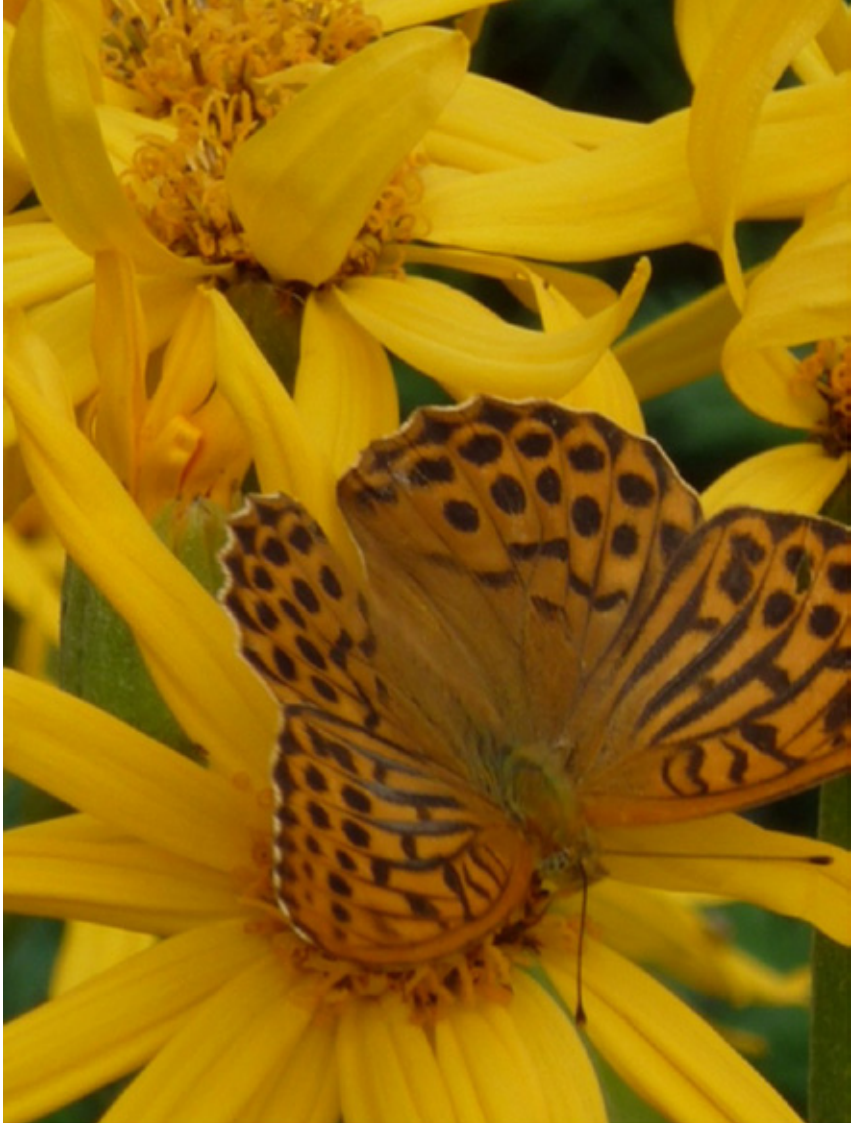


TOGETHER



The magazine of the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

JUNE – SEPT 2021



Butterfly on rare plants at Blaaifarveverket
The theme of this issue is 'Caring for Creation'

Who's Who

SENIOR CHAPLAIN	The Revd Canon Joanna Udal c/o The British Embassy, Postbox 4005 AMB, 0244 Oslo oslochaplain@osloanglicans.no	22 69 22 14
ASSISTANT CHAPLAINS	Chaplain Stavanger: Vacant	
	The Revd Sheila Rosenthal (Trondheim) trondheimchaplain@osloanglicans.no	94 86 26 04
	The Revd Kirk Weisz (Bergen) BergenChaplain@anglican.no	41 43 13 21
CHAPLAINCY SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Sharon John sharon.t.john@gmail.com (assistant safeguarding officers shown with this symbol) 	
READER IN TRONDHEIM	Susan J Boyd	72 58 52 69
READER IN BERGEN	Iris Evans-Bjørnø	55 18 67 34
ARCHDEACONRY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Andrew Thomas (Oslo) Jill Almvang (Oslo) Mark Hamer (Stavanger) Susan Gjerde (Bergen)	
CHAPLAINCY CHURCHWARDENS	Terry Bevan, churchwarden@osloanglicans.no Barbara McIntosh BergenWarden@anglican.no	
ASSISTANT CHURCHWARDENS	John Glazebrook (Oslo) Sarah Denieul-Lalljee (Stavanger) StavangerWarden@anglican.no Peter Pang (Trondheim)	
FORSTANDER	Ingeborg Wörheide forstander@osloanglicans.no	92 82 68 84
OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS	Andrew Lane (Hon Sec), Sigrid Kvaal (Hon Treasurer), Jane Todd (Stavanger) Eirik Gjerløw (Oslo), Sabina B Larsen (Oslo), Molly Sutphen (Oslo), Juliet Chukwuma (Stavanger), Laura Sætveit Miles (Bergen)	
YOUTH GROUP OSLO	Vacant	
YOUTH & CHILDREN STAVANGER	Vacant	
SUNDAY SCHOOL BERGEN	Norah Kaggwa Kwagala	
SUNDAY SCHOOL TRONDHEIM	Caroline Cheng	
YOUTH MENTOR TRONDHEIM	Priscilla Ringrose	
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER BERGEN	Molly Rydstrøm 	47 33 41 40
ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER	John Chapman chapmanmusic@aol.com	
CARETAKER	Peter Ekeuluabia	
TOGETHER EDITORIAL TEAM for this issue	Joanna Udal, editor-in-chief; Ingeborg Wörheide, Roger Martin, editorial assistants	

