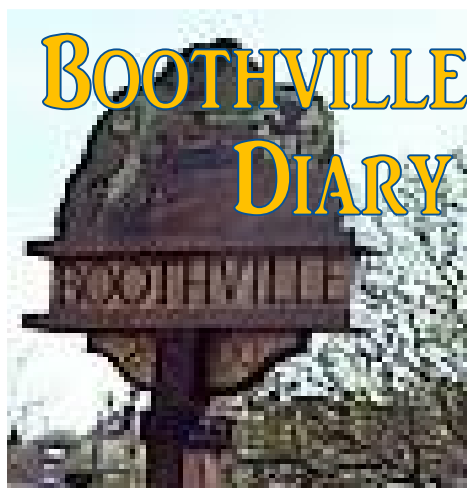
Cost will be £10

This includes lunch and the use of  
the facilities.

Booking and other details will be available soon.



Shirley caught the flower ladies  
red-handed, dealing trugs



*Mary Langley writes*

## Once again we had a very busy Easter at Boothville.

**On Palm Sunday** Boothville Community Choir put on another Successful concert. This time they raised £633 for RNLI. Well done to all concerned.

**Good Friday** We were really pleased to have a congregation of over 30 at our service. There were several first time visitors who joined us for tea/coffee and hot cross buns afterwards.

**On Easter Sunday** we had a double celebration. The Resurrection of our Lord and a Baptism. Our day started off with breakfast.



**Chris (and others) tuck into Easter breakfast at Boothville**

This is very much a Boothville tradition. Trisha and Roy Harland have been on 'egg duty' in the kitchen for many years.

Everyone provides something towards the breakfast and we sit down to cereals, boiled eggs, toast, marmalade etc with tea/coffee and fruit juice.

The majority of our regular congregation come along to the breakfast so it is a real time of fellowship. The tables are set up out in a cross formation to mark this special day.

## Stewart took the Easter service and Pat Harvey was baptised by Yvonne.

Pat attended a Catholic school and was confirmed at a very early age. She drifted away from church but always felt, through life's ups and downs, that God was with her. On coming to Northampton she was eventually introduced to Boothville Church by Christian friends.

Her faith has grown through teaching and fellowship with other Christians. She has enjoyed attending our Monday house group and learning more through bible study. Pat decided at the end of last year that she wanted to be baptised in order to declare her faith and as she said to Yvonne on Easter Sunday she wanted her sins to be forgiven.

She had to wait a little while but Easter Sunday was decided upon.

By the time you read this, Pat will have had her ninetieth birthday so it only goes to show it is never too late!

We pray for Pat as she continues on her journey with the Lord.



**Yvonne anoints Pat**



**Pat is Baptised**

We are very blessed at Boothville with willing helpers who prepare tea and coffee after the service.

As we use mugs, it is not just preparing drinks but washing up to do as well!

Thanks to all who serve the Lord in this way.

Having this time of fellowship after the service is so important as a church family and gives us an opportunity to welcome and get to know new members and visitors





**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO....**

*Welcome Service*

The celebratory induction of our new Northampton Methodist Chair of District



The Rev'd Dr. Sonia Hicks

at PARK AVENUE METHODIST CHURCH  
NORTHAMPTON NN3 2HT

**AUGUST | 3<sup>rd</sup> | 2024**

**2:30pm**

Please RSVP by 21st June to  
office@northamptonmethodistdistrict.co.uk

*'Baby—basics'*

**Emmanuel Church Office**  
**Weston Favell Centre**

**Baby Basics Northampton**  
**donation drop off point**

We can accept donations  
10am-1pm on Mondays  
and 10am-2pm Tues - Fri.

The church office is on the Upper Shopping Mall,  
under the library and through the  
automatic double doors



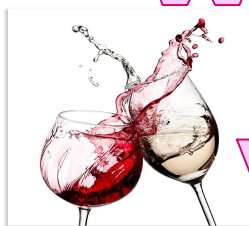
### **Men's Pie & Pint**

"Pie and Pint" meet at the Lumbertubs Pub on the 1st Thursday of every month from 7:30pm.

All men welcome.

Contact for more information  
Paul Foster

## **Women & Wine**



We meet together monthly, for our regular 'Women & Wine' gathering...

- called *Women and Wine* but much more about food!

It's a great time to catch up, have a good chat, enjoy fellowship, fun and a nice meal with no washing up! All women welcome.

Women & Wine usually meets monthly on a Wednesday from 7pm at the Quays.  
- We don't meet in December.

You can get details of upcoming dates and join our Whatsapp group by contacting:



Revd Rachael Warnock .  
01604 402150  
rachael.warnock@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

**We look forward to seeing you!**

## **How to donate to charity without it costing anything!**

When buying online, many companies including big names such as Amazon, Currys, Argos, Boots, Tesco, John Lewis, Asos, Very, B&Q, Dunelm and many more, will donate a percentage of the online purchase price to a charity of your choice.

