

Immanuel Weekly News
Sunday 3rd October 2021

Website: <http://www.immanuelurc.org/>
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Thought for the week: “Could a greater miracle take place that for us to look through each other’s eyes for an instant?” (Henry David Thoreau)

Bible Readings for this Sunday: Ruth, verses from chapter 2 and chapter 4

Choir: The choir is back, singing for the Introit and the Anthem for our Harvest Sunday service. We all look forward to this.

Chaplain this Sunday is Liz Gibney

Tea/Coffee: After the service this morning you’re invited (if you feel comfortable with it) to meet for a cup of tea or coffee and a chitchat. Please only have a maximum of 6 at each table. If it is nice weather, there will be some tables outside.

There are not enough volunteers to serve it after each service but there will be refreshments approximately once a month. The next one will be after the Remembrance Service on the 14th November.

Next Sunday: Sunday 10th I will be leading worship at Malemsbury URC. (Robert)

2021 Harvest Service

Our Harvest festival Service has arrived.

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 1st 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.

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 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 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



Elders' meeting: Elders will be meeting next Thursday 7th October at 7.00pm

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.

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 all who are experiencing family bereavements.
- 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.
- 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.