

Littlehampton United Church



May 2024

Newsletter

After a wet Bank Holiday Monday, it is good to see the sunshine this morning. Apart from watching the rain accumulate on my driveway, I have also been paying attention to the rainfall in Mombasa, Kenya, where I am due to visit a school in the next few weeks. There have been reports of widespread flooding in the coastal areas. The Government of Kenya even delayed the start of the new school term ordering all schools to remain closed for an extra week. Then came news of Cyclone Hidaya heading for the Coast of Kenya. Fortunately, the cyclone appears to have died out off the coast of Tanzania and I'm pleased to say that Unity school, with which I am involved, has not been flooded this time.

Just before I leave for Kenya, I will be celebrating Pentecost. One of my favourite Sundays on which to preach. In Africa some things that we question in the UK are taken with much more fervour and I'm looking forward to joining in a school assembly where, I am sure, the "Birthday of the Church" will be celebrated with enthusiasm. Singing in harmony appears to come naturally to African children and traditional percussion, (Clapping, drums and banging the desktops!) just adds to the vibrancy of worship. That the Gifts of The Spirit are still given for the proclamation of the Kingdom of God is taken for granted. One can feel that the words of the Prophet Joel (Acts 2: 16 and 17) have been written anew for our own generation. *"I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams."*

What is the vision that I have been given for a school in a poor part of a large African city?

"Provide equitable opportunities for young people to escape the poverty trap by providing relevant education in a safe haven." At Unity School this means manageable class sizes, free midday meals, primary healthcare and a secure setting, described by one visitor as a haven of calm." Taken from the website of the charity: Friends of the Mombasa Children.

Sixtieth Edition

This is the 60th publication of the Newsletter in this format, which I began in Lockdown as a way of keeping our church fellowship together during the Covid pandemic. If you have news or interesting information that could be shared via the newsletter please send it to me. Preferably by email to christopher.azzaro@sky.com. Please note that this is my correct email address. If you receive emails supposedly from me but using a different address please delete them as spam.

Chris

Preachers and services in May and June

Sunday 12th May	Chris Azzaro
Sunday 19th May	Chris Azzaro and Norman Croft A Joint service with our friends from St Andrew's Church, Rustington
Sunday 26th May	Rev. Tony Brazier Communion
Sunday 2nd June	Pam Frost
Sunday 9th June	Rev. John Jennings
Sunday 16th June	Chris Azzaro
Sunday 23rd June	Martin Garratt (Trinity Church)
Sunday 30th June	To be announced

Friday services are mainly be taken by Chris Azzaro or Revd Norman Croft

On Friday mornings the church is open from 10.15am until 12.00 The short service is at 11.00am. Tea/Coffee is available before and after the service. Donations for the refreshments support the Feeding programme at Unity School, Mombasa.

Other dates

The next Church Meeting will be on Sunday 21st July following the morning service. This meeting will focus on how best we can work with Trinity Church to achieve our goals in serving our community and share our building.



Spring at Kew Gardens

Butterflies at Blenheim Palace

