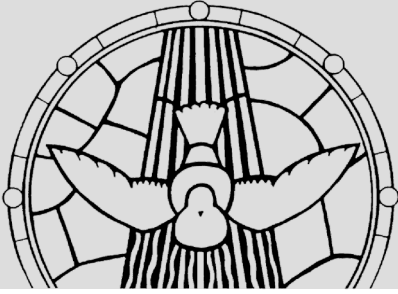


Newport-on-Tay

Church of Scotland Journal

May 2024



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Redefining Mission

As the Church of Scotland faces significant structural changes and a shortage of ministers, the communities of Newport-on-Tay, Wormit, Balmerino and Creich, Flisk & Kilmany stand at a critical juncture. The Presbytery of Fife has designated these parishes as a missionary hub, a move poised to reshape our common goals and strategies. This new directive can be aligned with the biblical teachings of Matthew 28 : 19-20, emphasising the importance of making disciples, baptising them, and nurturing their spiritual growth. These efforts resonate deeply with the foundational aspects of our mission, focusing primarily on evangelism and education.

The vision of the Church of Scotland is to build vibrant, mission-driven communities. This requires a fresh approach to uniting our parishes and enhancing our outreach activities. The five marks of mission provide a structured path forward, guiding us in creating more effective and enduring missionary efforts.

Our strategy should include maintaining our cherished traditions while embracing innovative methods. This might include using digital media to extend our reach and developing interactive online Bible studies. Regular feedback and digital analytics will help us fine-tune these initiatives. In nurturing new believers, we should continue to hold small group meetings and Sunday school classes, but also expand our discipleship programmes to include mentorship and life stage-specific tracks. Monitoring and feedback would be integral to these processes, ensuring we meet the spiritual needs of our community. Our response to human need currently extends to partnering with local charities but would need to include launching direct service programmes, such as job training and mental health support. The impact of these programmes will be evaluated through community feedback and participant testimonials. We also strive to transform unjust societal structures by advocating for change and partnering with other organisations for a greater impact. Feedback from local communities and government would help assess the effectiveness of these efforts. Furthermore, we all need to be committed to environmental stewardship, launching projects like community gardens, and promoting renewable energy initiatives, with ongoing evaluations to monitor our environmental impact.

If we implement these strategies, rooted in scriptural teachings, our churches would be uniquely equipped to navigate the complexities of modern ministry. The success of our mission-oriented community hinges on the collective efforts of our congregations and leaders.

This month, we look forward to an Elders Conference in Newport-on-Tay on the 18th. It promises to be a time of fruitful discussion and reflection on the future of our church and its mission. I invite everyone to engage, whether through active participation or prayer, as we seek to make a positive impact on our community and beyond.

May this redefined mission invigorate our faith and actions as we continue to serve in His name.

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

Death

15th Apr Mrs Helen Belcher
Newport-on-Tay Dist 27

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

Wedding

6th Apr Kathryn Husband to Edward Merchant

*"My command is this:
Love each other as I have loved you."
John 15:12*

Community Chest

We are continuing to collect foodstuff for our Community Chest Appeal. The Kirk Session have had discussions and have decided to support 3 different appeals during the year - The Rio's foodstuff collection for inclusion in their lunch provision programme or for distribution in conjunction with the local foodbank, the Tay Bridgehead Foodbank and St Salvador's Food Cupboard in Dundee. The frequency of support is still to be confirmed but for the month of May we are supporting St Salvador's. 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.

A large container is available each Sunday to receive foodstuff, toiletries, etc. and any donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

Suggested donations include (but are not limited to) pasta, tins of fruit, tins of soup, beans, UHT milk, biscuits, toiletries. Many thanks.



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.



TAYFIELD ESTATE

LOGS AND FIREWOOD ETC.

**Newport-on-Tay,
Fife**

Tel. 543400 and 07745045007

Thank You!

Thank you for the colourful flowers and good wishes received on the occasion of my birthday.

Ron Caird



The flowers are lovely, thank you.
Best wishes to all.

Jean MacCallum

Many thanks for the kind thoughts and lovely Easter flowers.

Jean & Bob Redpath



Thank you for every gesture of kindness to me and my mum, Etta, after her recent fall, including the beautiful flowers.

Lynn Honeyman

Thank you for the beautiful flowers Frances delivered on my birthday.
God Bless



Edith Campbell

Thank you for the beautiful flowers to 'congratulate' me for celebrating a very big birthday!

Sheila Ritchie

Thank you for the Easter flowers and birthday card I received. It was very kind of you.

Jeanette Johnston



Thank you for the lovely flowers I received recently for my special birthday.

Doreen Robertson

Evening Service

Our next Evening Service is scheduled for Sunday 19th May at 6:30pm in the Church.

This will be a Communion Round the Table Service.

All are welcome.



D. & S. SMITH

**PLUMBING & CENTRAL HEATING
INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE**

**6 UNION STREET
NEWPORT-ON-TAY
FIFE DD6 8BP
Reg. No. 41190**

TEL: (01382) 543357 / Mobile 07703 889736

Baptism is truly at the heart of an amazing journey of faith

April 7th ... and we have just returned from another joyous service at Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, learning about Thomas who, like ourselves, had doubts and questions that needed answering to reaffirm his faith. It also featured our wonderful choir who gave us a beautiful rendition of the Brahms Anthem 'Lord, lead us still'. Once again it was a privilege to attend and witness the joy, friendship and fellowship shared in that sacred space.

It will come as no surprise to realise that we as we go through life, we are continually asking our Lord Jesus for help of one kind or another. Indeed, it is a comforting thought to me to know that I am not alone; that in times of need I can confide in a Christian Sister or Brother and share my worries and concerns freely with them, before giving them all up to the Lord in prayer.

I have been a Christian since I was 18 years old and about to start my nursing career at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh, embarking on a three-year training course. I asked the Lord Jesus into my life whilst attending Granton Baptist Church, a lively, energetic place of worship located near to the Hospital, and sought to reaffirm this spiritual commitment through Adult Baptism. My Father, an Elder in the Church of Scotland, however did not approve – after all in his opinion I had been Christened as a Baby and he didn't, couldn't see the need. However, my mother (herself a Baptist), my sister and boyfriend Francis did attend the service.

Immersed in water – it was the most thrilling, albeit perishingly cold, experience of my life, as I bore witness to asking Jesus into my life, as my Personal Saviour! This commitment was undoubtedly in response to God's calling in my life, as He not only prepared me to share His love, grace and healing with the patients I encountered on the wards, but also to console and protect me through the sad times and the many traumas I would witness throughout my nursing career.

Whenever it happens, whether as a baby, child or adult, and in whatever form or Christian Tradition it takes place, baptism is truly at the heart of an amazing personal journey of faith as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Linda Robertson

Lest We Forget



Lest We Forget, the Newport History Group's follow-up book to their 2022 Poppy Project, has been chosen as Winner of the Alan Ball Award for Best Community History Project publication 2023. This is a national (UK) award so they are extremely proud. (Google Alan Ball Awards for more information.)

Here is what the judges thought of the book/project.

"I am delighted to let you know that Lest We Forget has been awarded the Winner of the Alan Ball Award for Best Community History Project publication 2023. There were a number of strong entries, but the judges felt that this was a brilliantly researched and written publication that had arisen out of a very special project, which clearly is the result of enthusiastic community engagement, notably including young people. The project provides a creative way in which people can learn about the sacrifices made by those members of the Newport community during World War 1 and 2, and how this has impacted upon the burgh of Newport on Tay and its heritage. It provides an important record and you should all be proud of what you have achieved."

It's just fabulous that this project has been appreciated at another level. As it evolved the group knew it was pretty special, and the overwhelming response from the local community confirmed that, and of course they were particularly gratified at the enthusiasm of the local school children who were involved.

Congratulations to Mairi Shiels and Newport History Group on receiving this award.

(If you haven't already got a copy, head to their website shop
<https://www.newportontayhistory.org.uk/shop/>)

The Boys' Brigade Update

Having had an opportunity to refresh our enthusiasm during the Easter holidays, following our resumption we concluded our look at the Easter story and its repercussions.

We then spent a couple of weeks focusing on the annual Juniors International Team Games, where we played a set of six games and our results were then submitted to BBHQ for comparison against the other entries from around the globe. While we may not manage a repeat of last year's excellent performance in achieving 50th place worldwide (in an entry of 253 teams which took part), an enjoyable time was had by all and a good result would be a bonus. For information, the games ranged from "On a Roll" to "Wing Walk" to "A – Z on Noah's Ark"!

The next few weeks will see us move towards the summer break with a variety of activities as we adapt to the lighter evenings and other activities which the boys could undertake instead.

Philip Owen, Company Captain of 1st Newport/Wormit BB Company

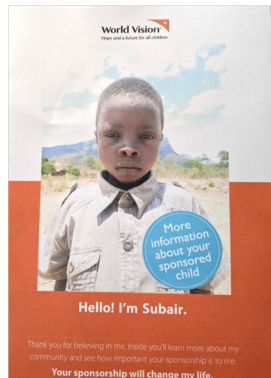


Sunday Club Update

Teaching in April and May

We are continuing our series of sessions looking at things that make up the Christian character. After 2 Funday Sundays during the Easter Holidays, we looked at gentleness and self-control. The final Sunday in April was Godly Play at which the theme was the Ascension. 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.

In May we will finish our series by looking at thankfulness and attitude. We'll then have a couple of sessions exploring 'What is Pentecost?' and 'What is Communion?'



Update on Sunday Club Sponsorship through World Vision

As you know, we have committed to sponsoring a child through World Vision. We have recently been notified that we have a new child to sponsor. Subair is 8 years old and lives in Mozambique. The children will keep up-to-date with his 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 them and their 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



manna matters

I hope you have enjoyed the Easter season despite the unseasonably cold weather. We stocked Easter cards from Leprosy mission which proved popular. We will be sourcing our Christmas cards from them later in the year.



We have scarves back in stock along with some other items from Shared Earth which is a Fairtrade company. We also have a selection of shampoo bars and conditioners too.

Our bakers continue to make lovely treats for us at manna. We are delighted to have Margaret Wright back making her soup for us each Tuesday. Thanks to Elizabeth Thomson and Lynn Sutherland for making soup while Margaret was unable to.

We are delighted to welcome Neil Merrylees to our manna team. Neil is currently helping on a Tuesday morning. We are always happy to welcome new volunteers to manna. As summer (hopefully) approaches volunteers have holiday plans and there are extra shifts to cover each week.

Christian Aid Week this year is 12th -18th May and we will have a collection for them in manna during that week if you wish to donate.

God bless.

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

manna (01382) 542781

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

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

Youth Update

Messy Church

We had a great turn out for our Messy Church in April where we looked at the new heaven and what we need to do to reach this new heaven. Spoilers - the only thing is believing and following Jesus! For our activities, we built a city out of Lego, Playdough and cardboard, we created a faith wall from surface rubbings of bricks, we played Hopscotch and planted some broad beans to name a few. This was also the first time this year we were able to be outside which was exciting!

Our next Messy Church is on Saturday 25th May from 11am – 1pm.

Spark (Formerly Youth Seekers)

We are continuing our series on David, where we looked at David vs Goliath, and how we can fight and defeat the giants in our life. We have also looked at Jonathan and David, and their Godly friendship, and how we can develop that deep level of friendship which David and Jonathan had for each other. Soon we will be looking at the King David and his reign as well as the challenges he faced. We meet on Sunday Mornings from 11am.



