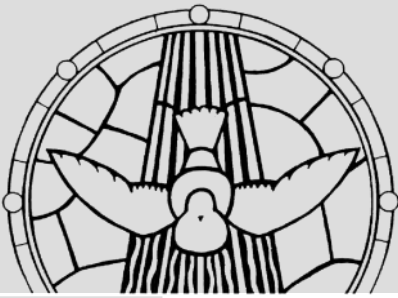


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

April 2022



MINISTER'S MESSAGE - Easter 2022

John 20:10-18: *Why are you weeping? Why are you crying?*

Charles Darwin once declared emotional tears "purposeless," and nearly 150 years later emotional crying remains one of the human body's more confounding mysteries. Though some other species shed tears reflexively because of pain or irritation, humans are the only creatures whose tears can be triggered by their feelings. In babies, tears have the obvious and crucial role of soliciting attention and care from adults. But what about in grownups? That's less clear. It's obvious that strong emotions trigger them, but why?

My message is centred on crying in a specific context within scripture and in relation to Mary Magdalene who had visited the tomb of Jesus on Easter morning to anoint his body but failed to find the body. When Simon Peter and the other disciple that Jesus loved visited and confirmed that the body of Jesus was not in the tomb, they returned to their homes, but Mary Magdalene stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she stooped to investigate the tomb and saw two people in white. She recognised that they were angels sitting where the body of Jesus had lain - one at the head and the other at the feet. The angels said to her, 'woman why are you weeping?' She said to them 'because they have taken away my Lord and I don't know where they have laid him'. When she turned around, she saw Jesus standing but didn't know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her 'woman, why are you weeping, whom are you seeking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him 'sir, if you have carried him away tell me where you have laid him, and I will carry him away'. Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' Instantly she recognised his voice and said to him 'my teacher', and Jesus said to her 'do not hold me for I have not yet ascended to the father. But go to my brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to my father and your father, to my God and your God'. Mary Magdalene went at once and said to the disciples 'I have seen the Lord'. And she told them that Jesus had commissioned her.

Why are you weeping? Why are you crying?

Mary Magdalene had good reasons to cry. She had observed the brutality of the crucifixion and witnessed the burial rites of her Lord. She wept because she thought she had lost the only man who ever truly understood and loved her, the Saviour who delivered her from bondage and gave her a new life. She couldn't face the future without this almighty Saviour, the light had gone out of her life, and she was in the deep darkness of despair.

Why are you weeping? I wonder if Christ is asking that question to us today: Woman, man, child, why are you weeping? What are the things about your life and about our world that make us want to cry? The invasion of Ukraine by the forces of Vladimir Putin and at his command since February 2022, and the massive destruction taking place in that sovereign state including the killing of men, women, and children, brings tears to our eyes. But some of us are weeping because of our past, our failures, and our sense of shame over what we have done. James 4:9-11 encourages us to weep over sin, 'grieve, mourn, and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom because of what you have done'. Some are weeping over their savage temptations and heavy responsibilities in the present, and over their fears and anxieties about the unknown future. However, 'never let the future disturb you. You will meet it, if you must, with the same weapons of reason which today arm you against the present' (Marcus Aurelius).

Our temptations will always be with us, our responsibilities and anxieties may remain, but the resurrection of Jesus Christ puts all these things into a new light. It tells us that Christ died for our sins and has been vindicated, that he triumphed over death. And it assures us that one day, God is going to make the whole universe new, and he is going to wipe away all tears from our eyes.

As we look forward to another Easter celebration in 2022, let us thank God for tears that make us realise our need for God and for each other and that enable us to repent from the sin that clings so closely. Let us remember that we shall go on weeping in this life until the risen Lord says to us, 'why are you weeping?', there is no need to go on weeping, be of good cheer, it is I, be not afraid'.

Happy Easter and God Bless you,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong



Covid Guidance in Church

The Church of Scotland Covid Guidance Group continue to encourage places of worship to follow the Scottish Government's general guidance on staying safe and protecting others. We will therefore as a church continue to adhere to our current guidance and mitigation measures until such time as the Covid Group and our Kirk Session recommend their complete removal.

But there is one notable change - from Monday 4th April the wearing of face coverings will no longer be mandatory in places of worship - although they will remain a legal requirement within other indoor public places until Monday 18th April (infection rates permitting). If, however you feel that you would prefer to retain a face covering whilst in church then that is quite understandable.



Wishing you all a safe, peaceful, and joyous Easter.

Francis B. Robertson
Session Clerk & Covid Co-ordinator

Property Matters

At a first glimpse many of our fine ecclesiastical buildings give the impression that they have stood resolutely against the elements since the dawn of time itself. On closer inspection however, it becomes clear that they have been continually and lovingly restored and repaired to withstand the ravages of time and weathering. Acid rain has eaten away at the intricately carved stonework, frost has exposed structural defects in the rock, damp and rot has crept silently into the woodwork and rust has set in corroding the pipework from the inside. Too often however this battle is lost as dwindling congregations do not have the necessary skills or finance to undertake such essential restorative work, resulting in the permanent closure of the church building and potentially the cessation of worship within that community.

Our church is no different and a fine team of dedicated elders and members of the congregation have over the years dutifully addressed every aspect of the fabric and preservation of our buildings - undertaking work themselves or calling in professional help when needed - all essentially for our (the congregation's) continuing safety and comfort. Charles Moodie and the late Ally Dempster spring to mind since my arrival in Newport, and in more recent times Don Macleod has fulfilled the role as our Property Manager. Designating a five-year rolling plan of inspection and maintenance for all church properties, Don has also transformed and streamlined our record-keeping system including the obligatory certification processes. Don has since worked steadfastly to minimize both impact and costs by undertaking or coordinating essential repairs himself, or by collaborating with congregational volunteers or trades people to complete the task. Don's commitment to the role had even extended to the installation of Wi-Fi devices in the church and hall to monitor the temperature from his home in The Gauldry as the ageing heating system began to fail with increasing regularity.

It is therefore right and fitting that we should acknowledge Don's achievements, his dedication and commitment to the role as our Property Manager following his recent decision to resign from the post for personal and family reasons. In my visits to the church during each week it was commonplace to see Don's e-bike or car parked within the church grounds as he attended to an essential inspection or repair in his usual quiet and competent manner. But the increasing demands placed "to keep the ship afloat" as Don himself expressed it, was an ever-increasing burden which seriously impacted on his ability to secure quality personal and family time. Don, we thank you most sincerely for all you have done for this congregation, its safety and welfare, through your resolute dedication to the maintenance and upkeep of our church and manse buildings.

"But by the grace of God, I am what I am: and his grace which was given to me has not been for nothing; for I did more work than all of them; though not I, but the grace of God which was with me."
(1 Corinthians 15:10)

Francis B. Robertson
Session Clerk

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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

Just an alert to let folk know that Christian Aid Week will run from 15th - 21st May. As usual the distinctive red envelopes will be available for anyone wishing to make a donation. As I'm sure you are aware this is Christian Aid's annual major fundraising period.

There are again no Bridge Crosses but Christian Aid is urging supporters to take part in the Kiltwalk when all sponsorship for a charity is increased by 50%. This year the Kiltwalk will take place in our 4 major cities on different dates through the year. Dundee's date is 21st August. Anyone interested can obtain more information online or from myself.

Margaret Imlay

Thank You



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

Edith Campbell

Try Praying Initiative

During our service on Sunday 10th April, there will be a focus on the Try Praying Initiative to give the congregation more information about it and also how to continue this outreach.

[trypraying](https://www.trypraying.org)



Palm Sunday at 11am
Maundy Thursday at 7pm (including Communion)
Good Friday at 7pm
Easter Sunday at 11am

All these services will take place in the Church and it is hoped, where possible, to offer a Zoom log-in for those unable to attend in person to join too. For more information please email newportcos@btinternet.com

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
> the adventure begins here



Just when things are running along quite nicely, something (almost) unexpected comes along!

We were working away happily and then the dreaded two-line COVID test results returned. This time it was our Officers who were affected and led to a number of our meetings prior to the Easter break being abandoned.

Although we managed to conclude our focus on Fairtrade Fortnight, give some thought to Lent, and had a Red Nose evening, our contemplation of Holy Week and Easter will have to wait until we come back after the holidays.

Hopefully, the current level of infection from "the virus" will have eased by then to allow us to have something more akin to the type of meeting we held in times gone by.

Philip Owen
Company Captain

Child Presentation

On Sunday 6th March, Amos & Florence presented their daughter Anna-Danielle to the congregation.



Photo courtesy of Catherine Johnston

Safeguarding Training

The Church of Scotland Safeguarding Service advise all Kirk Sessions and church volunteers to undertake safeguarding training every 3 - 5 years. Please note the following planned sessions which are available and contact Lesley Gray, our Safeguarding Coordinator, if you can attend. The Church takes safeguarding very seriously and urges you to attend if you can.

