

Cathedral News: September 2018

the newsletter of St Christopher's Cathedral and Awali Church

Welcome!

After the long summer break and with many people away from Bahrain, escaping from the summer heat and catching up with family and friends in home countries, September always feels like a time of new beginnings.

Of course not everybody has had the privilege of getting away, and over the summer months we have aimed to hold the community life of the



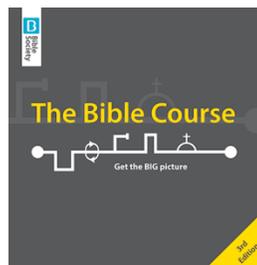
Cathedral and Awali Church together by organizing a series of Wednesday evening social events, which have included movies

and food in peoples' homes, pool parties, bowling, meals out in restaurants. It has also been a joy in these quieter months to welcome those who are new to Bahrain into our community and to help them integrate into the church family when life is a little quieter. Thank you to all who have opened their homes or organized events; it has been much appreciated.

As we start the new academic year there is much to look forward to....

Homegroups

Our homegroups who meet on Monday mornings (a women's group) and Wednesday evenings are going to be following a course developed by the Bible Society: An 8-session course helping you explore the world's bestseller.



Accessible and interactive, it will enhance and inform your ongoing Bible study, whether you are new to the Bible or want to go deeper.

Using a unique storyline, the course shows how the key events, books and characters all fit together. You'll get to see the BIG picture and discover how the Bible applies to your life. Why not join up?

Building links with Exeter



Katherine Lyddon will be spending a week with us, coming from one of our partner Dioceses – Exeter in the UK – where she is the Children's Work Adviser. She

will be here for a week, joining us for Friday Club, our children's programme on Friday 14th September and then spending the day with our Friday Club team on Saturday 15th September for a workshop on working with children, to which all who are interested in working with our children and young people are warmly welcome.

She will also attend the Monday morning women's group and will reflect on how to encourage faith within the home.

More friends from Exeter Diocese, **Christopher and Anne Futcher**, are

coming in November for a weekend. Many of us will look forward to seeing Anne again – she did a placement in



Bahrain for a month in February and threw herself into the life of the St Christopher's and Awali community - and we look forward to welcoming Christopher, who is the Archdeacon of Exeter, for his first visit. They will be preaching and presiding at the Friday morning service on Friday 16th November.

Remembrance

For the first time for a few years, Armistice Day, 11th November falls on Remembrance Sunday, so there will be Acts of Remembrance both in the morning and in the Cathedral in the evening.



Harvest

Harvest Festivals may not seem so appropriate in the largely urban or suburban settings that most of us live, but it is good at least on an annual basis to pause and to think about where the food that we eat comes from and to reflect on who has been responsible for enabling that food to come from the field to our plates.



This year our young people in Friday Club will be thinking about the abuse of our environment and the damage we inflict on it by our use of plastic and how we can be more responsible in our daily lives and this will be picked up in our **Harvest Festival services** over the 5-7th October weekend. Meanwhile please use our recycling bin for your plastic bottles.



As usual we'll be holding a **World Harvest Supper** on Saturday 6th October, at 5pm a family event which will be held in the Alun Morris Hall on the cathedral **compound**.

Regular Weekly services

Monday- Thursday 8.00am Morning Prayer.

Friday 9.30am Holy Communion with Friday Club
(All-age Family Service: 1st Friday of the month).

Friday 6.00pm Tamil Service.

Saturday 10.00am (*Awali*) Holy Communion

Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion.

Sunday 6.15pm Holy Communion (Evensong: 2nd Sunday)

For more information

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Administrator: Fozia Prince cathedra@batelco.com
or visit our website: www.stchcathedral.org

Living Room Dialogue Programme

Living Room Dialogues restart in October on Sundays at 7.30pm, following the 6.15pm evening service, in The Deanery (on the Cathedral compound). Each evening begins with a bring-and-share meal and usually an invited speaker:

Sunday 14th October *Professor David Misselbrook*,



Associate Professor in Family medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Bahrain and a former Dean of the Royal Society of Medicine

(UK). His interests include research in Medical Ethics and Philosophy of Medicine; his current project is 'Intercultural ethics.' He is the author of *Thinking about Patients*.

Sunday 18th November *Joe Allman*, who has been

seconded to Bahrain from the Crown Prosecution Service in the north-west of England, where he is a prosecution barrister specializing in cases of rape. Returning to the UK soon, Joe will be reflecting on his time in Bahrain in his advisory role here.



Sunday 9th December, a *bring-and-share* evening in

more ways than just food, as we



invite you to come with an

Advent or Christmas story, a poem, a carol, or tradition from your own country or culture. What inspires you this Advent/Christmas season and what might you share with others?

Sunday 13th January

Mary-Justine Todd, the Founder and Director of Women's Crisis Care International, Bahrain,



which is the first and only violence crisis response center in the Arabian Gulf. WCCI provides violence crisis response services for victims of domestic and sexual abuse.