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Poetry Please will be on Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.30, when we will be bringing along poems that we are reading in translation, or perhaps poems influenced by other cultures. Everyone welcome!

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### Rachel Marks-Tinnion

We were all shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Elly's daughter, Rachel on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Arrangements for her funeral have not yet been made, but will take place in Wendover.

We continue to hold Elly, Remco and their family and friends in our prayers at this sad time.



Please note: sadly, we have had to cancel Messy Church for July.

But Messy Morning on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> will go ahead!

If you are able to help organise or be there on the day, please speak to a Council member - Christine, Ian, Martin or John.

## Wendover Free Church July 2026

Newsletter no. 250

### THE MINISTRY OF 'TURNING UP'

'People don't care how much you know—until they know how much you care.' No one is sure who first said it. But Scripture returns to it again and again.

We see in the Gospels times when Jesus meets people in their physical reality before he says or does anything else. He sees Zacchaeus in his tree. He asks Bartimaeus: 'What do you want me to do for you?' He feeds 5,000 people who are hungry before he teaches them. He turns up. He sees the person in front of him. And then he acts.

As Paul writes to the Philippians, it is love that leads to knowledge and wisdom - not the other way round. Care comes first. And it is out of that care that true understanding grows.

It is a pattern we have tried to follow. Our work is sometimes described as 'the ministry of turning up'—the simple, powerful act of being present with someone who is struggling - by volunteers who are carefully trained and vetted. We turn up.

We care. This, we have learnt, is what changes lives. In prisons across England and Wales, this is exactly what our volunteers do, day in and day out. In ways large and small, seen and unseen, they turn

up. And lives are changed as a result.

*Thanks to Sandra Smith for this article from an e-mail sent out by The Prison Fellowship. Sandra is Letterlink volunteer.*



## PRAYING THE COMMANDMENTS 10 to 6

**10.** Jesus, help me to be satisfied with what I have. May I focus not so much on what I think I lack, but on being grateful for what you have given me. Then I will not covet the possessions of others.

**9.** Holy Spirit, cleanse my mind of all that is false. Give me a pure heart that only seeks what is true, pure and right. Then I will never need to be told lies.

**8.** Father, since you have always been generous to me, inspire me to be generous to others, giving my money, time, attention or whatever you inspire me to do. Then I will not steal.



**7.** Jesus, you included everyone in your love, not thinking of your own needs and desires. Help me to be a committed friend and partner, always looking out for ways to help and support others. Then I will be trusted and faithful.

**6.** Jesus, you teach me to forgive my enemies and to be open-hearted even to those I find hard to get along with. May your example lead me in the way of love. Then I will never cause hurt or harm to anyone.

## What's on in July?

*(In the Christian Centre unless otherwise stated)*

**Weds 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>** 10am-12 noon **Craft Group**

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup>** 2.30-4.30pm **Flower Arranging Group**

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>** 10.30-12 noon **Poetry Please**

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>** 2-4pm **Board Game Café**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup>** 10.30-11.30am **Book Club**

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup>** 10.45 **Messy Morning**

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup>** 12.30pm **Community Lunch**

**No Messy Church in July**

**Weds Home Group** Details to be arranged

**Every Sunday** 10.45am **Morning Worship**

**Every Tuesday** 10-12 noon **Coffee Drop-in**

**Every Friday** 7.30pm **Table Tennis**

### ST ANNE'S FEAST - FAMILY FUN DAY SUNDAY 26TH JULY

This event, which promises to be fun for all ages, including refreshments, games, buffet and barbecue will take place while we are using the church during our Morning Worship and afterwards. We have been invited to join our St Anne's friends to share in the festivities.



They are happy to serve us refreshments in the Christian Centre after our service, but if you would like to stay on for the games and/or barbecue you are very welcome to do so.