Obviously we would like your choice of charity to be the Emmanuel Group of Churches, Registered Charity No. 1140504, but the choice is yours.

To get the donation all you need to do is register at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> and go through this website each time you buy online. You can add an extension to your browser if you wish so that when you search for an item online you get the option to go through the easyfundraising website if the company you are buying from is willing to give a donation.

Whoever you choose to donate to, it is a way of getting large companies to donate and support charities that you are interested in, without any additional cost to you.

**Kevin Potter**

# Spring Harvest 2024

**Most years, at Eastertime, I can be found at Butlins. Why do I go? The fab weather - not the reason this year! The beach, the pool with waterslides and the fairground? Well yes, they are definitely part of the reason.**

Many Butlins staff describe it as their favourite week of the year to work. Why is that, I hear you ask? The answer is for five days Butlins is FULL of Christians.

Something special happens when lots of Christians gather together and I love the fact the Butlins staff see that and are blessed by our presence. Spring Harvest makes sure there is something for everyone with activities from 7.30 in the morning till 11 at night

At a Christian Conference you would expect there to be some good teaching and there definitely is, for all ages and stages of faith. My day started at 9am with a 1980's workout video themed all age service, with drama, music and teaching. The service set the theme for each day based on the book of Ephesians.



Then I went to bible study where we dug further into Ephesians, the quality of the teaching is excellent.

Next I manage to grab a quick coffee to take to a seminar on Mental Health, before heading back to the chalet for lunch.

Alternative choices included an Alpha course, more bible teaching, or attending one of a choice of seminars. Children have their own groups, where they have teaching, worship and fun with games and crafts alongside hundreds of other children and young people.



For me the afternoon was time to explore Butlins and the beach but there were teaching sessions, workshops, seminars and shows I could have gone to. I did end up at a praise party one afternoon, with my friend's daughter, It turned out to be the most energetic work out I have had in months!

This year after dinner I chose to go to the smaller acoustic venue for the evening meeting, but I could have gone to Studio 36 to hear the likes of Pete Greig. My smaller venue had some amazing teaching from people like Phil Knox and Debra Green and it was announced that our venue would be a church for the week, and it was, with great worship times, a prayer team and a creative space. A chance to be refreshed and refilled and blessed.

But that wasn't the end of the day, with shows, worship music and Christian comedy to choose from. Andy Kind and Tim Vine were two highlights of my week. For me, the thing about Spring Harvest is I don't just go to church every day. I do life in a Christian space for 5 days. From learning and worshipping, to talking about how to deal with the ups and downs of life, to just having a laugh with other Christians. (and there's always the beach).

**Krissy Cressie**



I have been going to Spring Harvest for almost 40 years now. Firstly when my daughters were young when they would go off to their various groups; never to be seen except at meal times.

I remember well the songs taught to them by Ishmael (who remembers him) and "The Glorie Company". They would sing in the car all the way home and for some weeks afterwards. In fact especially when we are there, even now Wendy occasionally bursts in to these catchy ditties. Spring Harvest has this effect. It stays with you for weeks if not years afterwards. Not just the songs of course but the teaching which was off the scale back then and this hasn't changed. This year I attended with just Wendy my eldest daughter. Wendy is a Costa Coffee addict and fortunately Butlins (the venue for Spring Harvest) is able to accommodate this.

This, as every year, the afternoon seminars covered topics from 'Menopause and Me' 'Leadership and abuse of Power' and 'Curry and Comedy' to name just three. We attended the first of these (don't ask why). All the seminars are optional and should you prefer a walk along the beach or promenade this too could be very spiritually uplifting as well as healthy. Speaking of health there is an organised run every morning and a swimming pool and Ice Rink on site, not to mention Butlins Funfair as a bit of light relief.

In the mornings there are Bible study and teaching sessions and every evening wonderful uplifting Celebrations in a variety of venues according to your preferences. The choice is yours and there are Alpha groups too for those still searching.

I really must not forget to mention the after-hours entertainment which included comedian Tim Vine who was so hilarious we went to his show two nights running.

I love it and will be going again in 2025 God willing. The question is will it be just me and Wendy again or can we tempt some of you to join us?

I will be very happy to answer any thing else you would like to know as there is much I have missed.

**Pat Wheeler**



## At Emmanuel Church Ground Floor

### FOODBANK IS OPEN ON

**Wednesday**

**10.00 -13.00pm**

**Friday**

**10.00 - 13.00pm**

**Please take any donations  
of food to Tesco at  
Weston Favell or  
Emmanuel Church Office**

**The church office is open  
Monday - Friday 10.00 -14.00**

**If you take your food  
donation to Tesco they will  
add another 20%**



**If you have already donated food or given financially  
to foodbank, or volunteered to help,**

**We thank you for your support**

If you have some time to spare could you offer a few hours to  
help at foodbank? We are looking for packers, runners,  
stockroom helpers and people with computer skills.

