



ELIM CHRISTIAN CENTRE

10th November 2024



MAKING JESUS REAL: THROUGH PRAYER, PRAISE AND BIBLE TEACHING

Loving God. Inspiring Others. Reaching Out.

Welcome to ECC

Pastor Steve and the Church Leadership extend to each one of you a very warm welcome. If this is your first time here, you are very welcome. We will be spending time praising God and listening to teaching that is relevant to our lives. It is our prayer that God will touch you, inspire you and excite you in a very powerful and incredible way.

10.30am Remembrance Sunday and Eileen's 60th Birthday Celebration service

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR PRAYER EVERY SUNDAY IN THE BACK HALL AT @10.20AM

SHORT THOUGHT: DARKNESS TO LIGHT. Darkness can represent many things; *confusion, despair, pain, anger, sorrow, bitterness, sadness* or the trials of life that can weigh heavily on our hearts and minds. In Psalm 18:28 David said, *'My God turns my darkness into light'*. This text speak of God's great power invading our lives and reminding us that in our struggles, God will guide us through them. Yes, His light will show us the way. And although we may not be able to see clearly or see the way ahead at the moment, this verse certainly brings us hope for the future. Keep Going! Jesus' blessings. *Pastor Steve*

QUOTE for the WEEK
'May I NEVER forget on my BEST day, that I still NEED God as desperately as I did ON my WORST'.
[by Mike Epps]

JOKE TIME *I've been taking salsa lessons for a month but don't feel like I'm progressing. It's just one step forward, two steps back.*

PROVERB for the WEEK *'Seek His Will in all you do and He will show you which path to take'.* **[Proverbs 3:6]**



Please make sure all mobile phones are turned **off** or on **silent** during the service. Ta

Tea and coffee are served in the back hall **AFTER** today's service. Enjoy.



Prayer Topics for your Prayer Time

'Pray Without Ceasing' [1 Thess. 5:17]

- † **Maria Rooney's niece Abigail, who recently had an emergency caesarean**
 - † **New US President Donald Trump and stability in America after the elections**
 - † **Church secretary: Diane & all the work she does for the church**
 - † Sadie, who went into hospital last week for a revision knee replacement
 - † All those affected by the floods in Spain
 - † Carmen, Carmen's sister Valerie and Lyn who all need God's healing touch
 - † Ongoing plans and preparations for our Missions trip to Portugal next April
 - † Those who've been affected by bullying
 - † Hope Centre Ministries & the work they do with people with addictions
 - † Street Pastor's in Swindon & for Stephen & Christine Brooke who oversee the work
 - † The conflict in the Middle East
 - † The conflict between Russia & Ukraine
 - † PM Keir Starmer & Labour Government
 - † Those with mental health issues or those living with depression or anxiety.
 - † The MediaServe team and Suzy as they produce & distribute Christian literature around the world.
 - † Our Youth [Fearless] and Children's Work [Kingdom Kids]
 - † New people / families at church
 - † Our Family Support Project [Foodbank]
 - † Empower [Men] and Real Women
 - † Cell Groups Leaders & those who attend
 - † Elim Missionaries around the world especially John and Rachel in Paraguay
 - † Church leaders: Alan, Eileen & Ricardo.
 - † Church treasurer & church finances
- ALSO, if you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please contact Debbie on: 07557917866**

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

Tuesday

11am Talking Heads *'Coffee & Chat'* [Church Hall]

7pm Rupert and Suzy's Cell group

7.30pm Colin & Lyn's Cell group

Wednesday

12pm Eileen's cell group

Thursday

7.30pm Worship Group practice

Saturday

9am Men's Breakfast - Toby carvery [Postcode SN25 4YX]

Next Sunday

10.30am Morning Communion and celebration service

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- **Wed 27th November @ 6pm**
'Decorating Church for Christmas' party [+ food] Please come & help
- **Saturday 14th December @ 6pm**
Church Christmas Meal [Hall]
[more details to follow]
- **Sunday 22nd December @ 6.30pm**
Church Christmas Concert

FUTURE DATE FOR DIARY:

- **Bank Holiday Weekend Fri 22nd – Mon 25th August 2025**
Moorlands Church Weekend Away [More details to follow]

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES are due in **TODAY**.
Many thanks. O.C.C.S.B Team