Ignite (Formerly Youth Café)

We are looking at how we can cultivate a healthy relationship with God. We will be looking at how to establish a quiet time, dealing with stress, different ways to pray and creating our own worship playlist, with the hope of giving our young people tools and skills for them to use over the summer months!

We also have a couple of trips scheduled in before the end of school term!
We meet on Sunday evenings from 6.30pm – 8pm at manna.

Discipleship Group

We are continuing with our Hebrews Study from the book Better by Jen Wilkin. We are learning more about the old covenant that God had in place with the Israelites and the new covenant that he has in place with us via Jesus' sacrifice.

SU Primary School May Weekend Away

We are so excited to share with you that I and 9 P5-P7 children are going away to Alltnacriche, near Aviemore, for a Scripture Union Scotland Camp between 10th and 12th May. We are going to be looking at Going for Gold material. We will tell you all about the exciting things we will get up to in next month's edition!

Chris Cameron

Youth & Children Coordinator

Elders Conference

On 18th May our Elders will meet in Kirk House to consider the direction of the church and the means by which we can be a worshipping community faithful to the mission of Jesus. Some of the things they will be looking at are our church's vision statement and the five marks of mission which have been adopted by the Church of Scotland nationally.

Our vision statement is "... to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ through our enthusiasm, worship, witness, nurture and service."

The five marks of mission are:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers.
- To respond to human need by loving service.
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Please keep our Elders in your prayers as they find how to effectively bring the eternal message of the Gospel to an ever-changing world.

Anyone interested in meeting in the run up to 18th May to pray for the Elders Conference and for the future of our wider church here in the Bridgehead area, please get in touch.
You DON'T have to be an elder to be part of this.

Alison Heywood

Tel : 07719367347 or (01382) 543369

Email : alisonbob@btinternet.com

And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Return of Summer Concerts: Wednesdays@One 24

A reminder of the dates of the summer concerts is in the poster on the right.

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 in western Ukraine

Thanks so much to everyone who has contributed in any way.

~ Vigil for Peace (in Ukraine and other conflict areas)

Every Thursday evening at 7pm on the Church Green and on Zoom

Amos kindly led the Vigil on Maundy Thursday, 28th March, and we had a good turnout that evening. (I forgot to mention it in the April Journal.)

We continue each week to bear witness to the ongoing suffering of people affected by conflict wherever that may be and pray for peace. 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

If you don't feel able to come in person, we are continuing Zooming the Vigils. If you would like to join please ask me (Neil Merrylees) or Claire Owen for the link.

Wednesday Afternoon Club

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

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



Wednesday Afternoon Club Rota

8th May - Margaret Wright
15th May - Mairi Shiels
22nd May - Neil Merrylees
29th May - Elizabeth Thomson
5th June - Sheila Johnston
12th June - Frances Durward



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

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

Daily Reflections

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

DAILY
REFLECTION

Christian Aid News

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week runs from 12th -18th May and the familiar red donation envelopes will be in the church.

This year Christian Aid is highlighting the situation in Burundi through the experience of one woman, Aline, who was pushed to the brink of survival. In her province more than 70% of the population live in poverty and more than 50% of the children are underweight and underdeveloped. Most people eat only once a day.

Aline's violent and abusive husband threw her out leaving her to live on the streets without money or work. Aline was in despair. However she became involved in a community workshop where the trainers had been funded by Christian Aid. They provided some basic business training to the group. Aline was then able to set up a small grocery wholesale business and eventually rent a house. Her three children now live with her and she can provide food and clothes for them. Such an enormous change for this family from a Christian Aid funded initiative.



Please consider a donation, no matter how small. The envelopes can be returned to me directly or via the offering plate. There is also an e-envelope which can be accessed by the following link - fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/newport-church
If there are any problems, please let me know and I will try to help.

Many thanks.

