



Faith – Hope – Love –  
Since 1972

# Immanuel Weekly News

**Sunday 12th February 2023**

Our Minister is Revd Robert Jordan



Swindon Old Town Ecumenical  
Partnership Established 1969

We extend a warm welcome to everyone attending worship today

## Sunday 12th February: 10.30am

The minister is conducting this morning's worship

**Bible Readings:** Deuteronomy 30; 15-20 1 Corinthians 3; 1-9

**Theme:** How do we choose?

**Chaplain:** Anne Farrow

A Church Meeting will be held at the close of this morning's service. Do please stay on if you possibly can

## Sunday 19th February

The minister will be leading our worship

We will celebrate communion

Chaplain: Eddie Thomas

## Prayers for

- Turkey and Syria
- Peace and justice for all people
- The Mission and Ministry of the church
- Those experiencing tough times
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches

**Christian Aid** are appealing for funds to aid relief work after the major earthquake in parts of Turkey and Syria. There will be a retiring offering basket available after the morning services for the next two weeks.

**Thought for the week:** *“When setting out on a journey do not seek advice from someone who never left home.” (Rumi)*

## Illustration for today: Fullness of life



## Family News:

The service of thanksgiving for the life of John Cummings will be held at Immanuel on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 1:00pm

The Funeral Service for **Barbara Furguson** will be held at Christ Church on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 2:00 pm

The service of thanksgiving for the life of Dot Waddington will be held at Immanuel on 17<sup>th</sup> February at 12:00, followed by a short service at Kingsdown Crematorium at 1:30 pm

**Lent Talks:** As from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and on till 5<sup>th</sup> April, every Wednesday, at Christ Church, between 7-9pm a different speaker will be sharing their thoughts on “Who is Jesus Christ today?”. There will also be a time to ask questions. Why not come along? There will be fliers with information on the speakers in the chapel

**Last week's flowers** went to Viv Blakesley and Sheila Condon



## Our Memorial Book

We remember the following whose names appear in our book this week: **Iris Quinn**, **John Hamilton** and **Ernie Austin**, praying for them and their families and friends who mourn their passing.

### **Our Prayer for Growth**

God of mission, who alone brings growth to  
your church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our  
planning,  
Wisdom to our actions and power to our  
witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers, in  
spiritual commitment to you  
And in service to our Swindon Community.  
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sadly I have just heard that **Traidcraft** is going into Administration and, at this moment, I can no longer buy anything from them. The charity wing is still very much in operation so I will still do what I can to raise funds to support this but, once I have sold the stock I currently have, I'm afraid that will probably be it. It's all very sad, we have been supporting Traidcraft for many, many years - originally thanks to Jenny Powley I believe. I will report when there is any further news.

Liz Gleed.

### **Tea and Chat**



It hardly seems possible that a month has passed since we gathered for an hour or so of tea and chat back in January! If you are free this Tuesday 14th February do join us in the church hall from 2.30 onwards. We'd love to see you! ♥

### **More on the Eco Church Project**

In order for Immanuel to qualify for the Silver Award in the Eco Church Project, several criteria need to be met. One of these is to show that we survey or monitor wildlife

#### **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.

on our property. With this in mind, last weekend we took part in the **RSPB's "Big Garden Bird Watch"**. We patiently watched the back garden here at Immanuel and noted what type and how many birds landed in an hour. We were not totally surprised to spot very few: a couple of magpies, two woodpigeons, two robins and a jackdaw! Hopefully, if we count them again next year we might see more as we are planning on planting a few more small trees and possibly some shrubs. Of course, if we put up and maintained some feeders we might attract even more. But that would take someone to fill and clean out the feeders on a regular basis... As you may already know, we have an area of wild flowers, specially planted at the far end of the garden, to attract insects. We also have a few bird boxes. It would be nice to have our garden being more eco-friendly: alive with birdsong and the hum of insects. Maybe we are heading that way, slowly?

If you are interested in being more involved in making our garden more "alive", talk to Eddie Thomas.

Liz Gibney

**Amnesty International:** Today we present to you a new case for you to write to protect a human life. World Concerns at its last meeting suggested a slightly new way of us supporting people. There will be a card from Immanuel Church, and together with it the possibility for you to sign your name, we will leave this out for two weeks and then collect the card and the signatures and post to the person or government, pleading our case. So when next week at the Communion service we present to you a case, please then support by signing. Thank you!