



IMMANUEL

PRAYER

FOCUS

Update 10th April 2022

This booklet is intended to inform the Immanuel family about current prayer needs for the church. It is not intended at this stage to be a platform for individual prayer needs. Please use it as the Spirit leads you, and of course do add your own ideas as you pray.

It is in the form of a diary, so we are all praying for the same topic(s) on the same day.

Monday

Thanksgiving

- For each other, the church family, love and support and for purpose.
- That Covid is a far less serious disease and that we are able to meet together safely.

Prayer

- Communication between leaders, trustees, life groups, prayer groups, individuals so we're all praying as one body for our church. Guidance on how to coordinate this info across the church
- Holy Spirit-inspired expectancy for our prayers to be heard and responded to by God
- Everyone in the church to catch the vision for prayer being the "boilerhouse" (ie. where we humbly receive God's inspiration and energy) for the church and our mission in Chichester and beyond. (See "Outreach" section below for more on this.) Pray for inspiration and discernment for the small group, led by Richard and Jo Pope, dedicated to praying for our City.
- Depth and help in our personal prayer lives to deepen our relationship with God.
- Catching the vision of prayer ministry and laying on of hands on Sunday services, to be bold in requesting it for all sorts of reasons, especially for a closer relationship with Jesus.

Immanuel Vision

May God bless us all as we continually look for opportunities to put the Vision into practice, both corporately and individually. Please refer to the Vision leaflet and the Vision explanation document (- see members' area on the church website: www.immanuelchichester.com; if you need help to access them, please contact Paul Dickson (admin@immanuelchichester.com)).

Thank God that the Leaders have been working hard on the Vision for Immanuel and should be able to make announcements at the AGM on 24th April. Please pray that they'll be able to continue listening for the Spirit's guidance, for clarity of thought and energy in this complex task. Pray that every person at Immanuel will want to get involved.

Pray for the people who applied to become leaders and trustees at Immanuel and that the right people will be elected when voting is open (17-23 April). Pray for a really good turnout to the AGM on 24 April of people who wish to be engaged with what's going on at Immanuel.

Tuesday

Thanksgiving

- For who God is, for Jesus' sacrifice to rescue us, for Holy Spirit's constant Presence amongst us.
- Thank God for the Spirit-filled involvement of the Deeper young people at the March Encounter gathering

24-1 and Encounter weekends

(These prayer points aren't confined just to the 24-1/Encounter weekends, but they are a focus for those weekends)

- Open our ears Lord so we may hear what you're saying to us; earnestly seeking the gift of prophecy for everyone.
- An evening where the young people play an important part
- A vision for powerful prayer for Immanuel in its mission to lead the family in the Way of Jesus (discipleship) and from there out into the world
- Worship in Spirit and Truth and submitting to God's will for us: we want to please you Lord in our worship and submission to you
- Healing and deliverance, signs and wonders, learning and practicing in order to bring the gifts to the mission field: "The disciples went around ... anointing with oil and healing" (Mark 6:12-13)

Words from the March 24-1 / Encounter weekend

- JOY was definitely the word of the evening both in the sense of God giving us Joy and God receiving Joy from our worship to Him: child-like joy
- Whilst we haven't lost our first love, we may have become jaded and no longer trusting Jesus with the childlike faith for miracles, healing, presence, etc, and the breakthrough is to just ask Jesus to give us that easy childlike faith once again.
- Prayer for healing for neck pain & arch of foot
- It's not the case that we have to ready ourselves and prepare our hearts for God, instead he has already prepared his heart for us and made a place for us and all we have to do is walk into his presence
- Nature continuously bears witness to the power of God
- Prayer for the releasing of earthly bindings and constrictions

Wednesday

Thanksgiving

- For blessings and answers to all sorts of prayers (fill in the blanks!)
- For more children coming to Roots and Shoots and for the love and work of all the team involved with our children and young people.

