



# Festo and Grace Kanungha

Link Letter no. 18 | March 2025

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**Location:** Britain



**What we do:** Supporting vulnerable community members through social enterprise Bodmin Way (Festo) and serving as a curate in St Petroc's Church (Grace)



**Bringing hope** where people have given up on God and the church

Dear friends,

Our church calendar enables two seasons of confession, preparation and waiting and it is one of those seasons in which we find ourselves now. Lent can be thought of as a bleak season as we prepare ourselves for Good Friday, a time of self-sacrifice to focus our minds on Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us. But we must remember that Good Friday is followed by Easter Sunday, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ who conquered death as he rose again.

I wonder how often we contemplate Holy Saturday? The day between Good Friday and Easter Sunday? When all seemed to be lost, maybe it felt like the longest of days? As with the period of Lent it is a day to wait for the glory of what is to come. That first Easter, however, Jesus' followers didn't know that they were waiting, or indeed what they were waiting for. How much greater their joy when they understood that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead!

Festo has been in a long period of waiting. Since arriving in Bodmin in September he has sought to work with the FLOURISH project, but as we have reported in other newsletters, it has taken a long time to get started. The waiting has felt very long.

The FLOURISH project is a Church of England pilot which creates worshipping communities in schools. Bodmin Community College is an exciting opportunity to reach the young people of Bodmin and the surrounding area with the good news and love of Jesus Christ.

### The FLOURISH pilot programme is based around five core principles:

1. Young people's voices are instinctively at the centre of all leadership, decision-making and implementation.
2. Clearly articulated and shared purpose to grow a younger and more diverse community of Christian disciples.
3. Strategic leadership partnership between school/college and the Bodmin Team Ministry.
4. Intergenerational faith development experiences involving children of all ages and their families.
5. Worship that is fully integrated into the regular rhythms, practices, structures and resources of the school/college's vision for the flourishing of children and adults



Winter beach trip

Support Festo and Grace Kanungha:  
[churchmissionsociety.org/kanungha](https://churchmissionsociety.org/kanungha)

With Jesus  
With each other  
To the edges



The initial plan for Festo and his team leader is to form a steering group for FLOURISH made up of students and key staff, to engage with work in the school garden, work alongside students and start to get to know them and be known by them. They will also run chaplaincy sessions for students to provide a space in which students can explore faith.

Please pray that the recent positive steps taken by the project and the school will bring this season of waiting to an end. Pray that Festo and his team leader will be well received as they go into the school and start establishing themselves and the project, and that both they and the school leadership team will soon see a difference in the school with the addition of this project.

As a family we are doing well. Grace will be priested in June (28) at Truro Cathedral and is very much enjoying serving the churches in Bodmin benefice as a deacon. Funeral ministry is a surprising blessing and a wonderful privilege. Deacon-ing at services at St Petroc's has been a learning curve as she is not

from a high church tradition, however she finds the charisma of the Anglo-Catholic tradition something she can embrace. Please cover Grace in prayer as she prepares for priestly ordination.

Zeph, William and Hannah continue to settle well into their schools and life in Wadebridge; Zeph appreciates the church youth work that he is involved with, William is falling in love with football and Hannah is embracing gymnastics. Wadebridge suits us as a place to live and although we try not to think on it too often, there is already a cost to thinking that we will be on the move again after curacy. Please join us in thanking God for how well we have settled in this place and for the friendships that Zeph, William and Hannah have already made. Please pray that they continue to feel settled here.

Festo is having driving lessons, is doing well and needs to book a test, but they are hard to come by. Alongside his CMS hours, he continues to work at Wadebridge B&M, where he has settled in well and has some lovely colleagues. The move to this store has brought a change in shift pattern which on the whole suits us a little better. An evening shift now sees him finish at 10.30pm rather than 2am which is doing him, and all of us, a lot of good. Please join us in thanking God for better working rhythms, please pray for Festo as he tries to book his driving test and for a positive result from it.

We hope to go to Tanzania as a family this year. It is not easy as the flights cost double or more during the school holidays as we are sure everyone is aware. We are looking at almost £6,000 for the five of us to travel in August (flights only) and are in negotiation with the schools but they have little leeway. If we go in term time we will pay £480 in fines and the children will miss school. Please pray for us as we make these difficult decisions.

With love from the Kanunghas



*Photos from top to bottom: Winter walkies (dog borrowed for photo); too cool for Brum; a rare photo of Festo and Grace together*



## Bringing hope where people have given up on God and church

**We've been encouraged** to hear stories from others who are part of our wider area of work. In Honduras, Carlos had a change of heart working with a Christian ministry, and in the UK Garry Ion reports on how Carlisle's Community Shed is sharing skills, community and Jesus. Read more at [churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope](http://churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope)