



Emmanuel Life



March 2026

**EMMANUEL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
THE GROVE, WEST WICKHAM, KENT, BR4 9JS**

**www.emmanuelww.org.uk
0208 777 1150**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Gathered family worship (in-person) and also broadcast on Zoom on the second Sunday of the month where possible.

See next page for details.



Minister: Vacant

Church: 020 8777 1150 (checked 2-3 times a week)

e-mail: welcome@emmanuelww.org.uk

Communications Secretary	Rosemary Daniels	welcome@emmanuelww.org.uk
Meetings Secretary	Sue Carr	sc22@btinternet.com
Church Treasurer	Marion Moore	finance@emmanuelww.org.uk
Assistant Treasurer	Doug Carr	
Messy Church Leader	Pat Best	patbest@btinternet.com
Church Community Development Worker	Anna Seabrook	community@emmanuelww.org.uk
Children and Family Worker	Julie Cook	child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
Youth Worker	Emily Dubourg	youth@emmanuelww.org.uk
Freewill Offering Secretaries	Sue Carr	sc22@btinternet.com
	Ann-Marie Mott	ann-marie.mott@ntlworld.com
Emmanuel Life Editor	Flora Kumi	fkum1@yahoo.com

More contact details can be found on page 36



March 2026 Services

1 st (see below)	10.00am	Messy Church
	*10.30am	Worship led by Martin Leonard
8 th	10.30am	Worship including Holy Communion led by Rev Bryn Thomas
15 th Mothering Sunday	10.30am	Worship led by Marion Moore
22 nd	10.30am	Parade Service led by Messy Team
29 th Palm Sunday (see below)	10.30am	Worship led by Rev Dr Elaine Colechin

(Start of) April 2026 Services

5 th Easter Day (see below)	10.00am	Messy Church Breakfast Service on the Green
	*10.40am	Indoor Communion Service

- 1st March—A welcome return by Martin Leonard, a Nationally Accredited Lay Preacher from Christ Church URC Petts Wood
⇒ **Note the permanent time change for 1st Sundays, and change for Easter Day.*
- 29th March— Rev Dr Elaine Colechin, Minister of Bromley URC and Leader of South London Synod Area.
- 5th April—Easter Day: see full details in 'Holy Week' (page 7)

*The eternal God is your dwelling place,
and underneath are God's everlasting arms.*

(Deuteronomy 33)

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this on another grey and rainy day in February. It is such a British thing to complain about the weather, but both January and February have been particularly wet and miserable this year – and other parts of the country have had it even worse!

Something which has lifted my spirits when looking out of the kitchen window in these days has been seeing snowdrops in the garden. They're not a big showy flower, but to me, they are like a little whisper saying, spring is coming, it's not far away!

One of my favourite books of prayers and poems is called, 'The Green Heart of the Snowdrop', a collection of pieces written by Revd Kate McIlhagga. A couple of her poems associate snowdrops with the coming spring, and also the season of Lent, into which this year the whole of March falls. The word 'Lent' comes from an old English word for lengthen, marking this time of year when the days grow longer. I've included one of them in full below. Lent is traditionally a time of prayer, fasting and giving and there are many opportunities to do that. But a line from another poem that struck me was that

Lent is a journey
So at the end of Lent we should expect to find ourselves
Somewhere different from where we started

So if you choose to do, or to fast from doing something, this Lent, may your journey take you somewhere different, somewhere nearer to God, as we prepare again to mark Jesus' journey to the cross.

A green heart

Into a dark world
a snowdrop comes,
a benison
of hope and peace,

Continued on next page

carrying within it
a green heart,
symbol of God's renewing love.

Come to inhabit our darkness
Lord Christ,
for dark and light
are alike to you.

May nature's white candles of hope
remind us of your birth
and light our journey
through Lent and beyond.



Marion Moore

A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips

Take part in a local litter pick or beach clean during **The Great British Spring Clean** (Friday 13-Sunday 29 March), the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Litter picking benefits the environment by removing rubbish that can be hazardous for wildlife and helps bring people together. See if there's a litter pick in your local area or consider organising your own - after church on Sunday or with a youth group for example.

Pray for your local area as you do the litter pick and ask God for opportunities to share why you are doing it. Find out more and pledge to pick up a bag at keepbritaintidy.org/our-work/eliminating-litter/great-british-spring-clean



Secretary's Notes

MESSY CHURCH



Messy Church meets on **1st March 10 – 12 noon**, **Remember**, everyone is welcome to pop in for a 'cuppa' before the **10.30am service** in the sanctuary.

WORSHIP LEADERS for MARCH all at 10.30am



1st Martin Leonard, Lay Preacher from Petts Wood URC
8th Revd Bryn Thomas with communion
15th Marion Moore, Mothering Sunday
22nd Parade service led by Messy Church Team
29th Revd Dr Elaine Colechin, PALM SUNDAY

MOTHERING SUNDAY - MARCH 15TH

Celebrate Mothering Sunday – whether you think of it as 'Mothers Day' or the 'Mother Church'



PARADE SERVICE 22ND MARCH

will be led by the Messy Church Team



PALM SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

Come & celebrate the start of Easter week on Palm Sunday with Revd Dr Elaine Colechin.



Remember clocks go **forward** on Saturday 28th!

Rosemary

HOLY WEEK

Everyone is welcome to any or all Easter Celebrations

Palm Sunday 29th March 10.30am

Sanctuary service led by Revd Dr Elaine Colechin



Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7pm

Everyone is invited to join Elmers End Free Church in Goddard Road, Beckenham, at 7pm



Good Friday 3rd April 11am

Everyone is invited to St Francis Church, Ravenswood Avenue, for this CTiWW service, with activities in adjacent hall for children.



Easter Saturday 4th April 10am

Make the Easter garden & join in the Easter egg hunt from 10.00am in the Sanctuary



Easter Day 5th April 10am

The whole church family is invited to gather from 10am for Easter Breakfast hosted by Messy Church, followed by worship on the Green led by Marion and Pat including decorating the cross. From around 10.40 there will be a choice to join Pat for further Messy activities in the Richmond Hall, or Bryn in the sanctuary for a more traditional service including communion.





Church Family News

Good news: we give a warm welcome to Emily Dubourg, who began her work among us as a youth worker in mid-February. All our best wishes to Emily!

While we wait patiently for a minister in our part of Bromley Borough, we celebrate the arrival of a new minister at the Grove Centre Church in Sydenham. Baptist minister, the Rev Alan Brand, was inducted on 14th February, so love all round on St Valentine's Day. The Sydenham church is both Baptist and URC, so they chose to go ahead according to Baptist procedures. Let us hope that this activity catches on to our benefit!

On 12th February we gave thanks at Emmanuel for the life of Peter Grafham and extend our sympathy to his son Andy and granddaughters Charlotte and Hannah, who gave fitting personal tributes to their grandfather.

On 16th February at Bluebell Cemetery and Crematorium we bade farewell and celebrated the life of Wesley Seldon, while continuing to be so pleased that his wife Jude is very much part of our fellowship. Wes and Jude came from Hawes Lane Methodist Church (whose closure we mourn every time we walk or drive past). Deacon Laura MacBean led the service.

Tracy Dawkins has had keyhole surgery in the PRUH and is doing very well, as they make further investigations. We send best wishes to Tracy for a full recovery from all of us at Emmanuel.

You will know of others for whom you wish to pray, but do remember:

- Ann-Marie's son Tim Mott in Canada, and his wife Nancy
- Christine Jackson
- Monica Duncan
- Julie Lord's mother and father
- Those who mourn the passing to glory of a loved one, whether recently or some time ago.

Is it the weather? Maybe it will be warmer by the time *Emmanuel Life* is published! Is it the constant harping on about a single topic on TV and radio news? Is it the continuing (and risk of new) conflicts around the world and the unpredictability of leadership? At a personal level there are aches and pains not to be disregarded, but there are blessings, too. And the fellow-feeling and love among us at Emmanuel as we support each other... AND the presence of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives to both comfort and challenge us. No need to be too downcast?

Continued on next page

Please let us know your news, whether about yourself or about people close to you, or ask for a lift (see below): 020 8462 5860 or 07957 858 878. Or email brynthomas@uwclub.net or susanthomas767@gmail.com.

Bryn and Sue

There are some 'away matches' coming up, which are very much part of the life of our church, even if they happen elsewhere. May we encourage you to attend services that are just as much 'ours', and also support friends at St Mary's and Elmers End Free Church (URC)? *And ask us for a lift?*

World Day of Prayer
Friday 6th March 2026 at 10.30am
St Mary's Church, The Avenue BR4 0DX
The most significant of the year:
Service of Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday 2nd April at 7pm
Elmers End Free Church, Goddard Road BR3 4BN
Led by Rev Dr Elaine Colechin, organist: Bryn
Parking in Goddard Road or nearby Tesco's car park

Bryn & Sue

Emmanuel Fellowship

Dear Friends,

I want to share a few words from recent Fellowship opening devotions:
Have you ever looked at a beautiful landscape and been awestruck?
Do you enjoy stepping outside for a walk or to get fresh air?
Do you love the sound of birdsong?
Isn't nature awesome?

