



Emmanuel Life



July 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)

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July 2026 Services

5th (see below)	10.00am	Messy Church gathers
	10.30am	Parade Service led by the Messy Team
12th	10.30am	Communion service led by Rev Bryn Thomas
19th	10.30am	Worship led by Marion Moore
26th (see below)	10.30am	Worship led by Jonathan Dolling

(Start of) August 2026 Services

2nd (see below)	10.30am	Worship led by Tina Wheeler
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JULY:

- 5th - The Parade Service will be followed by the Summer Fair
- 26th - A welcome return by Jonathan Dolling

AUGUST:

- 2nd - Tina Wheeler is Church Secretary and a Lay Preacher from St Johns URC Orpington

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

I write this, suffering a little, on a day when the record for Britain's hottest ever June temperature has been beaten. Who knows how long summer will last, but I'm sure we would all prefer it to be a *little* cooler at least.

A lot of my life is spent working (mainly) with children of school age on musical theatre projects, producing and putting on three shows a year with a full band or orchestra for Bromley Youth Music Trust. This is something I love dearly, and despite it being hard work getting a show up to the highest possible standards, both the educational journey and the end result are well worth everybody's efforts.

There was a certain irony that our Junior and Intermediate groups put on a production in late May of Disney's "Frozen", in the half term week which gave us the same kind of dizzy early to mid 30s "highs" as I'm feeling at this precise moment. The most heavily-costumed students were being sprayed with a mist of water and put in front of air-conditioning units every time they came off stage!

Musical Theatre productions, concerts, plays, sporting fixtures, quiz nights, evenings out with friends, etc., are all examples of what could be described as "of this world", or "of the temporal sphere", or quite simply "secular", even though there are several musicals which are based around the Christian faith: Godspell, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Children of Eden immediately come to mind.

Much or most of what we do and are surrounded by in our day-to-day lives doesn't seem directly to involve God - in fact, if we're honest, I'm sure many of us go about our business, experiencing all the joys and pleasures of THIS world often without acknowledging Him at all a lot of the time.

One little thing I've tried deliberately to do lately, when relaxing at the end of a long day at work, is at least to close my eyes and say "thank you" to God for something I've really enjoyed that day, even if it's only for five or ten seconds - recognising and giving thanks for the small things which are actually just as important as the bigger moments in our lives.

This (hot) summer will be full of all sorts of special things for all sorts of people. We're in the middle of the World Cup at the moment, and hundreds of millions, at least, around the world are going to derive much pleasure from watching the matches and supporting their teams. Individuals and families are going to enjoy holidays, downtime, and the simple pleasures of things like BBQs in a neighbour's garden, or a beer in the pub garden.

Continued on next page

We should perhaps remind ourselves, though, that Christ is sometimes portrayed in the Gospels as being seen eating and drinking with all different types of people, indeed being accused of “being a glutton and a drunkard”, although falsely. Being sociable, especially with outcasts, the demonised and those who were socially shunned was a part of His mission and part of His teaching. To a certain extent, then, there is nothing wrong with enjoying ourselves, and letting go, and enjoying the abundance of gifts which we’re so fortunate to have in our lives here in West Wickham and beyond.

However, we should remember amongst all the noise, the excitement, and the joys of what we experience day to day, and especially during the summer months, to keep His main teachings close to us. Just one of them - (the “main one”??) - could suffice, and that is, simply, to love your neighbour as yourself.

This can manifest itself in many ways. I hope that, guided by the Spirit and my faith (albeit weak as I’m sure it sometimes is), for example, I treat my students and my colleagues well. I hope that the fans of two competing football teams can hug each other after the match, and show love for each other whatever the result. I hope that neighbours who row in the hot heat of the sun after a few beers easily apologise and make up the next day with a simple shrug, a handshake and a hug.

The Gospels and the Bible generally should be the texts which we trust, and it can be risky to trust other, especially secular, sources however genuine their motives may seem - after all, I’ve heard many Ministers and Priests comment on how “dodgy” the theology of some hymns, for example, can be.

So, you may be surprised, or possibly not, that I’m going to end this letter to you all with a quote from a musical theatre show. I do feel, though, that it comes from a piece of theatre which throughout speaks of the marvellous possibilities of confession, forgiveness, and redemption. Adapted from a novel written by Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables* is the longest-running musical in the world. I was lucky enough to spend three years as a deputy keyboard player in the West End production, and conducted it for BYMT two or three years ago.

Just before the entire chorus/company come onto stage to sing the final chorus, the character Jean Valjean, a sinner converted, and now in Heaven, returns to remind us:

“And remember, the truth which once was spoken: To love another person is to see the face of God”

May we treat each other, and all around us, whether friends or strangers, according to that message, which surely echoes what Christ said to His followers whilst He was amongst us all those years ago.

Daniel



A new Moderator

The United Reformed Church (URC) is delighted to announce that the Revd Paul Robinson has been nominated to serve as the next Moderator of the Southern Synod.

The post has been vacant since the Revd Bridget Banks had to retire early in June 2025 on health grounds.

Paul has been Minister of the United Church in Rhyl since his ordination in 2011. Recently, he has also supported other URC churches in North Wales and in the National Synod of Wales, Paul has served most recently as Convenor of the North Wales Regional Pastoral Committee.

On a national level, Paul is a former member and Convenor of the URC's Children and Youth Work Committee.

The appointment, once confirmed by the General Assembly of the URC, which meets in early July, will begin later this year.

And Synod Clerk

The new Synod Clerk is the Revd Dr Elaine Colechin, already known to Emmanuel as she has led our worship a number of times.

Elaine has a wealth of experience having ministered in a number of United Reformed Churches, including her current church, Bromley URC and serving as Area Leader for South London Synod Area.

Elaine will be starting as Synod Clerk on 1st July 2026 and her service of induction to this role is on 11th July at 2pm at Bromley URC.

With thanks to the URC website.

Pat Best



Secretary's Notes

MESSY CHURCH with PARADE - 5th July 10 -11.30am

The Messy Team will be leading worship in the sanctuary at 10.30 after meeting in the Richmond Hall at 10am.



SUMMER FAIR Sunday 5th JULY



Join in the fun as the sun shines for our annual **Summer Fair** held on the Green after our **Messy Church & Parade service**. Details on page 22

WORSHIP LEADERS for JULY

- 5th – Messy Team with Parade
- 12th – Revd Bryn Thomas with communion
- 19th – Marion Moore – followed by Church Meeting
- 26th – Jonathan Dolling



CHURCH MEETING – 19th JULY

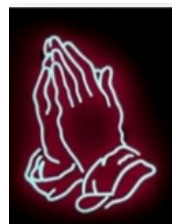


Church Meeting will follow the morning service on 19th July. As usual, grab a cuppa and return to the sanctuary as soon as possible.

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

Join **Marion** on **Friday mornings** for quiet prayer time in the vestry at 9.30am.

Please use the Prayer Board in the sanctuary if you have any concerns or people you wish for prayers said at this time.



Rosemary



Church Family News

Brodie Hunter continues to recover from the fall that injured his shoulder – we wish him and Irene well.

Tracy Dawkins shows her typical resilience, dealing with hospital appointments for intensive treatments, constantly helped by her sister Carol. Her mother Janet is doing very well in Coloma Court, re-establishing her mobility after the serious injury to her leg and foot.

Janet and Kenneth Hotten both have some health problems. They miss Emmanuel folk and send their good wishes. From Burrell Mead care-home Florence Meredith and Freda Banks also miss Emmanuel and send their best wishes, too.

We wonder if some may feel left out because the grapevine is not as active as it might be; but there are also those who prefer to keep things private. We rely on kind people informing us of this and that! You will know of others whom you wish to keep in your thoughts, including those who prefer not to have their names printed here, but do remember:

- Tim Mott in Canada, and his wife Nancy
- Christine Jackson
- Monica Duncan
- Lada, Roland, Anna, Emily and Lauren, our recently received members
- Julie Lord's mother and father
- All who fondly remember Marty Jones
- The Dawkins family
- The Douglas family
- People whose grief is rekindled by anniversaries
- Families and individuals approaching holiday time

A special point: if you would like communion brought to your home, please tell us. Maybe encourage someone else, or request on their behalf?

