



Faith – Hope – Love –
Since 1972

Immanuel Weekly News

Sunday 23rd April

Our Minister is Revd Robert Jordan



We extend a warm welcome to everyone attending worship today

Sunday 23rd April

Service led by Rev Daphne Hardwick, from Christ church

Bible Readings: 1 Peter 1: 17-23 and Luke 24: 13-35.

Chaplain: Don Macarthur

Being the 4th Sunday, Robert will be at Highworth URC

Sunday 30th April

Morning Worship Led by Mark Barrett

Chaplain Eddie Thomas

Robert will be leading worship at Royal Wootton Bassett

Sabbatical: Robert soon begins his Sabbatical, covering the months of May-June-July. Just imagine all he will be talking about when he gets back into action!!!

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.

Prayers for

- The Church Annual Meeting
- The Church in the Pacific Islands
- Famine in Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Somalia where over 27 million people are suffering from extreme hunger
- Peace with Justice in the world
- The NHS, under so much pressure
- Those living in fear

Thought for the week: *"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."*

(Robert L Stevenson)

Election of elders and notice of the AGM

The elders would like to formally announce that June Smythe has been nominated to serve as an elder and is willing to stand. Please pray for her and attend the AGM to cast your vote and support her.

The Church Meeting AGM will be held on Thursday 27th April at 7.30pm at which the election of Elders will take place. Please make every effort to attend as, although only members can vote, everyone is able to participate in any discussions. We will also receive the annual reports from the minister and elders, as well as the presentation of accounts.



Our Memorial Book

We remember **Harold Walter Phillips, Olive Booker, and Joyce Edith Skinner** whose names appear in our book this week, we pray for them and their family and friends who mourn them.

Last week's flowers went to Michael and Hazel Doling, Hazel and Brian Leakey, Julie Dyer, Fran Strange and Viv Hartman

Immanuel Prayer Circle

This will continue to meet regularly on Thursdays at 2pm, usually in the small lounge at the back of the

church. Please give any names/subjects you wish to include to Helen Thomas, Anne Farrow or any other member of the group. You could also come and join us and listen or pray as you prefer. Next meeting is Thursday April 27th.

Filling the pulpit

I am struggling to fill the last Sunday where the pulpit is empty when Robert is on sabbatical. Does anyone have any suggestions as to who might be able to help us out on Sunday 9th July? I have tried most of the usual names, but you may have an unusual suggestion...if so, I'd be pleased to hear it. Or, maybe you yourself might like to lead the service? Or a small group of people? I could point you in the direction of some useful resources, if that is the case. Please give this some thought before it starts keeping me awake at night!
Thank you. Liz Gibney

Bath Road Methodist Church Christian Aid Fundraising Quiz

7.30pm Saturday 20th May at Bath Road Methodist Church.

Teams of up to 6 people-£5 per person.

For tickets contact: Lindsey Miller

Old Town Partnership of Churches: the Council meeting is on the 2nd May at 7:30 at Immanuel.

All elders are encouraged to attend.

Agenda items include :

- Anna Soulsby speaking about street pastors in Swindon - should be of interest to World Concerns members especially as Simon is pushing for this to be our next Partnership project;
- reflections on the Lent series as to who is Jesus.

Coronation Big Lunch: If you are planning to attend please let us know asap as Christ Church needs to know numbers for planning. Please pick up a brochure of activities organized for the Coronation Weekend, you can find them in the Chapel.

Donations in Memory of Jean Campbell: A number of people asked me where they could send donations in memory of Jean; I asked Claire and she suggested PSPA (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Association). PSP is a neurological condition caused by the premature loss of nerve cells in certain parts of the brain. This is what Ian suffers from).

Robert

For more information you can see their webpage:

<https://www.pspassociation.org.uk/>

“Join the family”: If you are not a member of Immanuel URC, have you ever thought you could be? Membership is a firm step taken as an expression of commitment in the journey of faith.

If you would like to explore the matter, pick up a short booklet in the Chapel called **Join the Family.**

Please don't discard the idea without thinking and praying about it. (Robert)

Worship and Outreach: We are seeking two new members, who can support this group, we don't have too many meetings, and we try to think outside the box, so it usually is quite interesting. You might be just the person we are looking for! Let Robert know if you would like to join us.

Local and National Elections **Changes to the way we vote.**

Please remember

The way that we vote is changing. From 4 May 2023, voters will need to show photo ID at polling stations. Voter ID doesn't replace the need to register to vote – you will still need to register to vote at your current address, if you haven't already.

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.