

Immanuel Weekly News
Sunday 7th November 2021

Website: <http://www.immanuelurc.org/>
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Thought for the week: “Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don’t give up” (Anne Lamott, novelist)

Bible Readings for this Sunday: 1 Kings 17; 8-16 Mark 12; 38-44
Theme: A little can be everything.

Family matters: West Midlands Synod have informed that retired minister, **Revd John Carrier**, passed away in the early hours of Friday morning. Many of you will remember John, who grew up here at Immanuel, and candidated for the ministry from here; Shirley Cawte is his sister.

John served as the first minister of Lillington Free Church from 1958 to 1968 and later went on to work at a Special Educational School as a Chaplain before serving as a Minister of Radford Road Church from 1993 to 1997. He and his wife, Marjorie, moved recently to be nearer their daughters, Heather and Debbie, over towards Cambridgeshire. Please hold, Shirley, Marjorie, Heather, Debbie and their families in your prayers.

Barbara Grant – we are very sad to share the news of the death of Barbara, which happened on Thursday night, following her wishes, this happened at home. We give thanks to God for the life of Barbara and pray for her family and her friends.

In our prayers and thoughts: From the Memorial Book that is now found in the Chapel, this week we remember: Eveline Jones and Hilda Carrier

Last Sunday’s flowers were given to Jenny Austin

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

Church Meetings: After a year and a half of not meeting, we now feel we can do so. Please keep these dates: **7th November and 5th December**. The meeting would be held in the church as soon as the service is finished.

Remembrance Day: On Thursday 11th November the church will be open for private prayer between 10.45am – 11.15am. At 11.00 am there will be a two-minute silence



Sunday 14th November: Our morning service at 10.30 am will be the Remembrance Day service, when we connect with the Cenotaph for the two-minute silence.
And at **4:00 pm** our service for Remembering our Loved Ones. Tea and Coffee will be served after this service. You are welcome to join us!

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.
Many thanks, Don Macarthur

Please include in your prayers:

- The South Western Synod – Ruth the Moderator, Gwen Synod Clerk, all staff who work for the Synod and all the churches of the Synod.
- The families in Afghanistan, and those who have been granted refuge in different countries
- Immanuel – for each member, family, friend, especially those who are going through hard times
- Are we a welcoming church? How can we be more welcoming?

Christ Church Christmas Market returns!

The Friends of Christ Church are holding the charity Christmas Market on Saturday 20 November 11am-2.30pm at Christ Church (subject to any Government restrictions at the time). Over 26 local charities/organisations have booked a stall. The event is being opened by the Mayor at 11am and Christ Church choir will sing carols to close the event. Father Christmas will be around and refreshments will be on sale including fish and chips. Free admission, all welcome.

The **Partnership Magazine** for next month is a double issue covering December and January, deadline date **12th November**.

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.

Eddie Thomas and Martin Styles, as members of the environmental committee at Immanuel, would welcome all at Immanuel to take a look at the information about Swindon's environmental performance (or lack of it!) revealed when you access the link below. In some respects it would seem that perfection is a long way off! Like me you may disagree with some of the findings. Either way reading the information given is interesting, and hopefully should open up lively discussion on what's best to do for the planet.'

<https://takeclimateaction.uk/near-you/swindon?postcode=sn13ju>