Please let us know your news, about yourself, family or others: 020 8462 5860 or 07957 858 878. Texts on mobiles or voicemails on the landline are fine. Or email brynthomas@uwclub.net.

Bryn & Sue

Emmanuel Fellowship

Dear Friends,

How are you enjoying the weather/football World Cup/cricket/peace and quiet?
delete as appropriate or add your own special event:

- A slow meal in the garden with good company
- An afternoon concert at a care home with a choir of school children
- A National Trust visit
- A day at the seaside...

We can't offer you any of those, but we do have these available during **July**:

7th	Rev Dr Nicholas Henderson returns with a talk entitled ' Crowns and Coronations ': always a fascinating subject!
14th	Peter Batty arrives, not unexpectedly, but ' Out of the Blue! Where did that come from? ' with the origins of sayings over the centuries. This promises to be a fascinating talk.
21st	AGM and tea party : Time to think over the past year and to share some treats and entertainment, with great company. This will be our final meeting until September.

We return on 8th September

We wish you a happy, healthy summer, without too much heat, and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Every blessing,

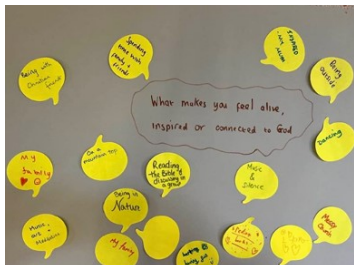
Sue Thomas, on behalf of the Fellowship Committee

Children & Families at Emmanuel

Update from Julie, our Children and Family Worker and Emily, our Youth Worker

Messy Church

Anyone coming into Messy Church in June, would have seen a lot of red, orange and yellow! Messy Church was celebrating Pentecost.



As breakfast was served, the Children made red, yellow and orange streamers. When we moved into the Richmond Hall, our parents acted out the story – we had some very keen actors!

The children then explored the many activities we had round the room, some made headbands, played with the red, yellow and orange duplo, had a go at wind painting, while others reflected on what makes them feel alive, inspired and connected to God.



The two most popular activities were making a red fruit sundae topped with ice cream and strawberry sauce and the creation of the Pentecost Flame.

Giggles and Grow

For those with little ones 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, all year round.

Little ones can explore new toys and play with others of a similar age. The session ends with singing and a short story.

Continued on next page

Blissful Beginnings

Have you recently had a baby? Want to meet other new mums? Want a space where your babies can play? Then bring your babies along and join others for a drink and a chat.

This group is on a Wednesday morning for newborn to crawlers from 10.30-12noon in the James Todd Room, all year round.

Time Together Thursdays

We have had a really busy month celebrating World environment day, World Cup, Hedgehog awareness week and Fathers Day. We have ended each Thursday 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. Our last session, before we resume in September, will end with a party on Thursday 16th July.

Youth Club

Youth Club is open to all young people in Year 7 and above and runs every Sunday evening during term time from 6.00–7.30pm. The last session before we break up for the summer holidays will be on Sunday 19th July.

We always have lots of fun together, with a mixture of games, activities, challenges and opportunities to make new friends.

Recently, the young people have enjoyed making pizza from scratch (including their own dough!), and over the coming weeks we have an exciting programme featuring cooking challenges, a celebration barbecue, music activities and a scavenger hunt across West Wickham.

Please get in touch if you'd like to find out more – we always welcome new young people!



Julie & Emily



Summer Holidays at Emmanuel



Fun Activities for Children and Families This Summer!

Six weeks can seem a long time to entertain children, so we've planned a range of fun activities for children and their families throughout the summer holidays.

Thursday 30th July | 2:00–3:30pm

Summertime Fun (Ages 3–11)

Crafts, games, toys, table tennis and much more!

Tuesday 4th August | 2:00–3:30pm

Parent & Child Craft Session (Ages 8+)

Create a scrapbook page or collage and enjoy die-cutting and stamping activities.