An in-person training event for Kirk Session members is taking place on Wednesday 6th April from 1.45 - 4.00pm at Creich Church. CFK have kindly opened this event to other congregations, and it would suit those who perhaps are not so comfortable with online events.

There are also online sessions in April/May:

Thursday 7th April - Volunteer Refresher Online from 7.00 - 8.30pm - Alan Monk
Tuesday 19th April - Volunteer Refresher Online from 7.00 - 8.30pm - Sheila Boyd
Wednesday 27th April - Kirk Session Online from 7.00 - 9.00pm - Andy Strachan

Tuesday 3rd May - Kirk Session Online from 7.00 - 9.00pm - Sheila Boyd
Thursday 26th May - Panel Online from 7.00 - 9.00pm - Andy Strachan

As an alternative to the above, Sheila Boyd (the Safeguarding Coordinator for Fife Presbytery) has offered to host another congregational session if desired.

If you have any questions or would like to book a session contact Lesley Gray, email lesley.gray@talk21.com or phone 07779 506 994.

Church of Scotland Guild



As many of you already know the Newport-on-Tay Guild has recently been formed and a Dedication Service was held on Sunday 20th March. The Guild is a Christian organisation, part of the Church of Scotland and grounded in the service of Jesus Christ. It invites both men and women to take part and enables them to express their faith in worship, prayer, action and fellowship.

The group has already met, talking mainly about the war in the Ukraine and our twin village Zolotarevo and wondered what we could do to help. We have contacts in Zolotarevo, which is relatively safe at present and our friends there tell us that they have 400 refugees staying there presently and that the school is preparing food daily. NAZTA (our twinning association) has already sent £1000 to help with these costs.

The Guild were given two requests from our contacts in Ukraine - money and prayer!

An ongoing vigil has been prepared to take place every Thursday, on the green outside the church at 7pm where prayers will be said and visitors invited to tie a ribbon on the wall to recreate the flag of Ukraine. There will also be a chance to donate money to the ongoing work in Zolotarevo. If you are unable to be present at the vigils but would like to take part then ribbons will be available at manna.

If anyone is interested in the Guild and would like more information please contact Catherine Merrylees or me.

Sheila Johnston

**Remember
Ukraine
Vigil**

Every Thursday at 7pm
(Starting 31st March 2022)
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

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Youth Update

Messy Church is kicking off on Saturday 23rd April 2022 and we are looking for volunteers to help run our programme. We are asking volunteers to be at the Church 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 are also looking for some recyclable materials for our Junk Modelling. Please ensure all donations are clean and safe for children to handle. We are looking for the following items.

- Small Cardboard Boxes e.g. toothpaste, cereal boxes
- Random and Interesting Cardboard and Plastic Stuff
- Plastic Bottles – all sizes
- Wool
- Yogurt Pots
- Milk Bottle Lids
- Kitchen Roll Cardboard Tubes
- Toilet Roll Tubes

A Donation Box will be located at the back of the church on Sundays. Thank you in advance.



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 23rd April - 10.30am - 12.30pm
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

Ask Anything.

What is Youth Alpha?

Youth Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith.

What else is involved?

A free meal will be provided for everyone who attends. We will also be playing some amazing Icebreaker Games!

Contact: E-mail: youthworker.notcos@outlook.com or Phone: 07927253827
Chris Cameron Youth Worker for Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland



Who's it for?

Youth Alpha is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to encourage discussion and explore the basics of the Christian faith together in a fun, friendly and informed environment. We will have two groups running:

P7 - S2 : 6pm - 7.30pm
S3 - S6 : 7pm - 8.30pm

Youth Groups

Youth Alpha has now started up and we have had 3 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 Jane Campbell, Jane Johnston and Neil and Morag Rowley! We are having a short break from Youth Alpha for a couple of weeks over the Easter Holidays but we are picking it back up on Sunday 17th April.



Our Youth Alpha Day Away is currently planned for Saturday 30th April. More information will follow soon!

On Sunday mornings, we are working our way through the Old Testament and we have just finished looking at Deuteronomy. It has been insightful looking through the first few books of the bible and gaining more understanding on the stories that are contained in those books, like Balaam and his talking donkey!

Blessings
Chris Cameron

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.

