



Ann-Marie Wilson

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Location: Britain



What I do: Working to end FGM and violence against women and girls across Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the diasporas



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life to reach their God-given potential

Dear friends,

As I reflect on this quarter, I am filled with gratitude for the many opportunities God has given me to serve, connect with others and witness his work through communities and organisations. It has been a busy season, filled with encouragement, challenge and many blessings.

The quarter began with an art exhibition at my church, where a local artist generously donated all proceeds from the sale of her artwork towards our church restoration project. It was wonderful to see creativity, generosity and faith come together in support of our community hall.

I was privileged to speak to the seniors' group at Christ Church, Barnet (CCB), sharing my journey, including my work to end female genital mutilation (FGM), my health recovery and some recent achievements. My talk was warmly received and led to meaningful conversations afterwards. It was a privilege to see how personal stories can encourage and inspire others.

Please pray for the seniors' group at CCB, that they continue to enjoy fellowship, friendship and encouragement.

My work around FGM remains the core of my ministry. This year, the focus has been on ensuring FGM is recognised not only as a human rights violation, but also as a global public health issue. At the 70th Commission on the Status of Women in New York, our team brought together representatives from UN agencies, donors and regional networks to strengthen collaboration and agree priorities for the coming months.

Partnerships have continued to grow with organisations, including the International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics and the International Federation of Medical Students Associations', helping to raise the profile of FGM as a global health priority. Work has also continued to support survivors through discussions on access to justice and mental health support, particularly in the Horn of Africa.

Our expertise was further recognised through contributing to the UN Women's Civil Society submission to the United Nations Secretary-General's report on FGM and by presenting evidence at the UK Home Office FGM Summit, protecting girls during the long school holidays.

Please pray that efforts to end FGM continue to reduce its prevalence, that survivors receive compassionate support and that communities are empowered to bring lasting change.

In early June, I attended the Diocesan Disability Working Group away day at The Royal Foundation of St Katharine. It was good to meet with friends and colleagues as we discussed the barriers people with disabilities still face when accessing churches and their facilities. These conversations remain vital as we seek to



With some of the seniors' group at Christ Church, Barnet

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



make our churches truly welcoming for everyone.

I was also delighted to attend the Big Picnic at All Nations Christian College, thanks to good friends who took me there. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with former classmates and colleagues.

The Summer Fayre at my local church brought back happy childhood memories as I helped on the plant stall. I also attended a similar event at the managed housing project, where meeting staff and residents gave me much to reflect on about community, belonging and where I may one day live in later life.

June also brought changes. My previous CMS manager moved on to a new challenge and we welcomed our new leader, Tanas. We wish him every blessing as he begins this role. Please pray that Tanas settles well and is given wisdom as he leads the team.

My chaplaincy role with North London Hospice has been especially busy. I recently trained in hand massage therapy for patients, and the response has been remarkable. This simple act of care has often opened opportunities for deeper conversations while bringing comfort to patients.

The hospice has temporarily moved to Jade Ward at Edgware Community Hospital while improvements are carried out at the Woodside Park site. The final memorial service at Woodside Park was deeply emotional, attended by families whose loved ones had spent their final days there. It was moving to hear how much the building held precious memories as I accompanied families on farewell tours.

Please pray that the move and refurbishment progress smoothly, remain on schedule, and that patients, families, volunteers and staff are supported throughout this period of transition.

I also enjoyed visiting my link church, St Cuthbert's Church, where I gave a presentation to the congregation. I received a warm welcome and was grateful for the hospitality of the vicar and his wife during my overnight stay in Hoddesdon.

At the end of July, I returned to All Nations Christian College for CMS's people in mission conference. It was wonderful to reconnect with fellow mission partners and hear about the work God is doing through them. It was also bittersweet, knowing this would be my final visit to All Nations before the college moves. I give thanks for the lifelong friendships, learning and memories made there.

Please pray for the staff at All Nations and everyone involved in the move to new premises, and that this next chapter brings fresh, joyful opportunities with new memories.

As the quarter draws to a close, I return to my beloved Abbey at West Malling in Kent to renew my vows as an oblate sister. This is always a special time of recommitment and thanksgiving for God's faithfulness throughout every season.

Sadly, I am still more than £5K short of my 2026 budget. If you feel able, please consider donating the cost of a cake and cuppa (or two!) each month to support my CMS ministry: <https://churchmissionsociety.org/annmariewilson>

Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement and faithful support. May we all continue to recognise God's presence in our service, our communities and in the many small moments where his love is revealed.

With every blessing, Ann-Marie



Photos from top to bottom: At North London Hospice with the CEO, one of the doctors and a guest; with my CMS link church, St Cuthbert's, Hoddesdon; at All Nations Christian College with Andy (CEO of CMS), Tanas (manager in Europe, Middle East and North Africa) and Debbie (deputy CEO of CMS); Lesley, the oblate trainer, and me at Malling Abbey, Kent



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life

I hope that you're inspired as you read about Alison in Kyiv, Ukraine, who is seeing many answers to prayer as she faithfully serves God. And that you get a moment to read about the displaced disciples in Ethiopia – church leaders taking part in bespoke training designed for people living in refugee camps. Read more stories about empowering people pushed to the edges at churchmissionsociety.org/empower