

BREAKWATER FESTIVAL 2026

JUNE 19TH-21ST
LONDON, ENGLAND

**CROSS POLLINATION:
CONVERSING ACROSS RELIGIOUS LINES**

FEATURING

Paul Vander Klay
Jared Smith
Nathan Jacobs

CONNECT

contact.breakwater@gmail.com
<https://tinyurl.com/BreakwaterDiscord>

TICKETS:



THE THEME

Cross Pollination: Conversing Across Religious Lines

Cross-pollination plays a pivotal role in increasing the resilience, quality, and yield of crops. At this year's Breakwater Festival, we explore how this dynamic plays out when beliefs encounter diversity. In an increasingly pluralistic world, how should we approach religious questions across difference? Does exchange deepen and strengthen what we hold sacred—or introduce tensions that diminish it? How do we discern when encounter builds resilience, and when it risks changing something essential? This festival invites us into that shared space: where difference is not avoided but engaged with honesty, curiosity, and care. Where encounter can both challenge and renew; and where something new may emerge.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19TH THE CLERKENWELL TAVERN

5:00 PM
Kick Off Gathering
Pub Chat:
Nathan Jacobs, Joseph Folley & Paul Vander Klay & Justin Brierley

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH ST MARKS CLERKENWELL

09:00 AM
Welcome & Introductions

09:30 AM
Uprooted: Stories of Faith Disruption- Panel
Jared Smith, Elizabeth Oldfield & Nemo the Mormon

11:00 AM
Seeds or Weed: Is Apologetics Helping or Hurting? - Dialogue
Nathan Jacobs, Jared Smith, Bethel McGrew & Cassidy van der Kamp

12:30 PM

Lunch Break

2:00 PM
Estuary Leadership Panel and Q&A

3:30 PM
Rando's Conversation
Paul Vander Klay & Mystery Guest

5:00 PM
Dinner Break

6:30 PM
Tilling the Sacred Ground:
Navigating Faith Conversations- Panel and Q&A
Jared Smith, Paul Vander Klay, Nathan Jacobs & Glen Scrivener

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST MARCATO MAYFAIR

10:00 AM
Ready Singer One! - Musical Performance

12:00 AM

Lunch Break

ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH

2:00 PM
Becoming Truly Human Film Screening
A Nathan Jacobs Film

4:00 PM
Live Speaker Estuary Conversation
Jared Smith, Nemo the Mormon, Naomi Brehm, Bethel McGrew & Nate Morgan Locke & Paul Vander Klay

6:00 PM
Festival Closing Remarks



Estuary Breakout Rooms will also be available to Full Festival and 2-Day ticket holders for facilitated Estuary Protocol breakout sessions. These sessions will take place during our regularly scheduled programming on both Saturday and Sunday. **Registration for breakout sessions is first come, first served and will occur on site upon arrival at the event.**



OUR MAIN CONTRIBUTORS



PAUL VANDER KLAY

A Christian Reformed pastor, online content creator and initiator of the Estuary Movement. Known for his thoughtful engagement with philosophy, theology, and culture. His life and work are dedicated to navigating the fields of faith, meaning, secularism, and the intersection of religion with modern intellectual life.

JARED SMITH

A one-man metal band, YouTuber, and atheist who loves religion. Composing and filming under the moniker Heliocentric, Jared has released three albums and dozens of documentary-style videos, amassing millions of views through his Atheist Church Audit series. He holds two degrees in theology — one of which was likely scribbled in crayon — and challenges his nearly 100,000 subscribers to deepen their understanding of, and expand their empathy for, the religious communities around them.



NATHAN A. JACOBS



An artist turned scholar turned writer, producer, and director. His newly published book, *Leibniz, Classical Theism, and the Problem of Evil: Why Classical Theism Must Affirm That Our World Is the Best of All Possible Worlds* (Routledge Studies in Seventeenth-Century Philosophy), represents his latest scholarly contribution to the field. Jacob's film work includes *KILLING POE* (2016), *BECOMING TRULY HUMAN* (2017), and *HOUSE OF DAVID* (2025), the \$100M Amazon Studios Original biblical epic series.

FEATURED GUESTS:

JOSEPH FOLLEY



a writer and YouTuber who runs the channel Unsolicited Advice, where he explores ideas drawn from philosophy and related fields. He studied at the University of Cambridge, completing his BA in 2021 and his MPhil in 2022. His academic interests include Epistemic Logic and the Divine Hiddenness Problem.

ELIZABETH OLDFIELD

the host of The Sacred podcast and the author of Fully Alive: Tending to the Soul in Turbulent Times. A former Director and now Senior Fellow of the think tank Theos, Elizabeth is also Chair of Larger Us, supporting change-makers to bridge divides and transform relationships. She appears regularly across major media including BBC television and radio, the World Service, The Financial Times, and The New York Times.



GLEN SCRIVENER



a speaker, writer and ordained minister. He serves as the Director of Speak Life in the UK, an evangelistic ministry that seeks, through preaching and media, to captivate both church and world with the love of Jesus. He is a YouTuber, podcaster, the author of ten books including the award-winning The Air We Breathe, and he is the creator and presenter of the digital evangelism course 321.

JUSTIN BRIERLEY



A writer, speaker and broadcaster, known for hosting conversations between Christians and non-Christians on radio, podcast and video. He is director of the media company 'Think Faith' and currently co-hosts the Re-Enchanting podcast and is the creator of the award-winning *Surprising Rebirth Of Belief in God* podcast documentary series and the faith debate show '*Uncommon Ground*'. Justin is married to Lucy, a church minister in Surrey, England and they have 4 amazing children.



