

Remembrance 2020 Sunday 8th November

This will be marked as usual, but in different ways. Our home worship sheets and Sunday afternoon gathering will include a time of remembrance.

You will receive a list of the names on our memorial boards for your own private use.



ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Please send in news and details of special celebrations to Christine Wright
candgxwright@msn.com
01296 624084
Next month's deadline will be Monday 23rd November.

MISSION SUPPER QUIZ

The Quiz Evening will be hosted by quizmaster David White and will take place on **Saturday 7th November at 7.30pm** when we will be raising funds for 'Embrace'. The quiz will be on Zoom so to take part you will need access to a computer or Smartphone. If you don't have access to this technology, you could consider joining with someone else. Meeting ID: 823 9902 2916; Passcode: 668299.

Suzanne Kirkcaldy has sent us a message:

'Thank you to all who have been in touch following Alan's recent death. Your condolences, phone calls & prayerful support have been very much appreciated & have meant so much to myself & all the family, helping ease the pain at this sad & difficult time.'

NEWSLETTER NO. 182

Wendover Free Church November 2020

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A simple shoebox gift packed with love and fuelled by prayer can have a huge impact! Operation Christmas Child brings Good News and great joy to children around the world.

If you'd like to take part in this scheme, you can find out how on the 'Samaritan's Purse' website.

The idea is to fill a shoebox with gifts for a child, boy or girl, in one of three age-groups, which you choose. You also give a donation of £5 to fund the cost of distribution. When you have bought and packed your box, you label it, filling in one of the labels downloaded from the website or handwritten.

There are several local collection points, our nearest being The Church of the Holy

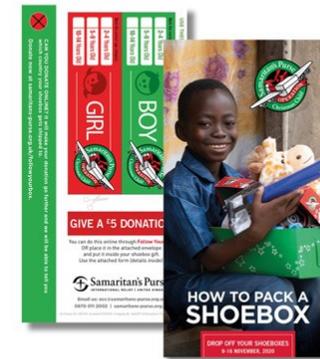
Spirit in Bedgrove. This year National Collection Week will be 9th-16th November. A list of times when the collection points are open are posted on the website.

Maybe this is something you could do with a friend or another family. It will bring such joy to a child somewhere in the world!

Gifts include stationery, toiletries, small items to wear, toys, but there are some items that are not allowed. Please pay attention to the lists on the website.

Why not take a photo of your packed shoebox which could be included in next month's newsletter.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>



HOSPITALITY - A SAFE SPACE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
I hope and pray this newsletter finds you well.

This year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, everything has been different and challenging. We have not been able to entertain people in our homes and welcome them into our church building. We could say that we have not been able to show hospitality. But, hospitality is so much more than welcoming and entertaining people we know and like.

The Greek word for hospitality could literally be translated to “loving strangers” or “making friends of strangers”. Even when the word hospitality isn’t used that much in the Bible, the concept can be seen in many stories and teachings, many more than we can cover in the home worship sheets on Sunday.

All through the Bible we see both God and his people making friends of strangers. Biblical hospitality is offering a

space to the other, a safe space to the stranger, where they can be themselves and where we have no ulterior motives except befriending.

God is hospitable. God made this world for us and has given us the space to do with as we please. And although we’ve been poor houseguests, God continues to care for us and love us. God’s hospitality to us shows us that we are accepted as we are, ‘while we were yet sinners Christ died for us’ and he promises us his Spirit of love in our lives so that we can accept others.

Through this time before Advent we continue to explore different aspects of hospitality. May you know how much God loves and accepts you, and may you know how to show that to others.

May God bless you all,

Remco



MISSION PRAYERS FOR ‘EMBRACE’



Embrace has a large and talented team of workers including its CEO Tim Livesey and has spent over 160 years helping people of all faiths and none free themselves from a life of poverty and injustice. As a church we have been able to support the Al Ahli Arab Hospital, and the Harper Memorial Hospital, sending them donated spectacles for patients unable to afford their own.

The Al Kafaat Foundation in Beirut enables both disabled and disadvantaged Lebanese people focus on their capabilities through a variety of health and education programmes.

Do you know about **Embrace** Christmas cards and their Alternative. Gifts? Last year I received the gift of a cataract operation for a patient in Africa who could not afford his own. This was just after I had had mine and I was delighted! Alternative Gifts are Post Free!

Ann Shepherd

We pray for the amazing work of Embrace for over 160 years. We give thanks for lives that have been changed and encouraged. We pray for the work that has been going on in the hospitals, remembering that they too are suffering this terrible pandemic that continues to persist around the world.

We pray for the stars of the Al Kafaat Theatre troupe, who show the talent of young actors with Down’s Syndrome and other learning disabilities, taking a message of inclusion out into the community.

We remember all the doctors and nurses working so hard, sometimes in difficult situations, holding on to their Christian Faith. We pray for Christians in the Middle East who are praying too - for Christians in the West as well as for their own situations.

We pray for our home staff working at the Amersham office, especially safe travelling when they visit projects in the Middle East.

We offer our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen