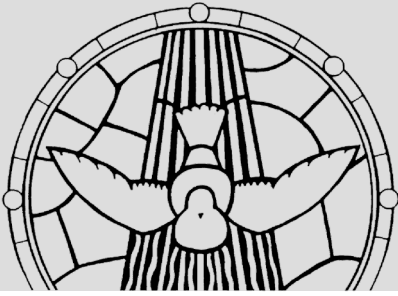


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

November 2022



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Love is the Greatest : 1 Corinthians 13



The hymn 'Hark my Soul it is the Lord' is one of my favourite ones. I have great appreciation for the very meaningful words. Florence and I used it for our wedding 16 years ago and each time stanza four is sung we tend to look at each other spontaneously. We have made the words our own:

Mine is an unchanging love,
Higher than the heights above;
Deeper than the depths beneath,
Free and faithful, strong as death.

It is not difficult to notice that those words speak of the depth, faithfulness and unchangeability of real and true love. 1 Corinthians 13 has been used for weddings, but it is not really about love amongst couples but more about the meaning and expression of love in Christian communities that are often diverse in terms of demography and outlook. Most of the members in the Corinthian church to whom the letter was written were from the lower classes (1 Corinthians 1:26), while a few sat on the opposite side in rank and resources. For example, Erastus, was the city treasurer of Corinth and Gaius had enough resources to support Paul and the whole church (1 Corinthians 1:14; cf. Romans 16:23). Unfortunately, this diversity among the Corinthian brethren led to discord and rivalry. They took sides with some saying they are of one teacher or another.

In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul aims to teach that unity and difference can be acknowledged, respected, and celebrated only when love is in the centre of what we do and who we are as a Christian community. The text necessitates our involvement, to make the kingdom of God possible and to activate and nurture it in our immediate communities of faith through love for one another. It means showing God's love to others through acts of kindness in thoughtful and selfless ways because being thoughtful and kind shows other people that you value their needs above your own. Selfless love comes from God. It is the kind of love N. T. Wright refers to when he writes that 'love is the deepest mode of knowing because it is love that, while completely engaging with reality other than itself, affirms and celebrates that other-than-self reality. This is the mode of knowing that is necessary if we are to live in the new public world...the world in which Jesus is Lord and Caesar isn't'. Is this not the kind of love we need?

Dear friends, we are facing innumerable problems in our time. Many people are struggling to cope with the rising standards of living, caused partly by the war in Ukraine. Mental health cases have soared because some people find it hard to cope with the economic crisis and sense of dislocation. Our political system is more of a charade! It has failed to deliver on its promises and continued to frustrate good and hardworking people who live and serve the kingdom selflessly. In this darkest of moments, deep frustration and hardship, our pursuit of love can bring the light of Christ to those in darkness — to the poor, to the captive, to refugees, to the blind, and to the oppressed.

As part of our church initiative to salvage some of the looming problems, the Newport-On-Tay Church is providing hot meals and warm clothing to any who would benefit from this largesse. We are asking people of goodwill to make generous donations to our church at this time to help us fulfil this special duty of grace to the community. As a community of Christ, we are called to bring the good news of love to other people. When we are truly a community in Christ, a community that knows its unity and celebrates its diversity. A community that knows the reality of division, and yet has in view the cross that binds us together, we will be able to join Jesus and walk along him in his ministry to those who so desperately need to hear his love for them.

Please join us as we walk with people of our community during these dark and cold Winter months!

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.

Session Clerk

At the October Kirk Session meeting the outgoing Session Clerk, Francis Robertson, was presented with a copy of the New Testament in Scots in recognition of his four years of diligent and faithful service in that role. Regular readers of the Journal will know that Francis is now serving the wider Church of Scotland as a National Assessor of candidates for the ministry.

At the same meeting Amos welcomed the new Session Clerk, Graham Johnston, who took up the post at the start of the month.



Parish Register

Death

11th Jul Mrs Jean Olaore
Formerly Newport-on-Tay Dist Supp

28th Sep Mrs Catriona Herald
Formerly Newport-on-Tay Dist Supp

Funeral

11th Oct Mr Angus Ferguson
Newport-on-Tay

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

Changes of Address

Mr Allan Hendry
From: District 6
To : District 32

Mrs Winnie Whyte and Miss Angela Whyte
From: District 27
To : District 98

*"My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."
Isaiah 32:18.*

Church Flowers

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers
we received from the church.
They were greatly appreciated.
Jenny and Mike Latto

.....
I would like to thank the Church very much for the
lovely bouquet of flowers I received recently for my
birthday. It was much appreciated.
Nettie Leslie

.....
Many thanks for the beautiful roses
I received recently.
They were very much appreciated.
Lizbeth McCrickard

.....
Many thanks for the really lovely flowers which
were delivered to me recently.
How very kind of you to think of me.
Jeanette Johnston



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THE BOYS' BRIGADE

> the adventure begins here



As always, October has been a month of two halves – one quite busy and the other quite quiet and contemplative! The school holiday break has allowed us a breather after getting our session started and lets batteries be recharged for the move towards Advent and Christmas itself.

Prior to the break, our meetings had a "Water" theme as we heard the stories of Jesus walking on the water and also His calming of the storm; we followed that with a quiz and other activities concerning water consumption and water safety. After the holiday, Hallowe'en was the topic when we found out about the origins of the occasion, of pumpkin lanterns and of trick or treating (or guising to those of us of more mature years!).

Over the next few weeks we will learn about Guy Fawkes and then our focus will turn to Remembrance Sunday and the reasons why we commemorate at this time. We are hopeful of attending the local activities that day, especially as some of our boys have been involved in the creation of the poppies for Newport History Group's project to celebrate the centenary of the unveiling of Newport's war memorial.

Unfortunately, due to other events there, we have not yet been able to arrange an opportunity to meet with the boys at Newport Primary School as we try to boost our numbers – hopefully this month!

Philip Owen
Company Captain

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

manna matters



Our new volunteers are working so well and I hope they realise what a blessing they are to us at this time. We are training some to work the coffee machine which is exciting. I have been on training myself to update my food hygiene certificate recently. It's good to get back to doing some normal things after so long.

As I write this month's manna matters I am continuing to feel blessed. I have had another birthday this month and had a lovely day relaxing with the family. I am busy preparing manna for my two week holiday on the 24th October. Lots to think about as it has been so long since I have been away from manna for any length of time. I'm very grateful to Morag and the team who look after everything so well in my absence. We are fortunate enough to be heading back to Tenerife to enjoy some sunshine.

We hope that many of you will continue to support manna in whatever way you can. Popping in for coffee and a chat with friends, buying some of our Christmas cards or perhaps some gifts. As the weather turns cooler we definitely get busier. We also get many new customers at this time of year looking for our unique Christmas gifts. New stock has arrived in our gift shop and we have plenty of items that might inspire you.

Thank you all for your continued support.

God bless for all at manna.

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

manna (01382) 542781

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

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

Outdoor Nativity

On Saturday, 3rd December, members of local churches will enact the Nativity story outdoors in Newport Church grounds. There will be performances at 1pm and 2pm lasting approximately 30-40 minutes. This is a FREE event but due to the limited area, entry to the grounds will be by ticket. One ticket will permit entry to only one person, whether adult or child. Tickets will be available in manna from 14th November.

In the event of poor weather the Nativity will be performed in the church and its adjacent buildings.

This is a new and unusual way to experience the Christmas story and we look forward to seeing you there.



I'm Strictly a Celebrity, Get Me Dancing Out of Here!

The nights are fair drawing in, and with the dark evenings and autumnal weather come those other foretastes of the waning year: the appearance on the TV schedules of the elimination shows Strictly Come Dancing and I'm a Celebrity. I dare say there are many who enthusiastically watch both, but there will be many who prefer one over the other. Each show has its own characteristics. I'm a Celebrity relies on trials of adversity and interactions between the contestants, whereas Strictly focusses on the week-by-week development of the dancers' skills and the critical assessment of the judges. But both shows share the one common element: they discard the contestants one by one until the winner remains alone and victorious.

