



# CONNECT

**NAILSEA UNITED  
REFORMED CHURCH  
MAGAZINE  
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Be joyful in hope,  
patient in affliction,  
faithful in prayer  
Romans 12:12

Minister Rev'd David Jewell  
Church Secretary Mrs Sally Edmondson  
[nailseaurc.org.uk](http://nailseaurc.org.uk)

Dear Friends,

There have been many of us who have been troubled with back complaints, I'm sure. Sitting, lying down, walking are very difficult, but I remember, for me, it was simply standing still which I found most difficult. I regularly spend time with people who are waiting-mainly for the phone call, the letter or the appointment at the hospital, but also for exam results or job interviews. It is a rather frustrating time-one so eagerly wants to move forward to 'get answers' that, even it is bad news, this is better than not to know, to just be waiting!

In our Christian walk there are times when the only posture that seems right is to "Stand." When we are waiting for someone special to arrive at our house, we stand at the window anticipating their arrival. When our children were young they would spend a lot of time looking out to see who could be first to notice the anticipated visitor. In church services we generally stand to sing and to receive the blessing. When we are praying for someone about a particular urgent need, we stand beside them and probably lay our hands on them. There is something dynamic about getting to our feet and standing. There are issues in our lives where we have prayed all the prayers we know how to pray, it now time to simply "Stand."

It is so easy to become passive about the things we are praying for, it seems we have been waiting for too long. We can allow discouragement to rob us of faith and hope. We can let the whisperings of the enemy say, "God is not listening to you, your prayer will never be answered."

In Isaiah we read, "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."

Galatians 5 v 1 says, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened

again by a yoke of slavery." It is your birthright as a believer to life in freedom - free from fear, free from anxiety, free from condemnation, free from carrying burdens. Waiting can prove one of the most enlightening experiences of our life. Waiting is one of the greatest challenges to our progress as Christians. In these days where goals attained, work done, tangible success is everything, God takes us away from the desire to bring in worldly attitudes to the spiritual: He reminds us that Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled seemingly little whilst here on earth, yet He is considered the most important person who has ever lived for much of the world's population.

God bless you, David

Robin Lemon

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of our dear friend Robin. His funeral service will be held on Wednesday May 8th at 1.30pm at South Bristol Crematorium. This will be followed by the wake in our church hall.

The family have requested family flowers only please, but donations, if desired will go to Tearfund

Indoor Bowls

We are offering you all an afternoon of entertainment in our hall with our friends from Wrington and Winscombe for short mat indoor bowls followed by a fish and chip supper. Should you feel unable to play and wish to be entertained please do come for the fellowship and food. Let us know if you decide to come, the cost is £10.

At the end of the day

At the end of the day  
I bring you my tiredness,  
for beneath me are your everlasting arms.

At the end of the day  
I bring you my failures,  
for with you there is forgiveness of sin.

At the end of the day  
I bring you my worries,  
for you know what I need before I ask

At the end of the day  
I bring you my dreams,  
for my hope is in you alone.

At the end of the day  
I come to you with nothing,  
for you are my all, you are with me  
and that is all that matters,  
At the end of the day.

Amen

*Fay Rowland*  
*URC Prayer Handbook*

## The URC daily devotions

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

## Communion Offering for May

### Commitment for Life

We are the URC's global justice programme. Our goal is to enable you, the local congregation, to make global justice a core foundation of your mission. We offer resources to facilitate prayer, advocacy, and effective action for the most vulnerable people in the world

Commitment  
for **Life**

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

## Prayer for Gaza's Children

God who clothes us in warm garments of grace; weave this cry for Gaza into the fabric of your peace...

We are ashamed at the depth to which humanity can sink; how eagerly we march to the drumbeat of war; how easily we are seduced by violence-justifying narratives.

Mend our broken ways; challenge our complacency; protect the children of Gaza; grant their families freedom from oppression, and bring Shalom to all who call The Holy Land home.

### DONATE TO THE URC's GAZA APPEAL

- [Download the prayer for Gaza's Children](#) (PDF | 4mb)

Source:

[Commitment for Life — Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory](#)

## CHURCH EVENTS DIARY – MAY 2024

<b>SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b> with Mrs Stella Patterson	<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>INDOOR BOWLS</b> with Fish and Chip Supper - £10	
<b>SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b> with Rev.d Dr Keith Clements	<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY WORSHIP</b> with Rev'd Jim Thornycroft	<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>SUNDAY COMMUNION WORSHIP</b> with Rev.d Daviid Jewell	<b>11.00AM</b>
<b>SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b> with Rev.d Daviid Jewell	<b>11.00AM</b>

### Flowers

### Readers

May 5<sup>th</sup> Barbara  
 May 12<sup>th</sup> Stella  
 May 19<sup>th</sup> Sally  
 May 26<sup>th</sup> Flower Fund  
 June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Patrick  
 Jane  
 Peter  
 Margaret  
 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.

## Grandma's Apron

"I don't think our kids know what an apron is. The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath because she only had a few. It was also because it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and aprons used less material. But along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, and waved her apron, and the men folk knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes. Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron - but love... "  
Inspired by Tina Trivett's poem, Grandma's Apron