



Faith - Hope - Love -  
Since 1972

# Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 30th October 2022

**Our Minister is Revd Robert Jordan**



Swindon Old Town Ecumenical  
Partnership Established 1969

**We extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this morning's service**

## Today's Service

Today we welcome Bryan Elkington to our pulpit and we are grateful to him for leading our worship. Bryan is a member at our Highworth church and is an old friend of Immanuel.

Chaplain: Liz Gibney

Readings : Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16

Luke 19: 1,3&4

Theme: Lost?

Being the 5th Sunday, Robert has a day off!

## Sunday 6th November

Worship at Immanuel next week will be led by the minister.

Chaplain: Stephen Brain

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall at the close of the service.

We will also be holding a church meeting, so please stay for this.

## Our prayers for -

- those who have lost loved ones
- stability in our country on the way ahead
- those living with long-term medical conditions or mental health issues and all who care for them, that they would all receive strength, support, and peace
- the Old Town Partnership of Churches
- The Elders, for their responsibilities and your support

## Family News

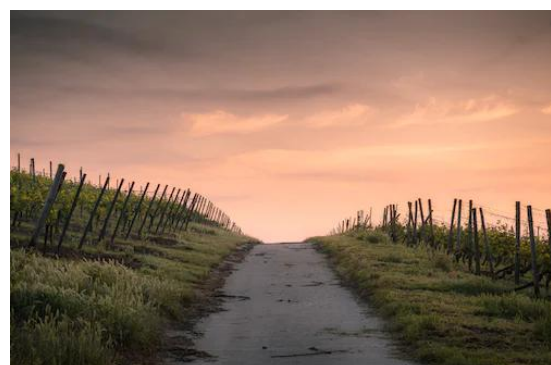
Please remember Cath and John Thomson in your prayers, as Cath is going through a tough time.

An eagle-eyed member of the congregation noticed that last week our four-legged honorary choir member, Mortimer, wasn't wearing his special harness.... the fact is that he has reached retirement age! Although not an official guide dog any longer, he is staying on with Vivienne and John as a support dog. But how wonderful in the past few weeks to also see in the congregation, a 'puppy in training'...welcome to Immanuel!

## Our Memorial Book

Names in our memorial book this week:

**Joan Iles, Mervyn King, Denys Ellis, Trevor Jannaway and Revd John Carrier** - we remember them and the family and friends who mourn their passing.



<https://unsplash.com/s/photos/a-difficult-way>



**Last week's flowers** : The flowers last week were sent to Sam Chandler Benjamin.

**The Prayer Group** has moved to a winter gathering on alternate Thursdays at 2.00 pm for the next few months. Please join us if you wish and continue to write names /subjects for prayer on the frame next to our memorial book, in the chapel.

### **House Communion**

If you would like Communion at home, because you can't get to church, please let either your elder or the minister know, so we can arrange a time for this.

### **Harvest Appeal**

Our appeal this year supporting the work of Tools for Self Reliance, has been open for over a month and by tradition closes tomorrow on 31st October. We are looking to support a training programme in Ghana for girls who were working on the street. The girls are training in tailoring and hoping to set up their own businesses using donated equipment and mentors. The money we raise will go towards their accommodation needs during this period. Currently the appeal total stands at £2,152 and there is still an opportunity to give if you feel you can. If you have equipment or old tools which can be reconditioned and sent out to countries in Africa please contact members of the World Concerns committee who will be able to provide further information.

### **Eco-church**

We continue our Eco-church ambitions, 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.

### **Tip 19) Buy Secondhand Clothes**

The fashion industry accounts for around 10% of global emissions, which is around 2-4 times that of aviation. Have a look around your local charity shop, or try out Apps like Vinted.

**Fresh from the Word** - a whole year's list of Bible readings to challenge or comfort you

### **Contact us:**

- via our website at [www.immanuelurc.org](http://www.immanuelurc.org)
- on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC](https://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](mailto:immanuelweeklynews@yahoo.co.uk) and I will add you to the mailing list. Thanks, Ceri.

You will be amazed at the different interpretations and insights into even the bits of the Bible you thought you knew well. Next year's guide will soon be available and is only £12-99. Please sign up on the list in the Chapel. Not sure? Have a look at the spare copy below the list.

### **Partnership Magazine**

The November issue is out, and ready for you to pick up your copy in the chapel.

### **Volunteer needed – Old Town Partnership of Churches**

Do you have a passion for Ecumenism, a commitment to our rich heritage in Old Town of belonging to the oldest Partnership of Churches in the Country, and a couple of hours a month to spare? Immanuel needs a representative on the Old Town Partnership Focus Group. It meets monthly, and the meeting is made up of the Clergy of our Churches and one lay person from each Church, plus the officeholders: Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Your role would be to engage with the discussions, bring any ideas/projects etc back to Immanuel and to take any comments/ideas to the Focus Group from Immanuel.

Do please give this some thought – it's an important role and not a particularly onerous one if you enjoy interacting with people and have a bit of time to spare. Please speak to Anne Farrow, Steve Brain or Robert if you would like to know more.

### **Church Meeting**

Please note that our next Church Meeting will be held next Sunday 6th November (slightly earlier in the month because of a clash with Remembrance Sunday). As well as other issues, the main item to consider will be the budget for 2023.