

B OOTHVILLE E MMANUEL & R ECTORY FARM T IMES

Summer Slowdown

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest."

It is summertime and many of us have plans to take time out and engage with a different rhythm, one which centres on rest and relaxation. Rest is important and necessary; it is something we should all be engaging with regularly, not just because we are tired, but because God asks us to. You are invited to intentionally set a Sabbath pace this summer—whatever this might look like for you.

Our days can feel overwhelming with much to do, lots of information to process, our personal circumstances, as well as our friends and families, our church community's. We feel the struggles and challenges of life. It can even be that we become used to being busy, so that we find ourselves rushing about when we don't have to.

We scroll and check our emails, keeping our brains on alert instead of embracing calm. We can be distracted today by so many things like time pressure, information – there is so much in the news and on social media, events too. It can be necessary that we attend to urgent things and good causes, but are they really all so important to our lives in the long term? We can let the urgent take priority over that which is really important.

Mary in contrast, sits at Jesus' feet and shows that what we do needs to be grounded in relationship with God. This means spending time with him. How about we enjoy more of the loving presence of God? The work of loving others as Jesus did and joining in with what God is doing. Indeed our everyday lives must be fuelled by the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. We can tap into this when we worship, pray and sit in the presence of God. I recently did so with a busy head and embraced a sense of God's peace.

Giving time to being with God, soaking in Word and prayer, and opening ourselves up to him is so worthwhile to our wellbeing and to our relationship with him. I encourage us all this summer, as best we can, to give time to focus on God, to spend time in his presence and know his renewal, rest and joy. We can do this alone, or even better, in community! Then, I want us to keep on doing that.

Jesus said "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

God rested after he had finished his creation work.

He set apart the seventh day as Sabbath and made it Holy. He stopped, looked, reflected and assessed, and we are to emulate. Let us stop and rest, give over our struggles, be attentive to God's Spirit, reflect on God and ourselves, our priorities and gain some perspective.

We don't have to choose between being active and reflective, but we do need to choose a balance that makes us whole, free-er from distraction and worries, and focused

in faith. I suspect most of us need to attend to this balance!

Start as you can, without pressure. I pray that God guides you to a balance between doing your work and life and simply being in his presence and being renewed by him too. I pray that as you sit in his presence, you to come to know God's joy, his peace, faithfulness and hope, amidst your everyday lives, your challenges and storms.

With every blessing

Rachael



Restoration

For a while now I have noticed a rather sad looking piece of furniture languishing at Emmanuel. It is formally known as a prie-dieu. Which according to google is:

"A prie-dieu (French: literally, 'pray [to] God') is a type of prayer desk primarily intended for private devotional use, but which may also be found in churches."

I have one at home that was rescued from a basement boiler room and a fate probably as firewood!!! Emmanuel's was under no such threat. But as I had restored that (and other pieces of church furniture over the years) I wondered about taking it home and 'having a look'.

I will say that Jesus was reputedly a skilled craftsman, especially in the words of the hymn 'Lord of all hopefulness'. I am not. However, I often like to 'do something' whilst praying or listening to God and find achieving something a good opportunity to hear God. Time can also be an issue. Over a couple weeks, the prayer desk was disassembled, sanded, reassembled, hopefully tightened up a bit, stained and waxed.



It has always had something of 'a wobble' and whilst sanding I discovered that it probably used to have another horizontal piece of wood where one would 'kneel' or place a cushion to kneel, thus also adding some structural stability.

So why write about this?

I reflected on this with the Ministry Team recently and what I said was "I think it is a metaphor for the Emmanuel Group, a bit tired, perhaps lost some sense of purpose." I pray that God has been in the process of reshaping, restoring and renewing us and his church. Some pieces will need work, perhaps there is a bit of dismantling and re-assembling that has happened/is happening.

Let's pray, really pray that God would have his skilled hands on this process and for those involved and that others would be involved. God is a God of hope and if we hope in Him and get behind what God is doing then we will see great things happen.

I often come across so much negativity and often indirect criticism. Admittedly it gets me down. We are God's people, we should look to God in hope and be joined in hope in Him.