Nature isn't just what we see 'out there', we are part of that marvellous creation, an integral part, and we are created to enjoy, appreciate and delight in it. Sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch, all provide the means to experience God's wonderful world in amazing ways.

Sometimes I feel that they combine in such an overwhelming way, that I have to shut down one or more senses to focus on less, and appreciate more. Perhaps you'd be willing to try this yourself:

- Eat a mouthful of food with your eyes closed and experience the flavours
- Stand or sit outside on a slightly windy day with your eyes shut, and really feel the breeze
- Outside and eyes closed again, but listen intently. What can you hear?
- How about smelling delightful scents? Try silence as you study, touch and smell a beautiful rose.

Just some ideas to get those sensory juices going!

In case you are still in doubt about God's delight in creating you to revel in all creation, Psalm 139 should leave you in no doubt:

'You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.'

Now we come to the programme for **March**:

3rd – It could be time to research your ancestry, as **Ray Wheeler** guides us into the '**First Steps in Family History**'.

10th – **Chris Davis** will lead us along her walk around **Cannon Street** in a talk entitled '**Stone, Steel & Candlesticks**'

17th – **A Celebration of Ireland with Sue Thomas**

24th – **An Easter meditation with Bryn Thomas**

This will be the last meeting until the 21st of April.

We wish you all a meaningful Easter. Remember to keep your eyes and ears open for signs of Spring, and enjoy every glorious moment of the world reawakening from its winter sleep.

Best wishes,

Sue Thomas and the Fellowship Committee

Lent study group

This Lent, we are running an in-person study group on Tuesday mornings, working through the course called "Carbon Literacy for Christian Congregations". Developed by the Carbon Literacy Project with specific input from the Church of England, it explores the subject of climate warming from a faith point of view. So, if you're interested in why as Christians we should care about the climate crisis, and what we can do about it, then this is for you!

I'm delighted that we will be joined by Revd Charisa Hunter-Crump, Synod Training & Development Officer, to co-lead the course with me.

This particular study course is very suitable for Lent, consisting of just 5 sessions. We're hoping everyone that signs up makes all 5 sessions, it will work much better like that as we explore the topic together.

To sign up, please sign the sheet in the vestibule or speak to me.

If you're interested but can't make the Tuesday morning slot, do speak to me. Charisa & I are also running the same course online on Thursday evenings during Lent, aiming to cater for a wider group of URCs in the Synod, and you'd be most welcome to join that grouping.

Ian Moore

Children & Families at Emmanuel

Update from Julie, our Children and Family Worker

Messy Church

During Messy Church in February, we told the story of Bartimaeus. We used blindfolds during many of the activities to illustrate that Bartimaeus was a man who was unable to see.

Fun-Tastic February Fun

On Thursday 19th February, over 70 children and their parents / carers spent the afternoon in the Richmond and Griff rooms playing table tennis, table football, with all the wonderful toys and making lots of wonderful crafts!



The rooms were certainly busy and there was a lot of fun had by everyone! Please note: there will be **NO** holiday activities during the Easter break – I will be in Australia with my family!

Giggles and Grow

For those with babies who are crawling and not confidently walking (or only walking a little) then join us on a Tuesday morning 10.30-12noon in the James Todd room. Babies can explore new toys and play with little ones of similar ages.

Blissful Beginnings

This group gives Parents / Carers an opportunity to meet others who have little ones too. A lovely group where everyone sits and chats while the babies can play! This group is on a Wednesday morning from 10.30-12noon in the James Todd Room.

Time Together Thursdays

This group is for 2,3 and 4 year olds to enjoy fun, games, craft activities and lots of toys. Each week I have a different theme, some examples are Valentines day, Pancake

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day and Nursery Rhymes related activities

We end the morning with a snack made by the children, story and singing (if time allows!)

This group is on a Thursday morning 10-11.30am in the James Todd Room.

Youth Club

Everyone enjoyed fun, games, nachos and chocolate fruit kebabs at the last Youth Club



Please get in touch with Emily, the new Youth Worker if you would like to come along!

The next Youth Club will be on Sunday 15th March 2026.

Please email Emily – youth@emmanuelww.org.uk for more information.



WE REQUIRE YOUR HELP!

With all these groups running, we **need** some volunteers to help us – making tea, playing games, chatting with families, playing with the children. This can be once a week, once a month, once a term – we would love you to join us when you can!

Please speak or email either Julie (child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk) or speak with Sara Stocker or Pat Best on a Sunday.

Julie

New Youth Worker



Hello! I'm Emily Dubourg and I am absolutely delighted to have joined the Emmanuel family as the new Youth Worker.

I grew up in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire and moved to Bromley in the summer of 2024. When I first visited Emmanuel, I was immediately in awe of the excellent provision for children and young people. I started off by sharing my experience of working in both educational and youth work settings as a volunteer with Messy Church, the Youth Club and the 2nd West Wickham Guide unit, and I'm so excited that I now get to continue this work and share my experience further.

When I'm not working, I love spending time with my fiancé, David Best, and our two dogs - a five-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Teddy, and a slightly crazy two-year-old Labrador, Willow! I love anything creative or crafty and really enjoy going to the theatre when I can.

I can't wait to meet everyone - please do get in touch either in person or via email (youth@emmanuelww.org) if you have any ideas or just want a chat!

Emily

8th West Wickham Squirrel Scouts send their love to Warm Welcome Fridays!

The theme for the 8th West Wickham Squirrel Scouts meeting on Thursday 13th February was Valentines Day!

They made window decorations, used their handprint to make their own LOVE sign, decorated cakes and painted hearts.



These were then put into the Hewitt Room for those coming to Warm Welcome on the Friday. The room looked lovely and brought a smile to the faces of the people coming in!



Just a thought

Matthew is the master of organisation. You might say he has a 'cunning plan' – able to process detail and deeply committed to his Lord, he is determined to present the words and actions of Jesus in a way that will help the followers of Jesus to understand what is required of them.

Remember the basic starting point? Mark's gospel is on his desk, with a pile of sayings and stories that he, Matthew, knows about and another pile that Luke also has. He is writing some 50 years after the events, so he has to decide *the order in which to present* the material he has at his disposal. Mark's gospel is a precious guide – but he has so much more to add.

First, he separates the *actions* (healings, dealings with individuals and crowds, travel) from the *major teachings*. He then sorts the *teachings* into five categories, which he groups into sections (for us, chapters*) and positions these 'discourses' at five points during the ministry of Jesus:

- 5/6/7 How to lead a life pleasing to God – the Sermon on the Mount
- 10 Going out, spreading the word, with its risks and rewards
- 13 Parables celebrating the Kingdom of Heaven
- 18 Relationships among followers of Christ
- 24/25 God's final purposes.

In between these five sections he places Jesus' actions and movements, of which the healings are the most prominent aspect. After the last discourse (ch 24/25), we have two chapters of the Passion narrative and the last chapter 28 given to Resurrection and the Great Commission.

So how does this super-organiser present the start? In logical order:

- A Genealogy going back to Abraham
- The Birth story with a focus on Joseph, visions and scriptural references, and a massive statement (the Magi) that faith in Jesus was available for all peoples, not only Jews, and that the intellectual élite were subject to Him.
- The Declaration 'This is my beloved Son', with baptism by John the Baptist, even though the cleansing aspect of baptism does not apply.
- The Temptations: Jesus' commitment to a real, not a 'magic', ministry.
- A nutshell Summary of Jesus' ministry, with the call of four disciples.

THEN, with all preliminaries completed, he sails straight in to his ordering of Jesus' basic teaching-for-life: topic-by-topic we have three chapters that gather together saying after saying as *The Sermon on the Mount*: i.e. Jesus has his

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way of developing the commandments given by God via Moses on Mount Sinai. First, eight 'Blessed' statements – showing God's approval – that are significantly different from what the world rates as important. Then six topics that start with 'You have heard it said...' (in Hebrew Scripture) followed by 'But I say to you...' in which Jesus extends their meaning in a challenging way. That brings us to the end of chapter 5: a really radical and bold statement of Jesus' thinking.

Having completed this presentation in chapters 5/6/7 (we look at 6 & 7 later) he launches in ch 8 into an amazing series of healings, accomplished by this unique human being, whose conduct goes so far beyond what anyone can expect that he will be redefined as Messiah and Son of God.