Plus drivers to pick up donations from local supermarkets.

If you are able to offer us some time or would like to know more,  
pop into foodbank, or email:

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

**07467 074 296**

**Note: this phone is only monitored on**

**Mon 9 -12.30, Tues 9 - 3pm, Weds & Fri 9 - 2pm**

Outside these times you may leave a message

If you prefer to make a financial donation instead of food  
this can be done via bank transfer to:

**Emmanuel Group of Churches**

**Sort Code - 60-15-55**

**Bank Account Number - 73955787**

Or you can download a standing order mandate from the  
Emmanuel Church/foodbank website:

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

Or via the Weston Favell Centre foodbank page and follow  
the local giving link:

**<https://locagiving.org/charity/weston-favellcentrefoodbank>**

## FOODBANK PLUS++++

**Our Partner services**

**available on Foodbank days**

Melanie Jones – **Community Law Services**

Anna Thorpe – **Northampton Partnership Homes**

Yvonne Desroches - **Pioneer Curate**

Rachael Warnock - **Baptist Minister**

Hanna Pecherska - **Ukrainian Hub**

### **Foodbank Staff Team**

**Food Bank Manager** – Denise Kennedy

**Food Bank Project Manager** – Nish Sadikot

**Volunteer Training & Development Manager** – Carla Smith

**Fundraiser** – Julie Parsons

**Warehouse Managers** – Matthew Kinton & Selina Smith (Job share)

**Administrator** – Oliver Gifford

We understand that the rising cost of living  
is impacting on everyone.

Foodbank is extremely grateful to those who continue to  
donate, enabling us to continue to feed those in need.

Be assured that to maximise resources we are cutting costs  
and promoting the need for donations to Foodbank  
wherever we can.



# John Jeffreys

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## **DEADLINE**

for items for the

**August**

**and**

**September**

**EDITION**

of

**B.E.R.T**

**FRIDAY**

**19th**

**July**

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

**[liz@lizzywhiz.biz](mailto:liz@lizzywhiz.biz)**



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**See BERT in full colour  
on our Website**

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

**+ lots of other information about our  
group of churches**

## 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.*

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# Church services on Sunday. What

**Do you, or anyone you know  
Suffer from  
Dementia or Memory loss ?**

**WE  
CAN HELP !**

*come and visit our*  
**MEMORY CAFE**

*Supporting people and their carers living*

Meet up and chat to others who understand  
in a safe and friendly environment.  
Every Monday 1.30 - 3.00pm at Café Emm

Weston Favell Shopping Centre NN3 8JR  
email: [anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com)

Tel: 01604402150  
Or 07492 306102

**Memory Café meet every Mondays - 1.15pm to 2.30pm at Café Emm**

We have different activities all geared for people with memory loss. These include art, games, quizzes, memory trays etc. It is also a way for carers to support each other and make new friends.



**Singing for the Soul  
Tuesdays 1.15pm to 2.30pm at Café Emm**

A singing group for adults. We meet every Tuesday. The group is for anyone who enjoys singing. You do not need to be able to sing, it's just for fun!



**Cafe Emm**

**Games Group Mondays  
10am to 12noon at Café Emm**

We meet every Monday and play board and card games.



Straight Flush

**Friendship table Tuesday 10.30am to 11.30am Café Emm**

A friendship table in Café Emm for anyone who is on their own and would like to meet other people over a cuppa. Someone is there between those times for anyone who wants to have a chat and make friends.

**Anna Austin Café Emm Community Support Worker**

tel: 01604 402150

Email: [Anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:Anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com)

## Ukrainian hub

We are here to help  
Calling all Ukrainian families and sponsors  
Weston Favell Community Support Hub

- \*Meetings with West Northampton Council resettlement team representatives
- \*Advice/guidance on Home for Ukraine scheme, sponsorship and family visas.
- \*Help with school places, GP registration, benefits
- \*Translation available

- \*Friendly, welcome environment
- \*Delicious Ukrainian food
- \*Board games, enjoyable activities and quizzes for kids and adults
- \*Creative workshops and art therapy

Every Friday 10.00 - 12.00  
Emmanuel Church Weston Favell Centre NN3 8JR  
For more information contact Hanna: 07467589519  
or Natalia: [Natalia.antipina@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Natalia.antipina@westnorthants.gov.uk)



# happens for the rest of the week ?

## Our Family Tots Groups

are warm and friendly with lots of activities and support.

We call it family tots because it is open to Mum, Dad, Grandparent, Auntie, Uncle or any other carers. to come with pre-school children. You can find us at Emmanuel Church every Wednesday



Tots are learning about Zoo animals right now and we are planning a trip to Hamerton Zoo in June.

Following that, we will be learning about the seaside, ending the year with the Emmanuel seaside in hall.



## Serving our local school communities.

Give thanks and pray for our school's team. Schools are a wonderful place to share our Christian values, faith, and hospitality as we aim to build meaningful relationships between school, church, and households. They provide a space that encourages conversation about life, God and all things that matter.

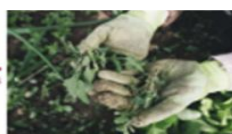
Our wonderful school's team are involved in prayer spaces and 'transition workshops' to yrs. 6 students in schools as they work with the 'Lighthouse Trust and other Churches in the town.

Some members of our team continue to be involved in setting up, and leading prayer spaces in schools within and outside of the parish. These have led to other open invitations to explore the Christian faith within our parish. We are now leading a weekly "Happiness Lunch Club" at Billing Brook school. This appears to be going well.

Staff have become open to warm conversations and further engagement, with unfolding life events and celebrations. The team have enabled schools to look closely at the Christian festivals, exploring some big questions. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." **Matthew 19:14 NIV.**

Thank you team.

Yvonne Desroches



## Grow, Cook and Eat with us

Bellinge Community House

Fieldmill Square Fieldmill Road Bellinge NN3 9AQ

10 - 12.30pm every Tuesday

Come and join Gem who will be cooking healthy delights

Lynne will be outside gardening

We will then join to eat lunch together

**For more information phone Gem**

**on**

**07812 508711**



House groups are key for pastoral support, fellowship, mission and discipleship. We recommend Everyone to join one .

If you are interested, or would like to know more, talk to a house group leader or Rachael Warnock

### Leader

### Day & Time

### Location

Gill Hill:	Friday Afternoon	Emmanuel Church
* Mary Langley:	2pm on Monday wkly	Dell Crescent, Overstone Lodge
Precious Luke:	Wednesday 7.30pm	Ashley Way, Westone
John Weaver:	Wednesday 7.30pm	Lindisfarne, Billing park
Meriel Mears:	Thursday 1:30pm	Thorplands
Rachel Tighe	Tuesday 7:30	Huntsmead Road
Liz Bateman	Wednesday 7:30pm	Sywell

\* Dell Crescent usually meets weekly, depending on availability.

# Celebration of Ministry

**In June Chris Pearson celebrates  
forty years since ordination.**

**Congratulations Chris!**

This will be marked at Emmanuel by a special service on June 23rd at 3.00pm followed by afternoon tea in Café Emm. Guest preacher will be the Ven. Richard Ormston Archdeacon of Northampton.

All members of the Emmanuel Group are warmly invited, but please let us know by June 8th if you intend to come. Numbers are needed for catering purposes.

There is a sign-up sheet for each congregation or email Chris at:

c.pearson1@homecall.co.uk.

## Poem to the spell Checker on PC

Eye have a great spell checker,  
It came with my pea sea.  
It plainly marques four my revue  
Mistakes I cannot sea.

Eye strike a quay and type a word  
And weight for it to say  
Whether eye am write or wrong,  
It shows me straight a weigh.  
Whenever a mistake is maid.  
It shows bee four too long  
And eye can put the error write  
It's almost never wrong.

Eye ran this poem through it and  
I'm sure you're pleased to no  
It's letter perfect all the weigh  
My chequer tolled me sew.

*Sauce unknown.*

## The wonderful world of Ladybird books

I'm really excited about a new exhibition running at my local museum this summer. It promises to prompt joyful memories of childhood for many older people – and maybe remind them of when they first learnt about Jesus.

'The Wonderful World of the Ladybird Artists' aims to "uncover the story of the talented artists who illustrated Ladybird books for more than 30 years." It's a fascinating exhibition that has already been staged in cities from Canterbury to Northumberland and is at the St Albans Museum until 8<sup>th</sup> September.

The organisers say: "This colourful, family-friendly exhibition includes rare books, original artwork and artefacts, and reveals how illustrators played such an enormous role in Ladybird's extraordinary success."

Ladybird Books also played a vital role in thousands of Sunday Schools and churches in the UK and many other English-speaking countries from the 1940s until well into the 1970s.

For many children and young people, these books were their first introduction to the Bible, with numerous parents, grand-

parents and carers reading them as bedtime stories. 'Easy Reading' versions helped many children read about Jesus for themselves.

