

**Immanuel Weekly News**  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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

**Thought for the week:** “True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring.” - Martin Luther King Jr.

**Bible Readings for this Sunday:** Mark 9; 2-9 Mark 9; 2-9

**Thank you:** Geoff will once again lead the worship this morning. Thanks!

**Family News:** We are sure you all miss knowing more about the church family happenings, and there is a reason for that -given GDPR (=Data Protection Regulation), unless we have permission to print information on people’s wellbeing, we are not allowed to publish, particularly when this involved health. So this is the reason, because the Weekly News is distributed extensively. (Robert)

**Choir:** Nearly there! The choir will be back, singing for the Harvest Sunday service. We all look forward to this.

**2021 Harvest Service SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER**

Our Harvest festival Service this year will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October @ 10.30am  
This year donations will be taken to the SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE therefore can we ask that you do not bring perishable produce but items such as tins/packets/ jars/bottle etc. (please remember to check the USE BY dates).

To ensure everybody’s safety would you please place your donations in the boxes provided in the Chapel as you arrive so as to avoid crowding at the front of the church.

We will continue to empty the collections box on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month as we have in the past.

Some people have asked if they can donate money on a regular basis rather than goods. This can be done by setting up a Standing Order through your bank. Further details on how to do this please speak to David Leadbeater.

On behalf of the SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE a very big thank you for all your donations, Past, Present and in the Future.

**Old Town Partnership of Churches Project:** Last Sunday Mike Walsh presented us with the project in aid of Desai School. Please remember this, and contribute to the project, via the envelopes you will find in the chapel.

**Climate Change Conference:** I’m sure you have heard of this, better known as COP (Conference of Parties)26, which will take place as from October 31<sup>st</sup> 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 faraway 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.

**Challenge to us all at Immanuel:** The COP26 conference is not to far away, and yet we may not feel it is close to us in its issues. So here I go...

From now until the midst of November when COP comes to an end, I would ask you to bring to the prayer corner a story, a photo, a thought, a challenge, a drawing... whatever comes to you.

But it should be something of hope for creation, something that tackles the issues of the time, and there are many of those.

They will become motives of prayer, ideas for sermons, or inspiration to others. Please help us on this journey. Thank you. Robert



**Mission Committee:** I will be attending the Mission Committee on Thursday/Friday next in Birmingham. First time in about 2 years we meet face to face. (Robert)

**The Prayer Circle** met in person for the first time last Wednesday and it was so great to be there in the chapel again. Socially distanced we could share news, feelings and hopes in prayer together. Encouraged and inspired we plan to meet fortnightly in the same space on Wednesdays from 2.15 to 3.15pm and would be very happy to have interested friends come along too. No preparation needed and remaining silent is understood by us all. Try it and see.

The planned dates this year are October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Another Rota needing **your HELP**.

Yes, we need **HELP** in the counting room on Sunday morning to count the Offertory and bank it. Training can be given to you if needed, 2 people per Sunday. The more help the less week you will be needed. Please think hard is this job for you, it's open to people of all ages, sex and personality we do not discriminate. Contact Sue Goodall at [immtreasurerswindon@gmail.com](mailto:immtreasurerswindon@gmail.com)

### **The Return of Gilbert and Sullivan**

An informal concert of random, but delightful items by the Swindon Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

9<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm, Christ Church. £5 on the door, contactless payment available.

### **Please Include in your prayers:**

- The Harvest Appeal 2021 in aid of Desai School, as part of the Old Town Partnership of Churches project.
- For Afghanistan in the current situation.
- For Highworth URC

- For victims of domestic violence.
- Those who are recovering from medical treatments.
- All those struggling with mental health difficulties.
- Those who are mourning the death of family or friends.
- For the hungry, the homeless, the people who have no job.
- For the search for truth when truth may be painful but so necessary and urgent.
- All areas of the world living with violence, hatred, war, famine.
- 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.
- The plight of the Palestinian people.
- The Harbour Project
- The Foyer
- The Swindon Food Collective
- Amnesty International and all victims of Human Rights violations
- The vaccination in the world.
- The Prayer Group.
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches: Bath Road, Christ Church with St Mary's
- 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, sexism.
- For all that brings us joy and happiness.