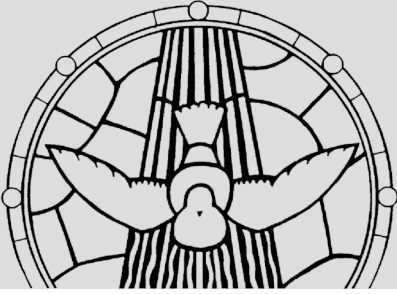


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

February 2023



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Mark 1:14-20: Using Your Gifts for the Evangelisation of the Gospel

In his book 'Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God' published in 2012, J. I. Packer wonders whether 'if God is in control of everything, can Christians sit back and not bother to evangelise?' Packer concludes that a right understanding of God's sovereignty should enable Christians to engage in evangelism and mission. His question is significant because of increasing religious decline in some western countries.

Western Europe, where Protestant Christianity originated and Catholicism has been based for most of its history, is one of the world's most secular regions.

Although most adults say they were baptised, today many do not describe themselves as Christians. Some say they gradually drifted away from religion, stopped believing in religious teachings, or were alienated by scandals or church positions on social issues, including complacency. However, there are still so many people who would benefit from some form of evangelisation or outreach that might potentially bring them into the church. But most Christians in the West find it hard to engage in any form of evangelism because we think that is incompatible with tolerance and decency.

The growing secularism in most of the western world warrants us to revisit the words and commission of Jesus Christ when he commissioned his followers to go out and to make disciples of all nations baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus anticipated that universal commission by choosing and training the apostles to carry the message to the ends of the earth. These first disciples were involved in one kind of fishing but then Jesus called them to another kind of fishing. From fishing fish to fishing people!

Not all of us are called to the ministry of word and sacrament, but we can each bring our gifts from other areas of life and use them creatively for the salvation of mankind. For example, in much the same way as the fisherman brings fish out of one element into the other, out of water unto the land, so the Lord's fishermen were called to bring people out of darkness into light, out of the Kingdom of Satan into the Kingdom of God.

I don't know your particular gifts and areas of expertise. It may be medicine, business, teaching, plumbing, accountancy, sports and physical education, engineering, architecture, cheffing, and other trades you might have inherited from your family or learned yourself. Jesus said to the first disciples, that if they had learned their lake fishing from their fathers and grandfathers and older generations, now they were to learn their people fishing from him. And they did. They spent three years with Jesus, they listened to his teaching, they absorbed it deeply so that when their time came to witness, they were able to do it more easily. They watched Jesus put his fingers into the weak places of people's lives and all that he did in bringing himself to the real problems of everyday life. But above all they learned by simply being with their master. All Christians learn from Jesus each time they come to worship or read their bibles and I trust we now have the capacity and resources necessary to disciple others. After all, the apostle Peter speaks to us when he writes in 1 Peter 2:9 'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praise of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light'.

This is the second month of the year 2023. Our New Year's resolutions are still fresh but may already be faltering! I hope and pray that we can become more determined to disciple others for Christ. We can achieve this by submitting ourselves to God for him to use what we have - our personal gifts and resources - to bring salvation to the many people who are longing for the life-giving word of God.

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.

Parish Register

Deaths

2022		
10th Dec	Mrs Sheila Cameron Tayport	Dist 28
12th Dec	Mrs Elizabeth Clark Newport-on-Tay	Dist 32
28th Dec	Mr Eric McCabe Newport-on-Tay	Dist 19
2023		
3rd Jan	Mrs Sheena McIntosh Formerly Newport-on-Tay	Dist 98
5th Jan	Mrs Beryl King Newport-on-Tay	Dist 3

Funeral

4th Jan Mr John Michael Henderson
Easter Kinnear

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

Change of Address

Mr George Petrie and Mrs Alison Petrie
From: District 28
To : District 25M

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

Newport 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 foodbank.

There has been a great response to this appeal so far but as winter continues, the need of some people may well become greater so please consider supporting this if you can. Any donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

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.



Thank You!

Thank you for the nice bouquet of flowers sent from the church for my birthday.
Gratefully received.

Vinorah Caird

Thank you so much for the lovely Christmassy poinsettia and the very kind card. It was very much appreciated. My very best wishes and prayers to you all.