Persons authorised by the Bishop to assist in administering the sacrament of Holy Communion:

all readers, Ekene Agbalakwe, Abbas Bahiraei, Hilde Chapman, Eirik Duerr, Sigrid I Kvaal, Barbara McIntosh, Penny Mietle, Benn Mugisha, Lynel Aurora Reyes, Philip Ringrose, Betty Short, Owen Thomas, Rune Torsvik, Linda White, Ingeborg Wörheide.

For further information see our websites: www.osloanglicans.no, www.bergenanglicans.net,
www.stavangeranglicans.no, and www.trondheimanglicans.net.

The diocesan website is www.europe.anglican.org, and the Church of England's website is www.cofe.anglican.org.

Donations and payments to the Anglican Chaplaincy

may be made to bank account 7029.05.14973.

For further details contact a chaplain or Sigrid Kvaal, treasurer

From the Senior Chaplain

**O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
(Psalm 104.26)**

What a miracle of new life as Norway bursts into Spring blossom. I'm astonished how quickly the bare trees have become vibrant with green flourishing. As the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley-Hopkins wrote "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." There is so much cause for gratitude as new life bursts forth around us.

And yet our Lent studies and discussion at Chaplaincy Council have brought into focus how God's creation is threatened as never before. As the head of the United Nations Environment Programme Inger Andersen recently put it, the earth faces three planetary crises simultaneously: climate change, nature and biodiversity, and waste and pollution. The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has called climate change the defining issue of our time. Around the world there is a growing consensus of the need for urgent action, and a realisation that current patterns of consumption are unsustainable.

This is not only a political and scientific issue but also a spiritual question. What part do we have to play in caring for God's creation? What are the implications for our Christian discipleship? How can we respond to the cry of the poor who already experience the brunt? What choices are open to us? What does it mean to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Christ?

I find helpful the invitation to take a contemplative approach to God's creation – to see and wonder in God's glory there. Nature is sometimes described as a "Second Bible" because we see in it God's wondrous works. Where may our wonder and gratitude lead us? As Psalm 104 continues, "I will sing to the

Lord as long as I live...So shall my song please him." Our faith invites us to live lives which honour and care for God's creation.

This issue of Together picks up the question of what we as the Church and as individuals can do. We are looking further into this as the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway, with an Environment Working Group helping to prepare a policy for our Chaplaincy Council to adopt.

Meanwhile we have much to give thanks for in our Chaplaincy life, with elections held at the Chaplaincy Annual General Meeting on 25th April on Zoom open to candidates from across Norway. We have 8 new members of Chaplaincy Council, and a new Chaplaincy Churchwarden coming from Bergen for the first time, Barbara McIntosh, who will serve together with Terry Bevan from Oslo. We are also grateful for the growing fellowship amongst our children around Norway, coming together for Choom (Children's Church on Zoom) thanks to the creative efforts of Susan Boyd, Norah Kwagala and Iris Evans-Bjørnø.

Much thankfulness for the new life for which we depend on God's Holy Spirit. So I finish with some more lines from Gerard Manley Hopkins's poem:

And for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went

Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —

Because the Holy Ghost over the bent

World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain

Humming bird
hawkmoth
by Pamela Brooks



Bergen Notes

The winter months were a fruitful time in ministry here in Bergen as we continued to improve our virtual ministry skills on Zoom. Unable to be in Mariakirken through most of the winter, our Lenten study, pancake supper and Ash Wednesday services remained online. As restrictions were lifted for in person worship leading up to Holy Week with 56 allowed in the church, we began to hold services both in-person and streamed on Zoom (hybrid). These hybrid services were further improved by a snazzy microphone we purchased which helped to improve the sound quality for those joining virtually. Overall, the hybrid services have been a welcomed arrangement and one that will most likely continue for sometime to come.

In addition, the Bergen congregation used the spring to consider two areas of ministry in which we hope to build upon in the year ahead. First, as a part of our Mission Action Plan, a hospitality working group was formed to “take stock” of our ministry of hospitality. The group was given the task of eliminating “hassle factors” for visitors and begin to develop more welcoming and inclusive practices of Christian hospitality.

