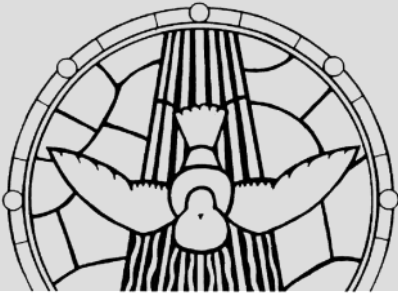


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

February 2024



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

A Medal of Unity: My Cross-Continental Journey to Honour

On the 14th of January 2024, I was deeply honoured to receive the prestigious Coronation Medal. This recognition was graciously facilitated by Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, the Rt Hon Lord Lyon King of Arms, and reflects my dedication and commitment to the United Kingdom. The ceremony of award took place at the Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, and was witnessed by my congregation, marking a significant milestone in my life.

My journey from Cameroon to Scotland represents the harmonious blending of diverse cultures within the UK's inclusive society. Being awarded the Coronation Medal by King Charles III and the royal family is not just a personal accolade for me; it symbolises my successful

cultural integration and my pledge of loyalty to the British Crown. Living in Scotland since September 2012 has shown me first-hand the nurturing environment the UK offers. It celebrates multiculturalism and enables individuals from varied backgrounds, like me, to contribute meaningfully to the community.

This honour reflects the UK's commitment to fostering personal and community development. It highlights the nation's welcoming nature and the opportunities it provides for us as residents to bond with the country and its values. I wish to express my profound dedication to maintaining loyalty to the British Crown, upholding the laws of the land with dignity and integrity, and continuing to contribute positively to society.

I am deeply grateful to the Rt Hon Lord Lyon King of Arms (pictured on the right) for his role in this recognition, especially for the personal touch of presenting the medal in a ceremony that included my congregation and family. This gesture underscores the deep connections and respect we foster within our community. I am also grateful to the Newport-on-Tay Church community for affording us the opportunity to serve them, and for giving us the support we need for our tasks.

As I continue my journey as a dedicated and loyal resident of the United Kingdom, my story stands as a testament to the rich tapestry of cultures and backgrounds that make up the United Kingdom, and the profound impact we can have in enriching and strengthening our society. May God's merciful hand continue to guide and shape each one of us into the people he wants us to be. And may God bless and strengthen the leadership of our great country and the church.

Every Blessing,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

(More pictures overleaf.)



NEWPORT CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ through our enthusiasm, worship, witness, nurture and service.



Evening Services

After taking a break from the Evening Services we are going to be restarting our Communion Round the Table Service. To start with this will be held once a month on the last Sunday of the month and the first one is scheduled for Sunday 25th February at 6:30pm in the Church.

It is hoped to restart the contemporary services once a month too and details will be on the Church website and Order of Service when plans are finalised.



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Fife**

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Thank You!

Flowers bring life, colour and joy into our homes. Also a beautiful reminder that we have been remembered.

Thanking you all.



Edward Pong

Thank you so much for my lovely flowers. A most unexpected surprise. My thanks also to Eleanor who delivered them on a very chilly evening. My sincerest thanks for your kindness.

Evelyn Wood



Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers we received for our birthdays (we were born within a few days of each other). We would also like to wish our Church family a happy, healthy and peaceful 2024.



Anne & Brian Griffiths

Neil, Morag, Andrew and Peter wish to thank all church friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, flowers and the many cards received on the sad loss of Ann (Rowley).

A special thank you to Dr Rev Amos Chewachong for his kind words and caring services, both at the Church and Crematorium and to Eleanor Owen for playing the organ.

Thank you to Graham for organising a team to help on the day, who were Raymond, Kevin, Bill, Philip and Francis. Also to Claire for setting up zoom so that Canadian grandchildren could be part of the service.

Lastly, thanks to all who came to the funeral to support us and donated £155 for Ninewells A & E.



The Pop-Up Post Office is currently running on

both Wednesdays AND Fridays

from 9:30 - 11:30am
in the Kirk House Complex.



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manna matters



I hope that the Christmas season has been a good one for you all. Spending time with friends and family is such a blessing. We were busy at home with the grandchildren who are aged 1-9 years, so a busy time but a joyous time.

manna reopened on 3rd January to a quiet start but has now returned to the normal. It's good to get back to normal. We are increasingly busy with groups coming in which is hectic at times but in a good way.

Our gift shop has reopened with a January sale. Bird seed is back in stock and there is the returning sense of normality. I have ordered new items for the gift shop which will be on sale shortly. I love looking for new items to sell in the shop.