Is the structure of the Sermon on the Mount the work of Jesus or of Matthew? The words – dozens of sayings recorded from fifty years previously – are as near as possible the words of Jesus. The structure is the work of Matthew. So *did* Jesus go up a hillside and preach and teach? Yes, of course, and not just this once! Matthew's inspired gathering together and ordering of all the separate sayings gives him the opportunity to imply: the Almighty via Moses gave instructions to humanity *on Mount Sinai*; *now* the Almighty via his only and beloved Son has raised these instructions to a new level (literally and figuratively) *on a hillside in Galilee*.

Chapters were not created until the early 13th century, by Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury and theologian of the University of Paris.

Bryn

Thought for the Month

Come Boldly

Hebrews chapter 4 verse 16 reads like this. 'Let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.'

What a powerful verse and what a lot in it.

When we link it with a verse in Ephesians ch 3 v 12 which reads 'Because of Christ and our faith in Him we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.'

Because of what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross our sins have been taken away so we can come into the very presence of God through Jesus Christ.

If we need any more convincing remember John ch 3 v16 'For God loved the world so much that He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.'

Chris Cutler

LIFE ON THE EDGE

In 1967 I was a single man teaching in a rural school in Zambia and I was travelling by bus in Tanzania during the school holidays in August. I visited some friends who were teaching at a school situated on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro and was making my way to Dar Es Salaam from Moshi.

After many hours of bumping along a dusty dirt road as it was at that time I arrived at the bus station in Dar Es Salaam. Immediately a throng of eager young men surrounded the bus all eager to carry luggage. I could easily have carried my bag but knew from experience that it was easier to give my bag to one of the young lads.

He then took me to a taxi and I told the driver to take me to the Salvation Army Hostel. I had been recommended this hostel and was told that it was made up of round palm thatched cottages called rondavals and situated among brightly flowering shrubs. I had previously stayed at a modest hotel of royal pretensions called The Windsor Hotel. By the front door was a large notice in capital letters saying 'WOMEN OF TURBULANT MORALS NOT ALLOWED'. I now wish that I had taken a photo of that notice! On reflection I was a whimp choosing the Windsor Hotel with its superior pretensions and should have booked in at the hotel opposite called The Hotel Splendide which was heaving with loud music and turbulent women.

Anyway my taxi driver knew where the Salvation Army Hostel was situated and drove off slowly and quietly. After a few minutes I heard loud breathing and gasping behind me and on looking round observed two men pushing the taxi. We soon arrived at a petrol station where the driver politely requested an advance on the fare so that he could buy some petrol to get us to the Hostel.

This done we drove off at speed and arrived at the Hostel safe and sound.

John Manuelli

Book Corner

After the service on 15th February, several people asked me about the source of the script which Sue, Pat and Wendy read. It came from a book called, 'The Man born to be King' by Dorothy L Sayers which is in fact a cycle of 12 radio plays first broadcast in 1941-1942.

The book had a deep impact on me when I first read it, and I return to it again and again. In this I find I am in good company: apparently C S Lewis also read them every year during Holy Week! The plays bring the gospels vividly to life and give the reader a real sense of , 'this is how it could have been.'

It's still possible to find second-hand copies online at sites such as www.abebooks.co.uk or www.worldofbooks.com . I was surprised to find that a version of the plays (recorded in 1975) have been broadcast relatively recently and are in fact available at [BBC Radio 4 Extra - The Man Born to Be King - Episode guide](#)

Is there a book which has made a difference to your faith journey? I'd love to hear some more suggestions!

Marion Moore

Quiz—No. 12

Supplied by Lawrence White

1. What two consecutive prime numbers add up to 100?
2. The Liberty Bell is located in which American city?
3. Who opened the Turner Contemporary Art Gallery in Margate?
4. Which book takes place at the Marcia Blaine Academy?
5. On which Japanese island is Tokyo situated?
6. What are black piano keys traditionally made from?
7. Which constellation contains stars called Betelgeuse and Rigel? Betelgeuse has a glowing red hue and Rigel is a blue supergiant.
8. Who was the first female Secretary of State in the USA?
9. What type of insect is a painted Lady?
10. What was Motown's first US Number 1 single?
11. What is the 5th book of the New Testament?
12. What is the name of the High Priest who trained Samuel?
13. What is the male part of a flower called?
14. Who was the first female host of the Radio One Breakfast Show?
15. Who designed the wedding dress for Queen Elizabeth 11 (in 1947 when she was Princess Elizabeth)?
16. Where is the Whitworth Art Gallery?
17. Name the Seven Deadly Sins
18. What is usually the coldest month in New Zealand?

