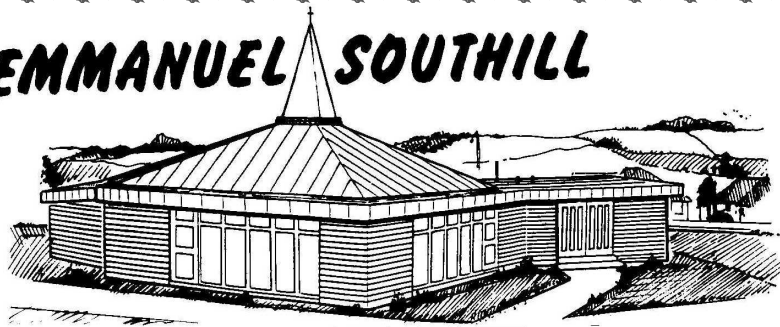


EMMANUEL SOUTHILL



December 2012

Advent – waiting in hope

Are you any good at waiting?

Most of us are rather impatient. We British are supposed to be the world leaders at orderly queuing, but I think that is becoming less so. Given the choice, which one of us wouldn't cut a corner, jump the queue or shorten the process.

Have you noticed how TV series now show a trailer (spoiler) at the end of each episode showing a glimpse of next week's

programme, presumably for those who can't wait a week. I think it ruins the anticipation. I am an object of some amusement in my own lounge as I turn it off or over, so as not to spoil it.

The news used to report what had happened in the world, now it trails what speech or announcement is coming later today.

Politicians collude, releasing speeches to the media in advance; the last budget was discussed almost in full before the day.

satisfaction and greater appreciation in not always having everything right now. Things worthwhile need time to prepare for, think how you would cope if pregnancy was a day rather than nine months!

If we use Advent constructively, finding the time to think and ponder, identifying with the waiting process, then Christmas when it comes is so much richer. And if the celebration of Christ coming into the world is special how much more will be his actual return!

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

James 5:7-8 (TNIV)

Yours in Jesus,

Our own new Archbishop of Canterbury described his appointment as "the best kept secret since the last cabinet reshuffle", following the widespread reports from a number of sources.

As we enter Advent, we remember that it is so much more than a countdown to Christmas. We remember those who waited, Patriarchs, Prophets and others of God's people.

We remember that we are waiting. We live in a time of waiting between Christ's incarnation and return.

With the right attitude, waiting can bring so much more to the event. Anticipation is a powerful thing. There is a joy and

Christmas Services

16th December

6.30pm—Carols by Candlelight

18th December

2.30pm—Midweek Carols
followed by Tea

23rd December

4.00pm—Christingle
(note no 10am service this day)

24th December

11.30pm—Midnight'
Communion

25th December

8.45am—Holy Communion
10.00am—Christmas Family
Celebration



Latest news from Jonny Payne spending a year working with the XLP youth project in London

So we've been back for a couple of weeks since half term and I've now got my car up here which is saving me 2 hours a week in travelling time which is very nice!

I've completed my training to drive the buses and have now driven to all the estates that I work on regularly, some of them are easier to get into than others but I have been making full use of the bus lanes, only problem is remembering that when I am driving to the estates in my car I have to take a different route because I can't follow the one I do in the bus!

As you may remember I asked you to pray for the Regents Park estate that we were relaunching a project on, this has gone really well and we are getting a regular group of boys come, despite having been told by another youth group that we are the police. We are starting to build up relationships with them and we are planning and running an addiction workshop as we have discovered that most of them are heavily into gambling and smoking cannabis.

This bus is great fun, and a complete contrast to the project that we ran before it on an estate 20 minutes away. The young people only want to rap or play video games so you have to attempt to do this to be able to speak to them but on Regents Park they'll play on a console for half an hour and then we'll make a cake with them and sit down and play cards, hangman or charades, which is quite interesting on a bus!

We are starting to prepare for our Greenwich arts showcase which is a talent show that XLP run, this year we have got more schools than before wanting to be involved, this is usually a great show and gives parents a chance to see something positive in their children, please can you pray that the show on the 1st December goes well and that there will be no problems as groups from different areas come together.

So that's a little bit about what's been happening up here!

Jonny



Monthly short Communion service on a Tuesday

Sometimes people find it difficult to make it on a Sunday for the service and so we are going to try having a monthly short Communion service on a Tuesday for anyone who would like to come.



It will be at 9.30am and will be short and simple and finish in time for Coffee Shop at 10am.

This month it is on Tuesday 11 December.





EMMANUEL PRAYER GROUPS.

Sunday 2/12 at church, Prayer Focus at 6.30 p.m.

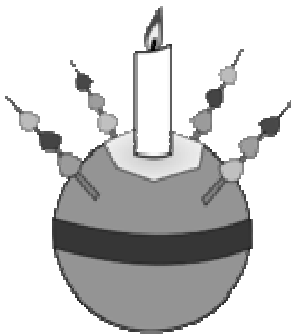
Wednesday 12/12 at 103 Chaffey's Avenue starting at 10.15 a.m.

Wednesday 19/12 at 23 Field Barn Drive starting at 2.00 p.m.

No fourth Thursday group this month – Christmas week.



Christingle



Our Christingle Service is to be held on 23rd December at 4.00 pm. The money we collect at the Christingle Service will be given to “Waves”, which is run by the Children’s Society.

If you would like to find out more about “Waves”, their annual report is available for you to read on the table in the lounge



A

Christmas Puzzle to Enjoy



Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her —' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
- 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an —, — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
- 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
- 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20 See 18 Across



Wishing you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas from your Editor



JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE DATE: SUNDAY 16th DECEMBER 2012

Would all people with articles for inclusion in the January Newsletter please hand them to Pip, or e-mail them to Barbara at: box.barbara@btinternet.com by Sunday 16th December at the latest. Thank you.

Please send all Newsletter files to this email address

Christmas flowers.

On Saturday the 15th December at 10.00 the Christmas flowers will be done. All people on the flower rota are warmly welcomed to come and help decorate the church for Christmas. Please bring any suitable greenery from your gardens. Flowers will be provided. Come for coffee and mince pies. Look forward to seeing you there.

We thank God For

We especially thank God this Christmas time for sending His Son Jesus into the world to lead us back to Him. Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on whom His favour rests
Thank you Lord

Registers
Baptism
We welcome Lucy Smale into our Church Family
Confirmation
We welcome Toby Manning as a full member of our Church Family
Funeral
We pray for the family of Doris Ferguson, aged 84

PRAYER TOPICS

<u>Week Beginning</u>	<u>Emmanuel</u>	<u>Outside Links</u>
<u>2nd Dec</u>	Why—the healing of God	The Lantern
<u>9th Dec</u>	Our work with young people	Street Pastors and HOTS
<u>16th Dec</u>	Our midweek groups	The Worldwide Church
<u>23rd Dec</u>	Our Christmas witness	Waves
<u>30th Dec</u>	For the Year ahead	Churches and Ministers across our town

SERVICES AT EMMANUEL

8.45 am TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
10.00 am MORNING WORSHIP
with young people's groups

HOLY COMMUNION

8.45 am 1st & 3rd Sundays
10.00 am 4th Sunday

Emmanuel Web Site:
www.emmanuelwey.co.uk



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