Stewart Betts

Transfiguration

'There Must Be More to Life Than This'. These words from Freddie Mercury of Queen will resonate with many of us, when we are looking to get more out of life, even as Christians. At a deeper level, we want to see and hear more clearly what God is doing in our circumstances. The Transfiguration of Jesus, which we remember this month, helps us to consider this issue (Luke 9:28-36).

Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah, 'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.' (29). To understand our circumstances, firstly we need to see Jesus as God wants us to see Him. The disciples' eyes were opened to see Jesus' divinity. The presence of Moses and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah. By helping us to grasp who Jesus really is, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

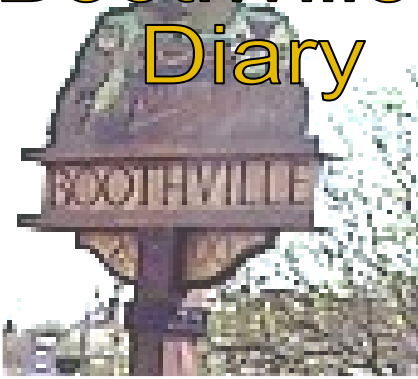
Secondly, if we are to make sense of our circumstances, we need to hear what God says about His Son. A cloud covered them and 'a voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him.'" (35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus as His beloved and chosen Son. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? When we know that we too are loved and accepted by God, this transforms our understanding of our lives.

Whatever our circumstances, they can be transformed by what we see and hear. Open your eyes to see a transfigured world. Open your ears to hear a transfiguring voice. Open your heart to become a transfigured life.

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same.' (Philip Yancey)



Boothville Diary



Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty and inequality still persist.

People living in poverty should be able to make their own decisions about the future. We fight for their dignity and support them to change their own lives. Love is the core of who we are.

God's love transforms us; it gives us the strength to choose to love people living in poverty who we've never met, and the empathy to create change for good. Your donations help us fight poverty and injustice around the world, offering hope to millions.

Every Penny counts - or in this case, every 20p!

This year, Boothville Community Church raised about £800 for Christian's Aid through our 20p appeal. So all those 20p pieces mounted up! Amazing! Thank you Everyone who donated.



Boothville Community Choir Summer Concert

The concert raised the magnificent amount of £784.43 for Cynthia Spencer Hospice
Thank you to all who took part and for the community support.



Cynthia Spencer Hospice provides specialist palliative care for people living with a life-limiting illness; supporting patients, their families, and those who care for them throughout West Northamptonshire. in patient homes and in the hospice.

The core team consists of specialist palliative medicine consultants who work alongside a team of doctors and specialist nurses within the Hospice and the local community. The team also work within Northampton General Hospital and Danetre Hospital in Daventry.

The clinical services are free, thanks to the joint funding provided by the Northampton Integrated Care Board and the funds raised by supporters of Cynthia Spencer Hospice. The annual cost of running the hospice services across Northamptonshire is over £11million.

Every year a percentage of this money comes from the generous support of companies and individuals throughout the county who support Cynthia Spencer Hospice Charity and Cransley Hospice Trust.

Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that everything we have comes from you. Our hearts are full of gratitude for those who give willingly and so generously.

In your name Lord, we pray for our efforts to serve our community.

May our hands be your hands, our feet your feet, and our hearts be yours as we seek to serve others in your name. Amen.

Amani Simpson

is an award-winning youth coach, speaker and filmmaker.



Rest in Power Mr Peter Gross MBE

You were more than a teacher — you were a light in my life.

When I was in Year 8, angry and struggling, you asked my mum if you could pray for us. In a non-faith school. That moment stayed with us.

Even after I was expelled, you found your way back into my life. You showed up for me when I started my property business, when I got baptised, and when I premiered my short film.

Always believing. Always showing up. Your funeral a few weeks back was bittersweet. I'm at peace knowing you're in a better place, but it hurts knowing I won't see you in the crowd again.

