

Prayer Diary

November 2021

“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.”

Matthew 22:2



Vicar: Martin Lane

Churchwardens: Geoff Martin, Tony Simons

Assistants to the Churchwardens: Greig Burgoyne, Mick Farrier

Deanery Synod Representatives: Michael Davis, Hilary Drury,
Carol Eldridge

PCC: Lisa Bonham (Secretary), Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis,
Hilary Drury, Carol Eldridge, Holly Eldridge, Caleb Kilby, Geoff Martin,
Martin Lane, Rowena Pelling, Tony Simons

Treasurer: Carol Eldridge

Safeguarding Officer: Rowena Pelling

Administrator: Lisa Bonham

Digital Media and Publicity Officer: Naomi Wade

Finance Committee: Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane

Buildings Committee: Mick Farrier, Martin Lane, Geoff Martin

Staff Team: Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Martin Lane

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

Families Worker: Hilary Drury

Director of Music: Holly Eldridge

Sunday Club Supervisor: Lisa Bonham

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

Sunday Club Helpers: Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis,
Jen & Mick Farrier, Carol Eldridge, Cynthia Lovett

Crèche Supervisor: Lucy Sparks

Crèche Team: Fiona Davis, Chloe Newman, Lucy Sparks, Jen Steadman,
Naomi Wade

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

At the end of this month, Advent will begin. It's a time when we look forward to celebrating the first coming of Jesus at Christmas, and prepare for his return as Judge at the end of the age.

In 1 Thessalonians 5, the apostle Paul speaks of the day of the Lord's return and urges us to watch carefully for his appearing. He will come **...like a thief in the night** (verse 2). In other words, his appearing will find people unprepared and take them by surprise. **While people are saying, 'Peace and safety,' destruction will come on them suddenly...** (verse 3). But it shouldn't be that way with us, his people. We are not in the dark about God, as others are in the dark, because we live in the light of Christ. We know the wonderful salvation that God has accomplished through the death and resurrection of his Son. And we know that Jesus has promised to return. So rather than being caught unawares when that day comes, we should be alert and watchful, **...putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet** (verse 8).

Advent is a time to make sure that we are living each day with the return of Jesus in clear focus. His appearing is the culmination of God's great plan of salvation and will be a truly wonderful day. **For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ** (verse 9). He died on the cross so that **we may live together with him** (verse 10). So Paul urges us to **encourage one another and build each other up...** (verse 11).

Keeping ourselves alert and watchful for Christ's return isn't easy. We need each other's help. So, this Advent, let's be committed to one another in our church family, and take every opportunity to encourage each other with the truths of the gospel and the promise of Christ's return.

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.

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

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 Mount Pleasant Road, Nelson Road, North Terrace, Old London Road, Pelham Street, Plynlmmon Road, Portland Place and Portland Terrace.

The World

- Michael and Sarah Farrier (Emmanuel, St Nicholas & Grace Church, Bath): for preparations for a city centre carol service with Grace Church, with some major logistical work taking place; give thanks for a growing number of students and a few new families at Grace Church, and for a positive response to partnership Sunday; ask God to provide more workers for the harvest field - so much opportunity! Give thanks that the family is all doing well, staying healthy and in good shape with school, football, ministry etc.
- Churches and leadership in the Diocese of Chichester

COVID-19

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

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.

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

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 Priory Road, Queen's Road, Robertson Hill, Russell Street, Saunders Close, St George’s Road and St Mary’s Road.

The World

- Colin Poyntz (Winslow Christian Fellowship, Winslow)
- Christians facing persecution in North Korea, Afghanistan and Somalia
- The work of Sussex Gospel Partnership

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 - 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.

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

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 Terrace, St Thomas's Road, Stone Street, Stonefield Place, Stonefield Road, The Glebe, Vicarage Road and Wellington Mews.

The World

- Jirka and Keira Kralovi (Olomouc, Czech Republic)
- Tim and Emily Hay (City Church, Birmingham)
- The work of Barnabas Fund

COVID-19

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

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.

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

Emmanuel Ministry

- The members of our PCC to be one in thought and purpose
- The Crèche Supervisor, Team and young children at Emmanuel
- The Publicity Team
- The Youth Bible Study

Our Community

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

The World

- Marc and Yvonne Lloyd (Warbleton, Bodle Street Green & Dallington benefice, East Sussex): for a Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance on the 7th, remembering loved ones they have lost and the bereaved; for PCC meetings, Mission Action Planning and Parish Share decisions etc.; for Remembrance Sunday services, and planning and preparation for Christmas.
- The work of Crosslinks
- Christians facing persecution in Libya, Pakistan and Eritrea

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 - 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.

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

Emmanuel Ministry

- Our Deanery Synod Representatives
- Administrator, Lisa Bonham
- The Buttons Supervisor, 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

- Jude Harrison and Family Support Work
- The work of Evangelical Alliance

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 - 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.

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

Emmanuel Ministry

- Treasurer, Carol Eldridge, as she works on our finances
- Safeguarding Officer, Rowena Pelling, in this vital role
- The Director of Music and 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, Emmanuel Road and Gladstone Road.

The World

- John and Sarah Percival (Cambridge): for John as he teaches at Oak Hill and continues to work on his PhD – that he would love God's word and communicate it faithfully and clearly in these contexts, as well as in family life, evangelism, at church, etc.
- 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 - 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.

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

Emmanuel Ministry

- Vicar, Martin Lane, as he leads Emmanuel
- Churchwardens and Assistants
- The Preaching Team
- The Sound Desk

Our Community

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

The World

- Christians facing persecution in Iran and India
- Rachel Browning (Christ Church, Cambridge): for the whole church family after a long-standing and dearly loved member went to be with Jesus after a four year battle with cancer; she was a faithful evangelist, and the church is praying that much fruit for God's kingdom will come from the way she lived and died; they will miss her terribly. Also pray for Christmas planning, especially with the uncertainty of COVID and sickness bugs; for leaders to be wise and realistic in what they plan and that God would use their efforts for his glory.

COVID-19

- Families with children at school and with young ones at home; for patience, compassion, and a good balance between work and rest.

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 Supervisor: Fiona Davis

Buttons Team: Fiona Davis, Hilary Drury, Berns Huggins, Lucy Sparks

Music Group: Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Miriam Eisele, Holly Eldridge, Robin Fahie, Jim & Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Wanda Owen, Sue Page

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

Sound Desk: Beckie Akroyd, Jim Goddin

Welcoming Team: Lisa Bonham, Greig Burgoyne, Miriam Eisele, Dorothea Fahie, Jen & Mick Farrier, Suzi Frost, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Paul & Berns Huggins, Geoff Martin, Rowena Pelling, Lucy Sparks, Dave Wells

Bookstall: Beckie Akroyd

Home Group Leaders: Michael & Fiona Davis, Carol Eldridge, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Martin & Rachel Lane, Geoff Martin, Ben & Chloe Newman, Rowena Pelling, Dave & Annette Wells

TOAST Team: Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Thelma Frogley, Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Annalize Senol

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, Dave & Annette Wells

Gardening Team: Chris Brooking, Greig Burgoyne, Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Geoff Martin, Juliet Rutherford, Tony Simons

Maintenance Team: Mick Farrier, Geoff Martin

Youth Bible Study: Hilary Drury, Rowena Pelling

**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