



CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH
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*Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord*
Psalm 27 v 14

Minister Rev'd David Jewell
Church Secretary Mrs Sally Edmondson
nailseaurc.org.uk

Dear Friends,

You may be confused by the number of Christian titles available when you are choosing a devotional or testimony-style book. So, I invite you to metaphorically come with me to my study bookshelves and I will recommend some titles to you.

I use a series of Bible commentaries to aid me in my studies and I like to have three for each New Testament book. If you are looking for a set then I would recommend William Barclay, although he only covers the New Testament. 'The Bible speaks today' is also very good and I often refer to my IVP commentaries which cover every book of the Bible.

I am also wending my way through two devotional books, which are ones which help you draw closer to God. The titles of these are 'How to hear God' by Pete Greig, a very straight forward read on how to listen out for God in a deeper way. The other is 'The secret place of thunder' by John Starke. This book is challenging my need to be noticed, acclaimed, and encouraging a deeper more solitary walk with Christ.

You may have heard the story of my ordination in 2010 in Cornwall and that the man the church had asked to preach that day collapsed and died during that service. I had only met him once before and he encouraged me to take a walk with him in his beautiful garden. We sat in his gazebo, and he told me that this was his secret place where he came to meet with God. At the end of our short chat, he prayed for me and touched my shoulder as he did so. It was like an electric shock going through me! This man knew the secret of spending much time alone with Jesus!

I also recommend 'God on mute' also by Pete Greig and anything by Tom Wright or N T Wright (same person), C S Lewis and Tim Keller.

I don't read them so often, but I used to enjoy an 'experience' book. Ones like 'Sermons in solitary confinement' by Richard Wurmbrand and Jackie Pullinger's 'Chasing the dragon' I would heartily recommend.

May God bless you and speak to you as you read! David

World Day of Prayer

This is taking place in our church on Friday 1 March at 2.30 pm and this year's service has been prepared by the women of Palestine.

Everyone is welcome to join the service - feel free to bring a friend - or two.

After the service refreshments will be served and if you feel you could lend a hand with this then please let Isabel know.

Annual Church Meeting

This will take place on Sunday 7 April after worship and lunch.

Lunch will cost £5.00 per head with all proceeds going to Commitment for Life.

Names with payment to Isabel, please, by 31 March.

When the Ordinary becomes Extraordinary

Dear God,
in my thankfulness this day
may I not overlook how frequently
your remarkable gift of love is found
in actions that are small and commonplace.

May I receive love in a welcoming smile,
and return it that way too.

May moments of patient waiting give time
to hold others, fondly, in my thoughts.

May necessary journeys and routine tasks be seen
as space and time to think, pray and give.

May I learn afresh that love in practice need not
be always worthy and purposeful but sometimes
may be frivolous and fun!

Amen

Ian Fosten
URC Prayer Handbook

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 March

Vine Counselling Services



A charity based in Congresbury offering affordable (donation based) professional counselling to adults in the community who need help to cope with anxiety, stress, bereavement, depression, bullying, trauma, loneliness, abuse, family problems.

For enquiries relating to counselling for children/young people, please send an email to info@vinecounselling.org.

The Sundial

Conscience is like a sundial. When the sun shines upon a sundial it points us to the right time. In the same way our consciences point us in the right direction in life. However, it's important to remember that the sundial works only when the sun is shining upon it. When the moonlight shines on the dial it points to the wrong time. When a torch is shone upon the sundial it again points us to the wrong time. In these instances the sundial is unreliable. In the same way our consciences are sometimes unreliable because the "light" shining upon them is not the voice of God, but the voices of our families or our culture or even Satan. In these instances we'll feel false guilt over things that should not make us feel guilty, or no guilt over things that should! The key for the Christian is to have their conscience continually illuminated by God's Spirit.

Source: John White, *The Fight*

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – MARCH 2024		
SUNDAY 3RD	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mr Jeffrey Ponsonby	11.00AM
SUNDAY 10TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mr Angus Gregson	11.00AM
SUNDAY 17TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev'd Dr Keith Clements	11.00AM
SUNDAY 24TH	PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mr Brian Jones	11.00AM
THURSDAY 28TH	MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE with Rev'd David Jewell	7PM
FRIDAY 29TH	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE with Rev'd David Jewell	10.30AM
FRIDAY 29TH	CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVICE At Nailsea Shopping Centre	11.30AM
SUNDAY 31ST	EASTER SUNDAY COMUNION WORSHIP with Rev'd David Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 7TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Rev'd Sue Cossey	11.00AM

Flowers

March 3rd Jean C
 March 10th
 March 17th Yvonne
 March 24th
 March 31st Flower Fund

Readers

Patrick
 Margaret
 Peter
 Isabel
 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.

Pipe Organ Recital

Did you know that the organ in Redland Park is one of the most Interesting and versatile Pipe Organs in Bristol.

A group are planning a series of short concerts on various Saturdays. Coffee and cakes will be available at 10.30 am followed by Organ Music at 11.00 am for approximately 45 minutes. More details will follow.

For admission they will be asking for a donation of £5 for adults under 18`s free.

Initial Dates March 13th Eric Tyson
 March 23rd to be announced