



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

updates from across the Christian Medical Fellowship

GLOBAL



SCAN FOR MORE

SAVE THE DATE

Seniors' Conference 9-11 October at King's Park Conference Centre, Northampton

What's so good about getting old? - Are you really in the most productive decades of your life?

This is a three-day residential conference for encouragement, reflection, and fellowship around God's word for CMF Members and other Christian health workers aged 55 and over. This will be an opportunity to renew your vision and find God's grace to run the race and finish well.

Jonathan Lamb (Keswick Ministries) will give the Bible addresses. There will be multiple seminar options and plenty of time to relax and meet fellow believers.

More details will be coming out over the summer.

Junior Doctors' Conference 10-12 November at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick.

More details will be coming out over the summer.



CMF team in the United Arab Emirates

Three of us had the privilege of visiting Kanad hospital in Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 3-10 March this year. Kanad (formerly Oasis Hospital) has a long history of providing healthcare to this highly diverse community. Only 20-30 per cent of the population are Emiratis, with the



remainder coming from many other countries to work in the UAE. The hospital enjoys the favour of the Sheikh, as many royal babies have been born there! Thank God for the position they hold to be able to operate as a Christian hospital in a Muslim country.

The purpose was to explore opportunities for working there, as the hospital provides a range of inpatient and outpatient care and intentionally seeks to make Christ known. They are currently running Alpha courses for any staff who wish to attend, undertake many 'new mum' visits to homes, seek to minister to inpatients from the chaplaincy team and volunteers, etc. It was all inspiring to see.

One of our members is going to work here from the autumn onwards. One junior doctor is considering going as part of an F3 year. We got to visit one of our members leading the development of a paediatric plastic surgery department in a government hospital in Dubai.

Kanad needs short-term paediatricians this September-December. If you are at all interested, don't hesitate to get in touch with us (see below).

We undertake similar visits to other parts of the world to encourage the local teams working long-term in these nations and to introduce CMF members to 'gospel poor' places that need healthcare professionals.

If you are interested in participating in such a visit to explore how you might serve, please get in touch with the CMF Global Department at: globalcoordinator@cmf.org.uk.

Fi McLachlan - Head of CMF Global

PASTORAL

'Toolbox of Hope' Pastoral Care Day Conference, Saturday 11 March 2023



In December 2019, we gathered gifted and concerned people for our first-ever conference on pastoral care in the health sector. We learnt a lot that day. Three years and one pandemic later, we met for our second.



technology
Over 40 of us sat in Johnson House and were joined by others from across the UK and worldwide on Zoom, from Palau in

the Pacific Ocean to Bristol, Tennessee, in the USA. We interacted *viva voce* and through Slido as if we were all in the same room. Even the unwelcome snowfall in northern England was no obstacle. Those who couldn't travel joined online. Big thanks to God that hybrid conferencing is now a reality for CMF!

content and reach

Ideas and concepts that were marginal three years ago have become mainstream, and we had a feast of new learning. Robert Lightowler spoke on the biblical basis for post-traumatic growth, drawing on his experience of prison chaplaincy and Christian prisoner rehabilitation. From Biblical Counselling UK, Helen Thorne taught us how to use the Bible in conversations. Simon Edwards, a retired senior army officer, spoke about moral injury and how the military experience impacts healthcare. And what happens when Christians obediently seek the welfare of the wider workforce in healthcare? Susannah Hunt told us of the impact we can have based on her work in Cambridge.

In a culture of suspicion, how do we retain authentic relationships in pastoral care and is it safe to do so? Professor John Wyatt explored the theme of spiritual friendship against this background, challenging us to re-examine how we relate in pastoral care. Bex Lawton, from the CMF Nurses and Midwives team, explained what nurses are



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BRIEFS

PRAYER

Training for our student leaders occurs in various ways, including an online Learning Platform. But the most valuable training for new student links takes place as part of the CMF National Conference (21-23 April this year), and we are busy inviting new links to join us for the weekend.

Please remember in your prayers all the final-year medical students who will have just received exam results and details of their placements for FY1 from the start of August.

STAFF MOVEMENTS

LEAVING



Vicky McIlroy

Vicky McIlroy left as CMF Global Coordinator in March. She will be much missed by

the team, and our prayers go with her and her family for their next steps.

JOINING

Lois Fielder joins the staff team as CMF Global Coordinator. Contact her on globalcoordinator@cmf.org.uk

Jane Colling joins the team for ten months from April as the CMF Peer Support Coordinator.

Bethany Fuller joined the team for ten months in March as the Peer Support Coordinator for Newly Qualified Nurses and Midwives.

◀ experiencing right now and what their wellbeing needs are. Finally, Bert Jones, Vice President of Missions and Member Care at CMDA USA, described a strategy for managing burnout before it strikes. All new stuff to most of us, opening our eyes to new 'tools in the box'.

What hadn't changed? Christ Jesus, still the same, reaching out in mercy and compassion and asking us to follow him.

We finished the day with on-screen prayers, and someone asked the Lord that we might 'approach the medical culture of lack, from a position of the abundance that is mine in Christ'. It sounds like we got to the right place.

Steve Sturman – Associate Head of Doctors' Ministries

STUDENTS

CMF Student Conference 2023

Thank God for another successful student conference, held this year on 3-5 February at the Yarnfield Park Conference Centre in Stone, Staffordshire. Over 300 medical, nursing, and midwifery students joined us for only our second in-person conference in four years. Feedback comments were overwhelmingly positive and included: 'Absolutely amazing. God sent. Everything from seminars to Bible address to food was absolutely incredible', 'I really enjoyed it, left feeling spiritually nurtured and really encouraged'.

