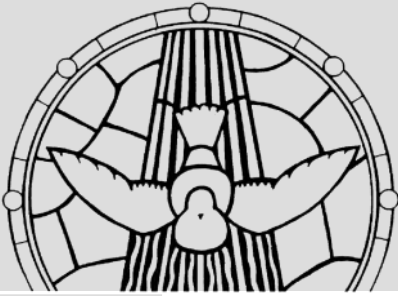


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

May 2022



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Living in Hope: 'Because He lives, I can Face Tomorrow'



People all over the world are appalled by the protracted war in Ukraine and the devastation that President Putin's army continues to wreak on human lives and property since 24th February 2022 when Russian forces invaded Ukraine. Stories of brutal killings and the maiming of innocent Ukrainians - men, women, and children - are sickening. These tragedies remind us of our propensity to evil and recall Paul's thoughts about a groaning world that needs

to be liberated from the sinfulness of humankind. As Paul wrote in Romans 8:22-23, both believers and nature groan together as they long to be liberated from the consequences of sin. When human beings sin, both the human world and the natural world for which humans have responsibility are negatively impacted. In the midst of these problems, Easter brings us hope and promises a future that is void of problems or the possibility of surmounting our problems when we put our trust in the risen Saviour.

On Sunday 24th April, Russia, and Ukraine both marked Orthodox Easter Sunday, with pictures showing Vladimir Putin in a Moscow church as his army's missiles continued to rain down on Ukrainian civilians across the country. In Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, prayers were held for those fighting on the front lines and others trapped in places like Mariupol. Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky vowed in an Easter message that no 'wickedness' will destroy the country and prayed God to return happiness to children and bring solace to grieving mothers. Pope Francis has since appealed for a truce in war-torn Ukraine 'to ease the suffering of exhausted people'. It is so difficult to imagine how Ukrainians will live with the scars of war when the conflict is ended and how young children are going to grow up in such difficult circumstances of war and man's inhumanity to man. However, the stories and experiences of other people who have faced difficult days can bring hope to all those who are suffering from any kind of problem or uncertainty.

The hymn titled 'Because He lives' was written by Bill and Gloria Gaither in the late 1960s when they were struggling with health problems, and Gloria was pregnant with their child. There was bad news all around them, of the Vietnam War, civil unrest, the drug culture, and violence in the streets. Was this the kind of world in which to raise a family? Discouraged and disheartened they looked for signs of hope. One day in the spring, Bill walked out of his office to inspect a newly paved parking area. Construction workers had covered it with several coats of asphalt. Bill was satisfied with the job, but as he turned, he noticed a tiny blade of grass poking through the layers of rock and tar to reach into the sunlight. In early summer the baby was born, and when Bill and Gloria brought their child home, they wrote a song of joy, remembering the blade of grass that prospered even in a hostile environment. More importantly, they remembered that their baby could indeed face uncertain days because Christ lives. The chorus of that song speaks volumes:

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know, I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.*

Dear friends, as we continue to face the challenges and uncertainties of life, may we entrust our fears to the risen Saviour, resisting all fear because he alone knows the future.

Every Blessing

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Covid Guidance in Church & Presbytery Mission Plan

The recent removal of the last of the lockdown measures by the Scottish Government has allowed us to reflect these newly extended freedoms within our church building. Except for the sanitising stations and the one-way system, we have been able to remove most of the other physical restrictions and practices within the building which have been in place throughout the pandemic. But it also requires every member of the congregation to play their part, as legislation has given way to guidance and personal responsibility. Safe practices promoted over the past months should now be firmly embedded within our mind-sets and the expectation of the Kirk Session is that worshippers will continue to follow these basic approaches and measures.

One noticeable feature of our current response is the retention of the one metre spacing and the barrier tape within the pews on the Left Hand (Organ) Side as you enter the building. Designated the 'Protected' zone, its purpose is to accommodate those members of the congregation who may feel a little hesitant in returning to church with all the previous safety measures removed. Again, please be responsible worshippers and allow this area to be used for the purposes for which we have intended and do not occupy it because you have always sat there in the past.

The second significant piece of information I wish to convey concerns the release of the Draft Fife Presbytery Mission Plan which establishes the proposed future resourcing in terms of both Ministries (Ministers, Ordained Local Ministers, Readers, etc.,) and buildings (churches, halls, community halls, etc.,) across Fife Presbytery. Within our newly emerging North Fife Cluster the Plan recommends our 'union' with Wormit, Balmerino and Creich, Flisk & Kilmany, along with the allocation of 1 Minister of Word and Sacrament (MWS) and the retention of our church building, the hall and Kirk House complex. (The establishment of such a union cannot however take place until 2023 when the 7-year reviewable tenure of our minister will be undertaken.) Tayport and Leuchars would also unite to form the second union within our Cluster with a similar allocation of 1 MWS. A small team nominated by the Kirk Session will attend a meeting with a representative(s) from the Mission Strategy & Planning Task Group in Cupar on the 4th May to clarify concerns over perceived inconsistencies in the ministries allocation and our resultant underrepresentation in North Fife.

Finally, can I please ask that you continue to pray for the Mission Plan as together we seek to discern God's plan for the future of the Church of Scotland in both Fife Presbytery and our North Fife Cluster in particular?

With all good wishes and every blessing,

Francis B. Robertson
Session Clerk

Recommended Book

"HOW TO PRAY" - A simple guide for normal people
Pete Greig 2019 Hodder and Stoughton
ISBN no: 978-1-529-37492-6

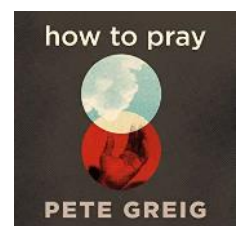
Following the TryPraying slot in the service of 10th April I do highly recommend this book.

Pete Greig is an award winning author and founder of the worldwide 24-7 prayer movement. He writes clearly and concisely with wonderful clarity and does not dodge the bullets!!

I know that I am not alone in viewing this book as a seminal work on the topic of prayer which makes it very relevant and possible for everyone.

Remember his quote : "Keep it simple, keep it real and keep it up!"

Alison Heywood



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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.



Christian Aid Update

As mentioned last month Christian Aid Week runs from 15th-21st May and is the annual major fund-raising period for Christian Aid.

During this week the well-known red envelopes will be in the pews for anyone wishing to donate. However if you prefer to go digital then go to www.caweek.org and you will be able to make an independent online donation.

For those who are fit and active and wish to go a step (or two!) further, Christian Aid can also be supported via the Kiltwalk. In-person kiltwalks are again taking place in our major cities with Dundee's scheduled for 21st August. Christian Aid is accepted as a nominated charity by the Kiltwalk which then tops up all your donations by 50% from the Hunter Foundation.

In addition there is a virtual kiltwalk over the weekend of 7th-9th October when you can choose where and how far you wish to walk, run, cycle etc.

Again, details of these events and how to register can be found on Christian Aid's website or search Kiltwalk 2022.

For those of a more thoughtful turn of mind, you may be interested in the Christian Aid Scotland Quiz. This is hosted by former moderator Martin Fair, on his facebook page, on Saturday 14th May at 7.30pm. Find out what you do - and don't - know!

Whatever you decide to do, many thanks for supporting Christian Aid.

Margaret Imlay

Feedback from TryPraying Booklets

Please do not hesitate to get back to me if you have any comments or stories arising from looking at, or using the booklet, or if you have "lost it" by giving it to someone. I would very much like to know if you manage to do that.

The logo for trypraying, with the text "trypraying." in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a teal background.

Alison Heywood



Having taken time during the School Holidays to recharge our batteries, (hopefully) clear away the remnants of Covid infections, and – most importantly – focus on the real meaning of this marvellous celebration of the Christian year, we have been able to come together once again and continue meeting with our dedicated band of members.

The BB have produced a series of six short videos of the Easter Story. On the final evening before the holidays, we watched, learned and discussed the topics of "Palm Sunday", "The Last Supper", and "Jesus on Trial", while our first evening back after the holidays saw us conclude this work with "Jesus is Crucified", "Jesus is Risen", and "For God so Loved the World". The boys showed a great level of understanding – and memory – of those events (and what they had learned about them at school in recent times).

Our subsequent focus has turned to preparation for our participation in the BB Juniors International Team Games – a set of six straightforward, but challenging, games to be scored and submitted by Companies around the globe to BBHQ. We will have to wait for a few weeks until we see how well we have fared against our fellow boys (most of whom will be part of far bigger Companies than ours).

Philip Owen
Company Captain



Thank You



A huge thank you for the very generous response to our appeal during March. A total of £1,448.25 (including Gift Aid) has been sent to Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

mannn matters

As some of you will know we decided to open on a Monday at the beginning of April. Our first few weeks have proved very popular. We have had a good April with people able to sit out and enjoy the pleasant sunny weather we have had recently. We are planning to add to our outside seating soon too.



We have two work placements with us for the next 6 months - Rebecca & Murdo - who each do a minimum of 16 hours per week. We are teaching them all the different aspects of what's involved in running a café. They arrive early some days to help set up before we open and other days do the afternoon and stay to do the close down. So far this is working very well. They are paid by Fife Council as part of a government scheme.

On a personal note Gordon & I have become grandparents again as our daughter Laura had a baby girl on 18th March making Sophia a big sister. Our son and his wife are also expecting another baby in May so a very blessed time for us as a family.

