

CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED
REFORMED CHURCH
MAGAZINE
SEPTEMBER 2025 ISSUE 222**

The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God stands forever
Isaiah 40 v 8

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nailseaurc.org.uk

Dear Friends,

August is for many a month of refreshment and rest, a change from the regular routines. For me, it is a time of reflection and more studied observation. Here are a few things I have noted...

1. A poem someone sent me:

When you plant your garden, Plant three rows of peas.

Peas of mind, peas of heart, peas of soul.

Plant three rows of squash.

Squash gossip, squash indifference, squash selfishness.

Plant three rows of lettuce.

Lettuce be kind, lettuce be happy, lettuce really love one another.

Water freely with patience, cultivate with love.

There is much fruit in your garden because you reap and sow.

To conclude-we must have thyme.

Thyme for fun, thyme for rest, thyme for ourselves, thyme for God, thyme for one another.

2. I listened to the 'Newsagents' podcast introduced by Emily Mathis, entitled, 'What is going on with young people and faith?'

3. I watched on BBCIPLAYER: 'Saving lives at sea' series ten episode one, where RNLI volunteers rescue over eighty migrants from death in the English Channel. Are these not doing the work of God?!

4. A thought which came into my head: 'The benefits of following Jesus are nebulous and sometimes painful, but they are there to be enjoyed.'

5. A reminder from a visiting preacher quoting from the Westminster Shorter Catechism: 'The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.'

6. An Instagram message from Graham Kendrick, emphasising that worship is both vertical and horizontal, to God and with other people.

God bless, David.

Autumn Bible Study dates and Topics

led by our minister, David - 2pm in the church hall.

Everyone welcome

September 9TH The balance of Christian life

September 23RD Revelations

October 14TH Old Testament prophets

October 28TH The historical books from Joshua to Esther

November 11TH How the Old and New Testaments link

November 25TH Genesis to Deuteronomy

December 9TH Books from the Old Testament

Help Needed

Please can we have volunteers to assist with 'meeting' and 'greeting' at the door on Sunday mornings.. Also we would very much appreciate help with serving teas and coffees after the service.

Thank you

Equipment – pebbles and a bowl of water.

Zimbabwe is famous for one of the largest waterfalls in the world – Victoria Falls. It forms the largest sheet of falling water in the world. In the Bible, water is a powerful symbol representing life, cleansing and renewal. Yet despite the huge waterfall with its thundering waters, Zimbabwe suffers from much drought.

Take a small pebble and drop it gently into the bowl of water.
Watch the ripples go out.

Prayer

Dear God, we know that a huge river starts from a small spring of water. Each tiny drop of rain that falls into it makes it bigger and stronger. We pray for farmers in Zimbabwe that struggle with their crops due to a lack of rain. We pray for the provision of water through bore holes and the constructions of water harvesting pits. Amen.

The URC daily devotions

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

Communion Offering for September

Wellspring

Our Wellspring Counselling team includes counsellors from a variety of training backgrounds

and they are able to work with adults or young people who may be experiencing difficulties in life or mild problems with their mental health. All our Counsellors are professionally trained, belong to a professional body, have regular clinical supervision and engage in Continued Professional Development (CPD), as recommended by the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists (BACP). We have a mix of qualified and student counsellors working for us and during the assessment process, we use our expertise to decide who is the best counsellor for you to see.



Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday 5th October and, as in the past few years, donations of dried goods will be gratefully received and passed on to our local Food Bank. Please make sure that all donations are within their sell-by date.

Also, on 5th, Harvest lunch will be served after worship at a cost of £5.00 per head with all proceeds going to Commitment for Life. Please book and pay Isabel for lunch by Sunday 28th September.

CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2025		
SUNDAY 7TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mrs Stella Paterson	11.00AM
TUESDAY 7TH	BIBLE STUDY with Revd. David Jewell	2.00PM
SUNDAY 14TH	COMMUNION SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. David Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 21ST	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. Rachel Haig	11.00AM
SUNDAY 28TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Revd. David Jewell	11.00AM
SUNDAY 5TH	SUNDAY WORSHIP with Mr Brian Jones	11.00AM

Flowers

Readers

September 7th	Yvonne	Isabel
September 14 th	Esmond and Patricia	Jane
September 21 st	Donation	Peter
September 28 th	John F	Jeremy
October 3 rd	Sally	Stella

Weekly date list will be on notice board in the corridor
 Thank you to all who donate to our outreach causes
 If you are willing to make a small donation to church flowers at any time of the year please let me know as I put into Connect a month ahead eg. anniversaries, birthdays that can be celebrated with flowers which are then given to those of our congregation or friends who will appreciate the thought, as we offer mission outreach.

Understanding the Bible

How important is the Bible? It's so vital that people in many countries risk their lives to translate it into their native languages. Often, these are ordinary believers in Jesus who face arrest for translating the words of Scripture into a heart language others can understand.

One female translator from a country hostile to believers in Jesus said, "I must complete this work. I want to see my beloved ones experience salvation in Christ." And a man who organises persecuted Christians to secretly translate Scripture explains that the Bible is essential to growing mature believers in local churches: "You can start a church, but (without) the Bible in its heart language, it will typically only last one generation."

Why are they doing this? Because there's no other book like the Bible. Its preservation through the centuries is unique. Its authenticity and its representation of the human heart is accurate. It's "alive and active....(and) judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12). And "all Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16), inspired by Him. And most important, it reveals the source and reality of "salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (v.15).

Let's read, cherish and live by the Scriptures. And as God provides, let's help those around the world receive it and understand it.

Dear God, thank you for the scriptures and for the privilege of sharing them with others

Source : Our Daily Bread

Nailsea Climate Cafe

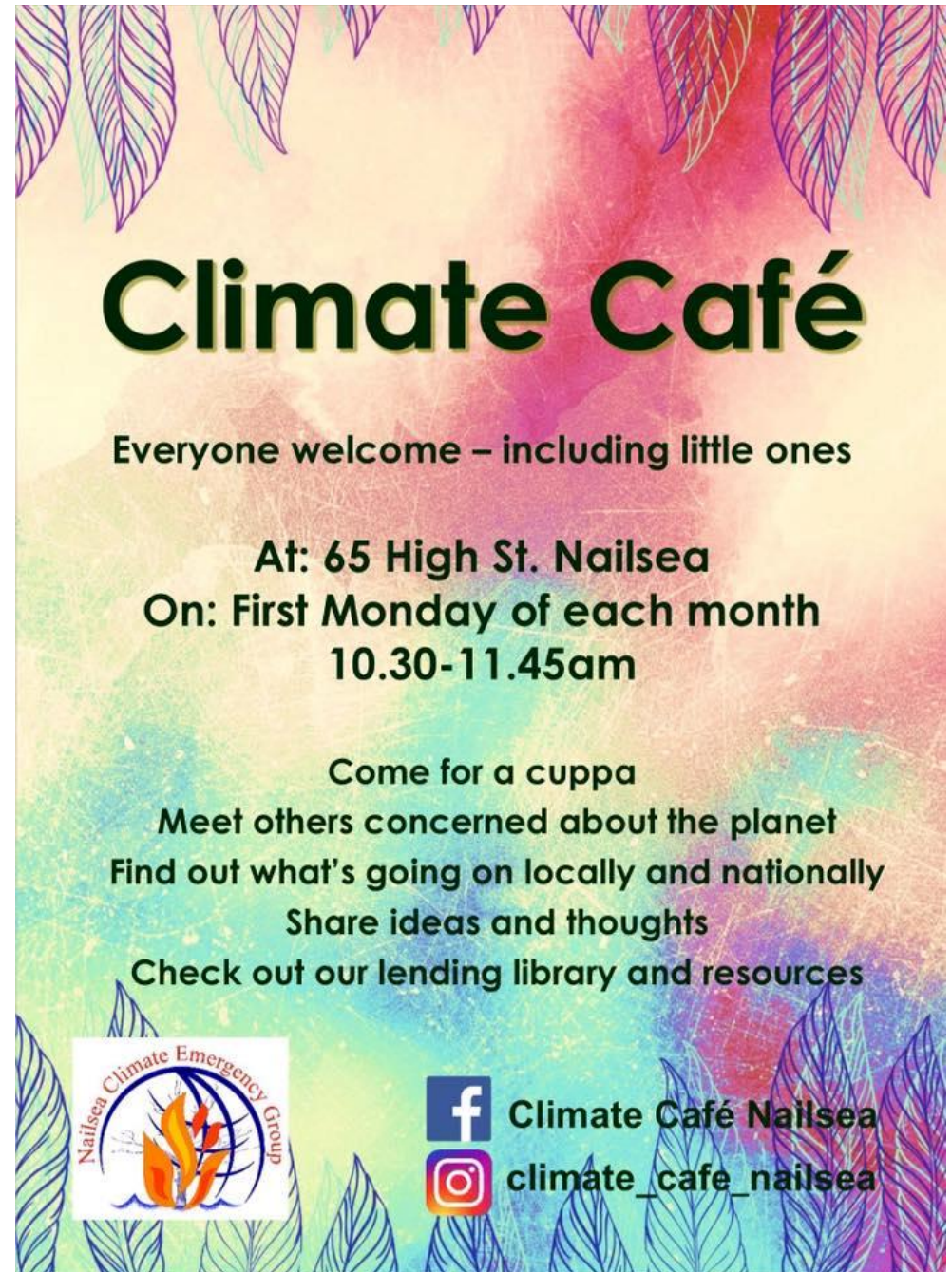
After our August break we are opening our doors again to local people living in Nailsea and surrounding areas - from those deeply concerned to those just curious to know more about the climate crisis we are facing.

