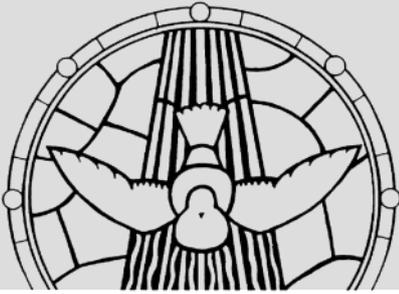


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

September 2021



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Psalm 46:10, 'Be Still and know that I am God'



About a hundred years after the time of Martin Luther (1483-1546), Europe was despondent. The continent was afflicted by the Thirty Years' war, which pitted Catholics against Protestants. The Lutheran church had lapsed into formalism and people had stopped going to church. Then God raised up the pietist movement, that was characterised by music, personal holiness, and missionary zeal. During this time of turmoil and discouragement, Katharina von Schlegel found these words in Psalm 46:10 - 'Be still and know that I am God', and she was inspired to write the beautiful hymn 'Be Still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side...'. The first lines of the hymn call for patience in grief or pain and a total surrender of our problems to God who is faithful and provides for his people.

Dear friends, the circumstances surrounding our being are seemingly comparable to those at the time of Martin Luther and Katharina von Schlegel, both at the level of the church and in the wider world: There are questions about 'what to do when the church you love tries to enter the 21st century' - with its tendencies of postmodern relativism and the consequences thereto! There are questions about whether the church's priorities should be reshuffled, so that lost and broken people, and not found and supposedly fixed ones, become the primary target audience for evangelisation. After almost two years of lockdown and online worship, many are struggling with the decision of whether to come back into the church buildings or not. And then, there is the tragedy in Afghanistan where a Taliban-led government has come to the fore following the decision of the USA and other western countries to pull out of the country and thus stop their ploy of remaking other countries in the image of the United States of America. While we all bemoan the brutality with which the Taliban government is already exercising authority over its people and salute the courage of western countries to bring some of the people to safe places elsewhere, many of us are wondering how Great Britain will be able to cope with more than twenty thousand refugees from Afghanistan and the consequences that may result if at last, some of the so-called Taliban compatriots decided to use this as an opportunity to extend their reach into this country for their devilish aims and purposes. However, I pray that we shall all be willing and able to provide help and comfort to those who come to us so that they settle in quickly and deal with any traumas from the tragedy in their home country. Other problems include continuous bereavement and death from the coronavirus and other illnesses, personal and family problems, which still preoccupy us and take away the peace and stillness that should characterise our lives! In times like this, the words of the Psalmist 'Be Still and know that I am God' should bring us great comfort and help us to hold firm to the Lord and trust that he would keep us safe and bring us the peace and hope that only he can guarantee. As Katharina von Schlegel puts it beautifully:

Be still, my soul! The Lord is on thy side;

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

Leave to thy God to order and provide;

In every change He faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul! Thy best, thy heavenly Friend

Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

We thank God that, as a church in the community of Newport-on-Tay, we have come through the most difficult days of the pandemic and are still hanging on in there as we hope for lasting solutions to our common problems. Sunday worship in the church buildings has resumed and we are pleased that an average weekly attendance of 50 persons has been registered so far. We have also resumed our pastoral visits within the village and would be happy to help anyone who may be needing pastoral presence. On Wednesday 8th September, we shall begin services at St Serf's Care Home.

As we struggle to surmount the vicissitudes of life, let us be reminded that God's peace and stillness is guaranteed for those who trust in him and let us take comfort from the eschatological words of the hymn writer: 'Be still, my soul! when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last'.

Every Blessing,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

This journal has been produced and delivered in accordance with the strict Church of Scotland published guidance on the distribution of church-related material

Worship / Covid Update

Ecclesiastes 3: v1 reminds us that *'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven:'* and v6 *'a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away.'*

Following the Scottish Government's move to Protection Level '0' and many months of 2m physical distancing within our Church building, the Kirk Session, prompted by Presbytery, have agreed that it is time to adopt the Church of Scotland recommended 1m physical distancing with effect from Sunday 5th September 2021.