Diane & the manna team

mannn is open Monday – Saturday 10am - 4:30pm

mannn (01382) 542781

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

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



Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our Summer edition of the Church Journal, (covering June, July and August) please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 22nd May 2022.

Appeal to the Congregation

Now that we are returning to a degree of normality within the church it is important to reinstate some of the many functions which were suspended during the pandemic. One of these is our Funeral Team - a group of elders and church members who will attend to open the building and assist the Funeral Director and their team to facilitate the smooth running of the service conducted within our church. Another is the Welcome Team who greet and assist worshippers as they enter the Church on a Sunday morning.

Interested parties please contact the Session Clerk.

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Messy Church

Messy Church is kicking off on Saturday 28th May 2022. We are looking for volunteers to help run our programme. We are asking volunteers to be at the Church Hall from 9.30am till 1.30pm. Food will be included as part of our programme. We are looking for Volunteers in the following areas:

- Welcome Team
- Catering Team
- Music Team
- Crafts and Experiments Team
- Upfront Team
- AV Team

If you are interested in helping or would like to find out more please speak to Chris or contact him on 07927253827 or email: messychurchnewportontay@gmail.com

We also would like to take the time to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated lots of junk modelling stuff - we are so grateful. There are a couple of items we are still looking for:

- Kitchen Roll Cardboard Tubes
- Jars with Lids

There is a donation box at the back of the Church for these items.

Blessings and Thanks,
Messy Church Committee



What's Messy Church?

Messy Church is a free event that runs once a month, for all the family to have fun together exploring the Christian faith in a messy manner.



What's Involved?

This is a celebration of all that is messy, there will be creative crafts, fun experiments, action songs and bible stories with lunch provided for everyone. Kids must bring along a grown-up!

Where and When?

Saturday 28th May - 10.30am - 12.30pm
Saturday 25th June - 10.30am - 12.30pm
Church Hall
3 Blyth Street, Newport-on-Tay
DD6 8DB

Contact:

For more information or to register your interest please contact
Chris Cameron - 07927253827
The Team - messychurchnewportontay@gmail.com

Youth Update

Youth Alpha has been going strong. We have had 5 weeks of our programme so far. The discussions have been amazing, and we are really enjoying discovering more about Christianity and Jesus. The food has been amazing, we just want to say a huge thank you to Lesley Gray and Sarah McCowan for providing our meals over the last couple of weeks.

In next month's update we will tell you about our Youth Alpha day away together and what we got up to!

On Sunday mornings, we are continuing to work our way through the Old Testament. We have just started the book of Joshua and have experienced the fall of Jericho. We will be looking at Rahab, Deborah and Ruth in the upcoming weeks!

Blessings
Chris Cameron

Remember
Ukraine
Vigil

Every Thursday at 7pm
(for about 15 minutes)
Church Green
Blyth Street, Newport-on-Tay

*Let us join together as a community to
stand with the people of Ukraine in
their hour of need*

**@RememberUkraine**

Coordinated by The Guild
Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number – SC006758



Picture of the flag of Ukraine on the wall of the Church made with ribbons during the vigils. Ribbons are available from manna for a donation and can be added at any time.

Photo courtesy of Lesley Gray which can be viewed in colour on our website - www.notchurch.co.uk

Parish Register

Death

22nd Mar Mrs Heather Adamson
Forgan District 27

11th Apr Mrs Isabella (Ella) Smith
Newport-on-Tay District 13

13th Apr Mrs Mary MacIndoe
Newport-on-Tay District 13

Change of Address

Mr Cyril Wilson
From :- Newport-on-Tay District 33
To :- Cupar District 98

*"Be still and know that I am with you."
Psalm 46 : 10*

Church Flowers

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers
I received from the church for my birthday.
They were very much appreciated.

Moira Clark



I am grateful to the church for the nice
flowers and card received on my birthday.
Thanks for the kindness and care.

Ron Caird

Each week there are people who kindly arrange
flowers in the church and then following the service
they are delivered to people within the church. If
you feel you could help with either of these jobs on
a rota basis please get in touch.

Sunday Club Update

Teaching

We have now finished the series in the Energize materials looking at 'I am' statements of Jesus. These continued for a total of seven sessions and reminded us that Jesus is all we need and only He can satisfy our deepest longings.

We had two Sunday sessions over the school holidays (see pictures below from Morag's baking session!). This was followed by a special session over Easter, and on Communion Sunday, Margaret Imlay and Avril Waugh led the children in the story of the Good Samaritan as part of the Godly Play sessions.

We are now starting a series on 'Acting Justly' using the Energize materials. As part of this we will explore our relationship with creation, with God, with possessions and money, with social justice, and with the environment. We will also have some specific sessions on Ascension and Pentecost. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the teaching and supporting the Sunday Club in any way. Also, a big thank you to everyone who contributed to the Foodbank Collection. This was taken to the Taybridgehead Foodbank on Easter Sunday and was gratefully received.