We at Nailsea Climate Emergency Group, would be most grateful if you felt you could promote these cafés in your parish newsletters.

Below is what is happening at September's café:

Nailsea Climate Cafe are thrilled to have not one but two speakers at our September Café. Lynne Easton, an experienced Flood Warden from Chew Valley and Alex, a roving Flood Coordinator, will be coming to speak to us about their work protecting and supporting their community during flash flooding. They will share their experiences from the last decade and give us tips on how we can prepare ourselves in Nailsea and surrounding areas.

They will be joining us on Monday 1st September at 65 High Street at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome. The event is, as always, free to attend and refreshments are provided. Do join us, perhaps put the first Monday of the month in your diary - then you'll never miss a café!





Climate Café


Everyone welcome – including little ones

At: 65 High St. Nailsea
On: First Monday of each month
10.30-11.45am

Come for a cuppa
Meet others concerned about the planet
Find out what's going on locally and nationally
Share ideas and thoughts
Check out our lending library and resources



Climate Café Nailsea



climate_cafe_nailsea

Inside the Walls

It is said that during the Second World War some soldiers serving in France wanted to bury a friend and fellow soldier who had been killed. Being in a foreign country they wanted to ensure their fallen comrade had a proper burial. They found a well-kept cemetery with a low stone wall around it, a picturesque little Catholic church and a peaceful outlook. This was just the place to bury their friend. But when they approached the priest he answered that unless their friend was a baptised Catholic, which he wasn't, he could not be buried in the cemetery.

Sensing the soldiers disappointment the priest showed them a spot outside the walls where they could bury their friend. Reluctantly they did so.

The next day the soldiers returned to pay their final respects to their fallen friend but could not find the grave. "Surely we can't be mistaken. It was right here!" they said. Confused, they approached the priest who took them to a spot inside the cemetery walls. "Last night I couldn't sleep" said the priest. "I was troubled that your friend had to be buried outside the cemetery walls, so I got up and moved the wall."

