

ECB NOTICE BOARD

- 2nd September 10:30am** **Summer Services/John 15:1-17**
Leader: Erika Biscoe
Preacher: Ian Biscoe
Reader: Sue White Prayers: Katie J.
- 7pm** **Evening Service (Café open from 6:30)**
(Philippians series)
Leader, Preacher TBA
- 3rd September 3:10pm** *No after school club- starts next week!
- 4th September 9am** Church Prayer Meeting
 7pm Prayers
- 5th September 8:45am** *Café re-opens as usual
 10am Oasis small group
- 7th September 7pm** Prayers
 7:30pm Contemplative Compline
- 8th September 9:30am** Cherish group
 10am Who Let the Blokes Out?
- 9th September 10:30am** **Café Church**
Leader: Ian Biscoe
Preacher: Erika Biscoe
- 7pm** **Evening Service (Café open from 6:30)**
Praise Party
Leader: Phil Trout
Preacher: Jadon Cuin-Wilson



2nd September



*All notices to Autumn by 7pm Wednesday newsletter@emmanuelbicester.org.uk
www.emmanuelbicester.org.uk

*From our contributing
writer....*

Someone asked me recently if I believe in miracles. My immediate thought was 'I'm a Christian, of course', but the question made me think about what miracles I have experienced, and if we do see fewer miracles today, or if it is that people's perception has changed. I was however reassured that even the disciples doubted: after Jesus rose from the dead "When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted." (Matthew 28:17).

Miracles are often described as a 'supernatural' event. However, C S Lewis in his book 'Miracles' points out that in fact the miracles we see in the Bible do not fundamentally challenge the laws of nature, but rather speed them up or 'short cut' some of the process. If we believe and accept that God created the world, then why is it hard to believe He is continually moulding it?

The majority of miracles that I pray for are for healing. The first ever prayer I prayed was

when I was travelling on the other side of the world when my dad had to have a stent put in his heart. I prayed for him to survive, and he did. Not long later I became a Christian. Now people argue that this kind of healing is not a miracle, it's medicine, science. However, C S Lewis points out that 'all who are cured are cured by Him', as medical intervention does not change the system but rather encourages the body to do what God has taught it to do - heal itself. In this way, miracles are happening every day, yet very few are perceived as miracles. Can we still class these as miracles if no one thinks of them as miracles? I think so. The most difficult aspect of any discussion on miracles is when God does not answer our prayers, there is no miracle. Not everyone is healed; there is not always enough bread and fish to go to round. It is hard to know what to say in these situations. But I do believe that God does not want for these things to happen, we are His children and He hates to see us in pain.

But, we live in a fallen world. He will therefore, in some way, in His timing, make something good come from the bad. In his book 'The Reason for God' Timothy Keller writes 'Jesus meant them [miracles] to be the restoration of the natural order... Jesus' miracles are not just a challenge to our minds, but a promise to our hearts, that the world we all want is coming'. So I will continue to pray for miracles, and hold on to the knowledge that I know God is good.

Blessings,

Jude Cranston

.-Notices-

Refugee Support Group- Open Day

SUNDAY 9 SEPT, 4pm at the Salvation Army

Hall, Hart Place, Bicester, OX26 4FR

THANKSGIVING ~ STORIES~ UPDATE ~ NEXT STEPS-
ALL WELCOME!

CAP Money Course

9:30-11:30am Thursdays, 13, 20, 27th SeSeptember @

Salvation Army Church, Bicester

To book phone 01869 369160

Women's Breakfast, "One Life"

September 29th From 9:30 until....

**deadline for notices entries 7pm Wednesdays!!*