I've been collecting some of the Bible-based copies of the Ladybird books from local charity shops, with titles such as 'Stories about Jesus the Helper,' 'Children of the Bible' and 'Two Stories Jesus Told,' featuring the classic parables, the Good

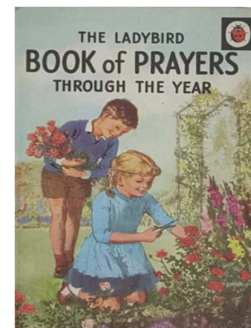
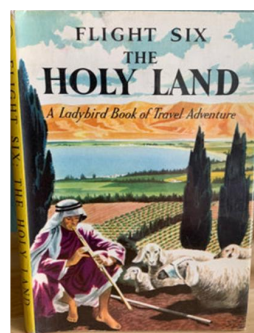
Samaritan and The Prodigal Son. I've been struck by the faithful retelling of the Bible stories, and the quality of the illustrations.

These colourful books were a staple of many Scripture classes and Sunday School prize-giving and helped form the Biblical understanding of a generation of children. Today, the books have become very collectible, with prices on the rise.

Ladybird books were, naturally, a product of their times with, for example, the skin tones of Jesus and the apostles often lighter than what reality might have been. The books were produced for a time when Bible stories were more widely known, and families were routinely depicted as mum, dad, a son and a daughter.

In recent years, more bizarre incarnations of Ladybird Books – such as 'The Ladybird Book of the Zombie Apocalypse' – have introduced new audiences to the Ladybird style, with an ironic, comic twist.

Personally, I much prefer the originals!





# Father's Day

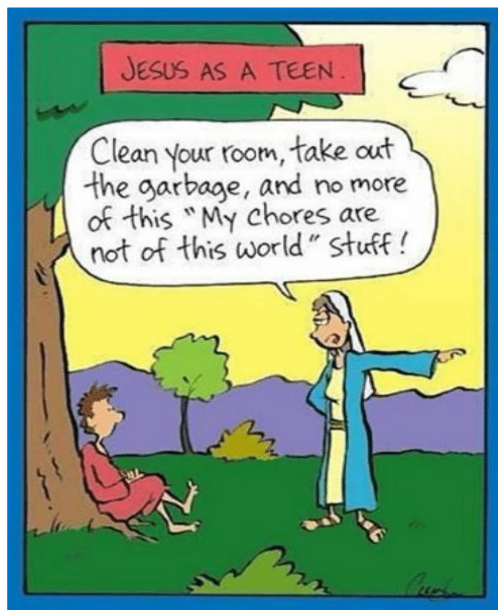
In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's usually a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing.

How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, how about a Zoom meeting?

How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

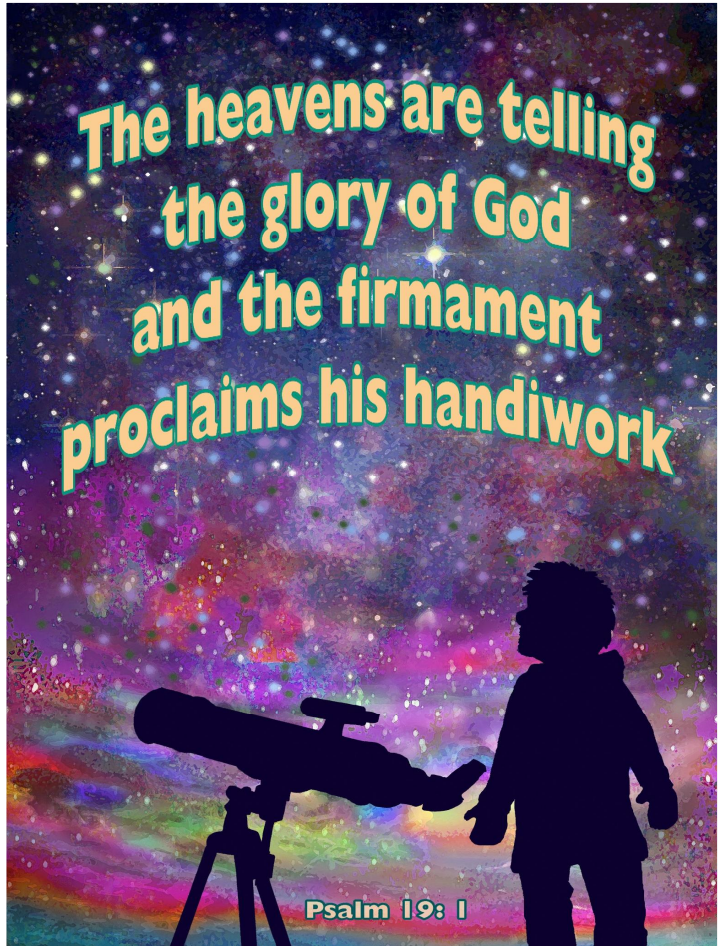
Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day – a permanent, national holiday.



