

EMMANUEL CHURCH, CHESHAM - A BRIEF PROFILE

TO KNOW JESUS AND MAKE HIM KNOWN IN CHESHAM AND THE WORLD

Who we are:

We are a vibrant, friendly, socially mixed conservative Anglican evangelical church that is part of a group of churches in the Parish of Great Chesham. We have three Sunday gatherings at 9am, 11am and 7pm, and are in the process of seeking to plant a small community church in another part of our district. Across the three services on a Sunday, we usually see around 180 adults and 60 children. We seek to be a warm, loving community where we serve one another, and in which people are well supported and cared for.

We have a current staff team at Emmanuel of a Vicar (John Shepherd), a minister for evangelism (Andrew Patterson), an administrator (Linda McNamara), and a ministry trainee (Shirley Gbadamosi) and we work as part of a wider Parish Team under the oversight of the Team Rector, Simon Cansdale, along with vicars of the other churches, a Parish administrator, and Youth and Children's Workers (based at St Mary's).

We are dependent on a large number of mature, gifted men and women who lead and serve in many different capacities at Emmanuel, with mid-week ministries to mums and babies under 1, Toddlers, youth and Seniors; outreach into the community through the ministry of Christians Against Poverty, schools work, Messy Church; and then Sundays with a lively children's work with crèche and Flyers groups for toddlers to school year 6, and a Pathfinders group for years 7-9.



First Sunday of the month is "Birthday Sunday" - we don't want to take life for granted but recognise it as a gift from God, so we stop and give thanks for those who have celebrated a birthday in the previous month and pray for them.

Our vision and values:

Our stated vision at Emmanuel is to see people from every part of Chesham finding new life in Christ, being rooted in the life of the church family, growing in maturity and love, becoming disciple makers and many developing into leaders to build God's church.

Our values are what we are most concerned about, and these are reflected in 6 commitments:

We are committed to the worship of God - The purpose of our human existence is to bring glory to God and enjoy his friendship. We meet as a church to worship God together through Christ by His Spirit, so that we may be better able to worship Him in every aspect of our lives.

We are committed to the Bible as the word of God - The Bible is the means by which God shows us how to worship Him through Jesus Christ. It is our final authority in all matters of faith and conduct. Bible teaching is at the centre of everything that we do.

We are committed to personal and corporate prayer - God has ordained prayer as his means to recognise our dependence, to strengthen our faith in Him and involve us in His work. Therefore prayer underpins everything that we do.

We are committed to local and global mission - God commands us to make known the good news of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour by word and deed. We seek to do this by encouraging personal and church-based evangelism; serving the community to show the caring love of God for others; making our church services accessible and our welcome of newcomers warm; supporting the work of mission partners and organisations across the world.

We are committed to living as the family of God - With the help of Holy Spirit, we seek to nurture the growth of people of all ages, backgrounds and life situations, in godliness and holy living. We aim to love one another and share each other's joys and sorrows.

We are committed to wise stewardship of God's world - Everything belongs to God, so we encourage cheerful and generous giving; engagement with issues of social justice; and the responsible use of His resources.

Our Context:

Chesham is a market town in the beautiful Chiltern Hills, at the very end of the Metropolitan Line, with a population of about 30,000. Chesham is hard to categorise. It is not wealthy south Bucks, though there are some big houses. There are considerable pockets of poverty and social deprivation, and the High Street has struggled, along with many others, in recent years, but is now turning around. As we are at the end of the tube line, many people move here either because it's cheaper than being closer into London, and/or because we are a town surrounded by open space and there are some excellent schools.

Chesham has a Mosque and a significant Muslim community, many of whom originally came from Pakistan. Chesham is a little quirky, truth-be-told. It's not picture postcard pretty, though you are out in the beautiful Chilterns very quickly, and it is a town that offers a sense of community and is a wonderful place to live. Access to London via the Metropolitan Line is good; larger shopping centres of Watford and High Wycombe are not far away, and we are close to the M25, M1 & M40 motorways.



God is always faithful, and we are excited about moving into His future for Emmanuel - will you be part of it?