



CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH
MAGAZINE
SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE 195**

May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

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

Dear Friends,

Another Jubilee to celebrate!

Yes, the URC is celebrating its own Jubilee this year!

The United Reformed Church began on 5th October 1972 when two churches, the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church in England and Wales joined together after the union had been recognised by an Act of Parliament. It further developed when the Churches of Christ joined the URC In 1981 followed by the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

So the URC is 50 in 2022!
50 years of FAITH, HOPE and LOVE!!

But what is a Jubilee?

Jubilee is a word from the Bible. Every 50 years is a Jubilee year. It is a year when all is put right again. All property is returned to its original owner, all slaves are freed, even the land is given a year off growing crops. It's a time for looking back and celebrating how far we've come, and for beginning again. It's a time when all of God's creation can rest, reset and rejoice.

So, let us share our stories and celebrate together, remembering that the ethos of the URC is to be intentionally outward looking; remembering that we are committed to 'God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - the living God, the only God, ever to be praised'.

Do look at the Jubilee displays on the notice boards in the hall looking at the many aspects of the life of this church in the years from 1972 to 2022 and re-live your memories with others.

Happy Jubilee to us all! Patricia

Time for Jubilee (taken from 'Freed to Live!
The URC Prayer Handbook 2022)

Let there be singing; let there be dancing;
a celebration as has never been before.
Let there be laughter and great rejoicing -
O let there be jubilee.

God of Liberation cries
Unshackle my people, remove their burdens, set them free;
God of Unity says
Tear down your barriers; love radical welcome;
God of the shunned and who hears the excluded, says
Raise the voices of the silenced and ignored;
God of Diversity, demands
Abundant life - for every people and every nation;
God of justice says
Deal equitably and fairly with 'mighty' and 'lowly',
God of extravagance says
Share the harvests
of food, medicine, science and technology -
let all have enough; let all people flourish;
God of Creation says
Let the Earth be renewed
and all of Creation burst with praise.

When, O God, when is the time
for releasing, embracing
listening, life-giving
justice, sharing
renewal and praise?

God of Eternity says
now is the time - time and past time;
Today is the day for Jubilee.

by Karen Campbell

Commitment for Life Prayer

Prayer for Healthcare for the world

Life-giving God,
We pray for a new Earth where individuals matter more than profits; where women and children are empowered; where special need, ill-health, other ability or disadvantage is no bar to a fulfilling life; where vested interests do not prevent anyone from accessing medical treatment.

We ask for clean water, decent sanitation, living space and health education for all people, especially those forced to crowd together in vast conurbations.

Above all, we thank you for ordinary people making change happen:
Village Health Workers in Zimbabwe teaching Covid-19 precautions to remote communities;
The Shisamondnay Forum in Bangladesh, promoting healthy vegetables for children to eat;
UNES in Central America working with local health teams to tackle environmental health problems.
The Palestinian Agricultural Development Association and YMCA rehabilitation programme for people injured in conflict.

And for every unsung hero whose love, your love, overflows into selfless action.
For the sake of Jesus Christ who came to heal this suffering world. Amen

Charles Jolly

The URC daily devotions

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

Communion Offering for September

Nailsea Leg Club

The aim of the leg club is to provide high quality, evidence-based clinical treatment by qualified NHS nurses whilst alongside providing refreshments, social interaction and fun.

Commitment for Life Envelopes

The Elders have agreed that the usual envelopes for Commitment for Life not be issued at Harvest this year and instead we would be grateful for your gifts of canned and dry goods (or even cash) for the Southfield Road Church Food Bank on the morning of 2nd October. These would then be delivered as soon as possible after that date.

Harvest Lunch

This will take place on Sunday 2nd October after worship. The cost will be £5.00 per person and Isabel would appreciate payment when booking. All proceeds will go to Commitment for Life. On that same day we will be celebrating the 50 years anniversary of the United Reformed Church. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible.

Future Lunch Dates

Sunday 20th November - worship, lunch and Church Meeting

Sunday 4th December - worship and Christmas Lunch (at long last)!

More details closer to the time.

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2022		
SUNDAY 4TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d Stephen Newell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 11TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d John Gray	11.00AM
SUNDAY 18TH	SUNDAY COMMUNION WORSHIP with Rev.d John Gray	11.00AM
SUNDAY 25TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d Ruth Brown	11.00AM
SUNDAY 2ND	HARVEST SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev.d John Gray	11.00AM

Flower Rota SEPTEMBER

Offers to arrange in a vase appreciated. Please speak to Sally or Barbara. Also if you are aware of anyone who would appreciate receiving some flowers please let an elder know.

September 4: Yvonne
 11: Barbara
 18: Flower Fund
 25: Flower Fund

Reading Rota for SEPTEMBER

September 4: Patrick Marshfield
 11: Peter Cast
 18: Isobel Walters
 25: Peter Cast

October 2: Patrick Marshfield

If anyone in the congregation would like to read the scripture on a Sunday morning please see Isabel.

A father and son went fishing one day. After a couple of hours out in the boat the boy suddenly became curious about the world around him. He asked his father, "How does this boat float?" The father thought for a moment, then replied, "Don't rightly know, son."

The boy returned to his contemplation, then turned back to his father, "How do fish breathe under water?" Once again the father replied, "Don't rightly know, son."

A little later the boy asked his father, "Why is the sky blue?" Again the father replied, "Don't rightly know, son."

Worried he was going to annoy his father, he says,

"Dad, do you mind me asking you all these questions?"

"Of course not, son," came the reply, "If you don't ask questions you'll never learn anything!!"