

Littlehampton United Church

Mini Newsletter 29



Keeping
our church
together

Spring comes to the South Downs

While out walking on the downs this week, I was delighted by the sight of new-born lambs. Their curious expressions as I pointed my camera at them and the watchful eyes of their mothers made me feel good. The sight reminded me of several bible passages which refer to new things:

Revelation 21 v 5 says: "See, I am making all things new". In his second letter to the Christians at Corinth Paul wrote "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new."



O Lord God. Creator of all,
Open my eyes to beauty,
Open my mind to wonder,
Open my ears to others,
Open my heart to you.

David Adam

Thank you to everyone who added flowers to our Lenten Cross while it stood in the Church Garden after Easter. Who knows, perhaps next year we will be able to celebrate Easter together?

Returning to Church for Sunday Worship

On Wednesday morning the Leadership Team met together and decided that the criteria we set for the safe return to worship will soon be met; Before long most of our members will have received their second Covid vaccination, The number of new cases locally fluctuates but we would prefer numbers to be lower, so we exercise caution and ask you to be patient a little longer. Government guidelines restricting numbers, wearing of masks and no singing are still in place.

We expect our next service in church will be at 10.30am on 23rd May - Pentecost

Worshippers will need to adhere to the following in order to minimize the risk of spreading coronavirus:

Please do not come to church if you are feeling unwell or have been advised to shield.

In order to maintain social distancing, the number of persons in the church is limited. However, experience from the previous lockdown is such that there will be no need to book in advance.

Entry will be by the "Old Door" to the left of the main entrance in the High Street.

Please wait by to be admitted. In the event of a queue forming, please maintain a social distance of 2m and wait in the church garden.

Please use the hand sanitiser at the door and wear your face mask all the time you are in the church.

Unless you are a church member and we already have your contact details, you will be asked to fill in a short form recording your contact details, or scan the QR Code with your smart phone.

You will be directed via a one-way system to a seat. Only those from the same household may sit together. Maintain a minimum social distance of 1.5m. Please remain in your seat during the service and wear your mask all the time. Do not move around or call out to other worshippers. Government rules prohibit singing or corporate responses, so the service will be less than an hour.

If you require a bible or other book, you must bring your own as nothing may be shared.

For the same reason, there will be no refreshments served after the service, although special arrangements will be made for communion services.

The toilet in the foyer will be available but please follow the one-way system and use the sanitiser provided.

At the end of the service, the steward will invite you to leave by one of the exits, all the while maintaining a social distance with other worshippers. If you wish to make a financial contribution (or weekly offering) to the church funds, please use the offertory plates placed near the exit. At a suitable point towards the end of the service, a thanks-giving prayer will be said for the offertory.

Once outside, you are able to meet in the church garden, but please maintain a safe distance.

This newsletter was edited by Chris Azzaro, who can be contacted on 01903 718070 or by email: christopher.azzaro@sky.com

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome

There is also information about our church on the website: www.littlehamptonunitedchurch.org.uk

Turning Tides have been doing fantastic work during the pandemic. Please see the leaflet they have asked us to circulate. This is attached to the email if you are reading this electronically, or it is printed on the reverse of this sheet if you receive a printed copy.

Update on the Knight Hall and Coffee Lounge

Malcolm has sent the following report:

“The decorating is now 99% finished and we are waiting for the rest of the skirting to be done and there will be some touching up to do.

Fire risk Assessment is in hand.

I will be starting to decorate the north wall of the knight hall in due course.

Ian Craig will be doing some work on the gutters and flat roofs and he will laying some slabs in the rear of the property where the shed is going to go.”

The Church premises will shortly be back in use once again with Age UK commencing a new letting agreement. There will be more details of how this fits with “Our Way Forward” in the next newsletter.

A Volunteer is required:

Transferring documents to the filing cabinet in the church Office (Upstairs next to the East gallery entrance) is underway.

The next task is to complete the indexing and filing in order that records can be kept in good order.

If you think you could offer to do this task, please contact John Stevens who can give you more information.

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

Naison is holding Bible Studies alternately with Prayer meetings. The next Bible Study is on Tuesday 27th April at 7.30pm. The next prayer meeting will be on 4th May.