This means that we will continue to keep all our mitigation measures currently in place (hand sanitisers, signage and tape, 'one-way' access and egress, the wearing of face coverings/masks, the guidance of Stewards, etc.,) but will throw away some of our restrictive tape barriers allowing greater access to the pews. We will however continue to follow our zonal seating approach - allocating families, couples or 'bubble' pairings and individuals into 3 discrete zones within our pews.

Our updated Church Risk Assessment, approved by Presbytery, has increased our Physical Distance Based Capacity limit from 70 to 94. This increased figure will allow us to accommodate our anticipated pre-Covid congregational numbers - thereby withdrawing the need to book a place on the Friday, as has been our practice over past months. Your attendance for the benefit of NHS Test & Protect will be ticked-off by a Steward using a register compiled from a list of named regular attendees. Any newcomer(s) will however be required to give their full contact details.

5th September also marks the re-opening of our Hall for both after-service hospitality and other weekly users (e.g., Boys' Brigade, Brownies, etc.,) along with our Sunday Club and Youth Seeker rooms, each with their own PDBC and user protocols.

'... a time to keep and a time to throw away' but certainly not a time to let our guard down - so, we continue to ask for your co-operation and patience as we marshal you safely around our buildings. Then, ultimately there will be *'a time to laugh and a time to dance!'* Praise be to God.

Francis B Robertson
Session Clerk

manno matters



The latest changes to hospitality guidelines has made a huge difference at manna. The main change is customers from different households no longer need to socially distance. This is wonderful for our customers to sit together again with groups of family and friends. We had 6 bikers yesterday for late lunch sitting together. Families from three different households no longer need to be seated at different tables.

Other things remain unchanged. Wait at the door to be greeted. You must still wear a mask unless exempt. Sanitise your hands on entry. We are still encouraging table service too.

Our bakers and soup makers are still producing amazing things for you all to eat. We have gluten-free options and a few vegan treats too.

Our gift shop too is being restocked in preparation for Christmas. We have lots of lovely gift ideas to inspire you. Christmas cards will be on sale later this month also for those who need to post cards abroad. For everyday use our shampoo bars are selling well from the friendly soap company.

I would like to thank Sarah Baxter for reorganising all the gifts which are now displayed wonderfully. I just have the window display to think about.

Please keep manna in your prayers as cases of COVID increase in Scotland. We are doing all we can to keep each other safe.

Diane & the manna team

manno is open Tuesday - Saturday 10am-4pm

manno (01382) 542781
Diane Miller (01382) 541141 & dianemillermanna@gmail.com
Morag Rowley (01382) 541157 & moragrowley.4@gmail.com

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

> the adventure begins here



At long last, as the problems of the Covid restrictions finally ease sufficiently, we are able to make some plans to restart meeting with our boys once again. We still have quite a few issues to resolve, risk assessments to prepare, etc., but we are getting there!

All being well, we should be able to meet again by the middle of this month and look forward to welcoming back our enthusiastic members to meet face-to-face, although the activities will be a bit curtailed in the early weeks until regulations and conditions allow us to offer a more comprehensive programme.

Once we have managed to get a couple of weeks under our belts, then we will be able to confidently look to increasing our numbers to allow more boys to enjoy the fellowship and fun which we have had in times gone by.

Please keep us all in your thoughts and prayers at this testing time.

