



Faith – Hope – Love –
Since 1972

Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 27th November 2022

Our Minister is Revd Robert Jordan



Swindon Old Town Ecumenical
Partnership Established 1969

We extend a warm welcome to everyone attending worship today

Today's Morning Service : Advent Sunday 10.30am

Led by Revd Geoff Gleed
Reading: Psalm 139:1-12.
Theme "Walking in the Light"

Chaplain: Mike Denton

Our thanks to Michael Dismore who is playing the organ this morning, as Geoff is leading our service

Evening Service

5.00pm

Joint Partnership Service for Advent at Immanuel: "Darkness to Light" to include special music from the partnership choir. Tea and coffee will be served after the service.

Next Sunday December 4th

10.30 am Morning worship conducted by the Minister]

Chaplain : Eddie Thomas

Family News: Sadly, Cath Thomson died last Sunday at 11:00. She was at home and surrounded by her family.

Our prayers for

- Those who have lost loved ones
- stability in our country on the way ahead
- doctors, nurses at our hospital and hospice
- the homeless, refugees, asylum seekers
- the results of COP 27
- Hope, Faith, Love
- The Advent Service this evening.

Our Memorial Book

this week we remember **Martha Sharps and Thelma Farmer** praying for them and their families and friends who mourn their passing.

Illustration for today:



Thought for the week: *"God, creator, we do not know what effect we have on the lives of those we meet. May we greet with grace and love all those we meet especially when our own situation seems less appropriate than we would like. Amen"* (Rev. Ruth Browning. URC Daily Devotion, 21st November 22)



Last week's flowers were sent Pat Montier and Mildred Carter. Some also went last week to Janet Leadbeater.

Family News

We've heard that **Mildred Carter** had something of a 'milestone birthday' last week. We are sorry we didn't know earlier but hope you had a lovely day...belated greetings from us all.

Harvest Thanksgiving

For those not at church last week, we were treated to a splendid display of harvest produce, as our Romanian friends were celebrating their own Thanksgiving Service.



For those of you whose Romanian is a little rusty, the words are from Thessalonians: "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God" and it seemed to tie in very well with our own communion service.

Food Collective Donations

Our next collection will be on Sunday 4th December. This will be the last collection of the year and will of course cover Christmas. We realise how difficult things are at the moment but do ask if you are able please be generous at this time. Thank you in anticipation

Offertory envelopes

The envelopes for 2023 are now available in the chapel.

As more people have switched to standing orders, we have managed to save money by only buying 25 envelope books this year. This means that those of you who have had numbers 26 to 50 up to now will find you have a new number for 2023, although feel free to use either old or new number when using white appeal envelopes or making online payments.

Please contact Don Macarthur if you have any queries about envelopes or gift aid or standing orders.

Contact us:

- via our website at www.immanuelurc.org
- on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC

If you are new to Immanuel and would like to receive this newsletter by email each week, please email immanuelweeklynews@yahoo.co.uk and I will add you to the mailing list. Thanks, Ceri.

Volunteer wanted

Our last church meeting heard that Sam Chandler-Benjamin has resigned as Pulpit Supply Secretary. We are grateful for all that Sam has done over many years to ensure that worship has continued week after week, but we do need to find a replacement for her fairly swiftly. If you feel you might be able to help or want to know more, please have a word with Steve or any of the elders.

News from the Synod Moderator:

Last week we received a communication from Rev. Ruth Whitehead, the South-Western Synod Moderator sharing news on her future, and here I transcribe the central part of her message:

I will be leaving the post of Synod Moderator in the South-Western Synod at the end of March next year (2023), after nearly 10 years. I have loved my time here and have always described it as a happy Synod, even though we have weathered some storms together. I will miss you all as colleagues and friends, but God has called me to serve the Landsker Pastorate – a group of six small chapels in Pembrokeshire, and as you know, where God calls us is where we find our deepest joy.

We wish Ruth every blessing for the journey ahead and thank her for all she has done for the Synod.