Pam Fuller



I wish to acknowledge the kindness and compassion I have received since the loss of my husband, Eric. The many cards, messages of sympathy and flowers sent have been overwhelming. I thank my church family very, very much.

Muriel McCabe

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

GUITAR AND UKULELE TUITION

PRIVATE OR CLASS



**Newport and Dundee
Afternoons and Evenings**



Contact Tom Cleary on 07599215626

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

> the adventure begins here



It seems such a long time since the last edition of the "Journal".

During December, we spent one evening helping Santa find his missing elf by solving a number of clues and then we worked out what his name is. This gained us recognition from Santa (via BB HQ) together with appearing on a map of BB Companies in Britain who had similarly succeeded and would ensure that our boys were kept to the forefront of Santa's attention at that very important time of year. On our final night before Christmas, we helped The Lost Star to work out where he should have been and what his purpose was in the Nativity story.

We were then able to enjoy the Christmas break in the knowledge that we had all been made aware of the background to the birth of our Saviour.

Once we returned in January, we looked at various Christmas traditions around the world and tried to recognise "Merry Christmas" spoken in a number of different languages, before considering New Year Resolutions. We followed that week with a focus on Kings & Queens and coats of arms (including each boy designing their own version); the month continued with a Chinese New Year themed week and concluded with a nature evening in preparation for the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch.

We are delighted to see our numbers slowly growing over recent weeks with a number of our Church's Sunday Club boys coming along to join in our activities. Onwards and upwards – with God's help and guidance!

Philip Owen
Company Captain

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

mannā matters



I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year. If you are thinking about doing something new in this new year there are a few things you could help us with at manna. We need another helper with the laundry (full guidance will be given) and would involve washing one days laundry (about 8 aprons and 8-10 tea towels) each week.

We are also in need of more soup makers. Again there are guidelines to follow; these will be given from Morag or Diane. Once a week, once a fortnight, or once a month - whatever you can manage would be very much appreciated. We do buy soup to use but it's not the same as homemade.

We also need more volunteers. As you many have seen recently in The Courier we have half the volunteers we used to have pre-Covid and it would be great to build up the numbers again.

I received a sad email recently that Traidcraft is to go into administration. We have bought their gifts and foodstuffs since we opened 17 years ago and Irene Sherriffs was involved with them for years before that. We will miss them, especially the Christmas cards they supplied us with.

We continue to be open 6 days a week so pop in and see us soon.

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

mannā (01382) 542781

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

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

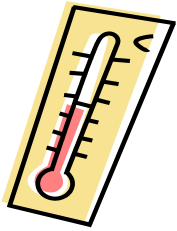
Sunday Club Update

Teaching this year

Since we started back in January, we have been looking at a series of sessions entitled 'Encounters with Jesus' in the Energize materials. We will continue this until the start of Lent. Sessions so far this year have included such stories as encounters with John the Baptist, with the Samaritan woman at the well and with the sick who are healed.

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

Neil Merrylees
Sunday Club Coordinator

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



Christmas 2022



Christmas felt a lot more 'normal' this year with hardly any of the restrictions we have had in the previous few years. During Advent we had a mix of services including Lessons and Carols, the Nativity and Watchnight. The Nativity and Watchnight services were well attended (the first ones in the Church since 2019!) and everyone did a fantastic job. Well done to all the young people involved in these services and thank you to everyone involved both beforehand in preparations of script, readings, costumes, rehearsals, etc. and also on the day. A huge thank you also goes to those who helped decorate the church with flowers and decorate the trees.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our appeal for Christmas gifts. Over 100 gifts were given to the Rio for distribution. Our support helped to ensure that some disadvantaged children woke up on Christmas morning with something under their tree. I was also able to forward monetary donations from church members to buy specific gifts/vouchers. Many thanks again to everyone for their support especially in these challenging times.

Claire Owen



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Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

I would like to thank heartily everyone who contributed to this appeal and these thanks are also extended to all Penny Bucket donors over the last few months, as the Bucket held £53.

I made this appeal with some trepidation as I was very aware of the many current, national problems involving soaring food, fuel and petrol prices. This in turn had led to many requests for our practical and financial help both as individuals and as a church at a local and national level.

However, as usual, I should have had more faith for I have banked £1008 to Christian Aid from this church. This is a tremendous sum and I can only offer deep and heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed. Thank you all!



