

Notices**Fellowship Groups meet on Tues 14 / Wed 15 / Thurs 16 December**

To join a group please contact Andrew Grey.

**Youth Group Christmas Party— tonight 5.30-7.30pm**

For our 11-14s and 14-18s. Pizza, fun and time with friends. At Dan and Jo Van Enckevort's home. For info and directions, email [gavin.wright@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto:gavin.wright@immanuelbrentwood.org)

**Great for friends and visitors: flyers available at the back of church**

Saturday 18th December 10am — Christmas Family Fun

Sunday 19th December 10.45am — All Age Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 6.30pm — Traditional Carol Service

**Christmas weekend**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am <sup>Note time</sup>— Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December 10.45am— Boxing Day Service

**Food for hungry Christians**

A great new Barnabas Fund project, seeking to help Christians in some of the poorest parts of the world, where faith in Jesus makes daily survival even harder. For more information see <https://www.food.gives/>

**Giving**

**Regulars** wanting to support our work can give through a standing order supported by Gift Aid. Information available from the table at the rear of the hall or from our treasurer: [treasurer@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto:treasurer@immanuelbrentwood.org)

**Bookstall**

There are books for sale at the back today and in the run up to Christmas—with lots of different titles, which we hope will be good for us and to buy for others.

**Weekly update e-mail and online address book:**

To be included please ask Caroline Evans ([admin@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto:admin@immanuelbrentwood.org)) for a form.

**Welcome to Immanuel Church Brentwood**

**Welcome!** It's great to have you here.

We meet at **9.30am** in different teaching groups for Sunday School. Fresh coffee and cake are served at 10.15am. Church begins at **10.45am**. We hope that **whole families** will enjoy church together. **For children** there is a separate **learning sheet** to help them make the most of the sermon. We don't mind that little ones make a bit of noise or wriggle around.

**Toilets** are located along the corridor on the ground floor. If you need assistance or information just ask one of the people who welcomed you when you came in.

If you're a **parent** please keep an eye on younger children before and after the service as the school is both a big and public space and we want everyone to stay safe. Please accompany your children to the toilet.

If younger children need a break there is a **crèche** nearby with toys and activities. Make your way to the back of the hall and you'll be shown where it is. You can leave your child there or remain with them.

**While you are waiting for the service to begin, please familiarise yourself with the nearest emergency exit.**

**If there is an emergency during the service:**

- Go to the muster point which is the field adjacent to the car park
- **If you have children in crèche**, they will be evacuated to the playground with the covered tables; please collect them from there, then proceed to the muster point.

**If you're new to the church or have a question...**

Speak to one of the team; send an email to [info@immanuelbrentwood.org](mailto:info@immanuelbrentwood.org); or fill in your details below and put the slip in the box by the door to request information about:

Is there more to life?  Christianity Explored  Immanuel Church Brentwood

Your name and contact details

*In completing this form, you agree that Immanuel Church Brentwood may store and use any personal details with which you supply us for the purpose of providing you information about Immanuel Church Brentwood.*

**Welcome and call to worship****Will Trump**

*“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has visited and redeemed his people” (Luke 1:68)*

**From the squalor of a borrowed stable,**  
by the Spirit and a virgin’s faith;  
to the anguish and the shame of scandal  
came the Saviour of the human race!  
But the skies were filled  
with the praise of heaven,  
shepherds listen as the angels tell  
of the gift of God come down to man  
at the dawning of Immanuel.

2. King of heaven now the friend of sinners,  
humble servant in the Father’s hands,  
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes he walked my road  
and he felt my pain,  
joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
yet his righteous steps give me hope again.  
I will follow my Immanuel!

3. Through the kisses of a friend’s betrayal,  
he was lifted on a cruel cross;  
he was punished  
for a world’s transgressions,  
he was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, he fights for me,  
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
and with a shout our souls are free –  
death defeated by Immanuel!

4. Now he’s standing in the place of honour,  
crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
interceding for his own beloved  
till his Father calls to bring them home!  
Then the skies will part  
as the trumpet sounds  
hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
but the bride will run to her lover’s arms,  
giving glory to Immanuel!

Stuart Townend © 1999 Thankyou Music  
CCLI Song 2733786

**Confession and assurance of forgiveness**

Heavenly Father, you made us your children. But this week we often failed to live as your children should. **For Jesus’ sake, Father, forgive us.**

Heavenly Father, your Son gave up everything for us. But this week we often lived as if we owed him nothing. **For Jesus’ sake, Father forgive us.**

Heavenly Father, you gave us your Spirit to help us live for you. But this week we often lived only for ourselves. **For Jesus’ sake, Father forgive us.**

**See amid the winter snow,**  
born for us on earth below;  
see, the gentle Lamb appears,  
promised from eternal years:

*Hail, O ever-blessed morn;  
hail, redemption’s happy dawn;  
sing through all Jerusalem:  
‘Christ is born in Bethlehem’.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies;  
he who, throned in height sublime,  
reigns above the cherubim.

*Hail, O ever-blessed morn...*

Sacred infant, king most dear,  
what a tender love was here,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this!

*Hail, O ever-blessed morn...*

Holy Saviour, born on earth,  
teach us by your lowly birth;  
grant that we may ever be  
taught by such humility.

*Hail, O ever-blessed morn...*

CCLI Song # 2931825  
Edward Caswall (1814-1878)  
© in this version Jubilate Hymns

**Final prayer and blessing**

Sermon notes

You can listen to Sunday sermons online—[www.immanuelbrentwood.org](http://www.immanuelbrentwood.org)  
Next Sunday we will be looking at Luke chapter 2:1-20

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the  
virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

**Who, O Lord, could save themselves,  
Their own soul could heal?  
Our shame was deeper than the sea  
Your grace is deeper still**

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save  
You alone can lift us from the grave  
You came down to find us, led us out of death  
To You alone belongs the highest praise*

You, O Lord, have made a way  
The great divide You heal  
For when our hearts were far away  
Your love went further still  
Yes, your love goes further still

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save...*

CCLI Song # 5376377  
Matt Redman / Jonas Myrin  
© 2008 Thankyou Music

**Guess what happened long ago?**

In a stable Christ was born.  
Precious Saviour, holy One  
come to show us God's deep love.

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to all  
who by the Son are blessed.*

Guess what happened that same night?  
Shepherds saw a light so bright.  
Angels singing their delight:  
Christ is born this holy night

*Glory to God...*

Guess what happened later on?  
Wise men came to see God's son.  
Bringing gold to the child King  
They bowed down and worshipped Him.

*Glory to God...*

Guess what Herod did one day?  
Jesus Christ he tried to slay.  
But God sent his Son away  
so in Egypt Christ was safe.

*Glory to God...*

Guess what happened at the end?  
Jesus died and rose again.  
By his death our sin is cleansed  
Precious Saviour, special friend.

Felicity and Bryson Smith  
CCLI son #2447577  
1998 Emu Music Australia

**Prayers of intercession**

**Blessed Lord,  
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:  
Grant us so to hear them,  
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,  
that we may embrace and ever hold fast  
the blessed hope of everlasting life,  
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Light of the world,**  
you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made  
this heart adore you,  
hope of a life spent with you...

*Here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God:  
you're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days,  
oh so highly exalted,  
glorious in heaven above,  
humbly you came  
to the earth you created,  
all for love's sake became poor.

*Here I am to worship...*

And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross.