

Littlehampton United Church

Mini
Newsletter 39



Wishing you
a very happy
New Year

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: **“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”** And he replied: “Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.” So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

Minnie Louise Haskins

We look forward in 2022 with the sure and certain knowledge that the hand of God will guide us through the uncertain times in which we live. A well known hymn refers to God’s guidance of the church from age to age and looks forward with conviction that this will continue. Yet uncertainty looms around every corner; the new omicron variant of Covid 19, rising costs of fuel, unrest in many parts of the world, threats of war and famine. None of which fill us with confidence that the new year holds more to look forward to than did 2021. When Paul wrote many of his letters that we find in the New Testament, many of his readers (and himself too) were facing dire predicaments. Yet the message is the same: “Through him who loves us we are more than conquerors..... there is nothing in life or death, nor things present or things to come, that can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ”.

Paraphrased from Romans 8 verses 37—39

Despite all the uncertainties we will move forward with confidence that, holding tightly to the hand of God, 2022 is worth looking forward to, and the love of God will uphold us all.

From Val and myself. A very Happy New Year to you all.

THANK YOU

Readers will be pleased to learn that events leading up to Christmas raised nearly £1000 for The Friends of the Mombasa Children. These events included the Christmas Greetings Card presentation, the Christmas Tree Festival, Age UK’s table sale and the concert by Jacob Keet. Thank you for all your support.

Prayer for the future of our church

At the last Church Meeting the question was posed "What are we going to do when there are too few officers to manage the church?" The minutes record that Prayerful consideration should be given to this looming problem. When the Leadership Team last met, the question was reviewed and a date for prayer was set.

On Friday 14th January at 11.45 everyone is invited to meet for prayer in the church for prayer on this topic.

This meeting will follow the 11.00am service on that day - after time for tea or coffee. The next church meeting will probably be held on Sunday 30th January (Awaiting confirmation when Naison returns from Zimbabwe)

Friday Morning Services

Our Friday Morning Services start again on 7th January at 11.00am
Tea/Coffee and an opportunity to chat follows the service in the coffee lounge.

News of the Family

Robert Taunton is out of hospital and was able to come to several of our pre-Christmas services and events.

Val has a date for her hip replacement operation: 17th January. Chris and Val will both be isolating before her op so Chris will not be in church as often as usual.

Leaders of Sunday morning Worship in January

Sunday 2nd	Nigel Stapley
Sunday 9th	Chris Azzaro
Sunday 16th	Lynne James
Sunday 23rd	John Scrivens
Sunday 30th	Naison Hove (Communion)



The Re-Cycled Crib Scene in the church foyer

Remember to keep yourself and others safe in church

With the number of new covid cases increasing in Arun we need to be very careful when we meet together.

Please remember to keep at least 1.5 m apart from everyone else (apart from your own family).

We ask you to wear your mask or visor

Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell