

Immanuel Newsletter

Sunday 1st August 2021

Website: <http://www.immanuelurc.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC>

Thought for the week: “The teachings of Jesus cannot be separated from the actions of his ministry... “it was one thing to eat with the outcasts but it was far more radical to announce that the distinctions between insiders and outsiders were null and void”
(Walter Brueggemann)

Chaplain today: Paddy Hayes

Bible Readings for this Sunday: Ephesians 4; 1-16

Theme: Have we grown up?

Hymns – we will be singing (masks on) with Geoff playing the organ, so no following Cd’s which have served us faithfully over the last months. We are sure you will enjoy live music back again.

Prayer Group: As we are not able to meet face to face, each week a list of needs is circulated for us to remember in Prayer. If you have any need, or know of anybody who we can pray for, please contact either Anne Farrow or Helen Thomas.

<p><u>Food-Box:</u> The Food Banks are in need, and we can help. The Food Box in the Chapel is now available to receive your donations. Each time the Box is full, the contents will be taken to the Swindon Food Collective.</p>
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Immanuel webpage: You can find the link above. Just asking – when was the last time you have looked at it? It is current, up to date with all you are looking for, and very well presented. The recording of the service of each Sunday can be found, as well as the order of service. Drop in whenever you want!

See you soon: I will be away on holiday for the next two Sundays, and then at Highworth the 4th Sunday, so will see you all soon (i.e., September). (Robert)

Climate Change Conference: I’m sure you have heard of this, better known as COP26, which will take place as from October 31st in Glasgow. This is an urgent and necessary time for concrete actions to be taken on the Environmental Crisis we are facing. Climate changes is not something happening in far away regions: Arctic, Antarctic, Amazon....it is happening much closer to home – we saw the floods in Germany and Belgium, and the streets of London, and in the Southwest heading into this weekend. What is not tackled now, will just add to the damage happening now. So please keep this Conference in your prayers and let us urge our leaders to commit to the changes necessary. WORDS are no longer enough, we need ACTION.

Please Include in your prayers:

- For victims of domestic violence.
- For those who suffered abuse in schools, care homes, churches...
- For the search for truth, when truth may be painful but so necessary and urgent.
- For Refugees, the difficulties they flee from, the hope they are looking for.
- For COP26, meeting in Glasgow in November – the opportunity to do something urgent on Climate change.
- Those who are recovering from health treatments.
- All those struggling with mental health difficulties.
- Those who are mourning the death of family or friends.
- The plight of the Palestinian people.
- The Harbour Project
- The Foyer
- Amnesty International and all victims of Human Rights violations
- The vaccination in the world.
- The Prayer Group.
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches
- The URC: nationally, the 13 Synods.
- The Southwestern Synod: Ruth the Moderator, Gwen the Synod Clerk, and all who work for the Synod, and the churches of the Synod.
- Courage of faith to confront injustice, discrimination, hatred, racism.
- All areas of the world living violence, hatred, war, famine.
- For life as the current pandemic restriction are lifted.