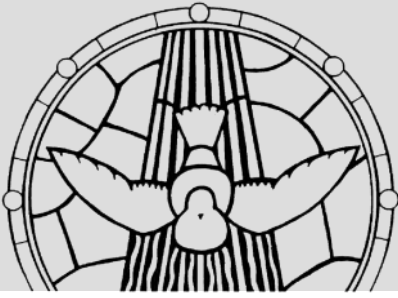


Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland Journal

November 2023



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

150 Years of Light and Service



The Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, initially known as St Thomas' Church holds a remarkable history of service and community engagements that has spanned 150 years. Since its inception beginning in 1870, the church has played a pivotal role in meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the Newport and surrounding communities.

As Newport continued to grow during the 19th century, it became evident that the existing parish church at Forgan could not adequately accommodate the needs of the expanding population. In response, an enthusiastic fundraising campaign was launched in 1868. Notably, a 'Committee of Ladies' significantly outperformed the all-male committee in

raising funds, reflecting the church's commitment to inclusivity from its early days.

St Thomas' Church was completed by the end of 1870 and opened its doors on 6th November 1870. Throughout its history, the church has been proactive in raising funds to meet the evolving needs of the community. In 1901, an ambitious fundraising campaign was initiated to extend the church, install an organ, and construct a manse. A Grand Bazaar held in Dundee raised a substantial sum of £2400, a remarkable achievement for the time. A 'Father' Willis organ, installed in the early 20th century, continues to enrich the church's musical heritage, having undergone refurbishment in 2016 to ensure its longevity.

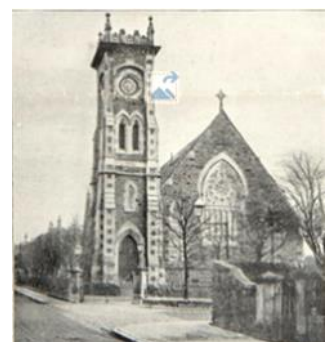
In 1978, St Thomas' Church joined forces with St. Fillan's Church to become Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, and in 1981, they merged with Forgan Church. This construction strengthened the church's ability to serve the community, demonstrating its commitment to adapt and evolve while preserving its rich history.

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, we reflect on the extraordinary journey this church has undertaken, embodying the principles of service, inclusivity, and community engagement. Today, the church continues to be a beacon of light in Newport and its surrounding communities, providing spiritual sustenance to the weary souls and those seeking spiritual nourishment in secular Scotland. Our weekly Sunday Services, along with the work of the Youth Ministry, Sunday School, Youth Seekers, Messy Church including other outreach programmes to Newport Primary School, and the partnership in delivering pastoral care through foodbanks are testaments to the enduring impact of this church.

As we mark this momentous occasion, we pray for the church's continued success in bringing the good news of salvation and alleviating poverty and suffering in the Newport and surrounding communities.

Every Blessing,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong



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.

Holy Communion



If you were unable to attend Communion or forgot your card on the day, and still have your Communion Card, please bring it to church and put it in the offering plate or give to your church elder to return on your behalf.

Thank You!

Thank you for the flowers I received following the death of my husband.

Margaret Eddy

Say is with flowers.
God said it with flowers in His creation.
Church, you too have said it with flowers.
Thank you so much.

Nancy Pong



Thank you for the flowers I received following the death of my husband Allan. They were very much appreciated.

Elizabeth Smith

Thank you so much for the lovely bunch of flowers I received on Communion Sunday along with the good wishes of the congregation. It was so nice to feel remembered and was very much appreciated.



Catherine Merrylees

Thank you all Church members for the lovely flowers I received for my 94th Birthday.

Henry Burnett

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received for my birthday. It was very much appreciated.

Irene Navickas



Many thanks for the lovely flowers and kind thoughts from the Church.