Looking at the life of our congregation and its regular call for volunteers, I sometimes wonder if our folk look on the work of the church as a task on I'm a Celebrity: not exactly pleasant, but necessary for survival. Others may find a parallel between the work of the church and Strictly: I'll try my best, but the time will come when my best isn't good enough and someone more talented will take my place. But I do not think that either of these attitudes is a Christian response to a call to service.

The story of Zacchaeus speaks volumes to me. You can read it yourselves in Luke chapter 19. Jesus makes the focus of his day a meal with a tax collector, a collaborator in the Roman Occupation of the Holy Land. You can guess that Jesus didn't come to him with a list of jobs needing done at the local Synagogue, or even with a request for money to fix the roof. No, Jesus is only interested in Zacchaeus himself and healing the broken relationship between him and God. The generous response of Zacchaeus comes from the restoration of that relationship, and not the other way around. He did not, and could not buy the favour of God, but in welcoming Jesus and recognising his new being as a child of God, he responded with an overflowing gratitude, a change of attitudes, and a transformed life.

Graham Johnston
Session Clerk

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 20th November 2022 or speak to Claire Owen.



Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, 13th November 2022, 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. 12.10pm.



Newport Community Chest

Two large containers are situated at the back of the church to receive foodstuff, toiletries, good quality clothing (particularly warm winter attire) and any surplus sleeping bags which are no longer required. 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 and meat. Our local Scotmid Co-operative store regularly supplies perishable items such as bread/rolls.

This Community Chest Appeal supports the Rio's foodstuff collection for inclusion in their lunch provision programme or for distribution in conjunction with the foodbank and will continue throughout the winter months.



The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Winter Food and Fuel Crisis: Community Lunches

We are planning to host free community lunches in the church complex once a month in November, December, January, and February. This is as part of an initiative to support everyone in our local community this coming winter with the pressures of rising fuel and food costs.

These will be an extension of lunches already held in the Rio Community Centre and Betty Martin has offered her full support and will help us plan and run them.

Everyone will of course be very welcome to come to these lunches and there will be a donation plate if people want to, and are able to, contribute.

The first two dates will be: **Thursday 17th November and Monday 5th December.**

Lunch will be served from 12 noon

The Guild is looking for food donations, particularly for home-made soup. Menus will be simple consisting of fruit juice with soup and a roll followed by a simple main course or soup with a desert (eg cakes). We are anticipating a turnout of about 20 people so would hope for maybe 2 volunteers to each make soup for 10 people.

If you feel able to contribute in any way please contact either:

Margaret Imlay : 543446 or margaret.imlay@btinternet.com

Alison Heywood: 543369/07719367347 or alisonbob@btinternet.com

Other Activities:

Our existing projects are continuing

~ **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 bear witness to the ongoing suffering of the people of Ukraine and stand with them in their hour of need. The Vigil is one small way of doing this.

Please do join us if you are around at that time. We usually have a Bible reading, time of prayer and short reflection starting at 7pm lasting 5-10 minutes. Then everyone adds more ribbons to the ribbon flag - you may have noticed that it is filling in nicely.

~ **Cards for Ukraine**

These have continued to sell well. So far we have raised £800 in donations (including both card sales and freewill donations). We still have plenty in stock. They are on sale in manna.

Ways to support your Guild

Please tell your friends and family about the above projects.

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

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Sunday Club Update

What we have been doing so far ...

During October we continued with the current theme of influences on our lives. However, there were also Funday Sunday activities during the October holidays (9th and 16th Oct). On those days the children came into church at the start of the service as usual, and then left after the children's talk for their own fun activities. Thanks very much to Francis & Linda and Ally & Diane for running these.

There was a return of Godly Play on 30th October (Communion Sunday) with the story of the three wise men and their journey. Thanks very much to Jane Campbell for coordinating this. 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.



Looking forward to November ...

We look at the influences of advertising on the 6th November and then have a focus on remembrance on the 13th which is Remembrance Sunday. We will then start to look forward to Christmas and the nativity which has once again been written for us by Jane Campbell. More about that next month.

