

Prayer Diary

August 2020

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

Psalm 23:1



Vicar: Martin Lane

Churchwarden: Pete Walkington

Assistant to the Churchwardens: Mick Farrier

Deanery Synod Representatives: Michael Davis, Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane

PCC: Lisa Bonham (Secretary), Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Hilary Drury (co-opted), Carol Eldridge, Robin Fahie (co-opted), Alex Hohenkerk, Martin Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Rowena Pelling, Pete Walkington

Treasurer: Carol Eldridge

Safeguarding Officer: Robin Fahie

Administrator: Lisa Bonham

Digital Media and Publicity Officer: Naomi Wade

Finance Committee: Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane, Pete Walkington

Buildings Committee: Mick Farrier, Martin Lane, Pete Walkington

Staff Team: Lisa Bonham, Holly Eldridge, Hilary Drury, Martin Lane

Preaching Team: Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Nigel Harvey, Glen Kilby, Martin Lane

Families Worker: Hilary Drury

Ministry Volunteer: Holly Eldridge

Sunday Club Supervisor: Lisa Bonham

Sunday Club Leaders: Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Holly Eldridge, Tony Simons

Sunday Club Helpers: Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Nicky Goddin, Carol Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, Cynthia Lovett, Wanda Owen

Crèche Team: Beckie Akroyd, Thelma Frogley, Mena Martin, Chloe Newman, Jen & Bruce Steadman, Annette Wells

Our Mission

Our mission is to help people of our town and local community become fully-committed followers of Jesus.

Our Vision

Imagine a church that's flooding its local community with the light of the gospel and making a visible difference to the lives of all kinds of people: that's what we long to see at Emmanuel Church, on the West Hill of Hastings, to the glory of God.

As we look to the future we envision a growing and dynamic, **gospel-hearted** church, full of men, women, and children who find their identity in Christ and rejoice in living for him. It's a church with multiple, vibrant gospel ministries for all ages with trained and trustworthy leaders; where faithful bible teaching is valued and expected; where the gospel is proclaimed with urgency and purpose. It's a church of disciple-making disciples; where members are experiencing the life-changing power of the gospel and helping others to experience it too.

It's an **others-focused** church where we cherish one another in Christ; a family of believers who think of one another before themselves and gladly accept sacrifice for each other's sake; where we love one another in practical ways and everyone gives and receives. It's a church in which relationships are loyal, supportive and accountable; where names are remembered and absence is noticed; where we join together to laugh and cry, challenge and encourage, pray and praise.

It's an **outward-looking** church that works for the good of our local community and seeks the lost with the gospel of grace in creative and relevant ways; a place where the needy find help, the broken find healing, the lonely find friendship, and all hear the offer of new life in Christ. It's a church that's committed to supporting other gospel ministries, in the UK and overseas, by giving its money and sending its people to serve in various ways.

This is our dream. We believe, under God, it will soon be reality, and we invite you to be part of it.

Dear Friends

How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD Almighty!
My soul yearns, even faints,
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out
for the living God.
Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young -
a place near your altar,
LORD Almighty, my King and my God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house;
they are ever praising you. (Psalm 84:1-4)

The psalmist is expressing his deep longing to be in the presence of God, because an Old Testament believer was only able to go to the temple courts a few times each year. His desire is so strong that he even feels jealous of the sparrow who is able to make her home there.

As we continue to live under lockdown, we might have a similar desire to be inside the church building once again (and, indeed, we should have a strong desire to gather together again as the Lord's people.)

However, these verses in Psalm 84 should mean something different to us as New Testament believers, who live this side of Pentecost. We live every moment of the day with God's presence in our hearts, through the indwelling of his Holy Spirit. We don't need to enter a building to be in the presence of God: He is with us every moment of the day, wherever we may be. As we read this psalm, our response should be to praise God for all the blessings we enjoy, today, in Christ and to long, ultimately, for heaven, where we will be with him forever. Why not begin your prayers with praise?

With love,
Martin

Each day of the week has:

- some Emmanuel people and ministries (see inside cover)
- some streets in our parish to pray for our community
- an external ministry or organisation we support (see back cover) and/or some countries where Christians are facing persecution
- something to pray for specifically related to the Coronavirus
- a Bible verse to pray for our church family

You could choose to pray through each section every day, or spread them out across the month. We hope this will continue to be a useful aid to prayer.

Saturdays (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- Treasurer, Carol Eldridge, as she works on our finances
- Safeguarding Officer, Robin Fahie, in this vital role
- The Music Group
- The Cleaning Team

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Castle Hill Road, Castledown Avenue, Collier Road, Croft Road, Egremont Place, Elford Street and Emmanuel Road.

The World

- The work of Speak Life
- Christians facing persecution in Sudan and Yemen

COVID-19

- National and local government leaders; for cooperation, good communication and sustaining energy.

Bible Focus - Psalm 51:10-12

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.”

- For Emmanuel to be full of repentant people who trust in God’s forgiveness and restoration.

Sundays (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- Vicar, Martin Lane, as he leads Emmanuel
- Church Warden, Pete Walkington, and Assistant, Mick Farrier
- The Preaching Team as they preach from Psalms 22 to 27
- The Sound Desk

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Gladstone Road, Halton Crescent, Halton Place, Hardwicke Road, Harold Place, Manor Road and Milward Crescent

The World

- Jude Harrison and Family Support Work
- Christians facing persecution in Iran and India

COVID-19

- Families during the time off school; for patience, compassion, and a good balance between work and rest.

Bible Focus - Acts 4:29

“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.”

- For Emmanuel to boldly proclaim that salvation is found in Christ alone.

Mondays (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st)

Emmanuel Ministry

- Digital Media and Publicity Officer, Naomi Wade
- The Staff Team to be united and gospel focused
- Bookstall ministry, Beckie Akroyd
- The TOAST Team and those who come along

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Milward Road, Mount Pleasant Road, Nelson Road, North Terrace, Old London Road, Pelham Street and Plynlmmon Road.

The World

- Churches and leadership in the Diocese of Chichester
- John and Sarah Percival (Cambridge): for a good start at Oak Hill College, for some restful family holiday, and for John finalising his PhD.

COVID-19

- Churches and ministry leaders; that they would both be a light for Christ and provide practical support for their communities.

Bible Focus - Ephesians 4:1-3

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

- That Emmanuel would walk in a manner worthy of the gospel, being patient and humble in our interactions with one another and prioritising unity.

Tuesdays (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- The Finance Committee to make wise decisions
- Families Worker, Hilary Drury, as she supports church families
- Home Group Leaders as they keep in touch with members
- The Maintenance Team

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Portland Place, Portland Terrace, Priory Road, Queen's Road, Robertson Hill, Russell Street, Saunders Close and St George's Road.

The World

- The work of Barnabas Fund
- Christians facing persecution in North Korea, Afghanistan and Somalia

COVID-19

- Those who are sick, and their families; for healing and comfort from the Lord through the care of doctors and nurses.

Bible Focus - 2 Corinthians 9:6

“Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

- For Emmanuel to be generous in using all that God has given us to bless one another and our wider community.

Wednesdays (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- Sunday Club Supervisor, Leaders, Helpers and children
- The Buildings Committee as they manage our premises
- The Projection Team
- The Gardening Team

Our Community

Homes and businesses on St Mary's Road, St Mary's Terrace, St Thomas's Road, Stone Street, Stonefield Place, Stonefield Road and The Glebe.

The World

- Marc and Yvonne Lloyd (Warbleton, Bodle Street Green & Dallington benefice, East Sussex): for rest and refreshment as they take some holiday as a family and see relatives; for those preaching and looking after things while Marc is away.

- The work of Sussex Gospel Partnership

COVID-19

- Health workers, caregivers and medical researchers; for protection, wisdom, and resilience under pressure.

Bible Focus - Luke 9:23-24

“Then he said to them all: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.’”

- That Emmanuel would wholeheartedly follow Christ in every area of life.

Thursdays (6th, 13th, 20th and 27th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- The members of our PCC to be one in thought and purpose
- The Crèche Team and young children at Emmanuel
- Ministry Volunteer, Holly Eldridge
- The Publicity Team

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Vicarage Road, Wellington Mews, Wellington Place, Wellington Road, Wellington Square, Wellington Terrace, West View, Whitefriars Road and York Gardens.

The World

- The work of Crosslinks
- Christians facing persecution in Libya, Pakistan and Eritrea
- Ongoing fruit from online summer camps, Woolie 3 and Brambletye 2

COVID-19

- Those who are especially vulnerable, including those in poverty; for access to medical care and everyday resources like food and water, and for protection from the disease.

Bible Focus - Matthew 16:18

“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

- That Emmanuel will trust Jesus to grow the church in his way and with his power.

Fridays (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- Our Deanery Synod Representatives
- Administrator, Lisa Bonham
- The Buttons Team and the children, parents, grandparents and carers who come along
- The Welcoming Team

Our Community

Homes and businesses on Albert Road, Alpine Road, Ann Street, Becket Close, Bembrook Road, Calvert Road and Castle Gardens.

The World

- The work of Evangelical Alliance
- Jirka and Keira Kralovi (Czech Republic); give thanks for the great response to Christianity Explored and Discipleship Explored courses; for more evangelistic opportunities; for camps of all sorts in the summer, that God may use them where needed.

COVID-19

- Those who are particularly lonely or fearful; for God's peace to reign in their hearts, and for the comfort of friends, family and neighbours to be very real despite restrictions.

Bible Focus - Ephesians 1:15-16

"For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."

- For each member of Emmanuel to be grateful for our church family and give thanks regularly for one another.

Buttons Team: Hilary Drury, Holly Eldridge, Thelma Frogley, Cynthia Lovett, Lucy Sparks

Music Group: Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Miriam Eisele, Holly Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, Robin Fahie, Nigel Harvey, Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Sue Page

Projection Team: Greig Burgoyne, Rachel Lane, Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

Sound Desk: Hilary Drury, Jim Goddin

Welcoming Team: Eileen Evans, Dorothea Fahie, Jen Farrier, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Paul & Bernadette Huggins, Geoff Martin, Viv Walkington, Dave Wells

Bookstall: Beckie Akroyd

Home Group Leaders: Michael & Fiona Davis, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Nigel Harvey, Martin & Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Ben & Chloe Newman, Rowena Pelling, Dave & Annette Wells

TOAST Team: Holly Eldridge, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Thelma Frogley, Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Martin Lane, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Annalize Senol, Lucy Sparks, Viv Walkington

Christianity Explored: Martin Lane, Rowena Pelling

Publicity Team: Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

Cleaning Team: Lisa Bonham, Andrew & Sandra Budd, Berns Huggins, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Geoff & Mena Martin, Rowena Pelling, Lucy Sparks, Annette & Dave Wells

Gardening Team: Nikki Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Geoff Martin, Tony Simons.

Maintenance Team: Mick Farrier, Geoff Martin, Dave Sparks, Pete Walkington

Mums' Bible Study: Hilary Drury, Rachel Lane

**We are an Anglican evangelical church
in the Diocese of Chichester:**



**We are a partner church in
the Sussex Gospel Partnership:**



www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk

We are a member church of:



www.eauk.org

The three charities we support are:



www.barnabasfund.org.uk



www.crosslinks.org



www.speaklife.org.uk

www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk 01424 445184
Registered Charity No.: 1159229