



WYCLIFFE HALL

Wycliffe Hall Missions Brochure 2025

Introduction

Welcome to the Wycliffe Missions Brochure for 2025.

We have tried to prepare some interesting options that will be fruitful in the current context and inspiring for future ministry models.

We have drawn on the early church for wisdom and guidance, especially the words of the risen Christ to his followers: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

So, we interpret the scope of the Christian Mission today to be Local, National and Global.

This ties in with one of our key aims at Wycliffe: “to see the nations transformed by the gospel”.

We hope you will find something here to spur you to apply and stir you to prayer.

In hope and anticipation, on behalf of the Wycliffe Missions Planning Group:

Justyn Terry (Supervisor), Bruce Gillingham (Facilitator), and Lorand Deszpa (Administrator).

A. Staff-Led Missions

Amersham

Staff Member: Bruce Gillingham

Date: 15th -23rd March 2025

Size: ca. 8

There are two churches in this benefice: St Mary’s Amersham and All Saints Coleshill. St Mary’s is a beautiful church with a prominent position in the heart of this ancient market town, while All Saints serves a smaller community on the edge of town. Our aim will be to encourage and refresh the faith of existing churchgoers and to reach out into the local communities, with special emphasis on new youth work as well as care for the elderly. We hope to visit the two primary schools, support the ladies' home group, and hold a Men’s Evening in a local pub. Links are also being explored with the nearby parishes of Top Amersham and Chesham Bois.



WYCLIFFE HALL

Betel Mission, Birmingham

Staff Member: Suse McBay

Date: 15th– 23rd March 2025

Team size: 10-12

Betel in Birmingham is a Christian community for people who are addicted to alcohol and drugs. When addicts have not found sobriety through traditional medical rehab facilities and other means, the NHS often refers them to Betel. The community itself offers a pathway to recovery through a structured programme of work and regular patterns of worship and fellowship. The Wycliffe mission trip involves a full immersion experience: living and working alongside the residents of Betel. It is a great opportunity to learn and reflect on the approach Betel takes to addiction recovery, experience what their life together in community looks like, hear about individual journeys of transformation and support the work of Betel through leading daily devotions and also preaching, when/where there is opportunity. As part of preparing for the trip, all participating students must attend the mental health & addictions focus morning in 7th week of Hilary Term.

More information about Betel will be provided at the briefing session for those considering this trip. Please do attend to find out more if you are interested before you apply.

Hereford

Staff Member: Andrew Atherstone

Date: 15th-23rd March 2025

Team Size: 8

Following a fruitful Wycliffe Mission in March 2024, the Diocese of Hereford are glad to welcome another Wycliffe team. There will be up to 4 local churches involved in the cathedral city of Hereford, including links with the Cathedral and the Chained Library housing the Mappa Mundi (an ancient Christian map of the world) and a Wycliffite Bible. These churches are based in the city, on the edge of the city and into the rural countryside. Visits to primary and secondary schools are also envisaged, including the regional Sixth Form College. Students will have opportunities to give their testimonies, preach the gospel, teach RE lessons and engage in “Questions of Faith” dialogues. It is



WYCLIFFE HALL

believed that Dubricius first preached the Christian message in these borderlands in 525 AD, so this visit will mark a 1500-year anniversary.

West Africa

Student Leader: Ella Marshall

Date: 17th-29th March 2025

Team Size: 2

This special project is being arranged through the Relay Trust and Ella Marshall, their Regional Relationship Coordinator for West Africa. A small team of 3 (Ella plus two students) will visit Christian initiatives in 3 countries: Guinea, Sierra Leone and The Gambia over 12 days. They will encounter vibrant African churches, participate in workshops in Mount Zion Theological College, and discuss issues of future ministry and mission with senior leaders there. There will be a lot of travel by air and car which can be tiring (Be Prepared). Finance will be shared, we trust, between the Relay Trust, Wycliffe Hall, and the students themselves. French is an advantage but not essential.

