



Notices, News and Encouragement for February 2023

“You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.” Psalm 86 v 5 NIV

Services for this month:

Sundays at 10.30 a.m.	Theme	Preacher		Heart of House leader
5th Feb	Meals with Jesus Luke 10:38-41 Mary and Martha	Trevor Ranger	The whole church family worship and explore the theme altogether. Creche provided.	Annette Foster
12th Feb	Meals with Jesus Luke 14:1-14 Pharisee’s home	Geoff Floyd	After a time of worship altogether, the children will have their groups separately, then join back together for Communion.	Stuart & Caroline Lay
	Messy Church (4-6pm) People Jesus met and offered Life, Hope and More: Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3:1-17)	Dave Stranks	Everyone is welcome to join in the play, worship, message, craft and a meal shared together.	
19th Feb	Meals with Jesus Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus	David Hollingsworth	The whole church family worship and explore the theme altogether. Creche provided.	Jan Durston
26th Feb	‘What am earth am I here for? Love your calling	Andrew Bird	A Church with Choices service, where following a time of worship, we engage with the theme in various creative ways.	Liz Carter

What on earth am I here for? – the 6 week course of the Purpose Driven Life starts on 26th February, and there is a lot of information about it on display in the church now. You have an invitation (if you haven’t got yours yet, let us (Chris Wheeler, Linda Kalbskopf, Richard Bailey, Andrew Bird, Monica Bird, Jan Durston) know! There are

small groups being arranged on Thursdays from **2nd March at 1.00pm and at 7.30pm for 1 ½ hours each** – you are all invited! (Sign up sheets will be available).

Prayer – is vital at all times, and certainly part of this Lent Course. We need to be praying now that we will all hear clearly what God wants to tell us, that we will understand and have courage to put it into practice, and that we will all grow as Christians. 3 ways you can do this: join an **informal prayer time** before each Sunday service in the lower hall, starting 9.30am, Sunday 26th February – add a **Prayer request/answer/bible verse** to the blue board in church – join in the **half day of prayer** for God to grow us: Sunday February 19th, 2pm to 4pm.

Also on prayer: there are some copies of the material for the **World Day of Prayer**, Friday March 3rd. Please take one from the table at the back of the church to use; if you need more, please see Jan.

Living Lightly 24:1 – Some ideas for supporting nature in 2023: 1. Tell the government you demand lasting and meaningful change through legislation <https://www.zerohour.uk/u4n/> 2. Be a conscious shopper: it's Fairtrade fortnight from February 27th to March 12th. Look for the logo as you shop for groceries in particular. 3. Be mindful of your money – many banks invest in damaging industries (fossil fuels, arms trade etc). Look at [Triodos Bank](#) for a different prospect. 4. Take a walk on the wild side: visit a [Wiltshire Wildlife reserve](#) as the weather becomes a bit milder. There's still a lot to see!

Lost property - Whilst sorting the office, we have discovered various pieces of jewellery, which have been stored for quite a long time. If you think that any items may belong to you please contact Linda Kalbskopf before the end of February.

Welcome! - Seen a new face or two? Make sure that new people coming to our church on Sundays have a coffee or tea and help them find a place to sit. Even if you're not wearing a badge, we all need to be welcomers.

Church Photocopier – is no longer in the small room off the church (formerly the vestry). We have a new one on the way, and it will be located in the new office space upstairs. If you need help accessing this, please let Mandy or Jan know.

Fairtrade – we are a Fairtrade Church, which means we have been sourcing our supplies from a company which sells fairly traded goods, supporting justice for overseas suppliers and producers. The main source for this was Traidcraft plc (you may also have seen their catalogues in the café from time to time).

Unfortunately they have gone into administration, after 40 years of trading, which is very sad news. There may be a possibility of rebranding, but for the foreseeable future Jan will be buying Fairtrade goods for use in church from other companies.

URGENT HELP NEEDED! - Emmaus School in Staverton urgently needs help with teaching KS3 (Years 7-9) physics from 20th February, 2023, until the end of the spring term and possibly the summer term. The lessons are timetabled 2-3pm on a Monday and Tuesday. Please contact Debbie Hoyle on info@emmaus-school.org.uk if you think you can help.

Circuit Plan – the Plan for March to May is only available digitally at the moment; if you would like a copy, please email admin@sheldonroad.church

Paul Cooper – the funeral details for Bev’s dad are as follows: Tuesday 14th February 12.30pm at West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington followed by a service of thanksgiving at Ladyfield Evangelical Church at 2pm. Please remember Pat, Bev and family in prayer.

The next monthly notice will be available for Sunday 26th February 2023: if you have advance notices for that edition, please send them to admin@sheldonroad.church or leave a note for Jan Durston in the pigeonholes.