Kids and Young People: *this work is Immanuel's top priority*

- CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PASTOR – there are several applicants to be interviewed for the post - pray for Paul and Trustees to discern God's will, and appoint God's chosen person.
- Kids and Young People's Sunday morning sessions are currently held fortnightly because there aren't yet enough helpers. More helpers needed urgently to teach and model Christianity to our children. Praise God this is starting to happen! Praise God that All Age services have restarted; pray for people to assist Lou Collins. Pray that everyone at church would take the initiative to connect with kids and young people and to offer to serve in the groups.
- Evening Deeper meetings
 - For fun and a sense of God's presence. Pray for the leaders: Paul and Connie, Lee and Emma, Gary and Nimlet.
 - Youth Alpha has now finished and Praise God that the young people have been touched by the Holy Spirit and many are now very keen!! Now we pray "without ceasing" for their ongoing walk and relationship with the Lord, and for the Deeper leaders as they walk with the young people. In particular the Deeper leaders wish the fortnightly youth evenings to be focused on faith building – like a young people's "church" - rather than just fun and social.
 - Pray for the older youngsters: particularly those leaving school in July and either commencing gap years or going to Uni. Pray they will hold on to their faith and we as a church commit to praying for them regularly.
- Conker Club – encouragement and opportunity to come to social events and Sunday morning services; do we start up an informal creche? Pray that they'll wish to come to Immanuel's Easter service.

Pastoral Needs

... for blessing and energy for:- Clergy, Life Group leaders, Jenny and Peter Evans who coordinate pastoral needs, the Prayer Warriors text group run by John Manning, for us all as we look out for each other. Pray for people who are suffering ill health at the moment.

Pray for Life Groups and the support and care that is offered there, particularly by the leaders:- Jo and Justin, Tim and Annette, Jenny Merritt, Pete and Annie, Jenny and Peter, Tony and Anita, Paul and Connie.

Thursday

Thanksgiving

- For Paul and Lou, their care for our fellowship, their enthusiasm and leadership
- For the opportunity to have fun, fellowship, worship and learning at Dalesdown (May 6-8).

Sunday Mornings

- For everyone to be open and expectant with an encounter with God and thus worship Him in Spirit and Truth, and to leave the school changed and ready to go into the world outside the church during the week.
- All those taking part:- preacher, service leader, Bible reader, prayer-givers, kids and young people teams, worship team
- People providing practical help:- setup, pack down, worship, tech (AV, camera and...), coffee and hospitality, welcome, car park; for more people to offer to help even on an occasional basis see next point....
- For people to be flexible on the rotas as and when needed, as Covid and other illnesses affect those involved; for rapid recovery for everyone affected.
- An expectancy of the Holy Spirit's presence, and a continued desire to hear from him including what he's teaching through the preaching of the Word and through prophetic insight e.g. words of knowledge/pictures.

Paul, Lou and family

..... and others in positions of responsibility. Pray for health, closeness to God and protection from over-busyness and commitment, with time to rest and "abide".

Home Churches

The Home Churches initiative was launched back in January and is led by Lee and Emma Nancarrow. The idea is that small Immanuel-based church plants will be set up across Chichester. Currently Lee and Emma are leading a core group of people who will form the basis of these new church plants. They're seeking the Lord in prayer and learning apostolic principles and practice. After six months of prayer, by God's grace, the planting will begin. Please pray for discernment for this group, for clear direction and a deep love for people in the communities where the planting will take place.

Lee and Emma have a particular prayer request for them as leaders of the Home Churches initiative: they are praying for a miracle to allow them to purchase the house they're currently renting – or to find a house of a similar size that is within their budget. It is a perfect size for hosting the home churches group. Currently the price for the house somewhat exceeds their budget.

Friday

Thanksgiving

- For the privilege of living and working in the Kingdom of God
- For freedom to fulfil our God-given destiny and that we would claim it

Outreach and social events

Courses:

- Parenting Teenagers (second course) starting Wednesday 11th May (5 weekly sessions)
- Parenting primary age children (dates TBA)
- Adult Alpha (dates TBA)
- Marriage Course: praise God this is starting on 3rd May. Pray for people to sign up both from Bishop Luffa and from the church; pray for volunteers to help set up and pack down, provide and serve desserts. Pray for Jo and Justin Osmond as they lead this course.

(See calendar on back page of this booklet for Immanuel social/outreach Events up to the end of the Summer term. There are more details in the weekly email newsletter.)

Chichester and beyond (i) Chichester

- That we would shine the light of the gospel, both by church-based activities and our individual relationships with people in the City.
- Pray for St. Richard's Hospital as they cope with high numbers of patients
- That we would indeed, by God's grace "Attract Others" and "Sacrificially Serve" out in the Chichester mission field.
- That we and other Chichester churches would join together in a unified message of hope to the people of Chichester.
- Consider whether to participate in the Prayer for Chichester group at Richard and Jo Pope's home (contact Paul Dickson for details), whether occasionally or regularly.
- Pray for everyone to listen to Holy Spirit and see if He's calling them to be part of either the core, set-up group, or future Home Church groups.
- Pray for Richard and Jo Pope's "Chichester" prayer group, for discernment and power.

Chichester and beyond (ii) Overseas mission supported by Immanuel

- Mary-Joy Fairfield returning on 10 April from 3 months in India
- Josh and Min Kyoung who have been led to live in Turkey. Here are their immediate prayer needs: *"Please pray for this transition to go well. Especially for the children, who don't always understand what's happening. For the finance needed to set up our home, as well as ongoing living costs. Moving country as a family is expensive! For the Lord's leading as we decide the specifics of what we should be doing long-term.*
- Nimlet and Gary Chapman's Naomi Hub project in Uganda
- Rachel Turner in Costa Rica
- Crosslinks Mission in Ethiopia – School for the Deaf; link person at Immanuel is Jenny Merritt

Saturday & Sunday

Thanksgiving

- For blessings and answers to prayers (fill in the blanks!)
- Quite a few new people have started to come regularly on Sunday mornings

Life Groups

- Expansion to include every member of Immanuel
- A place where members feel they belong and are supported in life's highs and lows
- A place for sharing experience of the discipleship journey
- A renewing and increasing focus on discipleship, teaching and mission, where members encourage and support each other to invite friends and family to Immanuel events.
- Wisdom to know how to grasp and follow Immanuel's Vision for the church
- Pray for leaders and for new leaders to come forward and offered mentoring and training

Serving and Volunteers

- Continue to pray for inspiration and encouragement for **more** people – those who aren't currently serving the church – to step up and support the various teams in Immanuel and thus discover their role, purpose and new relationships in the church family
- that everyone's involvement will be so much appreciated and indeed needed so that the workload is shared fairly.
- Pray that each member of Immanuel will seek and discover their God-given task for him/her in the church, whether it's something using their innate skills, or something more general which is nonetheless helpful.

Praise God that he blesses us richly when we work together for the Kingdom. Pray for His Kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

Immanuel Events 2022

Events planned as at 10.4.22. More events to be announced shortly.

Sunday 10 th April	Palm Sunday, with Bishop Ruth Bushyager
Thursday 14 th April	Passover Supper 6pm at Lavant Memorial Hall
Friday 15 th April	Good Friday - Hot Cross buns giveaway at the cathedral;
Sunday 17 th April	EASTER SUNDAY: invite friends
Saturday 23 rd April	Men's Breakfast

IMPORTANT * 24th April *** Immanuel AGM *** at Bishop Luffa *** 6pm**

Monday 25 th April	Conker Club - restart after Easter break
Monday 25 th April	Ladies Curry Night
Tuesday 26 th April	Last Tuesday Men's Curry night
Tuesday 3 rd May	The Marriage Course (1) at Bishop Luffa
Fri 6 th - Sun. 8 th May	Church weekend away at Dalesdown
Sunday 8 th May	<i>No service at Bishop Luffa due to the above</i>
Tuesday 10 th May	The Marriage Course (2)
Wed. 11 th May	Parenting Teenagers course starts (5 sessions)
Saturday 11 th June	Chichester Canal Boat trip 5.30 pm

Any queries, or if you want to offer to volunteer in any capacity, contact Paul Dickson - admin@immanuelchichester.com

