



# CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED  
REFORMED CHURCH  
MAGAZINE  
JULY 2023 ISSUE 205**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your  
own understanding  
Proverbs 3 v 5*

Church Secretary Mrs Sally Edmondson

Dear Friends,

In 1962 I joined the Law Society Staff and for the next nearly 40 years I was engaged in the Legal Profession. At the same time I acted as Lay Minister in a number of churches but that did not pay the bills!

Sometimes I had to go to Chancery Lane in London and at Bishop's Court Gate nearby was a notice which read:

“Persons with burdens are not  
allowed to pass through”

This notice had been put up by lawyers in 1868 to prevent workmen entering and using the alleyway to deliver goods and coal which would have been a helpful short cut for them. How different is this from our Lord Jesus who said:

“Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden  
and I will give you rest ..... my burden is light”  
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Jesus is always there to help us carry life's burdens, and the greatest of these is sin, guilt and habits.

John Bunyan in “Pilgrims Progress” confessed:  
“I am so laden with this burden”, yet when he came to the Cross of Christ he was “eased of his burden” which tumbled from his back, whereupon he gave three leaps for joy.

Whatever your burden may be today, remember that burdens are lifted at Calvary, and Jesus is always there to help.

Your friend,  
*Jeffrey*

## The Visitor

One day, a man went to visit a church. He arrived early, parked his car, and got out. Another car pulled up near him, and the driver told him, "I always park there. You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat, and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!"

The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the church sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit. You took my place!"

The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still said nothing.

Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood, and his appearance began to change.

Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?"

The visitor replied, "I took your place."

## Commitment for Life Prayer

Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory

Dear God,  
we thank you for the freedom we enjoy in this country,  
that we can walk to school relatively safely,  
and we have access to hot and cold running water 24/7.

We pray for your protection over all children who live in  
constant fear each day.

May they know that you are with them and give them  
strength and courage to face whatever the day brings.  
Amen

Commitment  
for Life

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

## The URC daily devotions

The URC daily devotions can be accessed via  
[devotions.urb.org.uk](http://devotions.urb.org.uk) These are approximately 5 minutes long.  
The Sunday service can be accessed from the same site.

## Communion Offering for July

### St Peter's Hospice

St Peter's Hospice provides specialist  
palliative care to adults in the wider Bristol  
area with life-limiting illnesses, including  
support to their relatives, friends and  
professional carers.

All Hospice services are free of charge to everyone.



## Communion Offertory Plate

Please note that the Communion offertory plate will, in future, be on  
the left hand side as you enter the Church, together with the notice to  
say what that month's offering is for. The general offertory plate will  
remain in its usual place on the right.

This change has been instigated as it has become increasingly  
difficult for your treasurer to be sure which is which!!

### Flower ministry

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| July 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | Yvonne          |
| July 9 <sup>th</sup>   | Peter           |
| July 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Yvonne          |
| July 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | Barbara         |
| July 30 <sup>th</sup>  | Kevin and Janet |
| August 6 <sup>th</sup> | Patrick         |

### Readers

|          |
|----------|
| Isabel   |
| Peter    |
| Jill     |
| Patricia |
| Stella   |
| Patrick  |

Please do speak to Sally or Barbara if you know of anyone including  
outside our church family who would appreciate flowers following our  
service and if you are able to deliver with a card (I have) we will then  
be supporting our community beyond our church doors.

The reason to give may be a happy or sad or "just because" as my  
Auntie Joan used to say!!

## CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – JULY 2023

|                               |  |                |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup></b>  | <b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b><br>with Isabel and Patricia            | <b>11.00AM</b> |
| <b>SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup></b>  | <b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b><br>with Mr Jeffery Ponsonby            | <b>11.00AM</b> |
| <b>SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup></b> | <b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b><br>with Mrs Stella Paterson            | <b>11.00AM</b> |
| <b>SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup></b> | <b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b><br>With Rev'd David Jewell             | <b>11.00AM</b> |
| <b>SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup></b> | <b>SUNDAY COMMUNION WORSHIP</b><br>with Rev.d Stephen Newell | <b>11.00AM</b> |

### Good Morning

I am God. Today I will be handling all of your problems.  
Please remember that I do not need your help.

If the devil happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, DO NOT attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFJTD (something for Jesus to do) Box. It will be addressed in MY time, not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold on to it or attempt to remove it. Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your problem.

If it is a situation that you think you are capable of handling, please consult me in prayer to be sure that it is the proper resolution.

Because I do not sleep nor do I slumber, there is no need for you to lose any sleep.

Rest my child. If you need to contact me, I am only a prayer away.

### Open Arms

Dear God of all goodness and mercies,  
Father of all Creation,  
Lead me this day in the pathway of  
Love and justice for all.

You, whose name is Love,  
Teach me to love  
Irrespective of colour  
Or class  
Or any division - real or imagined,  
For we are all your people  
All made to your design  
In your own likeness and image.

Let us -  
Who are called by your name -  
Welcome all others  
With open arms of love  
Giving thanks that you welcome us  
With open arms too.

*Shirley Campbell*