Reconnecting with former teachers who can now tell me they're proud of the man I've become was surreal. Thank you sir. I've made it to safety so you can rest easy

I'll carry your words, your values and your mission with me - always. □

Amani Simpson

(supplied by Fiona Potter)

Parish Giving Scheme

If you already give to the Emmanuel Group of Churches we thank you for your continued support and encourage you to use the new Parish Giving Scheme.

There is no compulsion to use the Parish Giving Scheme but the scheme offers many benefits to Emmanuel Group. We will receive a single payment for all donations which reduces our bank charges and reduces our administration by automatically requesting gift aid if you have indicated you are a tax payer.

It also has an option to automatically increase your payments by the rate of inflation each year. If you take this option you will be informed of any increase before it is set up and, of course, you can opt out of any increase if you prefer.

There are two ways to set up your donation.

1. You can complete the form online at www.parishgiving.org.uk and either send it in yourself or bring the form to the Church and we will send it for you.



2. Use your phone and the QR code. (above) The QR code will take you directly to the Emmanuel page

If you choose use the URL, select 'Give now' in the top menu which will take you to the 'Give to your Parish' page. To select Emmanuel use our PGS Parish code which is 280628114. This will bring up a map with Emmanuel Church shown. You can then select the church and select 'Give'.

You will be given the option for Regular Giving or a One-off Gift. Then you will be asked to register and once registered you will be able to log in, set up your donation and track any further donations.

You will need to use your bank details to complete the form. Once set up is complete, don't forget to cancel your Standing order/Direct Debit if you have been using this method, or you'll be paying us twice!

If you have any questions or issues feel free to contact me

Kevin Potter - Treasurer
Emmanuel Group of Churches





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**

**If you take your food donation to Tesco
they will add an extra 20%
The church office is open
Monday - Friday 10.00 -14.00**

If you have donated food or given financially to foodbank, or volunteered to help, we thank you for your support

We are looking for packers, stockroom help 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

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 Emmanuel Church/foodbank website:

www.emmgroup.org.uk

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

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

Here are our June Statistics

We supported 738 people. 475 adults and 263 children in June (277 parcels)

That equated weight wise to 3596.8kg given out in parcels and 648.7kg in extras.

Food donations were 2461kg in donations (57% of out goings).

Returns were 187kg We also purchased 422kg of food

We are really thankful for all of our hard working volunteers and the Foodbank staff for making this possible.

Items we particularly would like this month are:

PUDDINGS - CUSTARD, RICE PUDDING, JELLY ETC.

CURRY SAUCE

RICE

CEREAL

**Thank you for your generosity
and continued support!**

FOODBANK PLUS+++

Our Partner services

available on Foodbank days

Community Law Services

Northampton Partnership Homes

Adult Social Services

Rachael Warnock - Baptist Minister



We are just coming to the end of a series on prayer.

To introduce the theme to the children each week at Emmanuel I have compared prayer to a mobile phone. Many of us take our mobiles with us, wherever we go and whatever we are doing. We use them to communicate in many different ways. We talk, message, send emails and use apps to communicate, such as to use social media or game.

Each week at Emmanuel I have added an app for our "prayer phone" to link to the theme. This week I talked about the theme of personal prayer and I added the notes app.

On my own phone I use my notes app for lists and reminders. What is on my notes app is shared between me and my phone and personal prayer is like that. Whatever I pray in my personal prayer time is just between me and God.

I choose how to write my notes in a way that works for me and I pray in the way that works for me too. Over the years I have found that my house is not a constructive place for me to pray. There are too many distractions. My prayers are short and often curtailed by my wandering thoughts or by another person.

However when I go out walking I am able to pray in a much more focused way. I have learnt to use an activity that I always felt was a good way for me to detach from the stresses and distractions of everyday life to talk to God. It is almost as if God has taught me to pray in this way.

When teaching Jewish people about personal prayer, Jesus chose to use something that would have been familiar to those he was speaking to... the words of what we call the Lords Prayer. Because these words would have been as familiar to Jews as walking is to me. The Lord's Prayer is based on several commonly repeated Jewish prayers. Time after time Jesus uses the familiar to teach the new. He took a way of connecting with God in prayer that his audience was familiar with and showed them a better way to pray. If you are stuck on the words to use when you pray then the Lord's Prayer is a great place to start, just use the words Jesus has given to us. However you could use each sentence as a start point, for example praying for somebody who has upset you is praying the line "forgive us our sins as we have forgiven those who sin against us".



The Big Church Festival 2025



Wiston Estate | West Sussex
22-24 August 2025

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or Rent-A-Tent**

[Thursday 21st August – Arrival Day]

THE MAIN EVENT

Fri 22nd/ Sat 23rd/ Sun 24th August
Worship Tent

Kids and Youth Programmes

Fantastic Line Up

Brandon Lake, "Graves into Gardens" Phil Wickham, "This Is Amazing Grace," Elevation Rhythm, Israel Houghton & NewBreed "You Are Good." Martin Smith, The Heart Of Worship, Amanda Cook You Make Me Brave, Elevation Rhythm "Praises" - and many more....

Visit for the day or experience the whole weekend

Get tickets online - Tap Big Church Festival into your browser

On the children's table we used an even simpler structure we can use to build our prayers on.

Making spinners with these three words on, as a simple way to make prayer easier to engage with.

Thank-you Sorry Please.

If you haven't found a way that you can engage with personal prayer I encourage you to look for the familiar like Jesus did. There will be a part of your routine that prayer slots into, like my walks. When you find that then use structure like The Lords Prayer, the **TeaSPoon** prayer or you can even use a prayer app such as Lectio 365 on your mobile to enhance and enrich your prayer life which will in turn enhance and enrich your life as you share it with God through prayer.

Krissy Cressey



**EMMANUEL
CHURCH
Office**

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A4 Single sided	0.10
A4 Double sided	0.15
A3 Single sided	0.20
A3 Double sided	0.30

Colour Copies	
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A4 Double sided	0.80
A3 Single sided	1.00
A3 Double sided	1.50

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for items for the
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and
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EDITION
of
B.E.R.T
FRIDAY
26th
September

Please send
articles and
other items
for
BERT to..

liz@lizzywhiz.biz

See **BERT**
in **full colour**
on our Website:
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elgroup.org.uk
plus lots of other
information about
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How to donate to charity without spending a penny!

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 love your choice of charity to be the Emmanuel Group of Churches, Registered Charity No. 1140504, but, of course, the choice is yours.

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 (Treasurer)

The Rector meets... Sam

In the last issue I began a feature of meeting up with people from the Emmanuel Group. The group is of course wider than just 3 congregations and includes other outreaches and projects. Therefore, I thought it may be good to introduce different people to the whole of the Emmanuel Group.

In this edition I have the pleasure of meeting Sam Lineham who is known especially through Emmanuel and Rectory Farm and other projects. Sam has been attending church here for how many years? Sam has also just completed her first of three years of Lay Reader Training.

SB – You are at the end of your first year of training as a reader. Can you tell me how you came to explore training?

SL – Well..... I guess the short answer is God and the miracles he's performed in my life. When I talk about the things God has done in my life it moves me, inspires me and I feel this wonder of possibility as if flowing out of me. I hope one day to radiate that to all I meet along this path I'm on and training seemed the most natural step.

The training came to me without force or pressure. I felt guided. The people I met throughout the discernment process are wonderful God connections and I feel truly blessed to be honoured with this opportunity.

SB - How is your training going and what have you learned in the last year?

SL - The training is going very well. I've met some wonderful people and begun to connect with many of them. I've learnt a lot about people in the bible, some of the history and improved on my writing. But more than the intellectual side of learning I've learnt more about God's people and how we all view, perceive and learn about our faith differently, that we all have these wonderful experiences with God that are so personal and tailor made for each of us. I've learnt that our differences need to be celebrated more.

I have also learnt a lot about myself through deep reflection and how my walk with God affects the world around me. I am always reminded now that even when faced with different, maybe more challenging relationships, or people I can't relate to, that Christian people all hold a fundamental belief, that God loves us so much he sent his only son to die for our sins. God's grace is sufficient and I hope to emulate that in my relationships.



Sam Lineham

SB – How do you keep connected to God?

SL – There are many ways I keep connected to God, I write and read my bible, I meditate and I pray but for the last couple of months I have been doing this short walk alone through a small wooded area near where I live every evening. When I enter this gated area I start talking to God and thank him for my day. This time is dedicated to him and as I walk and connect with God I stop for small moments and just breathe.... No matter the chaos of the day I've had, stopping in those small moments, I'm reminded of how precious life is. I don't know how to describe this experience but it has become something very special. And also a discipline.

SB What is your hope for God's church here?

SL – My hope for God's church is simple; to be constantly renewed and refreshed by the Holy Spirit. That we all continue to actively find new ways to seek spiritual growth. That we lay all our differences aside and connect as children of God. That we find the lightness and joy in just being rather than trying to control it. That we consistently reach out to different people who have never heard the word of God. That our doors become a place of refuge to all and the barrier between church and other people becomes a beautiful bridge. That the hearts of all people crack open and they hear God's call for them.

The pace and pressure of this world took to me to a breaking point but the moment I learnt to be still, I heard God's voice. I would love to see more sensory spaces, quiet spaces and reflective spaces that give people a safe place to be still, slow down, process and reflect. Ultimately opening up a way for God to be heard.

Thank you Emmanuel for welcoming me into your family and providing a safe place for me to grow.





Emmanuel Music Group is praying for musicians who love to worship God with music to join them.

Can you play a musical instrument? Perhaps you haven't played for a long time and think it's too late to play again. It's not!

We are not looking for experts (although it would be lovely if one turned up).

If you would like to join us to practise together there will be no pressure on you to play at a service until you feel ready to do so. If this is you, please

Speak to one of the worship team.

What is your gift?

The concept of using one's God-given gifts for His glory is a central theme in many faiths, emphasising the responsibility to utilize talents and abilities to serve others and honour the giver. This means recognising the unique gifts you possess, whether they be talents, skills, or even personality traits, and then actively employing them in ways that benefit others and point them towards God.

Spend time considering your passions, strengths, and what brings you joy and fulfilment. What comes naturally to you? What do you enjoy doing? Some resources suggest these questions can help you identify your unique talents.

Don't be afraid to try new things and step outside your comfort zone. You might discover hidden talents or interests that you never knew you had. Instead, focus on using your gifts to help and bless those around you, whether it's through acts of service, sharing your knowledge, or providing encouragement.

When you use your gifts with humility and a focus on serving others, it can be a powerful way to demonstrate God's love and grace. Recognise that your gifts are not your own, but rather a trust from God. Use them wisely and diligently, not selfishly or for personal gain.

Trust that God will guide you and provide opportunities to use your gifts for His glory. Let love be your motivation for everything you do. Use your gifts to show love to others and honour God.



The Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer – also known as the Our Father – than one from the National Anthem and other sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them.

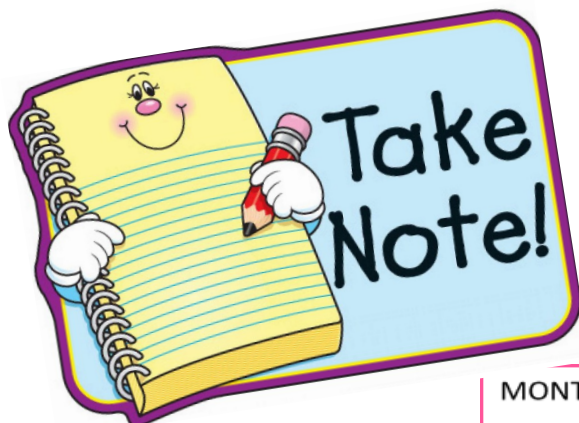
Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines – spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture – with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent). They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion. The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his *Faith In The North* initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide – perhaps never more so than now.

"Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' truly means."



Family Tots Group

We are a warm and friendly group, with lots of activities and support. We call it family tots because it is open to Mum, Dad, Auntie, Uncle, Grandparent, or any other carers to come with pre - school children. You can find us in the sports hall next to Cafe Emm at Emmanuel Church every Wednesday in term time. Phone 01604 402150 for further information or ask at Cafe Emm

Reflective Mornings

are held at the Methodist Chapel
In Great Billing
On the first Tuesday of the month
10.30 - 12 noon

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING



All are welcome to join us at the monthly prayer meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, 11 am at Emmanuel in the Family Room. The next meetings will be on **August 5 and September 2**



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 Paul Foster for more information

EMMANUEL

House Groups

House groups are key for pastoral support, fellowship, mission and discipleship. We encourage 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	Venue
Gill Hill	Friday @ 2pm	Prayer room - Emmanuel Office
Kathy Norris	Monday @ 2pm	Dell Crescent. <u>Overstone</u> Lodge
Precious Luke	Wednesday @ 7.30pm	Ashley Way, <u>Westone</u>
John Weaver	Wednesday 3.30pm	Lindisfarne, Billing Park
Meriel Mears	Thursday @ 1.30pm	<u>Thorpiands</u>
Liz Bateman	Wednesday @ 7.30pm	<u>Westlea</u> Road, <u>Sywell</u>

Women & Wine



Called Women & Wine, but much more about the food!.. Here's a great time to have a good chat, catch up, enjoy good company, get to know one another better and have fun, no cooking and no washing up!!

ALL WOMEN WELCOME



We meet monthly on a Thursday from 7pm at The Quays.

You can get details of upcoming dates and to join our Whatsapp group by contacting Rev Rachael Warnock.

rachaewnock@emmanuelgroup.org.uk



We look forward to seeing you.



Unlearning

Failing to unlearn irrational fears and misconceptions keeps us from becoming who God wants us to be. The invalid man in John 5 is a great example of this. He had been disabled for 38 years when Jesus asked if he would like to get well. However, the man believed there was only one way to be healed: 'I have no man to put me in the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me' (John 5:7 NKJV). This man assumed something that may have cost him 38 years! He thought that, in order to be healed, he had to be the

first person into the pool of Bethesda when an angel stirred the water. In a sense, he was imprisoned by that thought. But Jesus uninstalled that inaccurate belief with one sentence: 'Take up your bed and walk' (v. 11 NKJV). Jesus set this man free physically, and he set him free cognitively. Faith is unlearning the senseless worries and misguided beliefs that keep us captive. And that's what we do while we study Scripture.

'My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge' (Hosea 4:6 NKJV)

A Personal Prayer

Lord, may I ever speak as though it were the last word that I can speak.
May I ever act as though it were the last action that I can perform.
May I ever suffer as though it were the last pain I can offer.
May I ever pray as though it were, for me on earth, the last chance to speak to you.

An excerpt from The Word for Today, free copies of which may be obtained from: United Christian Broadcasters Ltd, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF UK and Republic of Ireland only

"An unsafe and unworkable bill"

Bishop Sarah urged MPs to say no to assisted suicide

The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, recently urged MPs to halt the passage of a bill to legalise assisted suicide in England and Wales.

Bishop Sarah – the former Chief Nursing Officer and the Church's Lead Bishop for Health and Social Care – called instead on parliamentarians to ask themselves some searching questions "about the kind of society we want to live in", before the Third Reading vote in the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill in the Commons took place.

She said: "MPs have the power to stop the passage of this Bill, in the face of serious concerns from the medical profession, palliative care specialists, and those facing the end of life.

"If enacted, this Bill would arrive amidst hugely inequitable access to palliative care and an NHS on life support. The potential for abuse and uninformed or coerced decisions is enormous.

"This is not about so-called progressivism v conservatism, or atheism v religion. This is about the kind of society we want to live in.

"The vision that this Bill presents is one in which the disabled and vulnerable are made to feel like they are a burden, as if their lives are worth less.

"This is, and has always been, an unsafe and unworkable bill. The promise that Committee stage would 'iron out' major concerns with the Bill has not been forthcoming. Instead, it has presented more unanswered questions, left more doubts, and seen so-called protections crumble away before even coming into law.