B. Student-Led Mission

The Mission Planning Group is also open to receive suggestions for student-led missions, usually linked with effective mission agencies. This year, two extra mission options have been added to the list:

1. Mission Week with two Turkish churches in North London, linked with OM, Operation Mobilisation, probably in **March 2025**
2. Mission project with Bradmore Rd Nursery, next to Wycliffe Hall, from Monday, March 17th, to Friday, March 21st, 2025

MISSION GUIDELINES

A Framework for Missions from Wycliffe Hall, Oxford



WYCLIFFE HALL

Introduction

Wycliffe Hall has a long track record in providing mission teams for church renewal and gospel outreach. In conducting missions, we normally have two aims in mind:

- (1) To serve the local churches or mission agencies in developing their local objectives
- (2) To train our students in mission leadership by practical learning in local context.

Early conversations between leaders in church or mission agency and college will make a win-win outcome more likely.

Definition

These missions normally have a blend of evangelism and social action elements, seeking to share the good news of Jesus in word and deed. We trust they will also provide pastoral care and teaching that add to the benefits they bring.

Offer

Wycliffe Hall will plan to send a team on mission

- for 6-9 days, usually in March each year, often two weekends and the days between
- a team of about 6-10 students, ordinands and theological students, usually led by a staff member
- they will be glad to participate fully in church life on Sundays and midweek gatherings, in homes or other venues
- they are available for school visits, community events, youth projects, open airs, or other imaginative proposals.

Wycliffe Hall has a budget to cover reasonable expenses for travel there and back, essential materials and occasional meals.

Request



WYCLIFFE HALL

In return, Wycliffe asks that the host church provide the team with free board and lodging for the mission's duration. Usually, this amounts to

- Bed, breakfast, and evening meal, with lunches found during the flow of a day on mission
- on longer missions, it is helpful for the team to have one day off, usually on the middle Wednesday
- some provision of lifts can get team members to their assignments on time.

A mission budget should enable essential costs to be met without anxiety or embarrassment.

Preparation

Mission teams are normally formed at Wycliffe by self-selection before the end of October, and will then meet regularly to plan and pray.

We would welcome

- a visit of church leaders to Wycliffe, perhaps in November, to develop friendships, form plans, and inspire prayer
- the Wycliffe team could visit the setting on a Sunday for united worship, perhaps in January, with a shared lunch and an orientation walk/drive.
- preparing a mission programme in good time for local publicity and personal preparation.

Six Mission Preparation Sessions are offered to Wycliffe teams during the Spring Term (outlines available on request).

Conclusion

We believe that fruitful mission is enabled by good communication between the Wycliffe Team and the Host Church. We pray that our brief contribution can lead to renewed faith, vision, and confident Christian service in the church. We trust that some will make a fresh commitment to Christ during or after the mission. It is helpful, therefore, to have some follow-up courses in place after the mission to deepen assurance and develop growth. We would welcome a review of the mission experience from both the Host Church or mission organisation, and the Wycliffe Teams for joint learning.



WYCLIFFE HALL

Safeguarding

DBS Check

To ensure the safety and compliance of all mission activities, every student involved must complete an enhanced DBS check. In accordance with Church of England guidelines, DBS certificates are valid for three years. If your certificate is older than three years at the time of the mission, a new disclosure must be obtained well in advance. The Ministerial Training Officer will verify all DBS certificates before the mission's commencement.

Safeguarding Training

All students must complete the Basic Awareness and Foundations safeguarding training before participating in any mission. This training, available online (safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org), is a crucial step in ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved. Please note that safeguarding qualifications are valid for three years. After this period, the highest level of the Core Safeguarding Learning Pathway, such as Foundations or Leadership Safeguarding, must be renewed. The Ministerial Training Officer reviews and approves the safeguarding certificates before the mission.

Risk Assessment

Before the start of the mission, students must complete and sign a risk assessment form, which the Ministerial Training Officer will provide. This form ensures that all potential risks are addressed and mitigated, ensuring a safe and successful mission.

Finance

Students can claim up to **£200** expenses for the missions. An Expenses Claim Form will be sent to you one week before the mission by the Ministerial Training Officer.