Booking required: Please contact Julie, our Children and Family Worker, to reserve a place.

Tuesday 11th August | 2:00–3:30pm

Board Games Session (Ages 8+)

Play your favourite board game or come and try a new one!

Monday 17th August | 2:00–3:30pm

Summertime Fun (Ages 3–11)

Crafts, games, toys, table tennis and much more!

Tuesday 18th August | 2:00–3:30pm

Summertime Fun (Ages 3–11)

Crafts, games, toys, table tennis and much more!

Parents and carers must stay with their children at all sessions.

All sessions are **FREE** of charge.

Donations are welcome and will be used to purchase new toys and equipment for Julie's groups.

We look forward to seeing you this summer at Emmanuel!

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

Community News Update

Hello! What a crazy month we've had with strong sunshine and lashing rain, if nothing else it's made our community in West Wickham very chatty as we compare brollies and sunglasses.

Summer often is a popular time for events and holidays but we have our own fete on Sunday 5th July so please tell your neighbours and friends! We will be supporting the work of Tools With A Mission (TWAM) and accepting donations of tools and Bibles for them to send to Sub-Saharan Africa. The TWAM regional representatives Peter and Dianne Emmins will be there to share more about the work, please check their website at <https://www.twam.uk/donatetools> for what can be donated or there are leaflets in the foyer.

This past month we celebrated National Volunteers Week from 1st – 7th June and I can only offer a BIG thank you to all the tea makers, AV operators, Elders, biscuit buyers and all other roles that volunteers do at Emmanuel, too many to mention but all appreciated. I also popped into our charity shops in the High Street with cards from the church and they were very happy to be encouraged.

On the Saturday I represented Emmanuel at a Volunteer Fair event at Bromley URC and met many others in the borough who are giving time and energy in their areas to provide support and enjoyment to others. I also spoke to a couple of potential volunteers for our activities and if anyone else would like to know more about what opportunities we have please get in touch.

I also had the pleasure of leading the Memory Box service and the following week their Dementia Café for Environment Day; we had great fun making collages and playing nature bingo. If anyone would like to know more about their work and activities please speak to Unity or myself, they are another great example of volunteers making a big difference!

Always up for a chat so please contact me if you'd like to talk about what we are doing to serve our community!

Anna Seabrook
07900 744383
community@emmanuelww.org.uk

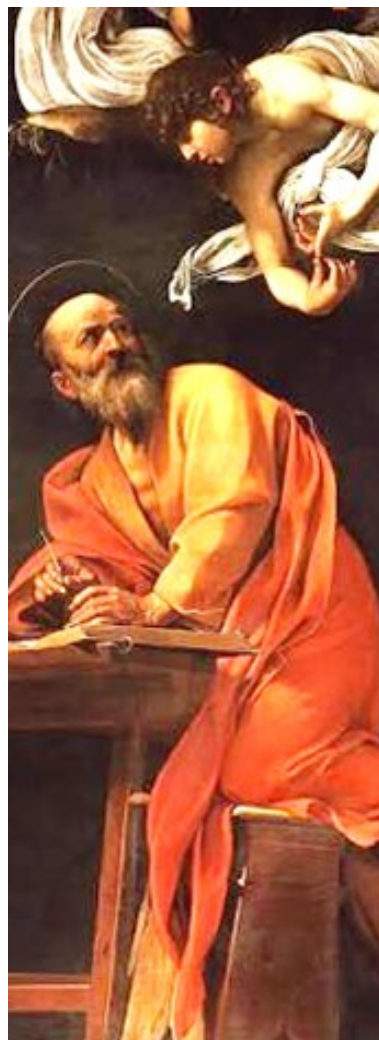
How Matthew constructs his Gospel

To recap... Matthew has two piles of the sayings of Jesus: the main one that he has gathered himself, and another with sayings that Luke also knows. Matthew's task is huge, because he does not know when Jesus spoke these sayings, nor which go together or separately, so he works sensitively to group them together, with his amazing insight into the mind of *the* person who has spiritually transformed his life. By good fortune – or, better, by God's providential goodness(!) – he has a copy of Mark's gospel in front of him, which gives him the general order of events: so he can copy all that, making stylistic changes or summarising when he thinks Mark goes over the top with unnecessary detail.

