



Immanuel Weekly News
Sunday 29th May 2022

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Thought for the week: "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." Albert Einstein

Service "This is your life." Led by Rev Geoff Gleed

Bible Readings: [Matthew Ch 5 Vs 13-16](#) and [Matthew Ch 13 Vs 1-9](#)

Chaplain on today: Mike Gordon

Chaplain next Sunday: Liz Gibney

Please include in your prayers:

- Peace and Justice for the people of Ukraine and all places where there is war.
- For those living with neurological diseases, for those who know, love and care for them
- The Jubilee celebrations up and down the country
- For those who feel sad, lonely, or upset, and need to remember they are loved.

Thanksgiving service: On Monday 6th June at 12.00 in Christ Church the local service of thanksgiving for the life of John Stevenette will take place and you are invited to attend.

Elders' meeting: this will be on Thursday 2nd at 7.00 pm



Tea and Coffee

Tea and coffee will be served after next Sunday's morning service.

We hope you will be able to stay and enjoy chatting to friends. The volunteers are Terry and Janet Baker with Anne Farrow.

From the **Memorial Book** in the Chapel – we pray for the families and friends of **Peter William Read, Kathleen Vera Gleed, Catherine Mary Gibbs (Cathy)**



This weeks flowers are in loving memory of **Mabel and Sandy Goodall and Marjory and Dudley Walker from Norman and Sue Goodall**. Last Sunday's flowers were given to: **Steve Brain, Myra Hartshorn and Crete and Andreas Sofroniou**

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

I think it is appropriate for the Church to know that we have received a generous donation of **£1400.00 from Women's Fellowship**. On behalf of myself & the Finance committee Thank you very much! (Sue Goodall).

It was a success – YES it was! On Wednesday we met for a cuppa n’ chat, and we had to set up another table, there were over 35 people, and all were delighted, and the question was: when are we doing this again? And we will, keep reading the Weekly News for the date of our next time, it won’t be long. And thank you all, it was great fun. (Robert)



Eco-church

In order to continue our Eco-church ambitions we will be providing you with some tips for more sustainable living each week in the Newsletter. You may find that you are already doing these things, in which case you can give yourself a pat on the back. Here we go with tip one:

- 1) **Make a meal plan.** Meal planning is a key part in the fight against food waste and could save you money too. Food waste is a big contributor to global emissions and 50% of food waste occurs in the home.

Dates for your diary: There are several activities which will be happening over the next few months which you might want to keep in your diary to join in... here go the first two:

- **5th June: Partnership Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Service, at Christ Church, at 6:30. Before the service there will be a Garden Party at 4:00.** For further details see the poster in the Atrium or the Church porch.
- Saturday 24th September at 2:30, at Immanuel there will be a celebration for the 50 years of the United Reformed Church with the participation of the churches in the area, the Synod Moderator has agreed to preach at this service. It will be followed by a times to meet and chat other people over a cup of tea or coffee and cake.

Old Town Community Craft Fayre: on Saturday 11th June from 9:00 – 12:00 at Bath Road Methodist Church. If you have a craft you would like to show and sell or if you would like to see what other people are doing, and buy, this is your opportunity. Tables are free. Contact Sharon. Details on the poster you can find in the Church Porch.

Food for thought: Every day I receive a Daily Devotional from the United Church of Christ – USofA- and often they are very challenging, and I found this one particularly relevant to things we have been thinking about ourselves, so I decided to share it with you. I hope it give you something to think about and helps you on the way. (Robert)

Inertia, be gone!

Vicky Kemper

Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." - John 10:10 (NRSV)

Pandemic-related inertia is a real condition that touches us all. Things we used to enjoy doing—important things, fun things, silly things, life-giving things—require more energy and commitment than we think we have.

I see it in myself: "Why do a deep clean of the house if no one is coming over?" I see it in my church: "Why go to the trouble of worshipping in person when I can worship online?" I see it in the general malaise that shrouds everything: "Why bother?" I see it in my community: "Organizing is so much work!"

I get it. Truly, I do. But I also want to name it for what it is.

Pandemic-related inertia is a thief. It robs us of the very fullness of life Jesus wants for us. It is killing our hope and destroying our communities. And these are not mere metaphors.

Locally owned businesses have gone under. Churches have closed and ministries have ceased operations. The organizers of the decades-old Pride festival where I live have announced that it won't be happening this year. It's too much work, they said, as if it hasn't always generated life-saving joy.

I don't have easy answers, just a longing for abundant life. Not the way things used to be, but better. Will you join me in resisting that which steals our joy?

Prayer: Fount of Blessing, may my desire for life be so strong that, by your grace, it will deliver me from the desire to go back to bed.

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