"I implore every Member of Parliament to ask themselves whether they truly believe assisted suicide is right for the society in which we want to live."

Bishop Sarah



World Horizons international forum in Spain

In May I had the privilege of joining with leaders from across the World Horizons movement for an excellent leaders' forum. We gathered for a week in San Roque, near Gibraltar in Southern Spain at one of our centres. There was a positive sense of unity, hope and moving forward, a great improvement after a difficult few years for the previous International Directorate Team. Leaders meet every 18 months to discuss policy, vision and shared values. This was the first leaders' event I have attended

It was great to share a room with Venezuelans and Brazilians. They didn't speak much English, but we managed to communicate. Around 30 representatives attended, including ministry leaders, regional leaders and the four members of our International Directorate Team. We were a multinational gathering, travelling from South America, North America, Europe, North Africa, Central Asia and Southeast Asia. We dealt with themes like calling and personal commitment, leadership development and sustainability, cross movement connection and strengthening.

We had many group discussions throughout the week. Working groups in the afternoons covered various topics of policy and structure. The group I was in dealt with global mapping (infographics) We looked at where our members are serving around the world and how many we currently have in each region.



This information will help us discover where God wants us to develop teams in the future. Potential thorny issues of guidelines and policy were also tackled. It was really encouraging to see how everyone was open and united, listening and working together and not pushing polarising viewpoints

In the evenings we prayed for countries and ministries. We each shared three joys, three challenges and three dreams. During the week, I made many positive connections with regional leaders based around the world. This will help me greatly in gathering stories of what God is doing around the world, part of my new international communications role.

Prayer points

Pray for me as I develop further positive connections with leaders across the World Horizons movement.

Pray for the International Directorate Team as they seek God's guidance in strengthening the World Horizons movement internationally.

It is great to lead an international team with a diverse range of skills, abilities and experience since we re-launched in February this year. We now have team members who are gifted in making short films. The team still needs to grow as we need new members with additional skills. I have been encouraged to hear enthusiastic, innovative ideas from team members as we develop new strategies. We are learning how to write about people and places where security is always a sensitive issue. There is still research to be done, but we hope to open up new ways to communicate the heart of what we do in a way that will not compromise security.

Prayer points

We need to see more youthful insight added to our team who will play a crucial role in developing our communications, particularly with Gen Z.

We want to share more of our stories from our movement in a dynamic way that really engages with people but also respects issues of security.

My thanks and appreciation as always, to those who support me financially, through prayer and encouragement. Your partnership and commitment enables me to serve with World Horizons in the ministry of evangelism-support in the UK and worldwide. (I do not receive a salary or work-related expenses).

World Horizons is a multi-national Christian charity with a focus on the things that are not yet. We seek to be a positive influence in the communities we serve, sharing faith in Jesus together in multi-cultural teams around the world. worldhorizons.co.uk

How to give if you are a tax payer.

Give.net giving page - for tax effective monthly or one-off gifts on-line, click pink box.

If you are not a taxpayer.

Monthly gift support - please contact me for further information to set this up.

One off gift support - please post a cheque payable to Julie Goodlad or email me for details to arrange an online money transfer.

If you require further information please contact Peter Goodlad who will be happy to advise you regarding the practical details of giving and can also pay in cheques, or contact me directly:

Julie tel 07941 597864 Email juliegoodlad@hotmail.com

Peter tel 07580 503231 Email pgoodlad@aol.com

All at Cafe Emm



Singing for the Soul

Every Tuesday from 1:15–2:30pm at Café Emm
Weston Favell Shopping Centre
Northampton NN3 8JR

Come and join us for an uplifting session designed for people living with Dementia, Alzheimer's, Memory Loss, Disabilities. Carers and anyone who loves music and meeting new people.

Music has a powerful impact on the mind, body soul and general well being, so come, experience the joy, connection, and wellbeing it brings!

You can call us on 01604 402150 or 07492 306102
Or email: anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com

Everyone is welcome so come and join in!

TELEPHONE: 01604 402150 or 07492 306102



Do you or anyone you
know suffer from
Dementia or
Memory Loss?