When he reads through all his sayings and stories, and reflects on all that Mark's gospel has given him, he spots the fact that there are five great blocks of coherent teaching, which scholars have called the five discourses. The first is the Sermon on the Mount, which Matthew compiles from multiple short sayings to form ch 5/6/7. We now come to the next...

The second discourse is ch 10, which focuses on the disciples (all named), sent out to proclaim their fresh version of Judaism. There are a few encouraging sayings, but it may be a surprise to us that Jesus gives many warnings about the opposition, even persecution, that they will encounter, and about the way families will be split over these teachings.

This reflects not only the situation in the 30s but also the unsettled times in which Matthew lives fifty years later. Maybe the older family members stay loyal to the traditional faith that has guided them all their lives, but younger family members are energised by the fresh slant on their faith that the disciples provide, and, above all, by the sheer wonder of their ability to cure physical and mental conditions that have plagued so many lives.



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One saying seems so extreme that we wonder if it can be true: Jesus says that he has come 'not to bring peace but a sword', which contradicts his whole general message of love, peace and reconciliation. Here we must remember the context: he means the symbolic sword that divides families: with the disciples' new message on one side, over against the traditional faith of Judaism on the other. He does *not* mean that, as a rule for life, he approves of physical conflict as the way to settle disputes. It is simply that he is aware – and the disciples need to be aware – that there will be 'sharp' disagreement over these issues and that dissension may occur.

One of the comforting aspects is his instruction to 'wipe the dust off your feet' and move on, if a household rejects them. It is as if Jesus is telling them not to waste their breath, nor their time or energy, if they are made unwelcome and are clearly not going to make progress.

For us 2000 years later, this chapter helps us to understand that our faith is not shared by everyone, and that we are simply required to do our best to live by it and to spread it among other people. But Jesus does not want us to persevere unrealistically – to waste our energies, if the seed we sow does not land in fertile soil.

So there are big discourses in ch 5/6/7 and in ch 10. What would you think lies in between, in ch 8/9? Given the way ch 10 starts with Jesus' command to go out and cure diseases, Jesus is shown as leading by example: ch 8/9 give accounts of stunningly effective healings by Jesus.

Try reading ch 5/6/7 all in one go (about 10 minutes?) – then the inspiring 8 & 9 – then ch 10 fits in beautifully. Remember that in the whole of world literature there is nothing more significant than the ethical statements of the Sermon on the Mount. Forget Shakespeare, Plato, Aristotle and any other great thinker... Matthew ch 5/6/7 gives the peak of human ethics straight from Jesus, *the* most significant statement ever. And you have it all conveniently in a book at home... so do enjoy it!

Bryn

*Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the Lord our God*

(Psalm 20:7 (NIV))



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 many things but are in need of the following items:

- Shampoo, empty washing up bottles
- Cooking oil
- Squash
- Pasta
- Rice
- Tuna
- Tinned meat
- Tinned meals
- Cereal / oats
- Biscuits
- Crackers / crisps
- Instant hot choc
- 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

RE-EQUIPPING THE SITE

We're now reaching the end of the feasibility study stage of this programme. Overall, most of the work of the feasibility study will be complete by end June, and so we move on to the next phase – discussing the options and alternatives and gathering a vision for what to go ahead with.

I've had the benefit of seeing how this has progressed over the last few weeks, and it's exciting to see how things are coming together. There are some really positive, practical ideas of what we could do to improve the overall usability of the premises, furthering our mission and outreach work. Some of these are small things that could actually make a big difference, others are new ideas.

Now it's your turn...

COME and LOOK!

Do please come and have a good look at the display of outputs from the feasibility study. We want to engage with the broadest possible cross-section of people at Emmanuel. We want to hear what *you* think about it.

Display boards will be in church / James Todd room and open to view as follows:

- Friday 3rd July – 10am-4pm
- Saturday 4th July – 10.30am – 2.00pm
- Sunday 5th July – after worship, to c.2.00pm

Members of our steering group – Janet P, Unity, Nick, Ian M – will be on hand all three days to take questions and comments. Alex Wood from MEB Design Ltd (the architects) will also be onsite on the Friday, if you want to chat directly with him.

NEXT STEPS

One phase of the feasibility work – a comprehensive review of the current heating systems and options for the future – is running slightly behind the other aspects of the work. This means that unfortunately we won't be able to present the full range of possible projects in early July. And because everything is connected to everything else, we'll only really be able to think about what to progress once we're clearer on the heating options.

We'll still continue the discussions across the whole church up to the Church Meeting on Sunday 19th July, but it now looks like we will have to defer substantive decisions till September or October.

Any questions, do please ask any of the steering group.

Ian Moore

Thought for the Month

Waiting

Life sometimes feels so busy and there seems no stopping it.

Yes, believe me, even in retirement it happens!

It happened to the Psalmist as well, but he waited patiently.

Psalm 40 verse 1:

*'I waited patiently for God to help me, then he listened and heard my cry.
He lifted me, steadied me, gave me a new song to sing of praise to God,
and, like the ripples in a pond, many will hear of these glorious things
and stand in awe before the Lord and put their trust in him.'*

This is an amazing Psalm. Try to make time to read it.

The last verse reads:-

*'I am poor and needy yet the Lord is thinking about me right now.
Oh my God you are my helper; you are my Saviour.
Come quickly and save me, please don't delay.'*

All this and more in just 17 verses!

Chris Cutler

JERUSALEM TO JERICO

In April 1968 I spent a few weeks travelling in Israel. I remember one day catching a bus from Jerusalem to Jericho. That route used to be called 'The Way of Blood' as it was a dangerous road; remember the story that Jesus told of the Good Samaritan. Jericho is one of the oldest cities in the world and lies at 240 metres below sea level.

The bus took me to a car park near the Dead Sea and the driver promised to pick me up there for the return journey at 6pm sharp. I walked into Jericho to see the wall that Joshua and his army marched around for six days blowing ram horns which caused the walls to fall on the seventh day. The settlements date back 9,000 years and archaeologists have made it easy to see a wall which is reputed to be the oldest protective wall in the world.

I then made my way back to the Dead Sea to do the tourist thing and float in the very, very salty water. As it was the weekend there were many Jewish families doing the same thing as me. Afterwards, it was very refreshing to have a shower with fresh water to get rid of the salt.

Nearby were the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. The Jewish families began to leave and darkness fell. I became very uneasy and wondered if the bus would ever come. In fact I plucked up courage and told a family with a large car that the bus hadn't come and it was dark and would they be kind enough to give me a lift back to Jerusalem. They said "Sorry but we don't know you". I asked several other families with the same result. At 7pm the place was empty. I was on my own in the pitched dark. The car park was surrounded by large boulders and I feared that I was there for the night. Suddenly soon after 7.30pm there was the roar of an engine and a bus appeared out of the gloom. A wave of relief flooded over me. Also to my surprise out from the rocks emerged more than a dozen Arabs of various ages and genders. They obviously realized that the bus driver did not keep to Greenwich Mean Time!

John Manuell

A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips

It's Plastic Free July and this year we're thinking about laundry, a top source of microplastic pollution. Fibres from synthetic clothes (polyester, nylon, and acrylic for example) shed tiny fibres during washing and drying. These enter the sewage systems and are hard to filter out. Use a microfibre bag or ball to catch the fibres.

Learn more about reducing plastic pollution in the laundry process at plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/plastic-free-laundry/ and more about this year's campaign at plasticfreejuly.org.

Prayers – and seeds – grow

At the service on 17th May we used a prayer idea from Christian Aid and 'planted' prayers in a cone garden planter. They suggested we plant seeds as well but there were so many prayers there was no room to easily add seeds!

So after the service I moved the planters to the quiet garden, hung the prayers from the tree and added seeds.



Sam has been watering diligently (thank you!) and you can see the rocket has grown well!



Please do take some for your salads and remember what God can do with our prayers and our actions in the world.



Marion

Quiz—No. 16

Supplied by Lawrence White

1. What is the only confession of faith used in the Orthodox Church?
2. When does Easter take place?
3. Who designed the New Palace of Westminster in 1840?
4. What type of bridge is Tower Bridge? Who designed it? When was it opened?
5. What was the language that Jesus primarily spoke?
6. Who were the first female honorary members of the Royal Astronomical Society?
7. What are the chemical names for Vitamins A, B1, B2, B6 and B12?
8. What was the home in Keston, near Hayes, of William Pitt the Younger?
9. What branch of medicine is Obstetrics?
10. When was the University of Wales founded?
11. Who wrote 'The Wealth of Nations' in 1776?
12. What is the only whole number under 100 which has its letters in alphabetical order?
13. How many stars are there on the Australian flag?
14. When did it become compulsory to take a driving test in the UK?
15. Who was concurrently President of the Royal Society and President of the Royal College of Physicians?
16. What did Italian physicist Evangelista Torricelli invent in the 17th Century, when he inverted a mercury-filled tube into a dish of mercury?
17. How many time zones are there in Russia?
18. Who was the first person to orbit the Earth?
19. How many versions of the Lord's Prayer are there in the Bible?

Answers can be found on page 31



EMMANUEL CHURCH SUMMER FAIR 2026!

The Grove, West Wickham, BR4 9JS

**Sunday July 5th
12 - 2pm**

**Bouncy castle, games,
food and
live music!**

**Raising money and
collecting items for Tools
With A Mission (TWAM)**

TWAM is a Christian charity that collects and refurbishes donated tools, creating tool kits for people in Sub-Saharan Africa.

*We will be collecting donations
of good condition tools and
haberdashery at the fair...*

See

www.twam.uk/donatetools

for which items can be donated or for
enquiries contact Anna Seabrook at
community@emmanuelww.org.uk
or 07900 744383

Coffee and Get-together

Sunday Coffee

GOOD NEWS!

Now that the service on the 1st Sunday of the month has been moved back to a 10.30am start, and following requests from several church members, we will be serving coffee after the church service every week from the beginning of August. However, if you would still like to drop in to Messy Church on the first Sunday of each month they will be pleased to see you for a cuppa at 10am. (Please note there is no Messy Church in August)

We look forward to welcoming you every Sunday in The Hewitt Room after the service for coffee, biscuits and fellowship.

Janet Pickering and Pat Best



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

Come and join us
on the 1st Sunday of the Month (excl. August)



**Emmanuel Church,
The Grove, West Wickham**

Messy Church starts with breakfast at 10am
(enjoy croissants, cereals, yoghurts and fruit).

Then join us for an interactive retelling of a
Bible story and lots of activities for all ages
to take part in!

Messy Church is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on
creativity, hospitality and celebration and each
month there are plenty of ways everyone is involved!

We finish the morning at 11.30am with
a group activity and the Messy Grace.



For more information, email:
child.family@emmanuelww.org.uk
07444998312

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

Have you recently had a baby or have
a young baby?
Want to meet other new mums?
Want a space when your little ones
can play?



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

No need to book, turn up when
you are ready between 10.30-12
noon every Wednesday

**For ages 0 to
confidently crawling**

**Emmanuel Church, The Grove,
West Wickham**



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



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

COME AND JOIN US

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
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

<http://spongekitchens.co.uk>

EMMANUEL ART GROUP

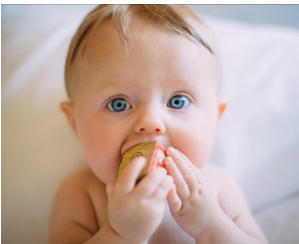
The Emmanuel Art Group usually meets on Thursday afternoons, 1pm to 4pm at Emmanuel URC Church, The Grove, West Wickham, BR4 9JS.

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.

