



Faith – Hope – Love –
Since 1972

Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 18th December 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 : 4th Sunday in Advent

10.30am

Our morning worship today is a service of Lessons and Carols. Devised by Geoff Gleed, there will be extra music by the choir.

Do come along and enjoy the service as well as hot drinks and mince pies afterwards.

Carols on The Carpet

Monday 19th December - 6-00pm

In the Church hall. 45 minutes of Carols and Christmas Songs for ALL the family to enjoy. With Geoff Gleed in his Band of Merry Musicians. Stay for a drink and a Mince pie.

Next Sunday : Christmas Day 10.30 am

10.30 am - Morning family service conducted by the Minister... feel free to bring along one of your Christmas presents to show to the congregation

praying for their families and friends who mourn their passing.



This week's flowers are dedicated in loving memory of Roy Govier.

Flowers last week went to: Shelley Morgan.



Illustration for today:



Family News: The funeral Service for Cath Thomson will be held here at Immanuel tomorrow, Monday 19th December at 10.00 am

Our Memorial Book

Names in our book this week: **Ted Watts, Doreen Dixon, Rosemarie Partridge,** and **Sheila Elliss**, remembering them and

We have received a lovely letter from the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. *Some 200 Riders and Striders from 95 parishes were able to cover a lot of ground with route options to visit over 170 open churches, thank you! Altogether the Wiltshire Ride and Stride fundraising effort raised just over £50k for Wiltshire churches and chapels. This amount will be split between contributing parishes and WHCT grants to help all Wiltshire churches and chapels with significant fabric and community projects. Please pass on our appreciation to your Welcoming teams and Ride and Stride Participants.*

A message from The Rev'd Bob and Frances Ellis.

'We send you Seasons greetings and trust you will know the Blessings of all that is good.

We continue to have very fond memories of our time spent at Immanuel.' With our love.

The traditional **Christmas Card** board is now available for you to send one card to all of the congregation. Please take a look and add your own message if you wish.

Tea and Chat

Our monthly Tea and Chat took place last Tuesday and 40 or so Immanuel friends enjoyed a great time together listening to the Thamesdown Ladies Choir under the direction of our own Shelley Morgan...lots of traditional carols to join in as well as some new numbers. There was also a lot of festive food to enjoy, so thanks to all those who helped make the event such a success. We were able to pass a cheque for more than £50 to the choir for their charity this year (Motor Neurone Disease).

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.

Swindon Food Collective: We have received a very big Thank You from the Swindon Food Collective, and a certificate you can see on the notice board in the Atrium for the donation during Harvest 2022. Thank each and all of you for your contributions.

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 – although there was some talk about meeting bi-monthly before COVID struck and it doesn't usually meet in July and August. There are also the Full Partnership Council meetings – 2/3 a year – which take place in the evenings. The meeting is made up of the

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.

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 from Immanuel to the Focus Group.

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 or Robert if you would like to know more.

Save your used postage stamps

Please save your used postage stamps. We use them to support CLIC Sargent which is a worthwhile charity who help children with cancer.

If stamps can be trimmed with at least 1/4 inch margin around them and put in the box in the Chapel. Of course, stamps are not just for Christmas but collected throughout the year.

Change of Secretary

For those not at the last Church Meeting, we were sorry to hear that Steve has stood down as church secretary...as yet the elders have not decided who will take on that role.

A new address for Zena & Peter Howarth
13 Station Road
Shrivenham
Oxfordshire
SN6 8ED
01793 317996