



At the going down
of the sun and
in the morning
We will remember them

CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH
MAGAZINE
NOVEMBER 2021 ISSUE 185**

*For God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.*

Psalm 46 v 1

Minister Revd John Gray - details on Contact Page
Church Secretary Mrs Sally Edmondson

Dear Friends,

November has a few church and community highlights in our calendars and diaries: All Saints, Guy Fawkes, Remembrance Sunday and the Armistice; less known is Christ the King Sunday, and we have the first Sunday of Advent in November this year. Of course, All Saints is followed by All Souls Day and preceded by All Hallows' Eve ("Halloween"), which is at the end of October. No doubt Halloween can be fun for some, I prefer the Protestant alternative for the day, October 31: Reformation Day. We should include that in the many days in this period to remember, as an "alternative" not just to Halloween, but, in a sense, to All Saints Day. Because in a Reformed interpretation we are "all saints", the "communion of saints", but, obviously, culturally the saints of old played important roles in our History.

Talking about remembering. Of course, Remembrance Day is in the centre of our thinking. Remembering still matters a lot, not just wars and those lost in them or injured by them, not just those currently in the armed forces – though we mustn't minimise that at all. We need to remember the history of our countries, countries we came from or have always lived, British History (even Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators), and the ways our ancestors fought for freedom and how they achieved peace, because "Historia est magistra vitae". We need to remember our church story in the context of the story of the United Reformed Church (as an exercise for next year's big nationwide URC celebration) and who we are as the inheritors of the Reformation. Wycliffe, Hus, Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Knox, among many others to be named. But above all, we need to remember that Jesus is still Lord, that Christ is still King, the King of kings.

When we remember we draw from the hope, faith and sacrifice of our ancestors and forefathers when they worked on and dedicated their lives for real change. Faith and sacrifice that have been so important in tackling with the challenges and negatives that Covid-19 has imposed on us, and in change things. But in the deepest sense, hope and light come only through Christ – and we are assured of that by remembering the past.

Ultimately we have hope, and light at the end of every tunnel, because God is faithful. Scripture and church history point so consistently to a merciful, saving, promise-keeping, faithful God. Nothing "in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord". Let's remember, what a faithful God we have. Let's remember his faithfulness to "saints of old", remarkable leaders in our History, forefather of the Reformation, but most of all, let's remember that Jesus is King in our lives, and his sacrifice on the cross puts all things right.

with love and prayers, John

Harvest Thanksgiving Gifts

Our gifts of food, toiletries etc. were most gratefully received by Southfield Road Church Food Bank. Thank you everyone for your contributions.

While I was there delivering the boxes I was aware that they run a cafe (with lovely home baking) on a Friday from 11.00am - 2.00pm with easy parking just outside the church building. Perhaps you might like to meet up with friends some Friday and have coffee/tea/chat.

Everyone welcome.

Christmas Lunch

Provided Covid 19 doesn't get any worse and cause restrictions the plan is to have Christmas Lunch (after worship) on **Sunday 12th December**. Due to the fact that I need exact numbers for this lunch your booking and payment are required no later than **Sunday 5th December**. The cost will be **£8.00** per person.

Commitment for Life Prayer

Prayer for Black Lives Matter

God of all life, Lord of all nations, God of all peoples. We thank you for our lord Jesus Christ, who did not allow any colour, or shade of the skin, to divide and break your community using the mantra of race, religion and ethnicity. Lord, O Lord, we are dying because of blackness. Lord, we rejoice at the resurrection of our risen Lord, who conquered the evil of racial divide for all peoples on the Cross of Calvary. Lord Jesus Christ, you died on the Cross and rose to life. You liberated all, including people of colour and the caucasian. Lord, do "Black Lives Matter" in your world? Can black women and men sing a song of praise to God? Lord take pity upon the sheep of your flock. Grant us life, grant us hope, grant us a cure to the virus of racism.

In the name of the risen Lord, we beseech you.

Amen.

Naison M Hove

Communion Offering for November

Cancer Café

Those of you who receive North Somerset Times may have read the following article in a recent edition:

"Your Cancer Café is meeting again at No 65, High Street on the third Thursday in the month from 2-4pm. In October there was a pampering hand massage available as well as plenty of refreshments and cake. Come along and meet other people who have been affected by cancer."

A very worthwhile and much appreciated facility, charity funded, for people in our area. Your donation would be gratefully received.

Thank you.

Ministry and Mission Fund

Every month we pay an amount to Synod and the good news is that next year (2022) we will be paying £80 per month (£960 per annum) less. The new amount will be £1110 per month.

For those who are not aware of what this money is used for, it covers direct ministry costs relating to stipends, pension and NI contributions for stipendiary ministers. Ministry related costs include the costs of ministerial training and synod moderators. A wide variety of other work is funded centrally, including discipleship development, children and youth work, ecumenical and international links, governance and administration also.