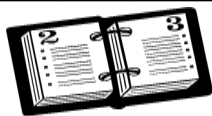




Church Diary for July

Wednesday	1st	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
		10.00am - 11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years
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 23)
Sunday	5th	10.00am	Messy Church gathers
		10.30am	Parade Service led by the Messy Team
		12.00pm - 2:00pm	Emmanuel Church Summer Fair (details on page 22)
		6.00pm - 7.30pm	Youth Club (off site) Contact Emily (details on page 9)
Tuesday	7th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship
Wednesday	8th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling
Thursday	9th	10.00am - 11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years
Friday	10th	10.00am - 4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 23)
Sunday	12th	10.30am	Communion service led by Rev Bryn Thomas
		6.00pm - 7.30pm	Youth Club Contact Emily (details on page 9)

Continued on next page



Church Diary for July continued...

Tuesday	14th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 24)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 9)
Wednesday	15th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
Thursday	16th	10.00am - 11.30am	Time Together Thursdays For age 2-4 years (details on page 24)
Friday	17th	10.00am - 4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 23)
Sunday	19th	10.30am	Worship led by Marion Moore
		6.00pm - 7.30pm	Youth Club Contact Emily (details on page 9)
Tuesday	21st	10.30am - 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 24)
		2.15pm	Emmanuel Fellowship (details on page 9)
Wednesday	22nd	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
Friday	24th	10.00am - 4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 23)
		<i>Last day for Emmanuel Life items</i>	
Sunday	26th	10.30am	Worship led by Jonathan Dolling
Tuesday	28th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 24)
Wednesday	29th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
Friday	31st	10.00am - 4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 23)



Church Diary for August 2026

Sunday	2nd	10.30am	Worship led by Tina Wheeler
Tuesday	4th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Giggles and Grow for those crawling, but not walking (details on page 24)
Wednesday	5th	10.30am - 12.00noon	Blissful Beginnings babies up to crawling (details on page 24)
Friday	7th	10.00am - 4.00pm	Warm Welcome (details on page 23)

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- Prayer content on page 15 courtesy of Lilo Sutton
- Photos on page 20 courtesy of Marion Moore

Quiz Answers

Quiz on page 21 supplied by Lawrence White

1. Nicene creed
2. It is a moveable feast, falling on the first Sunday following the full moon after the Vernal Equinox 21st March. Therefore it takes place between 22nd March and 25th April.
3. Sir Charles Barry (1795-1860). It was completed after his death by his son Edward Middleton Barry.
4. It is a double bascule (seesaw) bridge. It was designed by Sir Horace Jones, City Architect with the collaboration of Sir John Wolfe Barry. Building began in 1886 and it was opened in 1894 by the Prince and Princess of Wales.
5. He spoke Aramaic, a Semitic language, the common language of Roman Judea.
6. Caroline Lucretia Herschel and Mary Somerville. Caroline was a German astronomer and younger sister of Sir William Herschel, discoverer of Uranus. Mary was a Scottish mathematician, astronomer and scientific writer.
7. A=retinol, B1=thiamine, B2=riboflavin, B6=pyridoxine, B12=cyanocobalamin.
8. Holwood House. He bought it in 1785 for £8,950.
9. It is the branch of medicine concerned with childbirth and midwifery.
10. 1893
11. Adam Smith (1723-1790), a Scottish economist recognised as the founder of political economy.
12. FORTY
13. 6
14. 26/03/1934
15. Sir Hans Sloane (1660-1753). His Museum and Library of 50,000 volumes and 3,560 manuscripts formed the nucleus of the British Museum.
16. Barometer. Meteorologists today use a recording aneroid barometer (barograph).
17. 11
18. Yuri Gagarin (1934-1968) On 12/04/1961 he completed one orbit of the Earth taking 108 minutes from launch to landing.
19. Two. One in Matthew's Gospel which is normally used for liturgical purposes. A shorter version is in Luke's Gospel.

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 jojomcgee@hotmail.co.uk
Squirrels (4-6 years old)	Thurs 5:30pm—6:15pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Beavers (6-8 years old)	Thurs 6.00pm—7.00pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Cubs (8-10½ years old)	Mon 7.00pm—8.15pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Scouts (10½-14 years old)	Tues 7.45pm—9.00pm	Niels Rump glv@8thwestwickham.org.uk
Explorers (14-18 years old)	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