Interested parties please contact the Session Clerk.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4 : 6

Parish Register

Death

3rd Mar Mrs Christina (Chrissie) Sturrock
Cupar (formerly Newport) Dist 98

Child Presentation

6th Mar Anna Danielle Fenghefeze Amosons
Chewachong
Daughter of Amos and Florence

Changes of Address

Mr Alan Bruce
From :- Newport-on-Tay Dist 8
To :- Montrose Dist 98

Miss Gillian Campbell
From :- Wormit Dist 24
To :- Dundee Dist 30

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

Holy Communion

We will be holding our
Service of Holy Communion on
Sunday 24th April 2022.



We will not be
delivering
Communion
Invitations again
this time but you
are all warmly
welcome to join
us at the Lord's
Table.

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our May
edition of the Church Journal,
please email newportcos@btinternet.com
by Sunday 17th April 2022.

Sunday Club Update

Teaching

We have now finished the series in the Energize materials looking at 'I am' statements of Jesus. We began with 'I am He' followed by 'I am the Bread of Life', 'I am the Light' and 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'. These continued for a total of seven sessions and finished with I am the Alpha and the Omega reminding us that Jesus is all we need and only He can satisfy our deepest longings.

Lent Foodbank Collection

Throughout Lent we have been encouraging the young people to take a lead on the foodbank collection so they understand the challenges some people in our community face. Of course, we greatly appreciate contributions by all members of the congregation so please do bring something for the collection. We plan to deliver these to the foodbank on Easter Sunday.

Funday Sundays

Funday Sundays will continue during the school holidays on the 3rd and 10th April. As mentioned previously, 'Funday Sundays' provide fun activities for children in place of Sunday Club during the 11am service throughout holiday periods. This often means that parents feel able to come to church even when there is no formal Sunday Club teaching. A big thank you to those who have already volunteered to help. We are 'fully staffed' until the summer. However, I am still looking for some extra helpers for the Funday Sundays over the summer months. I am also looking for someone to help coordinate the programme. Please do get in touch with me if you feel led to contribute in this way or even would just like to find out more. Thank you!

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



Lent Reflections 2022

Every day during Lent, our minister Amos is recording a short reflection, which will be posted daily on our Church website <http://www.notchurch.co.uk/index.php/lent-2022/>

Please spread the word to others who might be interested in this resource.



mannn matters

We are enjoying being open a little longer each day - now until 4.30pm. As from Monday 4th April we will be open on a Monday too! Our new hours will be Monday - Saturday 10am - 4.30pm. We also have two young people working with us for 6 months helping them to gain skills in working in hospitality.



We celebrated Mothering Sunday on 27th March and we had an afternoon tea. Howard did a fantastic job of looking after all our very special customers. We had our best fine China, beautiful linen and lots of daffodils. See photos below of our very satisfied customers.

We are happy to see a return of more customers enjoying all that manna has to offer. We have our outside tables and chairs which have been a blessing on the few warm sunny days we enjoyed at the end of March.

Our Easter cards are proving very popular and more are due in this month.

Please hold all of our manna team and volunteers in your prayers.

God bless for all at manna.

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



Mother's Day



Calendar of Worship

Sunday 3rd April 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : D Collison
Beadle : M Imlay **Reader** : E Owen
Flowers : C Barr **Delivery** : S Johnston
Coffee : J Latto, L Robertson M Wright +
C McCowan

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Sunday 10th April 2022 at 11am Palm Sunday

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : F Robertson
Beadle : C Johnston **Reader** : I Armstrong
Flowers : F Davidson **Delivery** : P Laurence
Coffee : M Heron, J Johnston, Y Simpson +
G Johnston

Thursday 14th April 2022 at 7pm Maundy Thursday

Service, including Communion, led by Rev Dr Amos
Chewachong

Friday 15th April 2022 at 7pm Good Friday

Joint Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Sunday 17th April 2022 at 11am Easter Sunday

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : N Pong
Beadle : W Imlay **Reader** : W Berry
Flowers : Easter Flowers **Delivery** : E Owen
Coffee : P Broadbent, M Cuthbertson, K Farquhar
+ J Cuthbertson

Sunday 24th April 2022 at 11am Holy Communion

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
Beadle : G Johnston **Reader** : F Ritchie
Flowers : M Robertson **Delivery** : M Shiels
Coffee : J Campbell, L Hundal, M Imlay +
K Campbell

Sunday 1st May 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayers : C Merrylees
Beadle : S Johnston **Reader** : C Owen
Flowers : P Broadbent **Delivery** : E Thomson
Coffee : M McCabe, I Navickas, W Whyte +
D MacLeod

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-on-Tay, 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: 07779 506 994
email: lesley.gray@talk21.com

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

Finance Convener : Philip Owen
80 West Road, Newport-on-Tay, Fife, DD6 8HP
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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