Philip Owen
Company Captain

PUZZLE

Bible Crossword X

<p>Across</p> <p>1 Donkey (3)</p> <p>2 Jesus' Father (3)</p> <p>4 One of the twelve (9)</p>		<p>Down</p> <p>1 One of God's messengers (5,2,3,4)</p> <p>3 1940s archaeological find (4,3,7)</p>
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<p>8 Didn't believe in resurrection (9)</p> <p>12 One of David's warriors (5)</p> <p>13 First word of the Lord's Prayer (3)</p> <p>14 New Testament name for Noah (3)</p> <p>15 Wish harm upon (5)</p> <p>16 Hole in the ground (3)</p> <p>17 Adversary (5)</p> <p>18 Savour (5)</p> <p>19 First woman (3)</p> <p>20 Mother of John the Baptist (9)</p> <p>21 Family of priests (9)</p> <p>22 Third son of Jacob (4)</p> <p>23 Hates (8)</p> <p>26 Assurances (8)</p> <p>30 Endured pain (8)</p> <p>31 Return from the dead (4)</p> <p>32 Intercessor (8)</p> <p>35 Decorating (8)</p> <p>39 Old Testament book of the Bible (4)</p> <p>40 The prince of Rosh, Mesekh and Tubal (3)</p> <p>42 A wise insect (3)</p> <p>44 Dwelling place of kings (6)</p> <p>45 Make bigger (8)</p>		<p>4 Tread down (7)</p> <p>5 Father of Jonah (7)</p> <p>6 Very salty water bordering Israel (4,3)</p> <p>7 Defensive structures (11)</p> <p>8 Refuges (11)</p> <p>9 Dirty (7)</p> <p>10 Devout (7)</p> <p>11 Pieces of money (7)</p> <p>24 Used to listen (3)</p> <p>25 Used to see (3)</p> <p>26 Positions (5)</p> <p>27 Made available (7)</p> <p>28 Snake (7)</p> <p>29 Destroyed along with Gomorrah (5)</p> <p>33 Finish (3)</p> <p>34 Possess (3)</p> <p>35 King of the Amalekites (4)</p> <p>36 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)</p> <p>37 Almost sacrificed by Abraham (5)</p> <p>38 Present (4)</p> <p>41 Unfasten (4)</p> <p>43 Fish traps (4)</p>
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http://biblepuzzles.org.uk



Minister and theologian Archibald Charteris (1835-1908), Moderator of the General Assembly in 1892, was instrumental in the founding of the Guild, restoring the office of Deaconess in the Church, and helping to establish the national social care initiative that would evolve into the Social Care Council (CrossReach).

And in amongst all that, in 1879 he found time to start a magazine.

With the editor answerable only to the General Assembly for the content of the magazine, Life and Work has never been a conventional 'in-house' publication or the mouthpiece of the Church hierarchy. Instead, it has been positioned as a critical friend: always wanting the best for the organisation, but free to publish negative opinion or to stray outside the official line.

One of the best ways of learning about the churches that make up the Church of Scotland is by reading Life & Work. Monthly through the post or electronically, and more frequently on social media, it helps its readers to feel part of something bigger than the local church. The articles range over a number of areas. We can read reports on what has been going on or briefings about what is going to happen soon. We are given cameos on places and people within our church or who have taken their faith into the public arena. Issues are discussed and insights given on aspects of the faith. The letters from the readers page reminds us how seriously people take their faith and how passionately they feel about it.

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Promotions valid until 30 September 2021

Editorial

Hello!

It's been a while since there has been space for an editorial but this seems like quite a fitting time. Over the past year we have all faced many challenges with the ongoing pandemic and over recent months since the last lockdown restrictions started to ease from April, I decided to undertake a walking challenge. I decided it would be a good idea to walk virtually (locally) from Lands End to John o' Groats (1083.8 miles) in 100 days. This averaged at 11 miles every day, and naturally this was on top of work and other commitments. I started off with great enthusiasm, at around the half way point I wondered what on earth I was doing and then by the end I couldn't believe it was all over! It was quite a rollercoaster of emotions!

Why am I mentioning all of this? Because it is one of the best things I have done for several reasons. I got to spend longer outside and appreciate God's amazing creations (plants, trees, birds, animals, rivers). I got the opportunity to chat, meet, walk with and get to know people along the way. There are some people who I would see when I was doing a certain route, others who wanted to walk with me and be part of my journey and others who were so inspired by my walking that they started/restarted walking themselves. I raised funds for the Scottish Association of Mental Health (SAMH) who do an amazing job to help support people suffering with a mental health problem in a variety of ways including peer support, housing, addiction recovery and suicide prevention. Over the past 18 months I think we have all experienced a little more about how challenging life has been, and given that 1 in 4 people every year in Scotland suffer a mental health problem, the £3000 I raised will go a long way to helping those who need it. During the challenge I had the most amazing support and community network. People I know (and also some I didn't know) followed my journey, wanted to be part of my journey and supported my journey either through donating or chatting with me. It was usually the conversations I had with people that I would remember most about my walks. That human contact is something that has been missing during the pandemic but hopefully things are getting a bit more 'normal' now that we can all restart the things we have been missing.

