

# Littlehampton United Church

Mini  
Newsletter 28



Keeping  
our church  
together

## **Anniversary Edition**

**Welcome to this Anniversary Edition of the Mini Newsletter.**

**Wishing you all a very happy Easter**

The First edition went out on 30th March 2000. I would not have believed then, that we would now be on Number 28 and still looking to the future for when we will be back in church for worship.



We've now had a year when, apart from two brief intervals, nothing has happened, yet so much has happened. Turning Tides are well installed in the Hall and former Manse and their valuable work continues to expand. The building project in the Coffee Lounge and Knight Hall has neared completion (The floor covering is being laid as I type this letter!) I, for one, have experienced many different services of all kinds of styles of worship, and perhaps, I am clearer in my mind as to what I enjoy and value from a service. Many of us now use technology to keep in touch with family and friends that we could call ourselves "experts" on Zoom, Messenger, WhatsApp and all the rest. Popping to the shops has become a visit to Amazon or whatever on-line outlet my computer finds what I am looking for. In 12 months scientists have astonished the world by discovering ways to treat Covid sufferers and then the amazing vaccine itself. But still we wait.

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While planning to decorate our Lenten cross with flowers on Sunday Morning, I am reminded that this is the second year we will not be shouting loudly our response to the proclamation *He is Risen*. But we wait with hope. Jesus' disciples waited too. On the day after his crucifixion they waited for the knock on the door. If the Romans followed their usual procedure when dealing with upstart messiahs, then rounding up the followers and executing them was the next step. But as they waited, something very different happened. Jesus appeared in the room with his followers, saying "Peace be with you". There, with his body, disfigured from his crucifixion, he blessed them, conveyed the Holy Spirit to them and told them to continue his mission. He is alive. One day they would work out what it all means. For then, it just meant one thing—Hope.

So now, a year after the first lockdown and nearly 2000 years since the Disciples experienced the resurrection, we hope. The writer of the letter we call "Hebrews" said that "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." After giving examples of people who had responded to their faith, the writer commends us all "To run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who endured the cross.... And has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 11v1 and 12v1,2)

This Easter, let us all remember the hope we have through the resurrection of Jesus, that our faith will take us forward in mission to all.

May you all enjoy a very happy Easter. Our very best wishes,  
Chris and Val.



Our cross will be in the Church Garden from 8.00am on Easter Sunday if you wish to add your flowers.

### **Services and Bible Study on Zoom**

The code you need is 254 574 5519 password; 349515

Or you can join in by phone 0203 481 5240

Sunday services are at 10.30 am and Tuesday Bible Studies at 7.30pm.

On Sunday 28th March the Zoom service was led by the Synod Moderator Rev. Bridget Banks.

The text of her sermon is attached to the email that contains the newsletter or a printed copy if you receive the hand-delivered version.

There will be a Maundy Thursday Service at 7.30pm—use the same code numbers.

## News of the Family

I have no news to report this week but I can pass on some Good News from Kenya.

Two of our students William Ngati (below left) and Silas Adhiambo below right) both graduated in March.



They should have finished their University courses last July but their final semester had to be postponed due to the Covid pandemic. Both students attended Unity School, living in the orphanage. They were then sponsored through Secondary School and the four years at University.



William posted the following on Facebook:

Am happy that I have achieved one more step to the ladder of education and I would like to take this opportunity and thank each and every person that has contributed to my life spiritually, emotionally, financially and in any other way.. it could not be possible without u all and may God bless u all abundantly.

“We do not need magic to change the world, we can carry all the power we need inside ourselves already.., [#thanks](#) to the almighty God for making it happen...this is just the beginning of persuing more knowledge bcz knowledge is power

Please remember our friends in Mombasa in your prayers. Kenya is, once again in lockdown due to an increase in Covid cases. Schools are closed —although Unity is on holiday for Easter. We hope they will be allowed to return in May.

## Our Way Forward in Mission

The Leadership Team met last Wednesday and amongst other things discussed the document:

### “Our Way Forward in Mission”

The full document is attached to your email or in the envelope if you receive a hand-delivered copy of this news letter. Any member of the Leadership Team will be happy to receive comments or you can send comments to me as below. Sometime we will bring all the proposals to a Church Meeting.

This newsletter was edited by Chris Azzaro, who can be contacted on 01903 718070 or by email:

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Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome

There is also information about our church on the website: [www.littlehamptonunitedchurch.org.uk](http://www.littlehamptonunitedchurch.org.uk)