Answers can be found on page 35



FOOD BANK DONATIONS...PLEASE

When I was hungry, you gave me food...

As usual, please don't feel under any obligation to give in any way, but this is simply a little guidance for any of you who would like to give at the moment. We are short of the following items, and ask you to consider these in your donations:

- Instant coffee
- Jam/honey/peanut butter
- Jam/honey/peanut butter
- Tinned fruit
- Squash
- Tuna
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned meals (e.g. meatballs, chicken in sauce/curry, sausage & beans)
- Ham
- Cooking oil
- Soup
- Carrier bags

Items can be left just outside the church vestry or at Sainsbury's on the high street (not on Station Road), even if they are not bought in-store. Also note that there are two donation boxes but only one is for the Salvation Army. You are also welcome to donate to our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/newaddingtonsalvationarmy>

Please note our donations delivery times; Tuesday evenings 7pm-8pm, and Saturday mornings 9am-10am.

The Vine is located in Salcot Crescent New Addington CR0 0JJ. We are down a narrow driveway between houses 11 and 13, next to Tharreo House school.

MANY THANKS once again for all your help - we really couldn't manage without our public donations!

Flora



Emmanuel

Faith, Hope and Love in West Wickham
(part of the United Reformed Church Family)
www.emmanuelww.org.uk

Lent Study Group

Carbon Literacy for Christian Congregations

This Lent period, we will be running a study group on “Carbon Literacy for Christian Congregations”.

Carbon literacy offers a chance to consider how and why as Christians we should tackle climate change. And how best to do that as individuals and as a community.

The course will cover the following:

- Why should Christians care about climate change?
- The science of climate change
- Carbon footprints
- What can we do about climate change as individuals and as a congregation
- Having hope for the future

Carbon Literacy is an accredited course. At the end of the course, we will create two actions each which will be submitted to the Carbon Literacy Project. If they are happy with them, you will receive a certificate for your accreditation.



Tuesdays 10am-12noon
Feb 24th , March 3rd , 10th , 17th & 24th
Hewitt Room @ Emmanuel

To sign up, please see Ian Moore
or sign the sheet in the vestibule
Only 5 sessions, & it works best if
everyone attends all five

Course leaders

Revd Charisa
Hunter-Crump
Synod Training &
Development
Officer



Ian Moore
Synod Green
Apostle

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A service for everyone!

Friday 6 March

I will give you rest, come

Nigeria 2026

10.30am

St Mary's
The Avenue
BR4 0DX

Everyone welcome



INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 233242



Join us on

Maundy Thursday

for

Communion around the Table



Thursday 2nd April, 7pm

Elmers End Free Church, Goddard Road, BR3 4AE

Save The Date – Emmanuel's Annual Summer Fair

Sunday 5th July 2026

Now that we are in 2026 just to let you all know that Emmanuel's Annual Summer Fair will be held after the church parade service on Sunday 5th July.

There will be live music, a bouncy castle, a raffle, activities, stalls and refreshments.

Please put the date in your diaries.

As you may already be aware, this year the fair will be raising funds for **Tools With A Mission – www.twam.org.uk**

If anyone would like to host a stall or help in any other way then please get in touch with Jim Lord or anyone on the Community Outreach Group. They would be delighted to hear from you.



Coffee and Get-together

Sunday Coffee

No coffee service on the first Sunday of the month, however, Messy Church would be pleased to welcome you at 10am for a cuppa.

On the other three Sundays in the month we will be looking forward to welcoming you in the Hewitt Room, after the service for coffee, biscuits and fellowship.

We can remain at tables or spill into the vestibule, the sanctuary or outside, so there will be plenty of space.

Janet Pickering and Pat Best



We run a 'Warm Welcome' cafe on Fridays at the church from 10am -4pm



Messy Church is a form of church for children, teenagers and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality.

The 1st Sunday of the month (excluding August)

Join us at 10am for breakfast, followed by Bible stories and fun activities until 12 noon.

Email: child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
07444998312
www.emmanuelww.org.uk

Emmanuel

Faith, Hope and Love in West Wickham
(part of the United Reformed Church Family)



Giggles &

grow

Is your child crawling, but not confidently walking?



Then join us on

Tuesdays 10.30-12.00

at Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham
For playing, chatting and stories!

Contact: Julie Cook
Children and Family Worker
child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
07444998312

Donations welcome
No need to book!



Blissful Beginnings



Every Wednesday
10.30am - 12.00noon

For ages 0 to confidently crawling

Emmanuel Church The Grove, West Wickham

Bring your little ones along and join other parents for a drink and a chat.



CONTACT
Julie Cook
Children and Family Worker
child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
07444998312
Donations welcome, no need to book

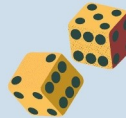
TIME TOGETHER THURSDAYS

FOR 2, 3 & 4 YEAR OLDS

Every Thursday (term time only)
10.00-11.30am

Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham

Connect with other parents/carers and bring your child for themed activities, sing a longs, stories, play time and much more ...



Contact
Julie Cook
Children and Family Worker
child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
07444998312
Donations welcome, no need to book



Join Hayes Wick Primary Care Network at

Connected Living Café

Are you interested in how we can help community wellbeing?
Do you need assistance with accessing NHS digital services?



This café is designed for the over-60's registered with a GP in the Hayes and West Wickham area. We offer activities and refreshments with a programme of speakers including clinicians and other local service representatives as well as help and support accessing NHS digital services with our NHS App Ambassadors.

Free
Join us – no need to book!

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday

11am – 1pm
Medhurst Hall, West Wickham
BR4 0JX



GROWING TOGETHER

COMMUNITY GARDEN



COME AND JOIN US

THURSDAYS 10AM | 1 PM
ST FRANCIS CHURCH
86 RAVENSWOOD AVENUE
BR4 0PW

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE

FOR FURTHER INFO CONTACT - 0333 335 5209



Sponge Kitchens

Established 1938

Beckenham 020 8650 0062

Hayes 020 8462 1352

Downham 020 86978848

Your Local Master Bakers

- What we have to offer:
- Selections of Fresh bread
- Cakes and patisseries
- Platters for any occasion
- Sandwich bar

Kelsey Park round the corner from our Park Langley branch is perfect for walks with the family, why not come for a coffee and a cake or some light lunch in the newly refurbished store. All our branches would love for you to come in for breakfast, lunch or even a quick snack.

Our staff will always try to make you welcome and answer any questions you may have.

Check out the website for more details on bespoke cakes and all of our other ranges.

Beckenham	Downham	Hayes	http://spongekitchens.co.uk
106 Wickham Road	473 Bromley Road	38 Station Approach	
<u>Beckenham</u>	<u>Downham</u>	<u>Hayes</u>	
Kent, BR3 6QH	Kent, BR1 4PQ	Kent, BR2 7EJ	

EMMANUEL ART GROUP

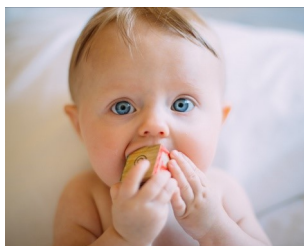
The Emmanuel Art Group usually meets on Thursday afternoons, 1pm to 4pm at Emmanuel URC Church, The Grove, West Wickham, BR4 9JS.

A friendly group, new members always welcome.

Please contact us before coming so that we can discuss what you would like to do and how we can help you.

- Sheila 02086882707 or
- John 07708194093 john.band3@gmail.com

Community Baby & Toddler Group



Where: Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham

When: Wednesdays 9.30am - 11.30am, term time

Fee: £3.00 per family

Contact: Zoe Favata

Email: zoe_04@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile: 07852 153115

We meet each week in the Richmond Hall, which is a large safe place. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers have a chance to catch up while watching their children play, build friendships and develop alongside their peers. There are many toys and resources allowing the children to play freely, as well as structured activities, story time and songs with actions.

Come along to our friendly inclusive group and try us out.

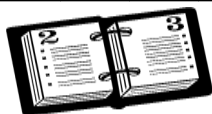




Church Diary for March

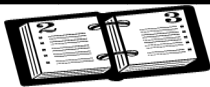
Sunday	1st	10.00am	Messy Church
		10.30am	Worship led by Martin Leonard
Tuesday	3rd	10.30am— 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 28)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 10)
Wednesday	4th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 28)
Thursday	5th	10.00am—11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 28)
Friday	6th	10.00am—4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 27)
Sunday	8th	10.30am	Worship including Holy Communion led by Rev Bryn Thomas
Tuesday	10th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 28)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 10)
Wednesday	11th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 28)
Thursday	12th	10.00am—11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 28)
Friday	13th	10.00am—4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 27)
Mothering Sunday	15th	10.30am	Worship led by Marion Moore
Tuesday	17th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 28)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 10)

Continued on next page



Church Diary for March continued...

Wednesday	18th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 28)
Thursday	19th	10.00am—11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 28)
Friday	20th	10.00am—4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 27)
<i>Last day for Emmanuel Life articles</i>			
Sunday	22nd	10.30am	Parade Service led by Messy Team
			Youth club (please contact Emily Dubourg, Youth Worker, for more details)
Tuesday	24th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 28)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 10)
Wednesday	25th	10.30am— 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 28)
Thursday	26th	10.00am—11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 28)
Friday	27th	10.00am—4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 27)
Palm Sunday	29th	10.30am	Worship led by Rev Dr Elaine Colechin
Tuesday	31st	10.30am— 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 28)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 10)



Church Diary for April 2026

Wednesday	1st	10.30am— 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
Thursday	2nd	10.00am—11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 24)
Friday	3rd	10.00am—4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 13)
Saturday	4th	10.00am	Easter garden and Easter Egg hunt (details on page 7)
Easter Sunday	5th	10.00am	Messy Church Breakfast followed by Worship on the Green
		10.40am	Indoor Communion Service

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Quiz Answers

Quiz on page 21 supplied by Lawrence White

1. 47 and 53
2. Philadelphia, founded in 1682 by William Penn, a Quaker
3. Dame Tracey Emin, born in 1963 in Croydon
4. 'The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie' written in 1961 by Dame Muriel Sarah Spark
5. Honshu, the principal island of Japan
6. Ebony, a very heavy, hard, black timber which polishes well.
7. Orion. It is identified with the Hunter of Greek mythology
8. Madeleine Albright (1937-2022)
9. Butterfly. Butterflies and moths belong to the order Lepidoptera
10. Please Mr Postman by the Marvelettes in 1961. A version by The Carpenters reached number 2 in the UK pop charts in 1975 and The Beatles also recorded it, on their second album, With the Beatles.
11. The Acts of the Apostles. It is attributed to Luke and written in Greek
12. Eli. Samuel was the last of the Judges who ruled the ancient Hebrews before their adoption of a monarch, and the first of the prophets
13. Stamen, also collectively referred to as androecium
14. Zoë Ball (born 1970)
15. Sir Norman Hartnell KCVO (1901-1979). He had been appointed Dressmaker to the Royal Family in 1938
16. Manchester. The gallery is located in Whitworth Park
17. Envy, gluttony, greed, lust, pride, sloth, wrath
18. July

Emmanuel Church Contacts

ACTIVITY	MEETING	CONTACT
Emmanuel Fellowship	Tues 2:15pm	Sue Thomas
Baby & Toddler group	Wed 9:30 am	Zoe Favata zoe_04@hotmail.co.uk
Emmanuel Art Group	Thurs 1.00pm—4.00pm	Sheila John john.band3@gmail.com
Rainbows	Fri 5:30pm—7:00pm	Jess Wright westwickhamrainbows@gmail.com
Brownies	Fri 5:30pm—7:00pm	Carole Douglas brownowlcarole@gmail.com
Guides and Rangers	Wed 6:30pm—8.00pm	Jo McGee jojmcgee@hotmail.co.uk
Squirrels <i>(4-6 years old)</i>	Thurs 5:30pm—6:15pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Beavers <i>(6-8 years old)</i>	Thurs 6.00pm—7.00pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Cubs <i>(8-10½ years old)</i>	Mon 7.00pm—8.15pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Scouts <i>(10½-14 years old)</i>	Tues 7.45pm—9.00pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Explorers <i>(14-18 years old)</i>	Tues 7.45pm—9.30pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Caretaker (shared)	Monday-Wednesday Thursday-Friday	Tony Stephen Zhanna Tkach
Commitment for Life		Pat Best
Communion Secretaries		Keith & Rosemary Daniels
Cradle Roll secretary		Karen Florence
Fabric Adviser		Ian Moore
Halls Manager		Katy Macmillan halls@emmanuelww.org.uk
'Reform' Agent		Gill Childs
Safeguarding		Gill Chamberlain safeguarding@emmanuelww.org.uk
WW Churches Together		Pat Best