During this challenge I found it was not just a walking challenge, but I found myself thinking about my walk with God and how he is always there with us. He is our support network regardless of where we are, what we are doing and what we are going through. One of my favourite hymns is 'In Christ Alone' and I would just like to finish with the first verse of that hymn :-

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

As you continue on your walk (an actual walk and/or your walk with God), I wish you every blessing.

Claire



Messy Church

Do you have a heart for children and families? Are you interested in making disciples of all ages? Would you like to be involved with outreach for children and families but don't know how to go about it? Do you like getting Messy with crafts, baking and other activities? Do you have a passion to pray for the community?

If you have answered YES to one or all of the questions, I would love to hear from you.

Messy Church is a form of Church for children and adults that involves Creativity, Celebration and Hospitality. It meets at a time and a place that is suitable to those who may not belong to any Church. It involves Welcome, Activity Time, Celebration or Worship and a Meal, and would usually meet once a month.



I am still looking for a core team of 3-4 people, who have a heart and a passion for children and families, to help set up Messy Church in Newport-on-Tay. If you are interested, please get in touch by email with the heading 'Messy Church Core Team'.

For more details please visit the church website www.notchurch.co.uk/index.php/news/

Blessings

Chris Cameron - youthworker.notcos@outlook.com

Christian Aid News

At the end of June I was asked to highlight Christian Aid's urgent Global Hunger Appeal. It is estimated that over 30 million people from some 20 countries are on the verge of starvation - figures which are so huge and appalling that they are difficult to comprehend. Money raised will be used for basics such as clean water, food and seeds and tools to enable the planting of crops for starving communities. Christian Aid sent details of an online giving page created specifically for this church. Being pretty inept digitally my heart sank! However as folk gave me cash and asked me to forward it for them I was delighted to find it was very straightforward. Please do try it!



A target figure of £300 was set but the really great news is that currently donations stand at £634. This is a tremendous response and on Christian Aid's behalf I would like to thank most sincerely all who have donated. Those thanks include all who have given to the Penny Bucket this past year as £89 came from there.

To allow new intimations to be shown on the screen in church, the details will be removed but the page remains open and further donations will be most welcome. To access the page go to <https://giving.give-star.com/online/christian-aid/newport-on-tay-church-of-scotland-global-hunger-appeal>

Many thanks for all the support.

Margaret Imlay

Tea/Coffee Volunteers

We have been meeting outside following the service for tea and coffee over the past few months but as restrictions have been lifted we are now able to meet in the hall after church for a coffee and chat from 5th September.

I have been contacting the members of the coffee team to find out how they feel about undertaking serving when we are still wary about Covid. For health or personal reasons some members do not yet feel able to do this and one or two others have decided to 'retire'.

I am therefore very keen to hear from anyone who would be prepared to join the coffee team. If you would like to volunteer or simply want some more information on what this involves please either see me after church or phone 543446. I hope to hear from some of you.



Margaret Imlay

Youth Update

What a lovely summer it has been. I hope you all had a great time enjoying the weather.



As we are busy behind the scenes getting ready to welcome our young people back to our youth groups in September we planned a couple of Summer Trips. Our first one was at the end of July where we went to see the new Disney film called *The Jungle Cruise*, which stars Dwayne Johnson, Emily Blunt and Jack Whitehall to name a few actors. Everyone who came had an amazing time. The film was great and was really funny. More importantly it was so great to see our young people again, doing an activity together!

Our next trip is on Saturday 4th September, we are going to Wild Shore (formerly known as Foxlake) Dundee, to tackle their Aqua Park. It will be great fun, and I am looking forward to seeing all our young people and leaders enjoy themselves, some cracking photos will be in the next issue.

