



Faith - Hope - Love -  
Since 1972

# Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 26th 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 26th February: 10.30am

We are delighted to welcome to our pulpit today Revd Roy Lowes who is well known to us here at Immanuel.

Theme: Challenge accepted!

**Bible Readings:** Genesis 2 15-17 and 3 1-7  
Matthew 4 1-11

**Chaplain:** Maria Kawonga

## Sunday 5th March

The minister will be leading our worship

**Chaplain:** Helen Marson

## Prayers for

- Turkey and Syria
- The war in Ukraine
- Social Justice
- Our journey of Lent
- Families where there is somebody with dementia.
- The Mission and Ministry of the church
- Those experiencing tough times
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches

## Thought for the week:

*"Grace comes to forgive and then forgive again." (Rumi)*

## Illustration for today:

### Walking the way



<https://unsplash.com/s/photos/walking-the-way>

## 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 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 2:00 pm, Robert has been invited to share a Reflection during the service.

**Elders meeting:** Next meeting will be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 19:00hs

**Lent Talks:** As from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 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.

The Lent Talks will also be available to follow on Youtube, for those who use that... the link, which you can access already:

<https://youtu.be/0aG1SPQhhco>

Mike & Norman are looking for any willing volunteers to help operate the sound desk for services, to help spread the load.

No technical knowledge or expertise is required just common sense.

Anyone can speak to either Mike & Norman if it is something you think you could offer to do. Thanks, Mike & Norman

**Amnesty International:** Last Sunday we presented the situation of Dorgelesse Nguessan from the Republic of Camerron, who was arrested for attending a protest, the first time she had done something like this. She was arrested and has been imprisoned for five years.

You can sign the letter that is on the Amnesty Lectern by the Candle or take a flyer with the details to support electronically. Please then support this case. Thank you!

Thanks to the generosity of Immanuel church members a total of £1,255 has been raised, which will be sent the the DEC to aid the

enormous relief efforts taking place in Turkey and Syria.

**Last week's flowers** went to Liz and Pete Gibney, Neil and Catherine McVicar, Jill and Mike Follett, Diane Heritage, Jean Batten and Pam Stephens

### **Our Memorial Book**

We remember the following whose names appear in our book this week: **Eileen Armitage, Margaret De la Haye and Alan White**, praying for them and their families and friends who mourn their passing.

### **Election of elders**

The annual election of elders will take place at the Church Meeting AGM on Thursday 27th April at 7.30pm. The nomination exercise is now open and all (whether you are a member or not) are earnestly invited to think about who you would like to nominate to become a Serving Elder at Immanuel. A list of eligible members and the nomination forms are now available in the chapel. You do not need the permission of the nominee to nominate him/her. If you feel you would like to offer to serve yourself, please include your name on the nomination form. Please give your nominations to Robert Jordan or any elder by the end of the evening service on Sunday 19th March. Alternatively a nomination form and the list of eligible members is attached to the electronic edition of Weekly News and you can send your nominations electronically to Robert ([robert.jordan1@btconnect.com](mailto:robert.jordan1@btconnect.com)) You are all asked to give serious consideration and prayer to this procedure so that we achieve a positive outcome in filling at least three vacancies.

### **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.

### **Advance Notice**

2.30 – 4.00pm Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 TEA and CHAT

Further to the announcement that Traidcraft has gone into Administration we are reminded that **Transform Trade** (formerly Traidcraft Exchange, the charity arm of Traidcraft) will be continuing its vital work to support all those working for Trade Justice around the world. One of its key events to raise funds and awareness is its **annual Big Brew** (very much like the Macmillan Coffee Mornings held every September) As our **March Tea and Chat** afternoon comes at the end of **Fairtrade Fortnight**, our World Concerns Committee has asked that we make it a **Big Brew 2023**. It will be very much 'as normal' except that we are asking for voluntary donations for refreshments, all of which will go to **Transform Trade**. Please invite all your neighbours, friends and family to put the date in their diaries and join us for a time of fellowship together over a Cuppa, Cake and Chat whilst, at the same time, raising much needed funds for this very worthy charity. **Traidcraft goodies will be on sale after the service today (26<sup>th</sup> February) and again at the Tea and Chat in March, all proceeds to Transform Trade** With your support we will rise to this challenge and work positively to help as many people as we can.

### **Advanced Notice: "Godspell" at Christ Church**

Swindon's SALOS is planning to stage a production of this popular musical at Christ Church on the weekend before Easter (March 31st and April 1st). It is based on the Gospel of St Matthew and contains some really memorable music.

Performances will be held on Friday and Saturday at 7.30 pm with a matinee on the Saturday at 2.30 pm. Tickets are £15 (£10 for children) and can be obtained from the website [www.salos.org](http://www.salos.org) or 07731 183857