NAOMI BREHM

A speaker and thinker, former dancer and novice poet. She co-hosts the Speak Life Podcast, seeking clarity through conversations in the intersection of modern life and Christian faith. Following a Masters in Physics, Naomi trained with OCCA The Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics and now works part-time with Speak Life while studying Theology. She has been speaking at churches, schools and universities across the UK and internationally for 14 years, her poetry has featured on Radio 4 and her favourite things in life are offline or outdoors. Normally both.



NATE MORGAN LOCKE

A filmmaker, preacher and "Reformed Mythologist", known for teaching on storytelling, theology and creativity. He has degrees in Theology and Literature from the University of London, and an MDiv from Westminster, Philadelphia. Nate has written and directed multiple short film series for Christianity Explored and Speak Life, and makes videos on YouTube and Instagram. He grew up in Narnia and has seen the world as a fairy story ever since.



BETHEL MCGREW

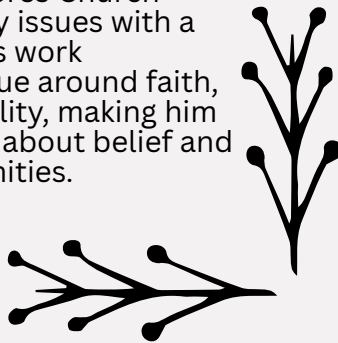


A failed mathematician, occasional poet, and former high-school teacher turned writer. She has been featured in a smattering of outlets such as The Wall Street Journal, First Things, and The Critic, and her Substack *Further Up* maintains a modest following. Her writing on Jordan Peterson and C. S. Lewis has also appeared in essay anthologies from Lexham Press and Davenant. Her work centres on religion, politics, philosophy, the arts, and whatever else she randomly feels like holding forth about. She is committed to helping her readers unite prose and passion. She also tweets. A lot.



NEMO THE MORMON

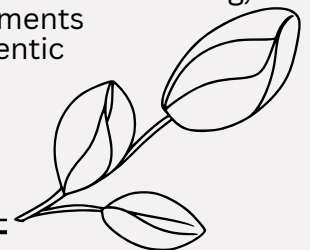
A British content creator and commentator known for his thoughtful analysis of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Through his widely followed YouTube channel, he explores Church history, doctrine, and contemporary issues with a clear, evidence-based approach. His work encourages open, respectful dialogue around faith, doubt, and institutional accountability, making him a prominent voice in conversations about belief and reform in modern religious communities.



CASSIDY VAN DER KAMP



an American filmmaker, YouTube creator, and event organizer based out of the Netherlands. She is best known as the founder of the Breakwater Festival. As the driving force behind Breakwater, she has helped create a space that brings together thinkers, creators, and seekers for in-person dialogue and collective sense making. She sits at the intersection of independent media and grassroots event-building, with a focus on cultivating environments where deep conversation and authentic engagement can flourish.



VENUE INFORMATION

All venues for the festival are located in **Central London (zones 1-2)** and are easily accessible via Tube, rail and bus. London transport in these areas are well connected, and walking between nearby stations is also often quicker than expected.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19TH THE CLERKENWELL TAVERN

2 Exmouth Market,
EC1R

Nearest stations:
Angel | Farringdon



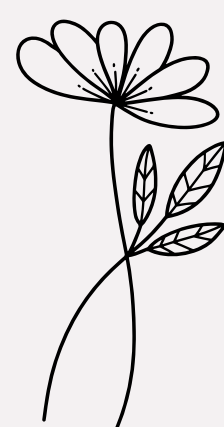
*We recommend using **Google Maps** or **Citymapper** for real-time directions.*
*Payment for Tube, bus and rail can be made via **contactless card** or **Apple/Google Pay**.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST MORNING SESSION: MERCATO MAYFAIR

St. Mark's Church, N Audley St
London W1K 6ZA

Nearest stations: Bond Street |
Marble Arch | Oxford Circus
Afternoon

St Marylebone Parish Church
17 Marylebone Road, NW1 5LT



SATURDAY JUNE 20TH

ST MARK'S, CLERKENWELL

St Mark's, Clerkenwell
Myddelton Square
London EC1R 1XX

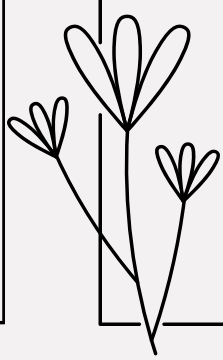
Nearest stations:
Angel | Farringdon



AFTERNOON SESSIONS: ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH

17 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5LT

Nearest station:
Baker Street



NOTE FOR SUNDAY:

On Sunday, we begin with an optional, non-ticketed community event. This is not an official part of our festival schedule or arranged by us; rather, it is an optional visit to observe a London-based community choir, *Ready Singer One*, practice their monthly regular rehearsals at Mercato Mayfair. Our main festival, ticketed event on the Sunday begins after lunch, at **St Marylebone Parish Church**.

The two venues are about 15–20 minutes' walk apart (or 1–2 short Tube stops). Mercato Mayfair is a **food hall** – perfect for grabbing lunch or snacks during the community event.

Both locations are in walkable areas. **Hyde Park** is nearby if you want a stroll between events!

LIVE ESTUARY

To close our festival, we will be holding a live Estuary conversation with our slated speakers. Paul Vander Klay will use the Estuary Protocol to facilitate the conversation, with each participant given the opportunity to place a topic on the table and contribute to the shared development of the discussion.

To learn more about Estuary and the Estuary Protocol see our website:

<https://www.thebreakwaternetwork.com/>

PARKING

PLEASE NOTE: There is **no private parking** at any festival venue. Attendees arriving by car should plan to use **public parking options**.