WE CAN HELP!

come and visit our

MEMORY CAFÉ

Supporting people and their carers living with Dementia, Alzheimers or Memory loss

Meet up and chat to others who understand what you are going through in a safe, friendly environment.

Every Monday 1.15pm - 2.30pm at Café EMM
Weston Favell Shopping Centre, Northampton, NN3 8JR.
Email: anna.austin@cafeemm.onmicrosoft.com
Telephone: 01604 402150 or 07492 306102

**GAMES
GROUP**

Our friendly games group meets
EVERY Monday 10:00am - 12:00 noon
at Café Emm,

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? Look out for the email, sent out every week via churchsuite, with the zoom link.



"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:22-23

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our leaders. We ask for your wisdom to guide their decisions, for strength to carry out their responsibilities, and may they lead with humility, serving others with compassion and integrity.

Protect them from harm, guide them in all their endeavours and grant them the courage to follow your will. We pray for your blessings upon their work and for a spirit of unity that strengthens the team. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen."

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Lord, You are the Great Physician, and we believe that you can restore health and bring comfort in times of distress. And so we pray with confidence for healing, if it be your will, for all those we know who are ill or in distress. We pray that you will bless them and those who care for them and give them peace.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Café Emm has applied to the National Lottery for a funding renewal. There has been a visit from one of their representatives. Father, we pray that the funding application will be successful if it be your will.

We pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war.

We pray for God to change the hearts of all leaders and decision-makers in our own country and around the world, for we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others, hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.

We pray to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, asking him to have mercy on us all and to give us his peace and blessing. Amen.

Romans 8:38-39 states, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Thank you Father, that nothing can break the bond between believers and your love through Jesus Christ

**We pray all these things in
the mighty name of our Lord
Jesus Christ**

Amen

Our Ministry Team

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EMMANUEL GROUP of CHURCHES

Billing Brook Road
 Northampton NN3 8JR

www.emmanuelgroup.org.uk

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)

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. We couldn't do it without your support. 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



SERVICES IN AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Emmanuel @ 10.30	Boothville CC @ 10.30	Rectory Farm CC @ 15.45
3rd Jethro Exodus 18:1-11 Exodus 18: 12 -24	Communion Rachael Warnock	Morning Worship Precious Luke	Prayer and listening to God together
10th Nathan 2 Samuel 7:1 - 17 2 Samuel 12: 1 - 13	'All Together' Service Rachael Warnock	Communion Stewart Betts	Communion Kris Hatherly Prayer & listening to God together
17th Caleb Numbers 13: 1-3, 16-21 & 26 - 33	Communion Stewart Betts	Morning Worship Doug Spenceley	Prayer and listening to God together
24th Hannah 1 Samuel 1—20 & 21-27	Morning Worship Rachael Warnock	Communion Stewart Betts	Communion Rachael Warnock
31st Rahab Joshua 2: 1 -16 2/; 17—24	Communion Samuel Zohms & James Fearnley	Morning Worship Stewart Betts	Time of Prayer and Listening to God together

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Emmanuel @ 10.30	Boothville CC @ 10.30	Rectory Farm CC @ 15.45
7th Naomi Ruth 1/; 1-11 Ruth 2:12 -22	Communion Stewart Betts	Morning Worship Precious Luke	Prayer and listening to God together
14th Esther Mordecai Esther 5: 1 - 14 Esther 6: 1-15	'All together' service Stewart Betts	Communion Rachael Warnock	Communion Kris Hatherly Prayer and listening to God together
21st Phoebe Romans 16:1-2, 17 -19 John 13: 1 -17	Communion Stewart Betts	Morning Worship Fiona Potter	Prayer and listening to God together
28th Lydia Acts 16: 11 - 15, 49 Matthew 25:3 -42	Morning Worship James Fearnley	Communion Rachael Warnock	Prayer and listening to God together

All information is given in good faith & may be subject to change

Emmanuel Group of Churches

Sponsored by the Anglican Methodist and Baptist Churches
and open to all

please visit our website for more information
www.emmgroup.org.uk