

Immanuel Weekly News

<https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC>

Sunday 28th November 2021

Website: <http://www.immanuelurc.org/>

ADVENT I

10:30am 28th November: An Advent Service of Readings and Carols sung by the choir and Advent Carols for you to sing.

Compiled and led by Rev. Geoff Glead.

No Sermon The message is in the music and readings.

Come and make this the start to the Season.

Please include in your prayers:

- For the joint evening service today at Christ Church where the project for the Desai School closes.
- For the children and families of Afghanistan in these very hard times.
- For The Harbour Project
- For those who have lost loved ones, that they know of our love.

In our prayers and thoughts: From the Memorial Book that is now found in the Chapel, this week we remember: Martha Sharps (nee Thomas), Thelma Patricia Farmer, Kathleen Hemming, Mary Hamilton.

Last Sunday's flowers were given to Shirley Cawte and Cath Thomson

If you know of anybody who might welcome some flowers as a reminder that we're thinking of them, please let us know.

The Harbour Project: This is the other organization we are helping this Christmas (Swindon Food Collective being the other one). At Harbour they will be giving out a Christmas present to each person they are working with on **Monday 13th December**, so we are aiming for this date. I asked them to be honest and clear of what they need and what they don't need, so that the donations are useful for the families they are working with.

Suggested gifts, **up to £5**, toiletries such as shower gel, deodorant for men, and Dove gift set for women. Please not more than £5. Wrapped would help, and indication of men or woman on the outside. They are aiming for 20 for women and 20 for men.

Backpacks are extremely looked for, at any time of the year. New men boxer shorts, would be most welcome,

Currently they DO NOT need clothes.

Service of Thanksgiving: The service for Bernard Phillips will be held at Immanuel on Wednesday 1st December at 12:00, arriving from Kingsdown Crematorium where the committal will have taken place. There will be a wake in the church hall, after the service.

The service for Barbara Grant will be held at Immanuel on Monday 6th December at 2:45, with the committal at North Wiltshire Crematorium at 2.00. There will be a wake in the church hall after the service.

Thought for the week: “*Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are anger and courage. Anger at the way things are, and courage that they do not remain as they are*” (St. Augustine)

Desai School – we are delighted that the grand total the Partnership of Churches has reached to hand over to Desai is £ 8200. Thank you all for your support!

MASK WEARING

Please remember, we ask all users of the premises to wear masks in the back corridor and atrium to help prevent infection. Several of the groups who meet in the building during the week have told us how grateful they are that we are taking such precautions, so it will be good if everyone can continue to do likewise, please. In view of the dramatic rise in infection rates in Swindon, wearing a face mask for a week or two during worship is an option people may wish to consider until such time as the rates drop.

Diary Dates:

Sunday 28th November:	10.30am Readings and Carols for Advent 6.30pm Advent Partnership Service at Christ Church <i>conclusion of Partnership Project (Desai School)</i>
Sunday 12th December	4.00 pm Lessons and Carols (am service = communion)
Sunday 19th December	10.30 Carols by Daylight (mince pie Sunday!)
Monday 20th December	6.00pm Carols on the Carpet
Friday 24th December	11.30 pm Midnight Communion
Saturday 25th December	10.30 Family Worship
Sunday 26th December	No services at Immanuel

Offertory Envelopes

I shall be placing the 2022 offertory envelopes in the chapel later in November. However, I'm conscious that many members have “converted” to online payments or standing orders over the past 18 months, and no longer use envelopes. If you no longer need envelopes, please have a word with me and we can together save a little bit of unnecessary paper, Thanks, Don Macarthur.