

Weekly News

29 OCTOBER 2025

Igniting a Passion for God

Spending a weekend with 26 teenagers, sleeping in creaky beds and deprived of good coffee might not sound like everyone's idea of fun, but for our Ignite team it's the highlight of the year.

Our annual youth weekend away at St. Cassian's in Kintbury was once again a huge success. The general pattern is well-established, with a mixture of teaching and worship sessions paired with activities which include a low-ropes course, climbing wall and team challenges. This year's unexpected crowd pleaser turned out to be a game called 'spoons', which entails a frenzied charge around the centre to find hidden spoons. Sometimes it's the simple things...!

The first two sessions concluded *The Difference Course*, which the young people have been studying this term at Ignite. Created by the Archbishop of Canterbury, it explores three foundational habits of faith: Be curious; Be present; Reimagine.

Cliff kicked things off by leading our Friday evening session on the topic of forgiveness, and Rachael followed this up on Saturday morning by looking at belonging. The Saturday evening session was an opportunity to practice listening to God, followed by time spent in the brilliant prayer space created by Peggy and Jo. I rounded things off on Sunday by sharing communion.

It was a privilege to witness virtually all the group engaging and responding to God. Many now come into the weekend expecting to have powerful encounters with Jesus, and this sets the tone for the younger members who are there for the first time.

WHAT'S ON @ NBC

LIGHT PARTY

31ST OCTOBER

[BOOK HERE](#)

MEN'S BREAKFAST

1ST NOVEMBER

[BOOK HERE](#)

FIRST THURSDAY

6TH NOVEMBER

[BOOK HERE](#)

LADIES BREAKFAST

8TH NOVEMBER

[BOOK HERE](#)

This is also a group which is deeply joyful. They laugh with each other easily and frequently, with all ages included. The older ones readily encourage the younger ones, and are keen to use their gifts to serve. They really are a remarkable group, and we are blessed to be part of a church with such a thriving youth work. We will be hearing from some of them at an upcoming service.

Of course this is only possible because of the dedication of our fantastic youth team, brilliantly led by Sarah. Having led Ignite for several years, she is going to be stepping back as leader after Christmas, so please pray that she gets the rest she needs before rejoining as a 'regular' team member later in 2026.

Pray too for the future of Ignite, as we make plans for the new year. That God would continue to bless this work, and for the decisions which need to be taken around the ongoing leadership of the group.

Peter

Notice Board

Youth Weekend - Thank you

A huge thank-you to all who baked and prayed for the Ignite Youth Weekend Away 2025! We had a FANTASTIC time away and are looking forward to sharing some of the highlights with you all in November! *Sarah*

Audrey Lewendon

We are saddened to share the news that our longest-serving member, Audrey Lewendon, has died.

Audrey had been unable to attend NBC in recent years due to poor health, but had been in membership with us since 1956. Please pray for her husband, David, her daughter Ceri, and the rest of the family at this sad time. Funeral details will be shared in due course.

Julie Philips Thanksgiving Service

The Thanksgiving service for Julie Phillips will take place at Newbury Methodist Church on Thursday 13th November, 3:30pm.

Light Party

We're looking forward to the Light Party - taking place this Friday (31st) 5-6.30pm for children in Reception to Year 6. There are still places available, so please [book free tickets](#) for your child(ren) and invite their friends to do the same if you haven't already. Adults and Young People who will help on the day should register [here](#)

Naomi's November Speaking Tour!

Our very own 'Naomi' will be sharing about her call to missionary work at both the Men's and Ladies' Breakfasts and First Thursday over the next couple of weeks. Come along and hear about her inspiring journey so far and how God has been at work through her and find out how we can continue to pray for and support her as she serves. Booking is now open - see Page 1.

Sonrise Christian Resources

Newbury Town Market Stall - every Saturday from 25 October to 6 December, 9am – 3pm
A whole range of Christmas products, including Christmas cards, Advent calendars, Advent candles, stocking fillers and 2026 calendars, together with Christian books for adults and children, cards and gifts will be available on the Sonrise Christian Resources stall in Market Place, Newbury. Come and browse!

COINS - Pause and Pray

COINS Pause and Pray, Tuesday 4th November 2025, 13:00-15:00 at St Mary's Church Hall, Greenham. Join us to pray together for our school communities in Newbury. Refreshments are provided! These termly events are a chance to catch up with the COINS Team and other COINS volunteers. We will also be sharing our plans for The Christmas Gift, our Year 6 workshops that take place in the first two weeks of advent.



Christmas in **NARNIA**

**NBC is transforming into a Narnia wonderland for Christmas,
and we need your help!**

29th November - Decorate the Church

We have lots of jobs to do! Speak to Hannah if you'd like to help.
hannahs@newburybaptistchurch.org

Christmas Choir

Would you like to sing in our choir at the carol service
on 21st December (7pm)?

Open rehearsals every Sunday after the service
from 16th November.

Final rehearsal will be 21st December.

If you are interested please speak to Claire Timothy or Hannah.

Christmas in Narnia

On Saturday 13th December we will be running an
outreach event for families, using Narnia-themed crafts and
games to tell the Christmas story.

We need volunteers to help with set-up/pack down,
refreshments, welcoming, hosting, and lots more.
Speak to Emma in the Church Office if you'd like to get involved.





Prayer update from the Mahon family

This week our prayer page is focused upon our BMS mission partners in Peru, Dave and Michele, who have shared their latest update and prayer requests. They write:

Dear friends, we recently travelled to Lima for a few meetings and a short break. Upon arrival, we were met with unsettling news: a nationwide strike had erupted. Public transport workers—taxi and bus drivers—were protesting the growing wave of extortion and violence that has gripped their profession. Gang members are demanding exorbitant protection fees, and those who cannot pay face brutal consequences: threats, bombings, and even death. We hear frequent reports of homes being bombed simply because someone refused or was unable to pay.

The authorities remain disturbingly absent, leaving citizens feeling vulnerable and abandoned. These strikes are not new, and sadly, this criminal pattern is spreading across the country. Our own dentist in Trujillo—a single mother to a 10-year-old daughter—was forced to pay extortion money to protect her family. Months later, she was robbed in her home above her dental office. **Please pray that the police will rise to their calling and protect the people they are entrusted to serve.**

In Lima, the streets were eerily quiet. Schools shifted to virtual classes, as safe transportation was impossible. Though we didn't witness demonstrations firsthand, we were told they occurred in other parts of the city. That evening, the news was dominated by political turmoil: President Dina Boluarte was facing a congressional debate over her removal. Her popularity is low, having assumed office without campaigning—appointed after the previous president was ousted for corruption. Today, many parliamentarians manipulate the presidency to serve their own agendas. Presidents are routinely elected, accused of corruption, removed, investigated, and imprisoned—with judicial backing. It's dizzying to follow, and heartbreaking to witness the erosion of public trust. Voting is compulsory, yet many Peruvians feel disillusioned and powerless.

Please pray:

That God would raise up leaders of integrity, wisdom, and genuine love for their nation.

That corruption would be uprooted and replaced with righteousness and justice.

That honest public servants would be recognised, protected, and empowered.

That Peruvians would find renewed hope in their political system and be inspired to participate in shaping a better future.

That this beautiful country would experience peace, safety, and good governance. A state of emergency was called for 30 days on October 22nd to try and address the violence.

Thank you for standing with us in prayer. Your support means more than words can express.

With hope, The Mahons