Another Joke. *'I sailed through my driving test, that's why I failed it'.*



THE POPPY AND THE CROSS

‘Greater love has no-one than this, that He lay down His life for His friends’ [John 15:13] So what’s so special about ‘the Poppy’ on Remembrance Sunday? Why not use a pansy or a daisy? Well, Poppies grow naturally in conditions of disturbed earth throughout Western Europe. So, in 1914 when the fields of Northern France and Belgium especially in Flanders, were being *ripped open* as the First World War raged on, poppies were growing around the bodies of the fallen soldiers. And so, the Poppy has become a lasting symbol to ‘the fallen’ which was highlighted by John McCrae in his poem ‘*In Flanders Fields*’. The Poppy came to represent the immeasurable sacrifice made by McCrae’s comrades who died in WW1, but has also become a lasting memorial to all those soldiers who have died in other conflicts since. When fighting ceased in 1918, the mud of the battlefields was allowed to rest and nature began to be restored, and before long wild flowers started growing in those fields, including the Poppy. The colour *red of the poppy* reminded people of the bloodshed and the sacrifice made by millions. And so the poppy became the symbol of sacrifice. And each time I look at a poppy, I can’t help but get emotional about what others did ‘on my behalf’. For me the poppy represents ‘love’ and walking around war cemeteries in *Flanders, Normandy and Arnhem* over the past few years only serves as a reminder of the love that people showed in their sacrifice for others, which makes me so grateful that ‘I am alive’ today. As Christians, we also have a symbol of sacrifice: The Cross. Every time I look at *the Cross*, I am reminded of the amount of blood that was shed by my Saviour. I can’t help but get emotional about what my Lord did ‘on my behalf’ over 2000 years ago! I am so grateful that I am alive but this time ‘*alive in Jesus*’. The Cross, and like the poppy, also represents love, Christ’s love, which also serves as a reminder of the love that Jesus showed in His sacrifice for others, and which makes me so grateful that I am ‘spiritually alive in Jesus’ today. Moreover, and as the world today honours all those who have lost their lives or served in wars or conflicts over the years and others who are still fighting in wars today, let’s make sure we never forget them and what they did. But also on this poignant day, let’s make sure we never forget our Saviour too and especially what He did on THE CROSS for mankind. ‘*Thank you soldiers for your sacrifice. Thank you, Jesus, for the ultimate sacrifice*’. Amen. Blessings. *Pastor Steve*

ELIM is part of the world-wide **Pentecostal Movement** that traditionally emphasises the Foursquare Gospel. This is a commitment to sound preaching and teaching that **proclaims Jesus Christ** as ‘**Lord & Saviour, Healer, Baptist in the Holy Spirit and the Coming King**’.



FAMILY SUPPORT

If you or someone you know needs food, then please see *Graham or Debbie* or contact *Graham* on 07952294407 or *Debs* 07557917866 for more details. Also, we are always in need for more food or money to help with the Family Support. Thanks. *Pastor*

PASTORAL CARE

Carmen's contact number is 07766 453137 if you need to contact her.

HOLY COMMUNION

is every other Tuesday @11am
[In Church Hall. All welcome.]

HOME COMMUNION

is available to anyone who wants it. Please see *Pastor Steve*

CELL GROUPS. If you are interested in joining a Cell Group, please speak to *Pastor* or a Cell Group Leader or take a leaflet from the back table.

GIFT AID SCHEME

If you are a taxpayer, then it's in the church's interest for you to sign up and become part of the Gift Aid Scheme. It doesn't cost you anything but makes a **HUGE difference financially** to the church. If you are not in the G.A.S then please see **Peter Dennison** [church treasurer] for more details. Many thanks. *Pastor*

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you have been attending *ECC* for *three months* & would like to come into membership, then please see *Pastor*

URGENT NOTICE FOR MIDGET

[Under 4's]

We still need helpers to help look after the children during the sermon. If you can help with this work, please let me know. Thanks. *Pastor*

TALKING HEADS

Talking Heads Coffee Morning meets *fortnightly* on Tues from 11am in the upstairs lounge

SAFETY NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS

Please make sure your children are not left unattended during the service to avoid any unnecessary accidents. Thanks. *Pastor*

Be Vigilant Please ensure all your valuables especially ladies with handbags] are with you at all times. We maybe a trusting church but we still need to be vigilant. *Pastor*

TALENT SPOTTING

If you would like to use your talents for the glory of God [i.e., IT, music, hospitality] please talk to **Pastor Steve**

PASTOR REV. STEVE GUNN

CHURCH LEADERS ALAN KEEN

EILEEN KOPPOE

RICARDO NEVES

TREASURER

PETER DENNISON

SECRETARY

DIANE WARNER

PASTOR'S CONTACT DETAILS

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