Margaret Imlay

New Evening Service



We are launching a new evening service on Sunday 19th February from 6pm - 7pm. This is going to be a contemporary style service open for everyone. We will be singing modern worship songs, hearing and sharing some testimony or encouragements from God in the past week, hearing what God has to say to us and giving time for prayer. There will also be tea and coffee throughout the service. We look forward to welcoming you to our new service!

For more information please speak to me.

Chris Cameron

Editorial

Happy New Year! The end of a year is always a time for reminiscing and remembering all that has happened in the previous 12 months. There will be a mix of memories and emotions - birthdays, anniversaries, the loss of a loved one, time spent with friends, changing jobs, new house and new arrivals are just a few examples. A new year is also a time to look forward to events happening in the next 12 months. The one constant through it all is God and his love he has for us. It is very true that we don't know what is around the corner and that we should enjoy every moment.

As we set out in 2023 we ask God for his continuing help and support;

that he will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight,
for help to pursue Him first, above every dream and desire within our hearts,
for wisdom, strength and power to be constantly present within us,
for His protection over our families and friends,
to keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful,
to keep His words of truth planted firm within us,
to help keep us focused on what is pure and right,
and to give us the power to be obedient to His word.

I pray that God will bless this new year. He is always with us and unfolds great possibilities.

Whatever this year has in store for you, I wish you all the best.

Every Blessing, **Claire**



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Youth Update



Messy Church

On Saturday 28th January we had our first Messy Church of 2023. We looked at the story of Jonah and how despite Jonah's shortcomings, God still protected him from a massive deadly storm by sending a big fish. We learned that God can help us in the most unexpected ways. In order to help us remember the story of Jonah, we made origami boats, mosaic tiles of fish, boats or trees, put our prayers of thanks on castor oil tree leaves, made edible fishing rods and went magnet fishing.

Our next messy Church is on Saturday 25th February between 10.30am-12.30pm and we are looking at another nautical theme

character, this time being the story of Noah.

As always if you are free on this day and would like to help, please speak to me.



I am

Youth

We have finished our I AM series with a feast of different types of bread to help us consider the saying I AM the bread of life and together we learned the Greek alphabet as we looked at the I am the alpha and omega, to help us understand what that one meant.

We have now started our new series of The Lord's Prayer. We say it all the time, and know the words but do we really know what we are praying? We are breaking down The Lord's Prayer into 7 sections and looking at each section in more depth.

The Lord's Prayer is a template on how we should pray and we learned recently we should seek God's glory first before we seek our own good.

Youth Café

To kick off the new year we were invited over to the Moore family home to have homemade pizza and play some social games. Everyone had a great time, and we are so grateful to Alan, Mairi, Emily and Annie for inviting us over. Please keep our S4s and S5s in your prayers over the next month as they are in the middle of prelims.

Beetle Drive

On Sunday 22nd January we had our first fundraising event for the Church Weekend Away. Everyone had a great time and we are delighted to announce we raised £251 to go towards our fund to help families come on the weekend away. As advertised it was great fun, full of competitive spirit and a great laugh. I want to say a big thank you to everyone involved in helping to run the beetle drive on the day. Also a huge congratulations to our winners

1st Place: Annie & Charlotte - Won our Winter Warmer Hampers with manna Vouchers

2nd Place: Catherine & Arielle - Won National Book Tokens & Notepads from Barnabas Christian Bookshop

3rd Place: Kevin and Jane C - Won Amazon Gift Cards

Last Place: Chris and Jane J - Won Wooden Spoons

We will be having another fundraising event at the end of February/start of March and we are doing a quiz night. More information will be given through our Church Notices and on our website.



Church Weekend Away

Our Church Weekend Away is happening on 24th - 26th March. We are heading up to the Compass Christian Centre near Glenshee. We are looking forward to reconnecting with God, reconnecting with each other and reconnecting with ourselves. There will be plenty of time to relax, or if you're feeling active, there are options to do instructor led activities.

Please visit our website or scan our QR Code for more information:

<http://the-event.info/notwa2023/>

This weekend is open to everyone whether child, youth or adult. There is also the option to join us for just a day.



