

**With all the dreadful news from Ukraine it is good to receive some**

## **SIGNS OF HOPE**

**This comes from Christian Aid whom we regularly support as a church.**

Warmest greetings from **South Sudan!** It's a joy to be writing to you today about our work to tackle malnutrition among children and babies, and to thank you for all you've shared.

I'm also thrilled to share uplifting news from your neighbours in other parts of the world. None of this work could have happened without wonderful people like you. **I hope you'll feel so proud of what we've achieved together.**

As you may know, malnutrition can leave children weak and very vulnerable. For under-fives, it can limit physical and mental development in ways that cause life-long suffering.

That's why we and local Christian Aid partners set out to support families in two regions of South Sudan, where conflict and climate chaos have left tens of thousands of families without enough food, and many young children dangerously malnourished.

### **The impact has been incredible**

Families across these regions are now armed with practical knowledge on nutrition, and the vital importance of breastfeeding for babies, and a varied diet for children.

Families are also more able to make better diets a reality – for example, through growing a wider and more nourishing range of crops like sesame and sorghum.

'With my farming activities, I am able to pay school fees, buy clothes for my children and also pay for their medical treatment,' she says.

### **Also an update about Malawi (our Diocesan Link) from the USPG prayer calendar**

With USPG's support, the Anglican council in Malawi is implementing a three year church and community programme seeking to help vulnerable families in rural parishes. It is focused on improving household income, achieving food security and increasing educational attainment.

The initiative includes building the promotion of climate sensitive agricultural techniques, the use of irrigation kits and training in agricultural business skills. It also seeks to promote village saving schemes in order to build economic resilience within the local area. "Paul" is one of the many people who has benefited from this initiative he says, "I have received maize seeds and fertilisers and I have learnt to produce manure. This training is helping me to take better care of my maize garden and I am confident that this year I will have a better harvest than ever before."



And our very own organist has supplied this!

*Lawrence, we do have a spare flute at the Rectory!*

#### ACTS 29

**A**ND IT CAME TO PASS, when Paul was at Corinth, he and certain disciples came upon a mob that was stoning an organist. 2 And Paul said unto them, "What then hath he done unto thee that his head should be bruised?" 3 And the people cried with one voice, "He hath played too loud. 4 Yea, in the singing of psalms, he maketh our heads to ring as if they were beaten with hammers. 5 Behold, he sitteth up high in the loft, and mighty are the pipes and mighty is the noise thereof, and though there be few of us below, he nonetheless playeth with all the stops, the Assyrian trumpet stop and the stop of the ram's horn and the stop that soundeth like the sawing of stone, and we cannot hear the words that cometh out of our own mouths. 6 He always tosseth in variations that confuse us mightily and he playeth loud and discordant and always in a militant tempo, so that we have not time to breathe as we sing. 7 Lo, he is a plague upon the faith and should be chastised." 8 Paul, hearing this, had himself picked up a small stone, and was about to cast it, but he set it down, and bade the organist come forward. 9 He was a narrow man, pale of complexion, dry, flaking, thin of hair. 10 And Paul said unto him, "Why hath thou so abused thy brethren?" 11 And the organist replied, "I could not hear them singing from where I sat, and therefore played the louder so as to encourage them." 12 And Paul turned round to the mob and said loudly, "Let him who has never played an organ cast the first stone." 13 And they cast stones for a while until their arms were tired and Paul bade the organist repent and he did. 14 And Paul said unto him, "Thou shalt take up the flute and play it for thirty days, to cleanse thy spirit," and afterward they returned to Corinth and sang psalms unaccompanied and then had coffee and were refreshed in the faith.



Flats on the Overbury estate in their new livery. The residents have had to live with netting around them for about 2 years. We hope they feel their new windows and renovations have made it worth the ordeal, made worse by lockdowns.



Who is this on his knees for Jesus and His church?  
Sorry no valuable prizes!