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Our next Poetry Please will be on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am, so if you can find something related to



**Bonfire Night**, that would be great!

If you would prefer, an **Autumn** poem would be fine too.. or a different poem of your choice. Hope to see you all then.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

to **Colin Thursby**

who will be 80 on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

We were saddened to hear of the death of **George Taylor** on Friday 22nd October. George and Vicky were members of our church for many years before moving away to Dorset, returning recently to live in Aston Clinton. George was active in the Free Church in many ways, including several years serving on Council. He will be much missed by his friends and family. We send our love and condolences to Vicky and the family.

NEWSLETTER NO. 194

**Wendover Free Church**  
November 2021

**MISSION PRAYERS FOR BMS**

**First things first: don't tell anyone about your new faith.** It seems counter-productive, even counter-Christian, but it's the tough choice that many new believers have to make in order to stay safe – and to help bring more people to Christ.

The BMS World Mission website has stories of individuals who are advised not to tell anyone that they have become Christians. In some countries, it's not safe to do so.

Ahmat came to Guinebor II hospital (G2) in Chad when his father badly broke his leg. While waiting for surgery, G2, an openly a Christian hospital, became home. Prayer and evangelism form a huge part of the hospital's ministry. BMS World Mission worker Bethan Shrubsole and her colleague, Pastor Berihun, talk to and pray for all patients. That's how

Ahmat learnt about his Saviour. Once his father returned home, Ahmat stayed close to the hospital, with family. But when they found out about Ahmat's new faith, they kicked him out. This, and worse, is common. It's why Berihun advises people not to share their faith



with their families straight away. The aim is to stay with their families but not to hide their faith forever. The

change in the person speaks for itself, and then the gospel follows up. But many new believers, like Ahmat, find it impossible to keep their new faith a secret. Even then, BMS workers on the ground are there to help them process what's happened and find new community, so that they're never alone.

**Please pray for new believers in situations like Ahmat's and BMS workers supporting them.**

## WHY CHURCH MEETING?

Elly and I attended the Central Baptist Association ministers conference last week and there were some very inspiring talks. Two were by a colleague who is studying for a PhD and her topic is "How do we discern the mind of Christ in the church meeting?". It was great to hear how people understood that God could speak to the local church through the church meeting.



The church meeting is the decision-making body for our church, but more than that, what we hope and aim for is that together we would hear from God. So, by listening and talking and praying together we can come to understand God's way forward for us. Our colleague spoke about the problems with church meetings, not just the times when people disagree and fall out, but also when not all voices are heard. Since every member of the body is equally important and we all have

God's Spirit in us it is important for everyone to be listened to. It is essential that we understand the purpose of the meeting and that we make sure our church meetings are accessible to everyone and inclusive so that everyone feels welcome and is heard. We also need to give some time to discuss significant aspects of our life and mission together. It is important that we make time to think together about what God is calling us to do.

We are going to try to include some of this learning into our future meetings. If you have any ideas that would make it easier to include more of our congregation, or if you have any questions or suggestions please do let me know.



May the grace and peace of God be with you all.

**Remco**

## What's on in November?

In the Christian Centre unless otherwise stated)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am

**Poetry Please**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November

**Remembrance Sunday**

2.30 Parade on Manor Waste

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November

3.30-5.30pm, St Anne's Hall

**Messy Church**

Booking on Facebook and  
Eventbrite.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

**Quiz Night for Tear Fund**

(details to follow)

Wednesdays 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

10am-12 noon

**Craft Group**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am

**Book Club**

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> in person and on  
Zoom: **Church Meeting**

## GIFTS FOR AYLESBURY WOMEN'S AID

This Christmas we once again have the opportunity to bring some joy to the lives of those women and children currently staying in the refuge at Aylesbury Women's Aid.

The gifts we have been asked for are:  
women - slippers,  
socks, hats, gloves, scarves,  
chocolates, gift boxes of



toiletries, hot water bottles;  
children - selection  
boxes, toys / books for 0  
-2 year olds; clothes for  
0-2 year olds. Christmas  
wrapping paper would  
also be useful.

Please wrap your gift,  
add a tag describing the  
item and bring it to  
church by Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>  
December at the latest.

Thank you for your generosity.  
**Sandra Smith.**