The main Bible talks by Giles Cattermole (a former CMF Head of Student Ministries and an A&E Consultant) explored what the books of Luke and Acts (both written by a Christian physician) teach us about living and walking in Jesus' footsteps as Christian health professionals.

A variety of seminars on topics as diverse as artificial intelligence, medical mission, and relationships and singleness, as well as discussions



GLOBAL



Developing Health Course

This year's Developing Health Course (DHC) is being held in person at the London School of Theology in Northwood, Middlesex, from 8-15 July.

The DHC is unique. A week of residential training focused on global health and mission, giving both a professional and a spiritual refresher for Christian health professionals. But it is more than just a refresher – it is a chance to explore a calling to global healthcare mission, an opportunity for a clinical crash course before going, and a moment to stop, reflect, and review where God is leading you.

around transgender identification, health and justice, and FOMO (fear of missing out), helped equip students to live out their faith in healthcare.

Throughout the weekend, the bookstall had regular visits from students, with queues snaking around the displays. Books such as Giles' recent CMF book, *Whatever* and another recent CMF title *Serving Two Masters?* by Paul Coulter, were amongst the most popular.

There was plenty of laughter between the focus on God's word and this activity. As is to be expected from students, plenty of creativity was on display through the many Carpool Karaoke videos they sent us!

It is a privilege to be able to pour into and learn from the next generation of Christian healthcareers.

The next Student Conference will be on 2-4 February 2024, where our next main speaker will be Amy Orr-Ewing. Save the date, and watch this space for more information.



It also fosters a learning community, with additional virtual study days that you can join from anywhere in the world throughout the year.

The weeklong course starts with the Mission Fair on 8 July. This is open to anyone with an interest in global missions. It will include an exhibition from a wide range of Christian mission and development agencies and talks by Andy Dipper of All Nations Christian College, Steve Smith of Serving in Mission, and Howard Lyons of the International Christian Medical and Dental Association. The main course will run from 9 July. Course attendees can join us for the whole week or individual study days.

If you want to know more, email f.mchlachlan@cmf.org.uk or visit our booking page at cmf.li/DHC2023

VOLUNTEERS

Deep:ER

In June, the current Deep:ER Fellowship programme



Onahi Idikwu



Rachel Mitchell



Olivia Abrams



Susanna Enongene



Lizzy Alexander



Liz Birdie Ong

comes to an end after ten months of growing and learning together. We thank God for our six Deep:ER Fellows and pray for God's blessing on each of them as they return to work and study - Onahi Idikwu, Rachel Mitchell, Olivia Abrams, Susanna Enongene, Lizzy Alexander, and Liz Birdie Ong.

Onahi and Rachel both work as Associates in the Nurses and Midwives team. Onahi is developing the CMF nurses' and midwives' network across London, while Rachel has been developing Saline Solution training for nurses and midwives.

Lizzy Alexander has been developing a podcast series called 'Juniors Foundations'. These are conversations with junior and senior doctors, exploring the challenges of faith and spiritual resilience during the testing times of a doctor's career. You can hear the episodes at cmf.li/1st-Incision.

Liz Ong has been the *Nucleus* student editor over the last year. Susanna and Olivia have been working with CMF Global on various projects. Olivia is currently helping

finalise details for the CMF Mission Fair at DHC. All of them were also involved in supporting the Student Conference. Please pray for them as they move on to the next steps in their careers and calling. Pray that everything they have learnt in their ten months of Deep:ER would strengthen and equip them to live and speak for Jesus Christ.



NAMfest Pre-conference

20-21 April 2023
5pm Thursday 20 April - 5pm Friday 21 April
Yarnfield Park Conference Centre, Staffordshire

Come to our first in-person NAMfest (Nurses & Midwives' Festival) gathering of nurses and midwives! Together, let us 'cast our cares on the Lord and he will sustain us' (Psalm 55:22) as we worship in song, pray, and reflect on his word.

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Catalyst Teams Pre-conference

20-21 April 2023
5pm Thursday 20 April - 5pm Friday 21 April
Yarnfield Park Conference Centre, Staffordshire

A chance to be together, to eat, chat, pray, and reflect on what God has taught us since we last met over three years ago. We will develop our skills as Catalysts, equipping one another for life and ministry. A great way to kickstart the 2023 CMF National Conference weekend!

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National Conference 2023

21-23 April 2023
Yarnfield Park Conference Centre, Staffordshire

Join us for a fantastic residential weekend conference for all Christian healthcare workers and their families for excellent teaching from God's Word, wonderful fellowship, and great food! If you can't attend the in-person conference, the main sessions (not the seminars) will be available online - registration required.

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Developing Health Course

8-15 July 2023
London School of Theology

The DHC is for anyone committed to global health, whether you are preparing to go from the UK, returning on a break and needing a clinical update, or considering whether global health work is for you. The 2023 course will run from 8-15 July at the London School of Theology (LST).

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General Committee

10 June 2023
Johnson House, 6 Marshalsea Road, London SE1 1HL, and online

The CMF General Committee will meet to hold CMF's annual members' meeting to review the past year's reports and finances, look at plans for the coming year, and appoint new Board members and officers. If you are a member of the General Committee, you will receive notice shortly.

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