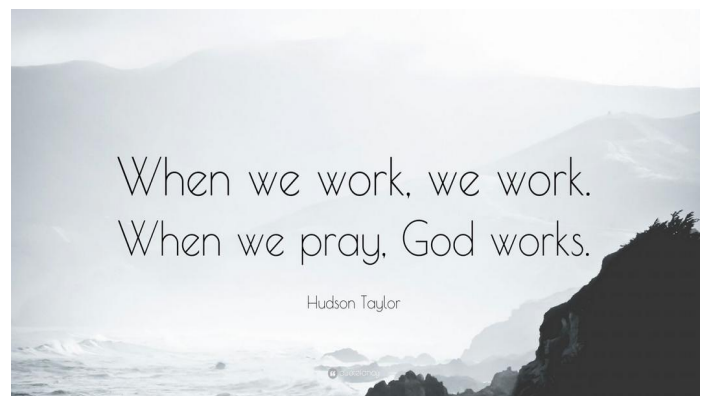
Cartoon by Inherit the Mirth

## Did you see The Northern Lights?



**Causing great excitement, they were seen up and down the land, from Scotland to Cornwall, and even in London – which is usually too far south and has too much light pollution.**

Aurora borealis (the Northern Lights) is more commonly seen in far northern parts of the country like Scotland and Northern Ireland.





A warm welcome awaits you at Café Emm. We offer good quality, well cooked food, drinks and home-made cakes at very reasonable prices. .

We would love to see you and your friends and there is always room to welcome one more....



Our community café is a charity, doing discrete but important work in supporting people with learning difficulties, dementia, financial difficulties and loneliness.

We are very pleased to have recently received a grant, split over 3 years, from The National Lottery Community Fund which will help with salaries and utility costs to support this much needed community work at The Emmanuel Group Of Churches, Northampton .

## We continue to have our regular special hot dinners on Tuesdays and Thursdays

- These remain very popular with our customers, especially those who live alone. They cost £7.70 for two courses, or £6 for a main course.

**Dinners are served between 12.00 and 1.45.**

Ruth and Sapphire produce well-cooked fresh food daily.

**Sunday Lunches** need to be booked through the café

The Coffee Shop, and Church have now secured grants to cover admin costs, spread over 3 years, so that we can offer support to people in the community. Anna Austin is our Community Support Worker for Café Emm.

**Monday games sessions** need new members. Just come into Café Emm on Mondays at 10.00 and you will be made very welcome.

**The memory café is on Monday afternoon and 'singing for the brain on Tuesday afternoon.**

See details of times on page 8 of BERT,

Lucy Sone is Café Emm Manager.  
[office@CafeEmmonmicrosoft.com](mailto:office@CafeEmmonmicrosoft.com)



## COME AND JOIN US!

Café Emm is a very busy place and we are grateful that we have several new volunteers. We still have room for more. Sessions are usually 2 or 4 hours once a week. If you think you might be interested, do come in; speak with one of the staff and have a look around. Or email: [coffee.shop@emmanuelgroup.org.uk](mailto:coffee.shop@emmanuelgroup.org.uk)



**Bring your little ones**  
**- there's a play area too!**

## Cafe Emm - More than just a Cafe..

Café Emm is not an ordinary café. It is a charity, and most of our staff are volunteers. We need your support so that we can continue with our work in the community and provide good food at reasonable prices.

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 have created a new QR code to make it easy to donate.

When you point your phone camera at the pink QR code, it will give you a link to open our Local giving page.

Thank you for your support.

SCAN ME



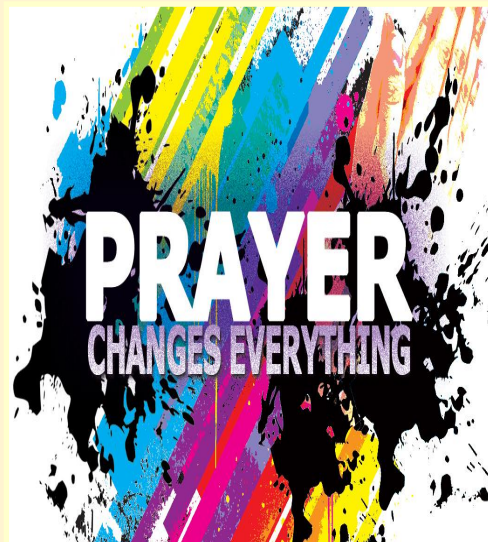


# Monday Night Prayer

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

We pray mostly for our local communities and for our churches but also issues from all over the world. Anyone can pray as they feel led, or you can use the time to be quiet, listen and reflect. We find it very encouraging. It is wonderful how much we can feel the Holy Spirit's presence in a zoom meeting.

Would you like to join us? Contact Pip, for the zoom link.



## Give thanks for Northampton Street Pastors,

Pray for protection for the patrols out on Saturday nights and give thanks for the Prayer Pastors who support them so faithfully.

## Heavenly Father,

### We pray for the Church throughout the world

that we may be a beacon of hope, reminding us all of our responsibility to care for and protect your precious gift of creation.