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.

Please do feel free to have a look at the information board in the Sunday Club room with some background about Rimberto and copies of letters sent and received.

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**



Nifty Newport Knitters



It's exactly three years since my last report on our charity knitting group. This doesn't mean we have been idle for three years. Indeed, Covid and its enforced isolation and lockdowns provided the ideal conditions for those of us who love nothing more than an evening of undisturbed knitting, and I think you'll agree the following story is clear proof of that.

When Philip went to lock the front door of the church last Sunday after the service, he was rather surprised to see six large bulging carrier bags on the floor of the vestibule. They certainly hadn't been there before the service when Sheila was ringing the bell and the last latecomers were trying to slip in unnoticed. Wherever had they come from? On examination they were found to be full, pressed down and overflowing with knitted squares! Hundreds of them. Philip guessed it might be something to do with the knitting group and consulted me.

Together we managed to just fit them into the boot of my car (which fortunately I had with me – I don't usually!). We were quite mystified over the source of this bounty, and soon there were several of us scratching our heads over it. However, by a process of elimination, more head scratching and solid sleuthing, we finally came up with a possible answer. Later in the day, I visited our prime suspect and learned that our calculations were accurate. This wonderful donation to our group has been her Covid achievement. Only a knitter will appreciate the effort and wool that have gone into the production of 504 8" squares. I like to think that she benefited too from knowing that her efforts were going to provide such warmth and comfort to those with very little.

Usually we post our squares to the Knit a Square charity in South Africa, where they are sewn into blankets for orphaned and vulnerable children. This time we will also sew some together ourselves – 42 make a very substantial blanket – and give them to the Salvation Army. A quick piece of mental arithmetic will show we have enough for exactly 12 blankets. Fantastic!

For those who would like to knit squares – some vital statistics. Double knitting wool, 4mm (old size 8) needles, 42 stitches and 84 rows, and leave one long end for sewing up.

For those who would like to know more about our knitting group, phone me. A proper report coming soon!

Mairi Shiels
07879 677120

Houses with a History

The Newport History Group is very excited to be planning its first major event for over two years.

This will be an exhibition held in the church hall over the weekend of 7th-8th May. The title of the exhibition is Houses with a History and it will feature 78 houses in Newport and Wormit with an interesting story to tell. Some houses are of interest for their architectural significance, or perhaps because someone of importance lived there, or perhaps because they have been used for very different purposes in the past. There are numerous and varied reasons why we have decided to feature our chosen houses – just head for the hall on the above dates and find out why for yourselves. I guarantee you will leave saying "I never knew that about...."!

The exhibition will be open from 10am - 4pm on the Saturday, and from 12pm - 4pm on the Sunday.

Entry is £2.50, and this includes tea or coffee. Children enter free.

Do come along and find out a wee bit more about our amazing local heritage.

Mairi Shiels
Newport History Group



Calendar of Worship

Sunday 1st May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : C Merrylees

Beadle : G Johnston **Reader** : F Ritchie

Flowers : P Broadbent **Delivery** : E Thomson

Coffee : M McCabe, I Navickas, W Whyte +
D MacLeod

Sunday 8th May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : B Imlay

Beadle : J Johnston **Reader** : R Caird

Flowers : J McKendrick **Delivery** : M Rowley

Coffee : A Barona, F Durward, M Rowley +
F Ritchie

Sunday 15th May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Mr Bill Imlay

Beadle : C McCowan **Reader** : G Johnston

Flowers : A Heywood **Delivery** : A Waugh

Coffee : A Heywood, P Laurence, E Thomson +
B Imlay

Sunday 22nd May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : C Owen

Beadle : D MacLeod **Reader** : P Owen

Flowers : M Whyte **Delivery** : E Wood

Coffee : A Gray, M Shiels, A Waugh + P Owen

Sunday 29th May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : G Johnston

Beadle : N Merrylees **Reader** : L Robertson

Flowers : D Miller **Delivery** : A Barona

Coffee : J Latto, L Robertson, M Wright +
C McCowan

Sunday 5th June 2022 at 11am Pentecost

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : P Owen

Beadle : D Miller **Reader** : C Merrylees

Flowers : M Wright **Delivery** : C Barr

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

Contact Numbers

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17 East Station Place, Newport-on-Tay
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email: youthworker.notcos@outlook.com

Safeguarding Co-ordinator : Lesley Gray
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email: lesley.gray@talk21.com

Organist : Hannah Gibson
Telephone: 07476372311
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Finance Convener : Philip Owen
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Telephone: (01382) 543034
email: notchurch@gmail.com

Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number - SC006758

The Pop-Up Post Office continues
to run on Wednesdays and Fridays
from 9:30 - 11:30am
in the Kirk House Complex.



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