

Littlehampton United Reformed Church



August 2025
Newsletter

Dear Friends

August has arrived and its Holiday Time. You can tell by the number of grandparents around the town, parks, Tesco and the sea front with their grandchildren. There are, of course, parents and family groups as well, but it's usually the grandparents who amuse me most. Happy children, laughing, smiling, pleased to be on holiday, Grandparents not used to walking along quite so fast but determined not to let the children get too far ahead. Or the other extreme - coaxing their proteges to move away from the swings in time for dinner. And where to go tomorrow when they've exhausted the local park? Thankfully the weather forecaster said it will get warmer again soon and playing on the beach solves many problems.

Jesus knew a thing or two about looking after children. We read in Luke chapter 18 from verse 15 to 25. Some women came to Jesus with their children but the disciples pushed them away. Jesus, though, welcomed the kids with open arms and told his disciples that the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as those little ones. They're little and powerless, dependant and small. And you need to be like them to get in!

Then a rich man came along and asked about the kingdom of heaven too. He went away very sad because Jesus told him to sell his goods and share the money with the poor. Jesus went on to say something about camels and eyes of needles.

The accounts tell us something about God—His values are different from ours.

How about this for an ending? A rich man came to our church. We gave him a comfortable chair and a cup of coffee in our nicely decorated sanctuary. When the children arrived we welcomed them too. They were allowed in the sanctuary for about 20 minutes before being ushered out to our fellowship hall. Ok, but it could do with a makeover and some new tables and chairs. The nice old lady who looks after them kept them happy with some colouring - she has a budget of £50 a year for coloured pencils and paper.

When Jesus came to our church he said he would try and explain it slowly; its all about kids, camels and the kingdom of God, he said.

Best wishes for a happy summer

Chris

Taken from an idea by Bob Hartman "Telling the Bible"

Preachers and services in August

Sunday services at No 1 High Street will be led by Trinity Church under the leadership of Martin Garratt
Meet in the coffee lounge from 10.00am for tea/coffee. Service commences at 10.30am

Friday services are mainly be taken by Chris Azzaro, Norman Croft or Nigel Stapley

The Friday morning service starts at 10.30am and will last for about 40minutes. Tea/Coffee is available before and after the service. Donations for the refreshments support the Feeding Programme at Unity School, Mombasa.

Friday 1st August	Chris Azzaro
Friday 8th August	Chris Azzaro
Friday 15th August	Nigel Stapley
Friday 22nd August	Chris Azzaro
Friday 29th August	Norman Croft (With Holy Communion)

Sunday services at St Andrew's URC commence at 10.30am, refreshments follow the service.

3rd August	10th August	John Carr	
17th August	Revd Norman Croft	24th June Chris Azzaro	31st August Pam Frost

Sad news to learn of the passing of two ministers who have preached in Littlehampton United Church

Thanks-giving services have been arranged:

Fred Manuell, Friday 15th August 2.00pm at Goring Methodist Church

Ian Field, Wednesday 28th August 1.30pm at Christ Church, Chichester.

The next Taize Prayer

will be on Sunday 3rd August at 6.00pm at 1 High Street.

Taize Prayer is a simple, meditative form of evening worship that involves music, prayerful silence and short readings, designed for all Christian faiths.