May we hear its cry of the damage done and being done and for those people who are already facing the effects - droughts, floods, storms and devastating wild fires; that you may grant us strength and hope for the future as we work to adapt to the changing climate.

**We pray for world leaders**, may you grant them wisdom to make good and just decisions which respect the earth and all that lives in it, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. We pray they will all work together for good.

**We pray for our local community**: that we may be good neighbours to each other. May we be your hands & feet and bless others as you have blessed us.

**We pray for our group of churches**, that we will boldly share the gospel of Jesus. And that we will worship God in spirit and in truth

## Prayer for Environmental Awareness

Heavenly Father, we ask you to stir our hearts into action. As global temperatures increase, inspire us with ways we can make a difference in our homes, church congregations, communities, and the world around us.

## Pray for our troubled world

We ask you to help this world to know what is wrong and what is right. To provide peace and hope to those who are suffering from injustice. May they know that you are there, and you care for them and that you will make all things right. We pray for a world full of love and compassion.

## Schoolswork

Pray that our schools will be a place of safety. We pray for the staff and the children and give thanks for our growing relationship with a number of local schools

**We pray for all who are sick** in mind body or spirit. May they know your healing touch. And may they be filled with your peace.

## Foodbank

Give thanks for the work of the foodbank, We give thanks for all who donate, both food and money and those who give of their time, the volunteers and community services.

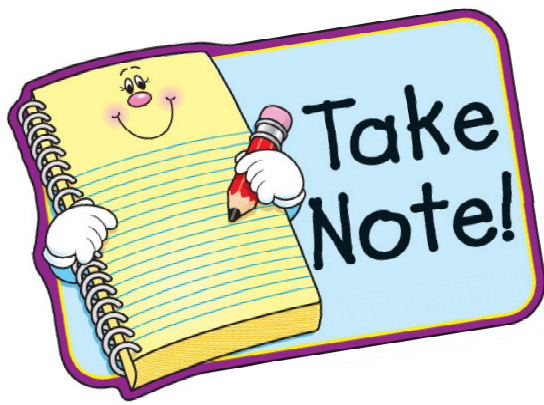
## We thank you for all of our clergy and leaders.

Help them to be strong in their vocation. Keep them from harm. May they find great joy in their ministry together. Thank you for blessing our church family with their leadership.

## We pray for F.I.S.H.

(Food and Fun in School Holidays), on Monday and Tuesday next week. For everyone who attends. Give thanks for the team of volunteers who make it happen.

*Amen*



## Reflective Mornings

are held at the Methodist Chapel

In Great Billing

On the first Tuesday of the month

10.30 - 12 noon

Coffee and Tea at 10.15am



## Coffee Morning

Every Thursday at Blackthorn  
(NN3 8QH)

No need to book, just turn up.  
Come for a free hot or cold drink.  
Meet and chat to other people.

Ring 01604 411166 for more info. Or Find us on  
[Facebook](#) at Growing Together Northampton



## A Father's Day Treat 'Big Daddy Fry Up'



2 Bacon, 2 fried egg, 2 black pudding, 4 hash  
browns, baked beans tomatoes, mushrooms,  
fried bread & toast, tea or coffee  
All for £10

Monday 10th - Friday 14th June  
Served from 10am - 2pm

# Book Club



Are you passionate about literature, eager to explore new worlds and engage in captivating discussions?

Look no further, 5 of us have been meeting together once a month, following on from a conference that re-ignited our hunger to read more. This was experimental to see how it would work, we are thrilled to say that this has been a place and time to come together to embark on literary journeys, share our thoughts and connect over the written word and hospitality.

With a diverse selection of genres, thought-provoking reads and stimulating discussion we have felt enriched, inspired, and eager for more.

If you would like to know more on how to go about getting a group of up to 5 started, we can help you with this.

Every Blessing Yvonne,

Contact Emmanuel office for more info. |

## A Day Trip

to

### Bressingham Steam Museum & Gardens

Diss, Norfolk

on

Thursday September 12th 2024

Tickets - £21.00

Tickets include a seat on the coach, rides on the small steam trains, rides on the galloping horses and admission to Dad's Army Museum. There are lovely gardens to explore, a Large Garden Centre and a restaurant. The Coach will leave The Arlbury Road Community Club, off Blackthorn Road at 8.30am

To book a seat speak to Kathy Norris on 07923017619

Emmanuel Coffee Shop a.k.a,  
Café Emm, is part of the Co-op Local  
Community Fund.

To find out more about our project and choose us as your cause visit: [membership.coop.co.uk/causes/70035](https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/70035) then swipe your card whenever you shop. Using the app on your phone is easy and it will remember your cause.

This applies to all Co-op stores with the blue logo (NOT GREEN!) anywhere in the country. In Northampton it's these locations: Bushland Road, Semilong, Belling, Birchfield Road, Upton Place, Olden Road, Old Duston, Barry Road, Pineham, Wootton Fields



A HOME FOR THE COMMUNITY  
Café Emm

Raising money for  
free food for people  
in need struggling  
with the cost of





## Our Ministry Team

Revd Rachael Warnock 402 150 rachael.warnock@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Revd Yvonne Desroches 402 150 yvonne.desroches@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Revd Stewart Betts 402 150 rector@emmanuelgroup.org.uk  
 Revd Chris Pearson 402 150 c.pearson1@homecall.co.uk  
 Precious Luke 402 150 precious.luke@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

### Emmanuel Group Office - 01604 402150

Church Office open Mon 10am – 1pm & Tue – Fri 10am – 2pm

Administrator - Linda Withers Linda.withers@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

Please Note: emails are not normally checked outside of these hours

**Café Emm Manager** - Lucy Sone 402150 (church office)

Community Support Worker - Anna.Austin@CafeEmm.onmicrosoft.com

Community Worker - gemma.broadhead@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

Community Worker - lynne.nelson@emmanuelgroup.org.uk

**Website team** - Paul Foster, Rachael Warnock, Richard Seaby

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

## 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 3.45pm (see back page)

### 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

Emmanuel Group Office - Mon - Fri 10 - 2

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

Financially, these are tough times for everyone. Churches and Charities are not exempt from the struggle. If you usually give financially to the Emmanuel Group we thank you for helping us to continue our work in our local communities and schools. Please keep giving as generously as you are able.

If you would like to give regularly, you can do this via bank transfer:

Emmanuel Group of Churches NATWEST Sort Code: 60-15-55 Bank Account Number: 72882948

If you prefer to give another way, you can give online 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/>

**Thank you**

for helping us continue our work in our local communities

## Summer is on it's way!

(oh yes it is!)

This summer, why not encourage your children to read a book?

A study has found that children who read for pleasure carry the benefits with them far into adulthood.

And the most avid childhood readers score far higher on vocabulary tests, even 30 years later.

Marcel Proust the author once said there are "no days of our childhood lived so fully as those spent with a favourite book."



### Bored is good....

This will cheer you up this summer when your children mope around the house saying that they are bored: apparently a bit of boredom is good for them.

A senior educationalist, Julia Robinson, encourages parents Not to force their children into too many activities. Instead, they should be allowed to become bored, so that they can have time to be reflective and calm.

Too many pursuits such as music lessons, sport and online learning could result in a generation of manic, anxiety-ridden adults, she warns. She points out that happiness does not come from a "regime of unrealistic multitasking, running oneself ragged with an exhausting programme of endless...activities."

Another educationalist urged that children need "downtime" Allow them to be bored, to give them the stimulus to be inventive, resourceful and self-reliant – all important life skills."

# SERVICES IN JUNE 2024

Sunday	Emmanuel @ 10.30	Boothville CC @ 10.30	Rectory Farm CC @ 15.45	Midweek Communion 11.30am	MID - WEEK  C O M M U N I O N @ <u>EMMANUEL OFFICE</u>  TOP FLOOR  NEXT TO CAFÉ EMM  UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
2nd	Communion Stewart Betts	Morning Worship Precious Luke	Rachael Warnock	Weds 5th Stewart Betts	
9th	'All together' Service Yvonne Desroches	Communion Stewart Betts	Communion Kris Hatherly	Weds 12th Yvonne Desroches	
16th	Communion Stewart Betts	Morning Worship Rachael Warnock	Yvonne Desroches and Obi Hez	Weds 19th Kris Hatherly	
23rd	Morning Worship James Fearnley and Rachel Warnock	Communion Chris Pearson	Celebration of Chris Pearson's 50 years of Ministry	Weds 26th Chris Pearson	
30th	Communion Rachael Warnock and Liz Bateman	Yvonne Desroches	Stewart Betts	Weds 3rd July Yvonne Desroches	

# SERVICES IN JULY 2024

Sunday	Emmanuel @10.30	Boothville @10.30	Rectory Farm CC @ 15.45	Midweek Communion 11.30am	MID - WEEK  C O M M U N I O N @ <u>EMMANUEL OFFICE</u>  TOP FLOOR  NEXT TO CAFÉ EMM  UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
7th	Communion Yvonne Desroches	Morning Worship Precious Luke	Stewart Betts and Kris Hatherly	Weds 10th Stewart Betts	
14th	'All together' Service Stewart Betts	Communion Chris Pearson	Fiona Potter and Obi Hez	Weds 17th Kris Hatherly	
21st	Communion Rachael Warnock	Morning Worship Stewart Betts	Afternoon Worship Keith Holland -Delamere	Weds 24th Chris Pearson	
28th	Morning Worship Rachael Warnock	Communion Chris Pearson	Communion Yvonne Desroches	Weds 31st Yvonne Desroches	

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