In other news, we will be in person for both Youth Seekers and Youth Café in the next couple of weeks. More details about these groups will be sent via email shortly.

Jane Campbell and I will be involved with Bible Alive Training in the next couple of weeks; please keep us in your prayers as we get to grips with this programme and ultimately pass the training so we can take Bible Alive into our local schools here in the Taybridgehead area.

If you have any queries please get in touch.

Blessings
Chris Cameron

Sunday Club Update

Welcome Back

We welcome back the children into the church building after a long time away. The Sunday Club has continued to meet online throughout the lockdown, but it is of course very different and the children have missed seeing each other face to face – though of course they have been doing that more recently at school.

Teaching

During the first few weeks of this term we will be focussing on the theme of Harvest. The children will also be preparing to take part in the All Age Harvest Service on 3rd October. We will continue using the Energize materials from Urban Saints this year.

Foodbank Collection

The children will also be taking part in the Harvest foodbank collection in the lead up to the Harvest service and we would encourage everyone to contribute to this if they feel so led.

Update on Sunday Club Sponsorship of Rimberto from Bolivia

As you will know, we have committed to sponsoring through World Vision, Rimberto, a young boy from Bolivia. The children keep up-to-date with Rimberto's progress through frequent reports received from World Vision. This allows them to better understand the lives of children growing up in very different circumstances and to pray for Rimberto and his family and community in a relevant and intercessional way.



Fundraising

We continue to fundraise through the regular weekly offerings of the children and other donations from members of the congregation and other friends.

General Information

For further information about World Vision and its work do have a look at their website: www.worldvision.org.uk

Neil Merrylees
Sunday Club Coordinator

Next Edition

Our next Journal will be the October edition.
If you would like anything included in that edition, please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 19th September 2021.

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Calendar of Worship

Sunday 5th September 2021 at 11am

Service led by Miss Claire Owen

Reader : P Owen

Flowers : C Merrylees

Coffee : M Imlay, J Latto, M Rowley + G Johnston

Sunday 12th September 2021 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Reader : C Merrylees

Flowers : S Myles

Coffee : J Johnston, P Laurence, Y Simpson
+ F Ritchie

Sunday 19th September 2021 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Reader : A Heywood

Flowers : J Johnston

Coffee : M Cuthbertson, M McCabe, W Whyte
+ J Cuthbertson

Sunday 26th September 2021 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Reader : K Campbell

Flowers : L McCrickard

Coffee : A Barona, F Durward, M Shiels + B Imlay

Sunday 3rd October 2021 at 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Service led by the Young People

Reader : Young People

Flowers : Harvest Flowers

Coffee : P Broadbent, J McKendrick, L Robertson
+ D McLeod

TAYFIELD ESTATE

LOGS AND FIREWOOD ETC.

Newport-on-Tay,
Fife

Tel. 543400 and 07745045007

Contact Numbers

Minister : Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
17 East Station Place, Newport-on-Tay
Telephone: (01382) 542893
email: ACHewachong@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk : Francis Robertson
Telephone: (01382) 330687
Email: fbrfbr12@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Team :
Jane Campbell (01382) 543150
Rev Dr Amos Chewachong (01382) 542893

Church Office : 3 Blyth Street
Newport, DD6 8DB
Telephone: (01382) 543525 (Answerphone)
email: newportcos@btinternet.com

Youth Worker : Chris Cameron
Telephone: 07927253827
email: youthworker.notcos@outlook.com

Safeguarding Co-ordinator : Lesley Gray
Telephone: (01382) 543287
email: lesley.gray@talk21.com

Organist : Hannah Gibson
Telephone: 07476372311
email: hannah.gibson1991@gmail.com

Property Manager : Don MacLeod
Telephone: 07730496244

Finance Convener : Philip Owen
80 West Road, Newport-on-Tay, Fife, DD6 8HP
Telephone: (01382) 543034
email: notchurch@gmail.com

Scottish Charity No. SC006758

Parish Register

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From:- Balmerino Parish Church Dist 34S

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