Alison Petrie

Community Chest

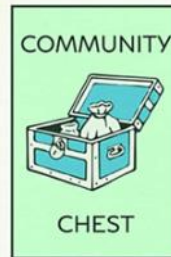
The Community Chest Appeal supports the Rio's foodstuff collection for inclusion in their lunch provision programme or for distribution in conjunction with the local foodbank.

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.

Any donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

A large container is available each Sunday to receive foodstuff, toiletries, etc. and these items will be delivered regularly to the Rio Community Centre for their use and distribution.

Recommended items of foodstuff include:



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

Many thanks.

Parish Register

Deaths

30th Sept	Mr Allan Smith Wormit	Dist 24
18th Oct	Mrs Moira Ferguson Newport-on-Tay	Dist 20

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

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



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MANNA matters



We spend so much time looking forward to our holidays and they are over so quickly. However the memories we make last much longer. They help us recharge our batteries too. Morag and her family enjoyed a very busy holiday in Italy while Gordon and I enjoyed some much needed rest in the Tenerife sunshine. We are grateful for these times of blessings.

MANNA has been busy with our groups returning to a more pre-Covid way of life. Thursday morning especially sees the knitting group in from 10:30-12noon and also the keep fit ladies in from 11-12noon.

We don't have Traidcraft now for Christmas cards but we will have a small collection on sale now. This has also affected some of our Christmas treats. We will not have advent calendars, Divine chocolate coins, Divine chocolate bars or Divine hot chocolate powder, however hopefully next year things will be back to normal. We can source from other suppliers but we would have to buy much bigger quantities.

We will be stocking three very different calendars. Two are from local artists (Donna Vincent and Angie Livingstone) and the other is the Newport History Group. All calendar sales go to the artists and history group so please bring cash.

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

Harvest Appeal

Just a few words to update you on the excellent response to our Harvest Thanksgiving Appeal last month and which closes on 5th November.

In addition to the large amount of food which was handed over to the Tay Bridgehead Foodbank from our Harvest Service (see thank you letter on the right), at the time of writing we have already received a large number of filled shoeboxes (and some monetary donations) for the Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal. We have also collected some cash donations for Christian Aid's Libya Floods Appeal which have been passed to Margaret Inlay for her to forward to Christian Aid.

Many thanks to all who have supported this year's appeal.

Philip Owen
Finance Convener



26th September, 2023

Dear Rev Dr Amos Chewachong and Parishioners,

Thank for the large number of donations of tinned and packaged food you recently collected for the Foodbank during your Harvest Festival service.

Our stores have recently been very depleted so they are now looking very well stocked and we should be able to respond to the requests we get from clients who depend on our service and who are always extremely grateful for the help we can give.

There were two envelopes with cash in them also for the Foodbank. They were anonymous but I am sure those who kindly gave the funds would like to know that we did receive them and we thank those folk who sent the money which will help towards the cost of buying the fresh produce that we include each week in clients' bags.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gina Angus'.

Gina Angus

(Taybridgehead Foodbank)

Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, 12th November 2023, our service will start at the earlier time of 10:50am to allow for the 2 minute silence at 11am.

All are welcome to join us in the Church and/or at the War Memorial for a service there at approx. 12.05pm.



Christmas Greetings

If you would like a festive message to the Church family included in the next edition of the Journal, please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 19th November 2023 or speak to Claire Owen.



Our Sesquicentenary

Our Celebration Weekend on 4th and 5th November 2023 to mark 150 years of the Church will just have happened by the time this Journal is published. We will have an update of the events in the Winter Journal.



Christmas Gifts

As has become our practice in recent years, we are again collecting new and unopened gifts which will be gifted to children less fortunate this Christmas in the North East Fife area.

If you are able to buy an extra gift for a child/young person up to the age of 18 then these can be brought to the church and put in one of the donation boxes at the doors. Gifts should be unwrapped. If you are unable to buy a gift but would still like to contribute then money can be given to Claire Owen or put in an envelope with Christmas Gift on the outside and placed in the offering plate.

Gifts donated up to 3rd December will be donated to the Toy Drive.

Suggested Gift Ideas :-

0-3 YEARS - Teddies, Musical Toys, My First Toys, Rattles, Books, Play Mats

3-5 YEARS - Cars, Dolls, Jigsaws, Dress Up Items, Playdoh, Colouring Books and Pencils

5-7 YEARS - Lego, Art and Craft Sets, Skipping Ropes, Make Your Own Photo Frame, Snow Globe, Jewellery Set, Action Figures, Board Games

7-9 YEARS - Footballs, Board Games, Remote Control Toys, Stationery Sets

9-12 YEARS - Board Games, Make Up Sets, Nail Varnish

12-18 YEARS - Toiletries, Electrical items (Straighteners, Mini-speakers), Aftershave and Perfumes, Jewellery, Puzzles, Make-up, Books, Lunch Boxes, Duvet Sets



Magazine Fund Appeal

Sorry, we're asking for money once again!

At this time of year, we traditionally seek financial donations to support the costs of producing and distributing our "Journal".

Hopefully you have enjoyed and appreciated the benefits of this publication and are happy to show this in a monetary way.

We shall be placing appropriate envelopes in the pews for a few weeks from 19th November and would ask you to return these in the normal manner into the offering plate. Of course, donations direct into our bank account are also welcome; if you do not have a note of our bank account, please contact me (see the back page of this Journal or on the Church's website - www.notchurch.co.uk) and I shall give you the relevant information.

If you are unable to come to church at this time and would like to contribute, please get in touch and we can make appropriate arrangements for your donation to be made.

Philip W Owen
Finance Convener



Garden Tidy

It is proposed that volunteers tidy our church garden and the property at 12 Kerr Street (a property owned by the church) in preparation for winter.

Saturday 18th November
at 10.30am onwards at 12 Kerr Street.

Sunday 19th November
after church onwards in the church gardens.

It shouldn't take long! Remember to bring your own gardening equipment!

Thank you.



PUZZLE PAGE

Faith Is the Key

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. Luke 7:9-10 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 7:1-10



L F Q S P T A M A Z E D T A G
 R L G W N Y S W B C W A H U M
 D S B R F W I R Q W E I Y T H
 I H O X U N C W I R X H D H N
 E B W L Y E K H G Y T Y B O K
 Q V H B D W V U O R P H M R H
 J J C N S I Q A O D I T B I I
 C R X E E W E W O U D K B T J
 R S H D N C G R E K A B E Y I
 H T E P E T P I J G C R O W D
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 R E J L I A M R I X O H N G E
 S T P L E T N E V O V B D B J
 G K X D C D H T P E N J Y P U

AMAZED	DIE	HOUSE
AUTHORITY	FAITH	SERVANT
CENTURION	FRIENDS	SICK
CROWD	GREAT	SOLDIER
DESERVE	HEALED	WORTHY



Daily Reflections

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

Sunday Club Update

Teaching this month

We have continued our series of sessions looking at key characters from the Bible using Energize materials. We have looked at the stories of Joshua (trusting that God will be with us even when given a scary task to undertake) and Gideon (reflecting on "big" things that may make us feel small) in October. We will be moving on to Samson and Ruth in November.

We have had 2 Funday Sundays in October during half-term and Godly Play on the last Sunday in October during the Communion Service. 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 will be having a special focus on Remembrance on 12th November. We'll then look forward to preparing for our nativity service in December.

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

Youth Update

Hi Everyone!

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who was praying for me over the last few months while I was off unwell. I really appreciate it. I am now back on a phased return and I am looking forward to seeing what the next few months has in store for our ministry.

Messy Church

We had Messy Church on Saturday 28th October where we looked at the miraculous story of Jesus feeding the 5000. We focused on the themes of caring and meeting the needs of others and not wasting things. As such, our Messy Church families decorated and filled their own shoeboxes for the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal.