Secondly, and somewhat unexpectedly, our Lenten study bore much fruit for thought for everyone involved. It awakened us to the urgent need to care for God’s creation, something that we have responded to very little in Bergen up until now. The Lenten resource we used by The United Society for Partners in the Gospel (USPG) explored the theme of ecological justice and how the fallen character of human nature has been the primary contributing factor to the global environmental crisis. The study compelled us to play a more active part in the restorative and redemptive narrative of God’s creation. To our delight, we discovered in late May that God was already out ahead of us preparing a way forward. We received the wonderful news that we had been selected again for the litter pick-up project through Bergen municipality. This project was an immense blessing to our congregation in 2018 and we are very excited to be given the opportunity again. We are assigned to an area located in the Bergen city centre called Starefossen/Svartediket and down to Møllendal. We are required to pick-up litter one time per month May-October. The project is a wonderful way to care for God’s creation, get some good exercise and grow together in friendship. The project will also raise 25,000



Members of the Bergen congregation picking litter for the first time this year. Photo by selfie chief Molly Rydstrom

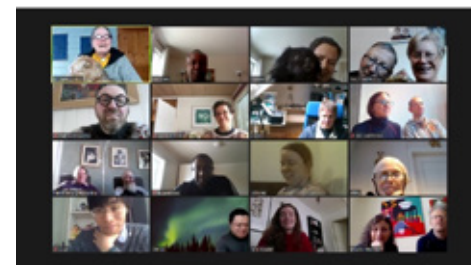
NOK for the ministry and mission of our congregation. This time around, the funds raised will be used to support church-related environmental projects in the future and also go to support a new church building project in Uganda. We are also encouraged by the new Chaplaincy-wide environmental policy working group and pray that their faithful efforts will bring further clarity in on our call to care for creation—and make an impact on the environment.

*Revd Kirk Weisz
Bergen Assistant Chaplain*

Notes from Trondheim, the land of the Kings

Where would we be without Zoom? ‘In church for real’ you might say but church has thrived because of Zoom, perhaps because our congregation is quite inclined to worship in slippers in front of a warm pc screen with a mug of coffee in hand. Here is a screen shot of some of us at worship. You can tell we are quite informal here (and no it wasn’t a pet service despite 3 dogs and a cat being regular members – though without voting rights). We are back in a building now though, by popular request, we have 1 zoom service plus a Chatter Group once a month. We had a Lent group on zoom at which someone would share their favourite hymn and we’d all talk about it after we had sung it with YouTube ‘accompaniment’. Christy Ringrose joined us from Scotland and one week she sang us a song she had written. It was good to talk about feelings and memories which enhanced both our faith and our understanding of one another. In Lent we also helped contribute to a street theatre performance of the betrayal by Peter, providing cakes for refreshment and the playscript for the Bymission.

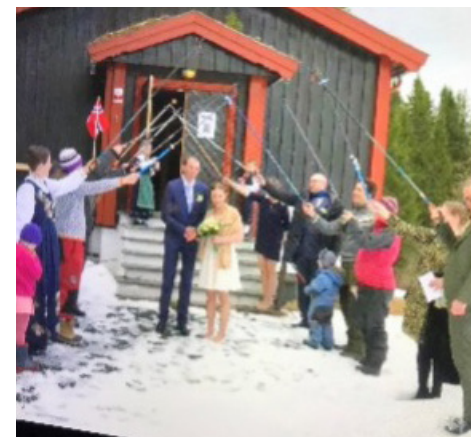
We had a wedding to bless of a couple that



are regular members here and who come from Canada and Croatia. The blessing took the form of them saying their vows in Croatian so I am hoping I blessed their promises to each other and not an elaborate form of a shopping list!! The wedding took place with snow on the ground out at Fjellseter where we will be for Pentecost again this year. The couple are keen skiers as you can see and apparently unaware that it was freezing that day.

Of late we have increased our services and our numbers with it. We meet every Sunday at 1800 in the cathedral as well as 2 morning services a month, one by zoom and one in whichever building the cathedral says is free, either the Archbishop’s Chapel or Var Frue. We cannot yet meet after church as once we did but we will have another outdoor service and bar-b-q near the solstice at my house overlooking the fjord, a super way of celebrating our fellowship.

This brief record of our doings cannot end



without more than a mention of Ron Boyd. His funeral was watched by many around the world and, speaking very personally, it was a massive privilege to be involved in the celebration of such a cherished Christian's life. We blessed him home with a libation of Highland Park single malt whiskey from his beloved Orkney. His picture is in the screen shot above but his influence is to be seen in much that we as a community are. Rest in peace Ron and may we all rise with you in glory.

*Revd Sheila Rosenthal
Trondheim Assistant Chaplain*

Stavanger Notes May 2021

Stavanger Anglicans have continued to enjoy a diverse selection of leaders taking our services for the first quarter of the year. Thank you to our regular virtual alternate duo, Geir Barlaup - Lutheran pastor recently regranted 'Permission to Officiate' in our Anglican church, and Andre, a stalwart of our congregation, who is worship leader in training. We have also enjoyed the ministry of Revd Morton Grindvoll, a youthful breath of fresh air, who had previously visited us in person in our long-forgotten 'normal' past, also Reverend Tracy Rishton who presided over various services during Lent and Easter, including the Feast of the Annunciation, Ash Wednesday, a Maundy Thursday virtual service complete with communicants providing their own personal sacraments, and Good Friday. We are always delighted to join with the other Anglican churches in Norway - thank you Bergen



for the Lenten reflections, and to Oslo for hosting two all-chaplaincy virtual services. The youngsters have enjoyed 'Choom'ing with Bergen and Trondheim, and last, but not least, we once again were blessed to have our senior Chaplain Joanna leading our service at the beginning of May. Joanna, the congregation are waiting in anticipation of the day when you can 'really' visit, and we can meet and get to know you in person. We hope and pray that the pencilled in mid-June date will soon be overwritten in bold black permanent pen! I can only reiterate what has been repeated numerous times - thank goodness for modern technology, which has enabled our worship and fellowship, and built this sense of community and friendship within and between our different congregations.

The online Chaplaincy AGM held on 25th April saw three Stavanger members elected, two to the Chaplaincy Council (thank you Jane and Juliet), and Mark Hamer - recent returnee to, and much missed member of, our congregation, as the Deanery Synod representative. Thank you to all our committee members and representatives who take on so much, often in addition to full-time jobs and family commitments. Our congregation would not still be in existence without this responsibility you have taken upon yourselves, and all the time and commitment you have given over the past few years.

As seems to be the continuing saga of Stavanger congregation's life, we have yet new challenges to face. Firstly, we were recently informed that the current location where we have been worshipping will no longer be available, as it is being let to a local school from the beginning of the next academic year, as their library. Hence the search is on to find new premises for us from the end of June. The office and storage will finally get their long-overdue clear-out and spring clean. The most difficult task, however, is finding a suitable alternative which offers a comfortable

and convenient space for worship, children's Church and fellowship, in addition to an office and storage facilities. However, every challenge is a new opportunity and perhaps this is a good one to assess and address our priorities and changing needs, so we can find the best possible match. Our second challenge is in our search to find an assistant chaplain for Stavanger congregation. After 2 years without a resident clergy, this is an exciting prospect and the committee have begun drafting points to contribute to a job description for a part-time assistant chaplain. Again, this is not an easy task as we need to take a deep look at who we are, who we need and what conditions an incoming pastor could expect. However, we hope to be ready to advertise in the summer. Please pray for our committee that God may give them guidance and wisdom as they carry out these processes, that He might provide them with attractive and practical options, and help the final decision.

When I started writing this contribution, and since it is April, I did wonder if I should entitle it 'Home Thoughts from Abroad' - with a Norwegian twist. This is in fact being penned from the Highlands of Scotland to which I was whisked away mid-February, the day before compulsory hotel quarantine came into force here. The move had been planned, but it just happened to make sense to bring it forward. However, it is not Norway I miss so much as the people. Surprisingly enough, I was on Zoom church the very next week, with my own congregation, looking at the same familiar faces from the same familiar rooms. The only background that had changed was my own. I love my church family in Norway and hope to continue my association with them, even when I have found a new church family here in Scotland. I have met a few new people locally as my husband and I start to engage in local environmental issues here. I have also met several new people in various other parts of Europe, and even in Norway, on the Zoom

'Caring for Creation' series of workshops, as I prepare to take on the role of environmental contact for the Stavanger Anglican community (assuming you will have me!). It is wonderful to feel such a connection and I look forward to working with Esme and the other contacts in Norway to draw up an environmental plan of action for our chaplaincy in Norway. Watch out Stavanger - I will be on your case! I might even need to come over and check up on you from time to time (Carbon offset, of course).

*Jean Peacock, Member of Stavanger
congregation*



The world on fire by Esme Knagenhjelm

Oslo Notes

At the first Easter our risen Lord came amongst his disciples as they were behind closed doors. So too for a second Easter, the doors of St Edmund's have had to remain closed, while we have sought as a community to follow our Lord through his passion, death and resurrection using all the means available to us.

From Ash Wednesday onwards, it has been challenging to adapt our worship to being online while retaining the traditional character of these celebrations. Music has played an important part, with Psalm 51 Have mercy on me O God being sung to plainsong as we began the penitential season, while at the sign of ashes, the choir sang reassurance of God's

