



Faith – Hope – Love –
Since 1972

Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 5th March 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 5th March : 10.30am

The minister will be leading this morning's worship

Bible Readings: John 3; 1-17

Genesis 12: 1-4a

Theme: To be born again

Chaplain: Helen Marson

Intercession Prayer led by Liz Gibney

Sunday 12th March

Pulpit exchange the service will be lead by Norma Mc Kerney from Christchurch.

Chaplain: Mike Gordon

Church Meeting: Today, after the service we will hold a Church Meeting, which will include the 2022 accounts.

Prayers for

- Messy Church
- Turkey and Syria
- The war in Ukraine
- The homeless in Swindon
- Our journey of Lent
- The Mission and Ministry of the church
- Those experiencing tough times
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches

Thought for the week: "New beginnings are often disguised as painful endings." – **Lao Tzu**

Illustration for today:

Start again



<https://unsplash.com/s/photos/>

Family News:

We hold Jenny Powley in prayer, as well as doctors and nurses. Her surgery on Saturday 4th will open the door to Jenny being able to get out and around.

Articles for the April edition of the Partnership magazine need to be in by the 12th March. Please email them to d.swann6a@gmail.com

Lent Talks: As from Wednesday 8th March and on till 5th 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 speaker this week is the Very Revd Dr Mandy Ford, Dean of Bristol Cathedral

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>

Swindon Food Collective After this morning we shall be taking all donations of food and toiletries to the Swindon Food Collective for distribution to people in the town who are in need. Thank you for your help for the need is great.

The Partnership Prayer Leaflet for the month of March is available today from the box in the chapel. Please take one to inform your prayers for the Old Town churches and our common concerns.

Our Memorial Book

We remember Frank Armitage whose name appears in our book this week praying for him and his family and friends who mourn him.



Last week's flowers This week's flowers went to Sam Roylance and Margaret and Colin Smith

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) 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.

Reminder:

Tuesday 14th March, 2.30 - 4.00pm TEA and CHAT

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.

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 (26th 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 or 07731 183857