Next time (Saturday 25th November) is our Messy Church Christmas special and we are looking for some Christmas decorations to decorate the hall.

Youth Groups

While I was off unwell, a few people stepped up and ran our youth groups. Firstly, I just wanted to say thank you - I know our young people really appreciated it, and it brought pure joy to my heart, knowing what we are doing here in Newport-on-Tay has immense value, not only to our young people but to their families as well. Please keep us in your prayers as we look forward to what we are doing in November and December!

Chris Cameron

Youth Worker

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Wednesday Afternoon Club

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

A big thank you to Margaret Wright for co-ordinating it. 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.

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

Ukraine Project

~ Fundraising for Ukraine

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: Every Thursday evening at 7pm on the Church Green.

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

It is important that we continue to bear witness to the ongoing suffering of the people of Ukraine and stand with them. The Vigil is one small way of doing this.

We also use it as an opportunity to pray for all those affected by other conflicts around the world.

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.

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

Editorial

It's a standard British thing to do - talk about the weather - but given the rain we have had in the past couple of weeks it would be very amiss not to speak about it.



The floods that some local towns and villages have experienced recently is hard to imagine what they are going through. Especially coupled with the time of year it doesn't bear thinking about.

In Genesis Chapter 1, after God had created night and day, he separated the waters with land. Just a few chapters later on we read about the flood that God sent to earth. Although God was wanting to get rid of corruptness that had already appeared, the high waters covering the earth was not the end of the story. God sent a wind and the waters subsided and after a while the earth dried out and a new life was built. It feels very fitting to be reminded of this story and hopefully it will bring comfort to those who are out of their houses and despairing at what is facing them in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Yet it's at moments like this that communities come together with people offering rooms, houses, clothes, food etc for those who are displaced. When we ask in the church for donations of food for the foodbank, or for money towards a certain appeal, you support all these causes and it is so humbling to see. It may only be a small part of what is required but everything donated makes a difference even if it seems small.

"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have." 2 Corinthians 8 v 12



We keep everyone affected by the recent floods in our thoughts and prayers.

God Bless
Claire

Calendar of Worship

Sunday 5th November 2023 at 11am 150th Anniversary Songs of Praise

Service led by Mr G Johnston & Mr W Imlay

Beadle : S Johnston **Reader** : W Berry

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : J MacCallum **Delivery** : E Wood

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

Sunday Club : A Gray, S McCowan

Youth Elder : M Imlay

Sunday 26th November 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : D Macleod **Reader** : L Robertson

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : J Campbell **Delivery** : F Durward

Coffee : F Durward, K Cruickshanks, M Rowley + F Ritchie

Sunday Club : Nativity Preparation

Youth Elder : C Johnston

Sunday 3rd December 2023 at 11am First Sunday of Advent

Service led by Miss C Owen

Beadle : D Miller **Reader** : J Cuthbertson

Welcome : M Imlay

Flowers : M Cuthbertson **Delivery** : A Gray

Coffee : P Laurence, E Thomson, S Myles + W Imlay

Sunday Club : Nativity Preparation

Youth Elder : S Johnston

Sunday 12th November 2023 at 10:50am Remembrance Sunday

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : C McCowan **Reader** : E Owen

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : L Mulford **Delivery** : A Barona

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

Sunday Club : E Wisher, J Wylie

Youth Elder : J Johnston

Sunday 19th November 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : N Merrylees **Reader** : R Caird

Welcome : K Cameron

Flowers : M Shiels **Delivery** : C Barr

Coffee : A Barona, I Navickas, P Foulis + D Macleod

Sunday Club : J Wylie, E Wisher

Youth Elder : M Shiels

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our Winter edition of the Church Journal (covering December and January) please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 19th November 2023.

Please remember to get in touch with any Journal questions, comments or suggestions.

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Visit us on facebook -
Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

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