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, and of course through bake sales like the one in September.

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

For more details on Sunday Club you can contact Neil on 07986669430.

Christmas Gifts

As has become our practice we are again collecting new and unopened gifts which will be gifted to children less fortunate this Christmas. 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. 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. This collection will continue until early December.

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, Du-



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

Youth Update

October has been a unique month in terms of our Youth Groups. We've had a couple of weeks off for the School Holidays and for Youth Café we have had solely event nights. At the start of the month we had a games night. On 23rd October we watched the animated film DC League of Super Pets, starring Kevin Hart & Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson amongst others. On 30th October we played Among Us in Real Life where most of our young people are crewmates, going around the church completing tasks, while two of them are imposter among us, where they are trying to take out the crewmates. It was a crazy, manic, fun-filled evening.

Youth Seekers — we are still continuing on with our theme of I AM Sayings. We are looking at Jesus being the Way, and earlier in the month we looked at Jesus being the resurrection and the life. On other news, we would like to welcome Kevin to our volunteer team and we are so grateful to have him on board!

School Update

Before the schools broke up for the holidays, Newport Primary School had their harvest celebration service and invited Amos and me up to visit and see their assembly. All the children did incredibly well and it was a real joyous moment being back in school and seeing so many parents as well! We are looking forward with how we can partner with our local school once more in the coming months.

Messy Church

This month we looked at the story of Joshua and how God did the impossible by bringing the walls of Jericho down. Our crafts this month were flower arranging – to celebrate the victory that God gave the Israelites, edible stones, stone painting, junk modelling, musical instruments (shakers and kazoos) and our graffiti wall. We welcomed approx. 10 families this month and everyone had a blast.

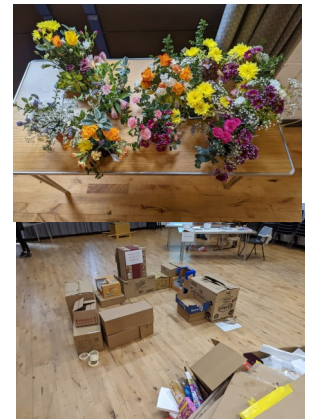
Our next event is Saturday 26th November 10:30am – 12:30pm where we are looking at the Christmas Story! At the moment we are looking for some spare Christmas Decorations to help decorate the hall for Messy Church. We are also looking for some more volunteers. If you are interested in helping please get in touch on 07927253827 or youthworker.notcos@outlook.com



Chris Cameron

Sunday Fun

Messy Church



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Calendar of Worship

Sunday 6th November 2022 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayer : C Merrylees

Beadle : G Johnston **Reader** : P Owen

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : J MacCallum **Delivery** : S Johnston

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

Sunday Club : S McCowan

Sunday 13th November 2022 at 10:50am Remembrance Sunday

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayer : W Imlay

Beadle : C McCowan **Reader** : R Caird

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : L Mulford **Delivery** : P Laurence

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

Sunday Club : S McCowan, F Hutchinson

Sunday 20th November 2022 at 11am

Service led by Mr Alastair Stark

Call To Worship/Intercessory Prayer : J Campbell

Beadle : S Johnston **Reader** : C Merrylees

Welcome : M Imlay

Flowers : M Shiels **Delivery** : E Owen

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

Sunday Club : F Hutchinson, N Merrylees

Sunday 27th November 2022 at 11am First Sunday in Advent

Service led by Mr Graham Johnston

Beadle : D MacLeod **Reader** : L Robertson

Welcome : K Cameron

Flowers : J Campbell **Delivery** : M Rowley

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

Sunday Club : Nativity Preparation

Sunday 4th December 2022 at 11am Second Sunday in Advent

Service led by Miss Claire Owen

Beadle : D Miller **Reader** : S Johnston

Welcome : tba

Flowers : M Cuthbertson **Delivery** : M Shiels

Coffee : J Campbell, L Hundal, L Balfour +
K Campbell

Sunday Club : Nativity Preparation

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 20th November 2022.

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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