All service details are provisional, dependent on COVID-19 restrictions

			Oslo		Bergen		Readings	Stavanger		Trondheim	
JUNE											
Sun	06	Trinity 1	11:00	All Age Service with Senior Chaplain's Licensing	11:00	Service of the Word	2 Cor 4.13-5.1 Mark 3.20-end	11:00	Joint service with Oslo	11:00 18:00	Joint service with Oslo Eveningprayer Chapter H
Sun	13	Trinity 2	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	2 Cor 5.6-10,14-17 Mark 4.26-34	10:30	NMS/Senior Chaplain	11:00 18:00	Vår Frue/Archbish C Eveningprayer/Chapter H
Sun	20	Trinity 3	11:00 18:00	Sung Communion Evensong	11:00	Holy Communion by Extension	2 Cor 6.1-13 Mark 4.35-41	10:30	Family Comm./NMS or virtual	18:00	Cathedral HC or Evening prayer
Sun	27	Trinity 4	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	2 Cor .7-end Mark 5.21-end	10:30	Service of the Word/virtual	18:00	HC/Evening Prayer Chapter House
JULY											
Sun	04	Trinity 5	11:00	All Age Service	11:00	Holy Communion by Extension	2 Cor 12.2-10 Mark 6.1-13	10:30	Summer break/ no service	11:00 18:00	Zoom Service Eveningprayer Chapter H
Sun	11	Trinity 6	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	Eph 1.3-14 Mark 6.14-29	10:30	Summer break/ no service	18:00	Evening Worship Chapter House
Sun	18	Trinity 7	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	Eph 2.11-end Mark 6.30-34,53-end	10:30	Summer break/ no service	18:00	Cathedral HC or Evening prayer
Tue	20				18:00	Kirk's Ordination to the priesthood/HC			Summer break/ no service	18:00	HC/Evening Prayer Chapter House
Sun	25	Trinity 8	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	Eph 3.14-end John 6.1-21	10:30	Summer break/ no service		Information on Facebook pages
AUGUST											
Sun	01	Trinity 9	11:00	All Age Service	11:00	Service of the Word	Eph 4.1-16 John 6.24-35	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00 18:00	Zoom Service Eveningprayer Chapter H
Sun	08	Trinity 10	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	Eph 4.25-5.2 John 6.35,41-51	10:30	Family Communion	11:00 18:00	Vår Frue/Archbish C Evenrayer/Chapter H
Sun	15	The Blessed Virgin Mary	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 1.46-55	10:30	Cafe Church	18:00	Cathedral HC or Evening prayer
Sun	22	Trinity 12	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	Eph 6.10-20 John 6.56-69	10:30	Family Communion	18:00	HC/Evening Prayer Chapter House
Sun	29	Trinity 13	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	James 1.17-end Mark 7.1-8,14,15,21-23	17:00	No service		Information on Facebook pages
SEPTEMBER											
Sun	5	Trinity 14	11:00	All Age Service	11:00	Holy Communion	James 2.1-17 Mark 7.24-end	10:30	Holy Communion	11:00 18:00	Zoom Service Eveningprayer Chapter H
Sun	12	Trinity 15	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Service of the Word	James 3.1-12 Mark 8.27-end	10:30	Family Communion	18:00	Vår Frue/Archbish C Eveningprayer/Chapter
Fri	17	Oslo Kulturnatt	17:30	Evensong							
Sun	19	Trinity 16	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Holy Communion	James 3.13-4.3,7-8a Mark 9.30-37	10:30	Cafe Church	18:00	Cathedral HC or Evening prayer
Sun	26	Trinity 17	11:00	Sung Communion with Confirmation	11:00	Service of the Word	James 5.13-end Mark 9.38-end	10:30	Family Communion	18:00	HC/Evening Prayer Chapter House

lovingkindness with the Taize chant God is forgiveness: love and do not fear.

To commemorate Jesus' Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, the small number of musicians and technicians allowed were present in church for the celebration of Holy Communion while many others joined on Zoom, participating through Spiritual Communion, including members of the Bergen Congregation. The singing of the Taize chant *Ubi Caritas, Where there is charity and love*, God is present there, with recordings by choir members in their various locations, poignantly reminded us of the bonds of communion which hold us together in love, even when physically separated.

Collaboration with the American Lutheran Congregation has also enriched our worship, with a dramatic reading of St John's Gospel on Good Friday on Zoom by members of our two congregations, and in joining together online for the Women's World Day of Prayer in March, prepared this year by the women of Vanuatu in the Pacific.

The perspectives of the world church also informed our Lent study group which followed the course *For such a time as this* prepared by the Anglican mission agency USPG on the climate crisis and the global pandemic. We enjoyed lively discussions on God's Covenant with Noah and with all creation after the flood, and how responsibility and God's gratuitous invitation could be held together. We heard from India of the destructive impact of unsustainable models of development and from the Philippines the insights of tribal peoples on the need to cooperate with nature with praise and thankfulness.

From the Caribbean we were reminded of the priority to recover values of family and community and concern for the little people pushed aside by corporations. We learned of the destruction of homes and social structures by cyclones in Mozambique on a scale previously unknown and were challenged to consider what actions are needed to save

creation. We were inspired by the actions of young people in India and at home who are so often ahead of the rest of us and we were renewed in our resolve to listen to them and help them find place in our church.

Much to take forward as we consider what part we desire our church to play in God's work of renewal and re-creation.

*Revd Canon Joanna Udal
Senior Chaplain, Oslo*

Interview with Esme Knagenhjelm, Chaplaincy Environment Officer

Esme, as our Chaplaincy Environment Officer, please tell us what that is and why do we have one?

