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Everyone is welcome to our next meeting of Poetry Please on Friday 4th February at 10.30am when our theme will be 'Life'.

This could be human life, animal life, life in all its richness!

Give your imagination free rein and bring a poem along. Good company guaranteed!



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LAST CALL FOR DIRECTORY ENTRIES!

If your details are already in the church directory and they are still correct, you need do nothing. **If you have moved or changed your e-mail address, or if you wish your name to be removed, please let me know as soon as possible.**

It would be good to include those who have joined the church in the last two years, so let me know in person, by phone or e-mail (see box below) if you'd like to be included. **Christine Wright**

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 21st February.

LETTER OF THANKS

'I am writing to say thank you to you all for the women's and children's gifts, food and toiletries that you recently donated to the Refuge. We are incredibly grateful to you, and these were given to the women and children here at the refuge and to some of our ex-residents. This helped provide a better Christmas for them all.

Thank you again for thinking of us.. We really appreciate this.

Kind Regards, **Lynda Chapman**, Support Worker for Aylesbury Women's Aid

NEWSLETTER NO. 197

**Wendover Free Church
February 2022**

THIS MONTH'S MISSION PRAYERS

Emmanuel International

On December 16, 2021, Typhoon Odette (Rai) hit the Philippines and has devastated many provinces in the Philippines (Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao). More than 300 people have died, around 600 injured and around 50 were missing (Dec 2021). It has destroyed 85-90% of the houses that were in its path. Millions of people were devastated, without food, water, shelter, electricity, and ways of communication.

To help ease the pain of our suffering people, Emmanuel International will be distributing relief goods to 5,000 families and helping 1,000 families rebuild their houses. Please pray for the ongoing relief work done in the name of Christ.



GROWTH IN HARD TIMES

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Since returning to gathering together after lockdown our Sunday mornings are rather different. The service is a little shorter with fewer songs, no offering and we are sitting to sing - all designed to keep us safer. We are also doing the 'learning from the Bible' slot a little differently at the moment. This is designed to help us reach some of our long-term hopes and dreams. There has been a longing for a greater commitment to spiritual growth and an agreed goal to talk to one another about God more. We also hope to see a growth in numbers and to develop the gifts of the congregation.

When Paul's letter arrived in Colossae the church would have gathered to hear it read out. Then they would have talked about the contents, asked questions and discussed together how they would apply Paul's teaching in their lives. On Sundays at the moment, we are doing much the same. People are having the opportunity to share

their gifts of wisdom and insight. We are being challenged really to engage with the passage by thinking about it for ourselves. We have the opportunity to talk about our own faith journey.

Covid-19 has postponed so many of our opportunities to get together: we can't yet have bring-and-share

lunch; many people are limiting the time that they meet others. Therefore, it is vital that we use the short time we do have together to move forward in our faith.

We have been through a terrible time in the last couple of years, but

God has been with us. I'm guessing that when we look back at this time, we'll see that God has been blessing us and helping us grow closer to him and to each other.

If you have any questions or ideas on how we can encourage each other in this, please do get in touch and I would be very happy to chat.

Remco



WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY?

Every Sunday 10.45am Morning Worship

Thursday 3rd 2.30-4.30pm **Flower Arranging Group** (Contact Elly if you wish to join or for more information about the group)

Friday 4th 10.30am **Poetry Please**

Sunday 13th 3.30-5.30pm **Messy Church** (Booking essential)

Wednesday 16th 10am-12 noon **Craft Group**

Saturday 19th 10.30am **Book Club**

Sunday 27th **Church Meeting** (after Morning Worship)

PRAYING TOGETHER

I hope you all had a chance to read through the prayer report that was circulated a few weeks ago. This year we are thinking about prayer.

In January we've had the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" and I hope you found that useful. During February we are trying something new and different.

We will be offering Compline, or night prayer, using material produced by the Northumbrian community. Every Monday evening at 9pm (from the 31st January to the 28th February), there is an opportunity to meet on Zoom to

pray together. You are invited to take part by joining in or just listening in. There is no need for verbal participation. The Zoom link and more details for this will be send out with the weekly worship sheets.

My aim is to continue to offer a range of ways to pray together this year. Prayer triplets are another great way to pray together. If you

are interested in being part of a prayer triplet, please do let me know and I will help to put people in touch.

If you have any questions or comments about prayer, please do let me know. **Remco**

