



## Diary Dates

### January 2018

- CAIAS ~** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January,  
*Programme - Quizzes.*
- Immanuel review ~** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January, 10.30 am ~ small group meeting exploring the concerns raised in the autumn by our PCC.
- PCC ~** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January, 7.45pm for 8pm  
In Common Room.
- Immanuel Prays ~** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 7. 30pm in Church Chapel.
- Funeral ~** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018 at 11.00 am in Church (Aunt of the Tulloch family)

### February 2018

- Admission to Communion/ Confirmation ~** Exploration and preparation sessions from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February in Church.
- PCC Away-Day ~** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February ~ The away day is at home! PCC, interested church members with deanery and diocesan representatives will meet in our church buildings throughout the day to work on our Mission Action Plan (MAP).

## Prayer Pointers

- Pray for our review of what we offer and how we worship at Immanuel ~that we can share God's Love with others.

### Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known

And for the planning of our MAP awayday in February

- For those of our congregation facing the limitations of ill health.
- Pray for the ministry of CAIAS
- Pray for all involved with our school and our developing relationship. Pray for the right person to offer as a foundation governor.
- Pray for Hugo and his family as they prepare for his Baptism next week.
- Pray for Joyce Lynch and family members, Dawn, Ronnie, Nicki and Rita as they mourn the passing of James Samuel, whose funeral is 11.30 on 16<sup>th</sup> January at the Seventh Day Adventist Church SE25 6LH.

## Immanuel Prays!

These are the dates of the next few meetings, all at 7.30pm in the Chapel.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

If you are unable to attend but would like us to pray for you or someone you know, please contact Lorraine or Marion.

## Christmas Cards

Please check the table and shelf in the church foyer for Christmas cards with your name on them or to check any that you have left for others have been collected.

Cards will be cleared away on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January and it will be a great shame if your greetings do not reach their intended recipients!

## Ministry Musings

14th January 2018 ~ 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

What on earth is 'Calling' all about and what is its place in our faith? Calling is all about **'Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known'**. In every aspect.

Calling begins in our lives before we even recognise it for ourselves. It may start as infants brought to Baptism to 'set us on the right path' or to sow seeds of something that is important but not really understood and which needs exploring. Those seeds can flourish, remain dormant or even be thought irrelevant depending on how they are treated by those already called! It may be that something in our life brings us into contact with faith and we find we are attracted to it for some practical reason ~ support of some sort ~ in our everyday life through which we receive an invite to join in church life regularly.

However we first come into contact with faith it will have the Holy Spirit at work using God's people to draw us in and share with us igniting in us the desire to remain. Something that we cannot explain but cannot ignore either! Often something that we didn't even realise we were looking for!

Calling then works in our hearts and thinking. We can spend years ignoring it; be stopped in our tracks and change our lives because of it; gently find ourselves motivated to meet needs of others through acts of justice or service or be transfixed instantly by an understanding of God's Love for us and want to build a relationship with Him! For each of us it is different and yet for each of us there is a common, if unexpressed, understanding which brings us to recognise God's Love for us in Jesus Christ and accept the gift of Salvation offered through Him.

Eli had been called and served faithfully training others; Samuel did not understand but was encouraged to respond; Philip was learning and was enthusiastic to share and for peer support: Nathanael was a sceptic but had to see for himself! All were "Called" by the Spirit because of the Revelation of God.

**What about you?**

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