Chaplaincy Environment Officers were put in place across the diocese to try to reduce our carbon footprint. The Officers also provide a connection with the Diocesan Environment Officer, Revd Elizabeth Bussmann-Morton. Previously Kate Southwood did a good job at St Edmund's by changing all the LED lightbulbs and installing warmth exchange pumps. More recently the pandemic has helped reduce flying. It's our job to try to influence our church services and have activities which are environmentally targeted, and to try to get the youth involved. What can we do ourselves about what we ask for in our prayers? How does my little part make a difference? As the Norwegian saying goes, all small streams become bigger streams and become even bigger rivers.

As a Chaplaincy, in what ways can we make a difference?

We can make a difference locally by recycling, and by going out after a storm and gathering up rubbish from the beaches. We must get the youth involved. It's their future we are talking about. We can introduce the season of



creation (Sept/Oct) into our worship, and we can encourage that the whole of creation is included in our intercessions.

Why are you passionate about the environment?

I've always been interested in nature and animals. I've seen what we human beings have done to nature. With climate change and all that is now happening, this is, as they say, a definitive decade.

How does your faith influence how you see the present environmental challenges?

Different readings and sermons have made me aware how we were charged to look after this world and we are doing a pretty poor job. After the flood, the human race was given another chance. How God must despair over what we have done. But in Christ we have been redeemed and we have a new chance if we follow his teachings and his way of love. By loving one another, we're meant to love everything. It's like loving a garden. It's amazing what it can become! We have become very ego-centric as human beings and think we are above creation. But we are part of it. If we follow Christ's teaching and show love and care for creation, we will feel much better ourselves.

When did you become aware of the need to act?

Many, many years ago. I was more or less brought up with it. My Mum was very careful with recycling. It was post-war and she would save up all the glass and try to keep resources for reusing. We should return to glass bottles which can be reused, as can aluminium with ten times less energy if reused. Even at school in the 1960s there were signs the environment was changing. I've always tried to do my little bit, and to bring up my children not to throw rubbish away.

What steps would you like to take?

I'd like to get the Chaplaincy environment working group off the ground, and get a Chaplaincy policy in place which is usable for everybody, whatever congregation they are. Zoom is already helping us feel being one Chaplaincy. I'd like to support something like a tree-planting project in Kenya or Uganda. I'd like to get youth more engaged, like the young people connected with St Edmund's. None of us can work on our own. We need others to bounce ideas off and work together towards a common goal.

Many thanks Esme and every blessing on taking this work forwards.

Revd Canon Joanna Udal, Senior Chaplain

Something about the environment...

Christians have not been very good over the years about stewardship of the environment. For centuries the idea of dominion over nature was seen as a licence to kill, literally. The idea of husbandry, the etymology of which takes us back to old Norse – the idea of a person dwelling, being bound to the house and land on which they live – is steeped in a cultural miasma of hierarchical relationships with somebody definitely at the bottom and somebody at the top. Animals, like grass, are a crop.

Anything which is not human is fair game (think of the double meaning of that word) for exploitation and eating. Infamously, in some societies eating people is not unknown and certainly exploiting them is the stuff of politics, trade unionism, social and family life. These complex relationships, with strong inextricable links to power and authority, have got us to where we are today with the environment. When God told Adam and Eve to be fruitful but ended up by throwing them out of the garden of Eden because they got their family politics wrong, humankind set off in a direction which has brought us to the brink of doom. And listening to the news it does seem as if we are about to fall into that abyss.



Looking out of my window as I write this, it seems impossible to believe that the world might cease to be as it so long has been, but the myth of the old days and their supposed simplicity is part of the problem. Humankind has always treated the earth at one and the same time as its basket and a cesspit of our own making – on the brink of which we now stand. When faced with such a huge catastrophe of cataclysmic proportions what can one person, one community, one church do? Yet 'do' we must because we are not owners but stewards. Where we have made profits we must now pay lest there is nothing to share with the generations yet to come.

If we are indeed on the brink, then our journey away from it, how should this be taken? Hurriedly? In small steps? In giant leaps? The pandemic has given the world a breathing

space, fewer planes fly, fewer boats churn up the seas and sadly fewer people inhabit the earth than they did a year ago. It is easy to preach a green sermon – advocating electric cars and compost bins, picking up plastic – and these things we should do when we can. It is an act of witness as a church to join together and pick up litter on a particular street or plastic from a particular beach, to use paper not plastic cups and these things do make a difference but, just as wearing a mask has become second nature this year, maybe there is something we need to do to acquire as another 'second nature' in regard to the first and only nature that we are putting in jeopardy? We need to acquire the habit of mind that looks at things which we hold in our hands and wonder how they come to us.

For example, we buy our office paper from a well known shop that sells everything. It sells two different types of printer paper – one made in China, one made in Germany. From the little I know of Chinese politics and its attitude to people and climate, and then by contrast with the attitude that I know of Germany in regard to the same, we now buy, at little more expense, the paper made in Germany. In this way we support a democracy whose people wish for climate change in the political life and thereby take a little away from a regime which can be fairly described as oppressive. Back in the 1970s there was a campaign against apartheid which included not buying goods from South Africa and whilst there are many arguments which are good and true about the impact such a boycott had on the ordinary people of that country, the impact it had on the government was an end that justified the means. Climate change is a political decision taken by all of us whose vested interest is in saving pennies rather than paying for the grandeur of the earth and sea and sky and all that dwell therein. Paying a few kroner more for some paper will not stop one

regime in and of itself, but it will help sustain a political economy that does care about the environment and people.

We are all husbands of this earth, married to it, bound to it, by dust and ashes. It is a place designed, created and made in love, a place over which God has cried at our arrogance and spilled blood for our transgression. Christians say 'world without end' but this is a phrase coined centuries ago when the world was a big place, the oceans unfathomably deep and the stars and the moon places which spoke of our 'Otherness' rather than a place to be filled with our debris. Every step we take we have a choice to make – do we walk on plastic or on leather? Do we engage with the politics of provenance as well as of place and single use? It is difficult in the extreme to weigh and balance all our actions but this we must do so that our money does buy back the earth and influence those who would squander, abuse and destroy.

*Revd Sheila Rosenthal
Assistant Chaplain, Trondheim*

From the Archbishop of Canterbury's Address to Inter- national Faith Leaders ahead of COP26 Climate Change Conference

...How can we make 2021 a year of hope?

Those with the power to effect change will need to balance that power with their responsibility. In the Bible's accounts of the creation of the world, God gives humans dominion over the Earth. But replacing dominion with domination is a false theology and a sin, we should look instead to Jesus' words that the Son of Man 'did not come to be served, but to serve'. As the Anglican Communion's fifth Mark of Mission puts it 'to serve the Earth,

not enslave it'.

I speak as a Christian. Jesus teaches us that there are no greater commandments than to love God and love our neighbour. To abide by those commandments as a Christian today is to step up to the challenge of climate change and connected environmental crises.

The relationship between science and faith presents us with a very real and a powerful route to lasting, major change. Our global reach, our commitment to local communities and our hope combined with the knowledge and expertise of science can forge a powerful alliance. I am humbled by the action of the Anglican Communion around the world, from initiatives like Green Anglicans, The Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN), the Eco-Bishops group, the Anglican Communion's presence at the UN and the work of the Anglican Alliance. I particularly acknowledge the contribution from Archbishop Julio Murray (Archbishop of Central America), who leads the Anglican Communion in this area.

Finally, those who have the broadest shoulders should bear the greatest burden. And if these nations and powers stand in solidarity together, their shoulders will be strong indeed. This is a time and place where generosity, sacrifice and self-interest overlap.

To live out my Christian faith is to follow Jesus. That must include standing alongside the most vulnerable and marginalised on the frontlines of the climate emergency. As faith communities, my prayer is that we might stand together, emissaries of hope and love, calling for God's justice and peace upon this precious world. Now is the time for action.

Reproduced with permission from Lambeth Palace

For more details of the journey to COP26 – connecting, equipping and inspiring the worldwide Anglican family to safeguard the integrity of creation through 2021

– see article at the following link:

www.anglicanalliance.org



Protecting their young on choppy waters by Patricia Cove

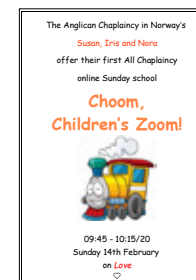
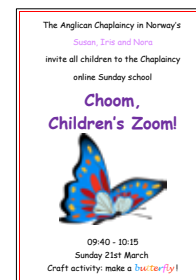
Winning entry to the Chaplaincy's *Caring for Creation* PHOTO COMPETITION

Many thanks to all those who entered an original photo inspiring care of God's creation into our Chaplaincy Competition. Judging was not easy but we are delighted to announce our winner Pat Cove with her beautifully composed family of Canada geese and as runners up: Ingeborg Wörheide with her front cover photo *Butterfly on rare plants at Blaafarveverket*, and Pamela Brooks with her photo below.



Bogstadvann, Oslo – in silent contemplation by Pamela Brooks

Children's Corner



We have had a great time on Choom with a turn up of 9 children to our latest event about the Holy Spirit: two families from Bergen with two kids each, one family from Kristiansund with one kid, one family from Oslo with two kids, and one family from Trondheim with two kids. Other times we've also had kids from Stavanger.

Children's Church on Zoom (Choom) now meets monthly, usually on the third Sunday in the month from 0940-1015. Families around Norway with children under 12 are very welcome to join in. On 14th February our theme was love, while in March and April we looked at faith and new life. We enjoy songs, Bible stories and craft activities every time. The next Choom is Sunday 13th June.

Choom Leaders Susan, Norah and Iris



From the registers

BAPTISM



Emily December
St Mary's Church, Bergen
14 March 2021
by Revd Kirk Weisz

MARRIAGE



Erin Bachyn and Drazen Panich
Fjellseter Chapel, Trondheim
24 April 2021
by Revd Sheila Rosenthal

DEATHS

of faithful church members



Ivel Dixon Rose
November 2020
Ron Boyd
March 2021

Upcoming events



Sun 26 Sep Chaplaincy Confirmation Service.
St Edmund's Church, Oslo 11:00

Bergen

Sun 30 May, 20 Jun, 18 July, 15 Aug, 19 Sep and
17 Oct Litter picking. Meet at Haukeland skole.
Tue 20 July Ordination of Revd Kirk Weisz as
Priest. St Mary's 18:00

Oslo

Sun 6 June Licensing of Senior Chaplain Revd
Canon Joanna Udal. St Edmund's 11:00
Fri 17 Sept Choral Evensong for Oslo Culture
Night. St Edmund's 17:30

Anywhere else?

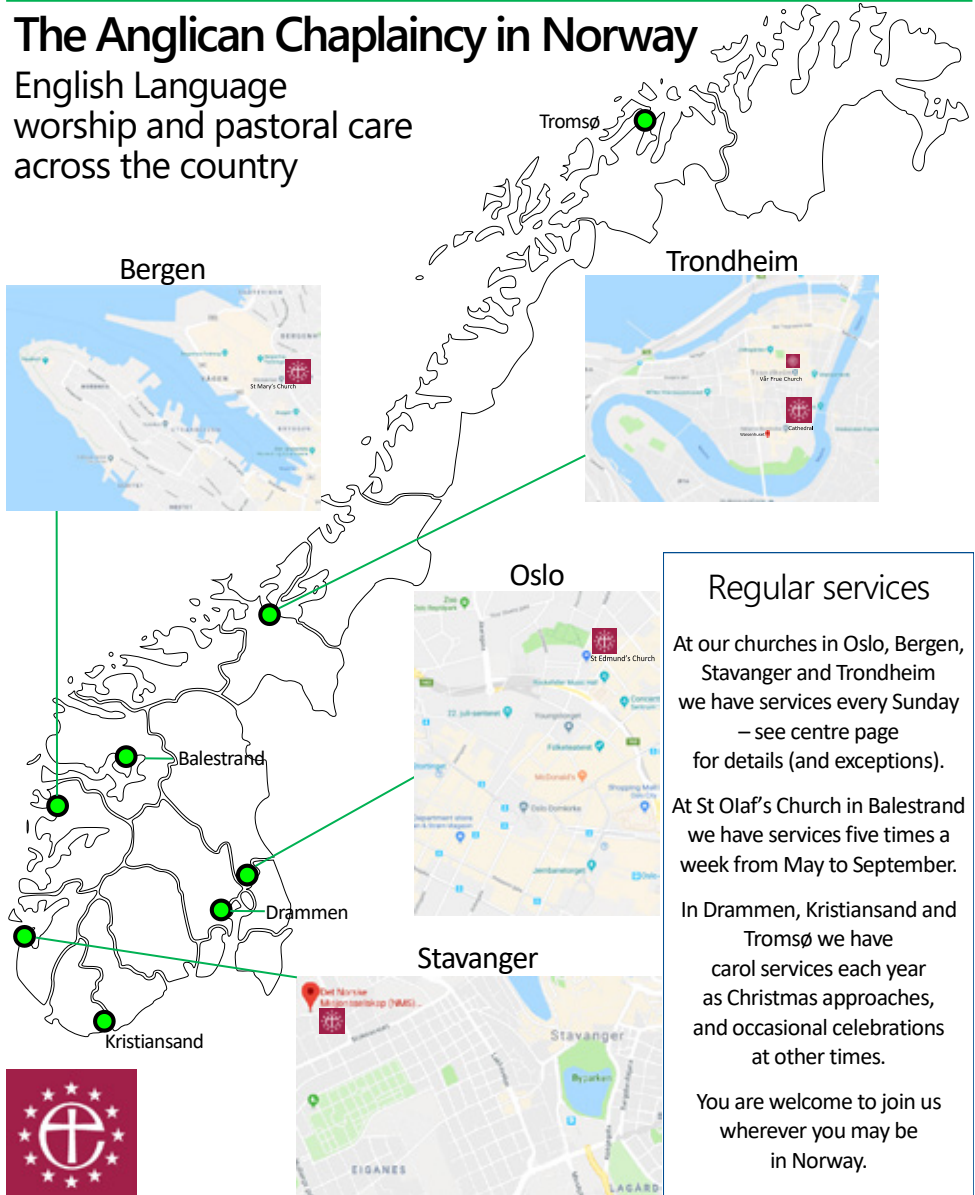
As long as there is space, we should be able to
include any upcoming event of interest to
Together readers. You never know who is where.



Retur: British Embassy,
Postbox 4005 AMB,
0244 Oslo

The Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

English Language
worship and pastoral care
across the country



Regular services

At our churches in Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim we have services every Sunday — see centre page for details (and exceptions).

At St Olaf's Church in Balestrand we have services five times a week from May to September.

In Drammen, Kristiansand and Tromsø we have carol services each year as Christmas approaches, and occasional celebrations at other times.

You are welcome to join us wherever you may be in Norway.