We have had Olha working for us for 13 weeks and her time with us comes to an end at the beginning of February. We wish her every success in whatever she does next. It has been lovely working with her and getting to know her and her family.

We hope that in the future we will have the opportunity to welcome another placement to work in manna. We keep in touch with Fife Council who fund the placements.

God bless
Diane Miller

manna is open Tuesday – Saturday 10am - 4:30pm

manna (01382) 542781

Diane Miller (01382) 541141 & dianemillermanna@gmail.com

Morag Rowley (01382) 541157 & moragrowley.4@gmail.com

The Boys' Brigade Update



Recent times seem to have been a mixture of activity and inactivity!

During December we looked at Advent and Christmas in different ways. This included a focus on the "Greatest Christmas Gift" (including practical support of the local Food Bank and Toy Drive) and an evening spent undertaking a "Nativity in a Minute Challenge" which involved a number of activities (each lasting 60 seconds) for boys individually, and culminating in groups of boys telling the Christmas story to the rest of us in 60 seconds. As a result of all these activities, the boys (and leaders) were all presented with a special decoration for their own Christmas tree (see picture on left) – which had been donated to our Company, emphasising the theme of gifts.

Our final evening before the Christmas break involved a number of games and some light refreshments as we eased ourselves further into a festive mood and prepared for the forthcoming holidays.

January saw us coming together once again and we have since had an evening looking at animals and their nocturnal activities (while also trying to identify them from their calls and sounds), and an evening focusing on a Scottish theme (not least the life and works of Robert Burns).

We are currently awaiting the opportunity to visit the local primary schools to speak with the boys there and hopefully encourage a number of them to come along and join us so that we can all enjoy a much wider range of activities with a larger number of boys taking part.

Philip Owen, Company Captain
1st Newport/Wormit BB Company

For more details you can contact Philip on (01382) 543034
or by emailing philip.owen@talktalk.net



Youth Update

Spark (Formerly Youth Seekers)

This year we are learning all about Paul, his life, missionary journeys, and the letters he wrote to the different churches and his companions. We have now finished our series on Paul and we will now look at some of the letters he wrote!

Ignite (Formerly Youth Café)

Over the last few months, we have consulted with our young people, and we produced the idea of changing our youth group names. The name Ignite, means that this group is a place where we meet with each other and help fan the flames of faith in our young people. We are also introducing a culture with our young people where everyone will follow the same guidelines, which includes, spending time in prayer, bringing our bible to every session (unless stated), listening to each other with respect to name a few. This will also help build up a brilliant caring community as we grow in our lives and faith together. Recently we have been looking at different Psalms and some of the key passages in the bible that will help our young people to actively live out their faith and speak to their friends and families about their faith and what they are learning at Ignite. In the next few months, we plan to have our young people help with some of the things that are needed for Bible Alive, through art and drama.

Coffee N Chat

We are also starting a discipleship group for our S4 – S6 young people on Friday afternoons every two weeks, located in manna and we will be looking at the book of Hebrews via a Bible Study series called Better by Jen Wilkin. The main aim of this group is to disciple our young people, help them strengthen their faith, and help show them what it is like to live a Godly life, despite what is going on in the world.

Bible Alive

This is our big series that is aimed at P6's. This is a seven-week programme, where we spend one hour a week with the P6's and run through the entire bible. In each of our sessions we use drama, storytelling, props, costumes, poetry, videos, quizzes and more to help bring the bible to life! All children in the class help with the telling of the stories. As part of Bible Alive, Jane Campbell and I are trained to teach Rhyme N' Sign. During each session we take a couplet or two where we teach the children sign language to help them remember various parts of the teaching. We are currently running Bible Alive in Newport Primary (when you read this we will have just finished week 4 of 7!).

It has been hugely successful; the children and teacher think it is a great resource for the children to understand what the bible and Christianity is about!

Messy Church

We have just had our January Messy Church, where we looked at the Beatitudes that Jesus taught us on the Sermon on the Mount. We had crafts like light-up bees, facing feelings, living God's way (Lego), chocolate bouquets, tea infusions and secret blessings; it was a quieter one than usual, however we had 20 Messy Church goers and 14 team helpers. We still had new families coming; we are also exploring starting slightly later and running Messy Church from 11am – 1pm, to make it more accessible for more families. We will be trialling this new start time in March, April and May. At February's Messy Church we are focusing on the theme of love! This will run on Saturday 24th February from 10:30am - 12:30pm.

