



Festo and Grace Kanungha

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Location: Britain



What we do: Supporting and resourcing local churches in their ministry to children and young people, working closely with St Martin's Liskeard

Dear Friends,

As we write this letter, we are preparing to move house. It was an unexpected change, news of which came in with the new year. A dear friend said to us "God always trades up", and he is certainly doing that. We are continuing in Liskeard and moving to a house owned by the diocese to accommodate curates in our church. It will be empty for the next 12 months, just the length of time we need it, and available from the end of April, just the time when we need it. God is good. We have heavy hearts because we really don't want to move from our home. It is the place where we properly settled back in the UK as a family, the home where Festo rejoined us; we have made fond memories here. But our trust is in God; today and every day we choose to follow his leading and we look forward to how he will shape and use our family in this new home. Please pray for us as we, pack, move, transition and change once more.



Hannah with our HUGE rabbit.

Festo has spent the winter restoring some old park benches that were donated and featured in our last link letter. They are now like new and installed in the community garden along with a couple of goal posts ready for a summer of activity. The next step is to install raised beds, and members of our church have been experimenting with the soil to see what flowers can grow successfully. We have a meeting with the developers of an adjacent housing estate who sound keen to support the garden financially. We do need to see a cultural shift of our local community towards the garden. Until we started working on it, it was used both as a dog exercise field and a place to doss for young people. We are hoping to work with all those who use the field to encourage them to continue to do so, but also to encourage them to take part in looking after it, taking dog mess and rubbish home and generally caring for the field. The community's response has so far been positive, so we are hopeful. Please pray that the meeting with the developers would be fruitful and that together with God we can change the atmosphere of the community around and within the field.

At church there is change, as our curate leaves for his own parish on Easter Sunday and our vicar leaves for a post with Mission to Seafarers at the end of April. Thankfully we will not be left on our own, as we have a strong staff and volunteer team that is very capable, but it will be a new season for the church and for Grace as an ordinand. It is unlikely that a new vicar will begin until January 2024 (at the earliest) and Grace finishes training in June 2024. She sees it as an opportunity to understand the life of a church in transition and the

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



appointment of a vicar from the parish's viewpoint. It will also be interesting to learn about how a new incumbent comes into a post. Please pray for us and for St Martin's during this season of change and transition.

Zeph, William and Hannah continue to enjoy school and nursery.

Hannah is excited about moving house and is currently processing how we need to take "everything" with us. She is also looking forward to September when she can wear the "boys clothes" – meaning school uniform – when she starts in reception class. Hannah is always somewhere close behind her brothers, having a try at anything the boys can do, and she can't wait for her turn to be a Beaver or have swimming lessons. Hannah is a perfect mix of tomboy and girly girl, wanting to climb trees and have her nails painted in equal measure.

Zeph learned a new skill recently: driving go-karts. This was part of his Christmas present and is now a passion of his. Both boys are moving up in the scouting world, Zeph to Scouts and William to Cubs, over the next few months and are looking forward to the adventures that await. They are very much "outdoor" children, but in quite different ways – Zeph as a Bear Grylls style adventure hunter and William happiest digging for treasure, fishing or finding sticks. He is looking forward to much-anticipated fishing trips in the summer months. Both have been involved in class performances at the end of the Easter term, with lines to speak. We are proud of our boys who projected their voices and spoke slowly and clearly – perhaps something of their parents public speaking has rubbed off on them. Both have enjoyed the topics for this term, Zeph looked at WW2 and William Ancient Egypt.

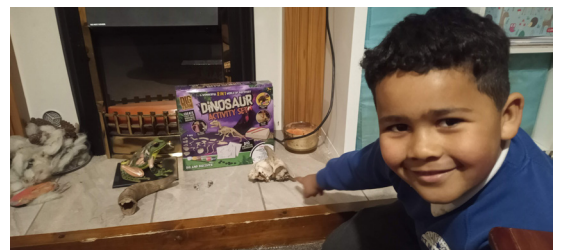
As we sign off we leave you with a Celtic prayer:

You are the peace of all things calm
 You are the place to hide from harm
 You are the light that shines in dark
 You are the heart's eternal spark
 You are the door that's open wide
 You are the guest who waits inside
 You are the stranger at the door
 You are the calling of the poor
 You are my Lord and with me still
 You are my love, keep me from ill
 You are the light, the truth, the way
 You are my Saviour this very day.

(Celtic oral tradition, 1st millennium)

With our love,

Festo, Grace, Zeph, William and Hannah



Photos from top to bottom: Festo mixing cement to install the benches; Festo relaxing on a finished and installed bench; William showing his love for animal anatomy for a Beavers badge, showing off the variety of skulls he has collected; Zeph about to go Go Karting.



Going further with Church Mission Society

Jesus never gives up. Neither should we. We live in a fractured, hurting world.

It can be tempting to give up: on hope, on people, on the idea that things can ever change. Yet, Jesus invites us to follow him on a journey to the edges.

Find out more at churchmissionsociety.org/nevergiveup

Please note that opinions expressed in link letters are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

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