Coffee/Craft morning at St David's Wednesday 6th July 10.15 - 11.15am

St David's has had a church link with Mafinga parish in SW Tanzania for about five years now. In the past we have contributed to projects like a chicken project which supplies eggs and meat at affordable prices to local families and a tree-planting project started five years ago;

A new avocado project started in December 2020 in more than ten acres around the Church area, which they have been telling us about. '*There is a company nearby called Kibidula. They have more than 15 years experience in the avocado business, owning more than 6000 acres and since 2019 they have been packing avocado, selling internationally and starting a training centre for producers. They sell avocado seedlings to villagers so here is where we buy avocado seedlings for Tshs 6,000 each* (£2.00)*. This project needs a good source of water, so we plan to drill a good permanent well in the church area, buying electric water pump, water tank of 3000 litres and pipes to make sure we can water the seedlings very well. After 3 years we expect to start harvesting from the first two acres. Price for one kilogram of avocado is Tshs 3000 (*just over £1.00*) and each tree bears around 90 kilograms of avocado. This new project in Tanzania's Southern highland zone will give a good income to community and individuals. There is a big market from America, China and India who buy from here.'*

St David's has also supported a new church building project. This is a poor agricultural church community that is eager to serve God by serving the town, especially by keeping unemployed youth on the straight and narrow by providing work via these projects, and by helping families economically. Some congregations struggle to support the projects and take extra jobs in the area in order to help fund them. We are constantly amazed and encouraged by their love for God and their sacrificial commitment to serving the local community.

Their Bishop is visiting St Asaph diocese once again in July. So that we can make a summer gift for him to take back to Mafinga there will be a special coffee morning with craft stalls 10.15am - 11.15am on Wednesday 6th July before the usual 11.30am meditation to which people are also invited. There will be preserves, cakes, jewellery, plants and cards - all home-made or hand-crafted by church members.

Mafinga parish's latest project is for beekeeping, starting with building their own hives, so our logo for the coffee/craft morning is a bee! *This project is expected to start in June 2022 and will be carried out at Itimbo church where there is a church farm with good forest too and good favourable conditions to attract bees. This project is expected to start to bear fruits for the first season in June 2023 by which time we expect we will have 60 bee boxes at the field.*

Everyone is warmly invited to this event in St David's coffee lounge and contributions to the cake/baking stall will be gratefully received on the day.

More details from Elizabeth Bass, tel: 01492 546658