Blessings

Chris Cameron

For more details on any of the items above you can contact Chris on 07927 253 827 or youthworker.notcos@outlook.com

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Winter Food and Fuel Crisis: Community Lunches

The first winter lunch of 2023 was held on Monday 16th January. Eleven guests attended and enjoyed lunch with a choice of two homemade soups, steak pie, mashed potatoes and veg, and coffee and tea with chocolates to finish. Thanks very much to everyone who helped and also to all those who donated chocolates.

The next lunch is due on Thursday 16th February from 12noon. Everyone will of course be very welcome and there will be a donation plate if people want, and are able, to contribute.

As explained previously these lunches are part of an initiative to support everyone in our local community with the pressures of rising fuel and food costs. They are an extension of lunches already held in the Rio Community Centre and Betty Martin has offered vital support in promoting them. Please do keep everyone who might be struggling with the financial pressures in your prayers.

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

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

Ukraine Project

~ Fundraising for Ukraine

Morag Muir, a well known local artist has donated four prints of the 'Royal Knight' to be sold to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal.

Catherine Johnston arranged a table at the Rotary Fair on Saturday 3rd December in the Blyth Hall. The first of these prints was raffled and £180 was raised.

The next print will be sold by silent auction at the Stewardship Fair on 5th February. The other two will be sold at events later in the year.

In addition, the sunflower cards (both greeting and postcards) remain on sale through manna. They continue to sell, though less quickly than initially.

All the money we raise for Ukraine is being transferred to the Newport and Zolotarevo Twinning Association (NAZTA) to support our friends there. Though less affected directly by the fighting than some parts of Ukraine, they have had power cuts and have also been hosting people fleeing the fighting.

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

We plan to continue these for as long as the conflict in Ukraine 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.

Dates for your diary – Return of Summer Concerts: Wednesdays@One 23

Following an initial series of very enjoyable concerts in 2022, another series of four concerts is planned for later this year.

The planned dates are:

- Wednesday 9th August
- Wednesday 16th August
- Wednesday 6th September
- Wednesday 13th September

The concerts will be a mix of organ music, cello and vocal. More details to follow over the coming months.

Ways to support your Guild

We have a stall at the Stewardship Fair on 5th February and can tell people more about our local projects as well as national Guild ones. Do come and see us!

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

WERE YOU A STAR?

IN THE WINTER JOURNAL WE HID 14 STARS!
HOPE YOU FOUND THEM ALL!



Calendar of Worship

Sunday 5th February 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Beadle : P Owen **Reader** : N Pong

Welcome : L Robertson

Flowers : N Pong **Delivery** : M Imlay

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

Sunday Club : S McCowan

Youth Elder : M Imlay

Sunday 12th February 2023 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call to Worship/Intercessory Prayer : G Johnston

Beadle : E Thomson **Reader** : K Cruickshanks

Welcome : A Barona

Flowers : M Robertson **Delivery** : J Johnston

Coffee : M McCabe, I Navickas, M Imlay +
D MacLeod

Sunday Club : A Gray, S McCowan

Youth Elder : J Johnston

Sunday 19th February 2023 at 11am

Service led by Miss Claire Owen

Beadle : J Campbell **Reader** : G Johnston

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

Flowers : J Johnstone **Delivery** : S Johnston

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

Sunday Club : F Hutchinson, N Merrylees

Youth Elder : M Shiels

Sunday 26th February 2023 at 11am First Sunday in/of Lent

Service led by Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

Call to Worship/Intercessory Prayer : J Campbell

Beadle : M Wright **Reader** : E Owen

Welcome : M Imlay

Flowers : A Waugh **Delivery** : E Owen

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

Sunday Club : J Wylie, M MacDonald

Youth Elder : C Johnston

Sunday 5th March 2023 at 11am

Service led by Mr Alastair Stark

Beadle : A Barona **Reader** : C Owen

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : E Thomson **Delivery** : E Owen

Coffee : A Gray, L Robertson, A Waugh + P Owen

Sunday Club : A Gray, S McCowan

Youth Elder : D Miller

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our March edition of the Church Journal please email newportcos@btinternet.com by Sunday 19th February 2023.

The Pop-Up Post Office in the Agnes Duncan Room is only running on Wednesdays at the moment from 9:30 - 11:30am. Fridays will hopefully be reinstated again soon.



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