The figure is based on our membership numbers, income and expenditure two years in arrears.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to speak with me (you never know I might know the answer).

Take care and stay safe, everyone.

Isabel

The URC daily devotions

The URC daily devotions can be accessed via devotions.urc.org.uk These are approx 5 minutes long. The Sunday service can be accessed from the same site.

The Eulogy given at the Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration
for the life of Madeline Chisholm McIlveen
20th August 1931 - 4th October 2021

Madeline was a very kind, caring and devoted wife, mother, grandmother and mother in law. Madeline loved her reading, crosswords and codewords. She was an enthusiastic knitter and quilter and could turn her hand to anything related to crafts. She loved to keep busy with all these things and also with baking cakes!

Madeline was the fifth born of a family of six in Belfast Co. Down and lived through the troubled times of the Blitz, a hard time that she never forgot. She had to leave school at 14, although she was a very good student. She trained as a tailoress making expensive gentlemen's suits. The precision of this work suited her and she spent much of her spare time generously sewing and making clothes for her extended family. She also played the piano and sang in St Patrick's church of Ireland choir.

When Madeline and David married she moved to live in the more rural Glengormley, which took some adjustment after living in the centre of Belfast. She was very involved in Glengormley Presbyterian church singing in the choir and with various events linked to the church. The church was central to her life. Madeline worked as a dressmaker at home, whilst caring for her two children, making great clothes and wedding dresses and outfits for a loyal clientele. However, she later decided to take a college bookkeeping course which led to her being offered a job at Unilever in Belfast, which she enjoyed for a good many years until her retirement.

Madeline also loved painting and art classes and her home was filled with her paintings. Madeline and David enjoyed their travels and got to see a lot more of the world with Lezley in the USA and Hilary in England. It opened another chapter in their lives, especially after retirement when they moved to England.

Madeline enjoyed her gardening in retirement and it was difficult for her to leave her final house in Failand after David passed away. She

was frail towards the end of her life but still enjoyed going out for drives from the Hawthorns on a regular basis.

She was always generous with her time and loved to send quilts and jumpers as gifts to extended family, especially in the USA. She was also kind and generous to strangers and animals, making regular donations to charities to help children and animals. She was ready to help anyone in need and to give her time and money and to work for others. She exemplified kindness to others, which is something we will miss greatly and seek to honour as we cherish her in our hearts.

Tribute to Madeline from Church

Madeline was a well-liked lady in the Church. She enjoyed the church fellowship which bought her and David to become members. Madeline's gift was her singing voice which kept us in tune. Madeline attended church regularly, often reading the lesson in her lovely strong Irish accent, which made us concentrate. Following the service she loved the fellowship of church family friends sitting and chatting over a coffee. She attended Bright Hour where she played the piano and led us in singing. Although she lived in Failand Madeline never let us down arriving early to play the piano. often arriving before we had opened the hall

Thank you Madeline for being our friend

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY - October 2021		
SUNDAY 7TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev'd Sue Cossey	11.00AM
SUNDAY 14TH	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION with Rev.d John Gray	11.00AM
SUNDAY 21ST	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d Ken Marsh	11.00AM
SUNDAY 28TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d John Gray	11.00AM
SUNDAY 5TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mrs Stella Patterson	11.00AM
Communion - 14 th November T. Paterson & E. Taylor		

ROTAS FOR NOVEMBER			
	FLOWERS	ELDER	DOOR
SUNDAY 7TH	ESMOND	S. EDMONDSON	BARBARA
SUNDAY 14TH	SALLY	T. PATERSON	JOHN
SUNDAY 21ST		T. PATERSON	
SUNDAY 28TH		E. TAYLOR	

Door Rota

We need volunteers to welcome our friends to church and hand out our Order of service and Connect. Please speak to an Elder if you able to help

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Joshua Dyer, aged 14 was tasked at school to write a poem for Remembrance Day 2019. An hour later, without any help he produced the following poignant poem. . . .

ONE THOUSAND MEN ARE WALKING

One thousand men are walking
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
The spirit as their guide
They walk toward the light milord
They walk towards the sun
They smoke and laugh and smile together
Their foes are now outrun
These men live on forever
In the hearts of those they saved
A nation truly grateful
For the path of peace they paved
They march as friends and comrades
But they do not march for war
Step closer to salvation
A tranquil steady corps
The meadows lit with golden beams
A beacon for the brave
The emerald grass untrampled
A reward for what they gave
They dream of those they left behind
And know they dream of them
Forever in those poppy fields
There walks one thousand men

[Listen to Joshua Reading](#)

Youtube opens in a new window



Inspired by the song:

[On The Road to Passchendaele](#)

Youtube opens in a new window

Josh, from Leominster, Herefordshire, attends Tenbury High Ormiston Academy in Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire.