

Prayer Diary

September 2020

The Lord is my light and my salvation –
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life –
of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:1



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, Hilary Drury, Martin Lane

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

Families Worker: Hilary Drury

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

One of Paul's favourite metaphors to describe the local church is the body. In Romans 12, he says this: **For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.**

We should expect a gospel-hearted church to be characterised by unity but not uniformity. God blesses us with unity in diversity. Each of us has different gifts - that is, God-given abilities - which can be used to contribute to the good of the whole. It's part of God's good provision for us that he blesses churches with this kind of diversity. And Paul's exhortation is clear: whatever you can do for the good of the whole, do it!

I am delighted that we can start meeting together again in the weeks ahead, and hope that you are too. We've missed each other. We've missed the encouragement of gathering together, week by week, around God's word, as members of his family. It will be a thrill to do so once again (and it will be a powerful witness to the community!)

But we will need to pull together in whatever ways we can. There will be lots to do to ensure that we are able to meet together safely. And the challenge of holding up to three services each Sunday will mean that the opportunities to serve will multiply. So please can I ask you to prayerfully consider how you might be able to play your part as we look forward together to what lies ahead.

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.

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

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
- Colin Poyntz (Winslow Christian Fellowship, Winslow)
- Christians facing persecution in North Korea, Afghanistan and Somalia

COVID-19

- The sick and infected: for healing and help, bodies and spirits to be sustained, and the spread of infection to be contained.

Bible Focus - 1 John 4:7

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.”

- For Emmanuel to be full of people who love one another genuinely and deeply.

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

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)

- Rachel Browning (Christ Church, Cambridge): for the logistics of multiple services with live-streaming, and caring well for those in the building and those tuning in from home; for wisdom in planning Women's Morning groups for the autumn term and the Women's Weekend at Home in October; for the latter to be well attended and the teaching on Malachi to be helpful.
- The work of Sussex Gospel Partnership

COVID-19

- Healthcare and care home workers: for clear minds, safety and protection, and compassion for all in their care.

Bible Focus - 1 Timothy 5:17

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honour, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching."

- For Emmanuel to be fully supportive of our leadership and church vision.

Thursdays (3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th)

Emmanuel Ministry

- The members of our PCC to be one in thought and purpose
- The Crèche Team and young children at Emmanuel
- 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

COVID-19

- The vulnerable, elderly and poor: for protection from the disease, and access to food, shelter and medical care.

Bible Focus - Ephesians 6:4

"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

- For Emmanuel families to prioritise Christian education in the home and grow together in love of Jesus.

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

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
- Michael and Sarah Farrier (Emmanuel, St Nicholas & Grace Church, Bath): give thanks for the gift of extra space in the vicarage; for gospel opportunities as they get to know their new community; for children returning to school, especially Esme who has not been in since March and Jude starting secondary school; for Sarah as she begins trying to set up her own business using her design and creative skills.

COVID-19

- Those with mental health challenges who feel isolated, frustrated or helpless: for support and encouragement from professionals, friends and family.

Bible Focus - Matthew 28:19-20

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

- For Emmanuel to be reaching out with the good news of Jesus to our friends, relatives and neighbours, and supporting missionary work further afield.

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

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
- John and Sarah Percival (Cambridge): for a good start at Oak Hill; for children back at school, particularly their oldest starting secondary school.

COVID-19

- National and local government leaders; for wisdom, energy, integrity and clear thinking,

Bible Focus - 2 Corinthians 1:12

“Now this is our boast: our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, with integrity and godly sincerity. We have done so, relying not on worldly wisdom but on God’s grace.”

- For Emmanuel to be faithful and honest in its dealings with the secular world, e.g. paying bills, maintaining buildings etc.

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

Emmanuel Ministry

- Vicar, Martin Lane, as he leads Emmanuel
- Church Warden, Pete Walkington, and Assistant, Mick Farrier
- The Preaching Team
- 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

- Ministers and church leaders: for practical love for their congregations and communities, courage in evangelism and dependence on God.

Bible Focus - Philippians 4:4

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice!”

- For Emmanuel to be joyful in Christ, and for that joy to be evident to those around us.

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

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
- Tim and Emily Hay (City Church, Birmingham)

COVID-19

- Families with children going back to school and with young ones at home: for sustaining energy, creative thinking and grace-filled conversations.

Bible Focus - Hebrews 4:12

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

- For Emmanuel to be diligent and passionate in studying the Bible, as individuals, pairs, home groups and a whole church family.

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