Chris Cameron

Youth Worker

New Blood for manna

Do you value manna and what we do?

Do you have any ideas on how it could be improved?



Would you like to be part of this vibrant group working together for the wider outreach from the church to the community?

Do you like cake?!!



If the answer is yes to any of the above, please contact me to discuss the possibility of coming on to the Management Committee or the Steering Group of manna.

Chats are free of any obligation and would include a free drink and cake or traybake!!

Alison Heywood - Chair of manna Management Committee

07719367347 / alisonbob@btinternet.com

Daily Reflections

DAILY
REFLECTION

Our minister, Rev Dr Amos Chewachong, is continuing his series of daily reflections. These are uploaded to the church website (www.notchurch.co.uk/index.php/reflections/).

Christmas 2023

During Advent we had our usual mix of services including Lessons & Carols, the Nativity and Watchnight. Huge thanks to everyone involved in all these services whether reading one of the lessons, taking part in the Nativity or in all the work that is done behind the scenes to get these services ready. As usual all these services were well attended and our young people did a brilliant job in leading the Nativity and Watchnight services. Also many thanks to those involved in making the place look festive — whether through decorating the church with flowers or supplying/decorating the trees.

As has become our tradition, we had a gift collection for both Toy Drive and Tay FM's Mission Christmas Appeal. Over 150 gifts along with some monetary donations were handed over and both organisations were appreciative of the donations. Many thanks to everyone who helped make Christmas a little brighter for some local youngsters.

We ended 2023 with a service led by Bill Imlay which gave the opportunity to reflect on the year just finished but to also look forward in faith for what this New Year will bring.

Claire Owen



Community Chest

The Community Chest Appeal supports the Rio's foodstuff collection for inclusion in their lunch provision programme or for distribution in conjunction with the local foodbank. There continues to be a great response to this appeal and as the cost of living is still high, the need of some people may well be greater so please consider supporting this if you can.

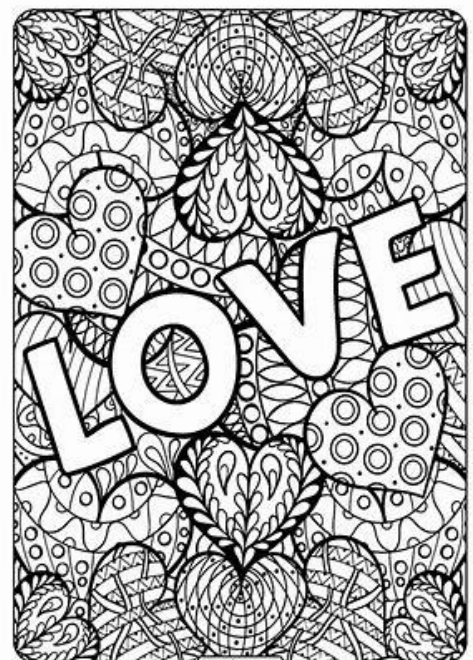
A large container is available each Sunday to receive foodstuff, toiletries, etc. and any donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

Recommended items of foodstuff include:

- pasta
- fruit
- tins of soup
- beans
- custard
- meat



Many thanks.



Love is patient, love is kind.

Sunday Club Update

Nativity

On 17th December we performed our Nativity, with the Christmas story told from the perspective of the angels. The children did a wonderful job of remembering their lines and actions as well as looking fantastic in their costumes. Thanks to everyone who took part and helped to prepare for the event.



Teaching in January and February

We have started a new series of sessions looking at things that make up the Christian character. So far in January we have explored trust, love, joy and peace. The younger children have been creating a tree, with a trunk for trust and leaves of love. Our first session in February will be Godly Play. At the heart of Godly Play is God's Word in the form of a special story during which a calm, reflective atmosphere is promoted. This is followed by a "feast" of fruit, biscuits and juice, which is served and shared. The children then choose for themselves ways to respond by participating in a variety of crafts.

We'll then move on to patience and kindness for our other February sessions, with a Lent focus on 18th February.

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 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

Emma Wisher

On behalf of the Sunday Club Team



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Parish Register

Members Removed by Certificate

Mrs Winifred Whyte & Miss Angela Whyte
Dunfermline Dist 98

To:- St Andrews Erskine Church
Dunfermline

Death

2024
23rd Jan Mr Brian McLaren
Formerly Birkhill and Newport-on-Tay
Dist 98

Funerals

2023
18th Dec Mrs Ann Rowley
Newport-on-Tay

2024
10th Jan Mrs Margaret Campbell
Newport-on-Tay

*"Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4*

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Return of Summer Concerts: Wednesdays@One 24

Following two series of very enjoyable concerts in 2022 and 2023, Hannah has now confirmed dates and performers for this year:

24th July: 'Puddledub Duo' Stephen Morrison and Robin Bell (Guitar and Piano)

31st July: Alison Malcolm (Organ)

7th August: Eleanor Owen (Soprano)

14th August: Sarah Elgin (Flute)



Ukraine Project

~ Fundraising for Ukraine

As readers will remember, Morag Muir a local artist donated four 'Royal Knight' prints at the end of 2022. We raffled the fourth and final one at the Rotary Christmas Fayre in the Blyth Hall on the 2nd December 2023 and it raised £100. That means that the prints have raised £446 in total. We are very grateful to Morag for her kind donation.

The sunflower cards (both greeting and postcards) remain on sale through manna.

All the money we raise is transferred to the Newport and Zolotarevo Twinning Association (NAZTA) to support our friends there.

Thanks so much to everyone who has contributed in any way.

~ Vigil for Peace in Ukraine and other conflict areas

Every Thursday evening at 7pm on the Church Green (and on Zoom for a trial period).

We plan to continue these for as long as conflict continues.

It is important that we continue to bear witness to the ongoing suffering of people affected by conflict and pray for peace.

Please do join us if you are around at that time. We usually have a time of prayer starting promptly at 7pm lasting 5-10 minutes.

If you don't feel able to come in person, we are trialling Zooming the Vigils during February. If you would like to join please ask me (Neil Merrylees) or Claire Owen for the link.

Wednesday Afternoon Club

This runs from 1.30pm to 3pm each Wednesday in the Agnes Duncan Room.

Attendance is generally good and those who come enjoy the refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits) often with some home baking, and company (with plenty of opportunity to chat).

There is no charge, however if anyone wishes to make a donation, there is a collection plate. We have got enough volunteers at present but more are always welcome to lighten the load and fill any gaps. A big thank you to Margaret Wright for co-ordinating it.



Wednesday Afternoon Club Rota

7th February	- Mairi Shiels & Frances Durward
14th February	- Bianca Hugel & Carolyn Barr
21st February	- Pam Laurence & Margaret Wright
28th February	- Neil Merrylees & Alison Heywood
6th March	- Sheila Johnston & Margaret Wright

If you would like to help, please do get in touch with Margaret Wright: Tel (01382) 543007.

Ways to support your Guild

If you have any suggestions about other projects we can start or get involved in, please do let us know. Why not think about joining us? (Contact Catherine Merrylees or any Guild member for more information.)

The Guild Team



Calendar of Worship

Sunday 4th February 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : A Barona **Reader** : K Cruickshanks

Welcome : J Johnston

Flowers : N Pong **Delivery** : E Thomson

Coffee : F Harris, M Shiels, M Wright +
C McCowan

Crèche : J Taylor

Sunday Club : Godly Play

Young Persons' Elder : F Ritchie

Sunday 11th February 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : J Campbell **Reader** : C Owen

Welcome : M Imlay

Flowers : M Robertson **Delivery** : A Waugh

Coffee : M Heron, J Johnston, Y Simpson +
G Johnston

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : A Gray, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : L Robertson

Sunday 18th February 2024 at 11am

Service led by Mr G Johnston

Beadle : L Gray **Reader** : N Pong

Welcome : L Robertson

Flowers : J Johnstone **Delivery** : E Wood

Coffee : P Broadbent, M Cuthbertson, K Farquhar
+ J Cuthbertson

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : J Wylie, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : F Harris

Sunday 25th February 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : K Campbell **Reader** : E Owen

Welcome : M Shiels

Flowers : A Waugh **Delivery** : A Barona

Coffee : J Campbell, L Hundal, F Hutchinson +
K Campbell

Crèche : F Harris

Sunday Club : F/S West, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : P Owen

Sunday 3rd March 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : A Heywood **Reader** : W Berry

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

Flowers : E Thomson **Delivery** : C Barr

Coffee : A Barona, P Foulis, Elaine Thomson +
D Macleod

Crèche : C Owen

Sunday Club : A Gray, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : J Campbell

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our
March edition of the Church Journal
please email newportcos@btinternet.com
by **Sunday 18th February 2024**.

*"Trust the Lord with all your heart.
Don't depend on your own understanding.
Remember the Lord in everything you do.
And he will give you success."
Proverbs 3 v 5 & 6*

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