Margaret Imlay

The Merry Month of May

Stepping into the month of May, we are greeted with warmer temperatures, sunny skies, blossoming nature and vibrant colours that we longed to envisage during the colder winter months. The month of May holds a special place in many of our hearts; the warmth of the sun brings us a great deal of happiness and encourages us to spend more time outdoors after enduring a long period of erratic, unpredictable Scottish weather. This month is also significant for those in education; many of you will remember sitting your exams at school, college or university and then breathing a huge sigh of relief when it was all over.

A choral piece that captures the essence of May is William Byrd's 'This Sweet and Merry Month of May', from the collection of 'Italian Madrigals Englished'. Byrd is a prominent composer of the Renaissance era, at the time of discovery, exploration and development, particularly in science, literature and music. Byrd gifted us with several masterpieces, however this one stands out as a delightful ode to the joys of spring time, glee and rebirth.

A madrigal would normally be written in Italian, however Byrd adapted his into English. In the 16th century, the madrigal form was highly popular and very much characterised by elaborate vocal harmonies, infectious melodies and on occasion, the refrain 'fa la la la'. The lyrics generate imagery of nature, happiness and optimism, and ever fails to encourage us to dance or sway along to the rich sounds of this intricate, timeless classic. It is a charming piece of poetry, mirrored in the music to bring the lyrics to life by using devices such as lilting phrases and delicate ornamentation:



'This sweet and merry month of May,
While Nature wantons in her prime,
And birds do sing, and beasts do play,
For pleasure of the joyful time,
I choose the first for holy day,
And greet Eliza with a rhyme.
O beauteous Queen of second Troy:
Take well in worth a simple toy.'

I hope you enjoy listening to this madrigal and wishing you a very merry month of May!

Hannah Chan

Zoom Hosting

This appeal was put in the last Journal but we are still hopeful that there may be someone out there who would like to join our small team to host the Zoom service on a rota basis on a Sunday morning. Zoom experience is not a necessity as you will be guided through it all. For more information or to see what's involved (not a huge amount!) please speak to Claire Owen.

Calendar of Worship

Sunday 5th May 2024 at 11am

Service led by Miss C Owen

Beadle : M Shiels **Reader** : A Heywood

Welcome : L Robertson

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

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

Crèche : F Chewachong

Sunday Club : J Wylie, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : D Miller

Sunday 12th May 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

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

Welcome : A Barona

Flowers : A Heywood **Delivery** : M Shiels

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

Crèche : J Taylor

Sunday Club : S/F Kent, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : S Johnston

Sunday 19th May 2024 at 11am Pentecost

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : F Ritchie **Reader** : P Owen

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

Flowers : M Whyte **Delivery** : E Thomson

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

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : A Gray, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : C Owen

Sunday 19th May 2024 at 6:30pm Communion Round the Table

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 26th May 2024 at 11am

Service led by Mr W Imlay

Beadle : F Robertson **Reader** : K Campbell

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : D Miller **Delivery** : A Waugh

Coffee : F Harris, M Shiels, M Wright + C McCowan

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : J Wylie, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : A Barona

Sunday 2nd June 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : C Owen **Reader** : G Johnston

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : A Wilman **Delivery** : E Wood

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

Crèche : F Harris

Sunday Club : S/F Kent, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : C McCowan

Contact Numbers

Minister : Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
17 East Station Place, Newport-on-Tay, DD6 8EG
Telephone: (01382) 542893
email: AChewachong@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk : Graham Johnston
Telephone: (01382) 541606
Email: g.johnston606@btinternet.com

Church Office : 3 Blyth Street,
Newport-on-Tay, DD6 8DB
Telephone: (01382) 543525 (Answerphone)
email: newportcos@btinternet.com

Youth & Children Coordinator : Chris Cameron
Telephone: 07927 253 827
email: youthworker.notcos@outlook.com

Safeguarding Co-ordinator : Lesley Gray
Telephone: 07779 506 994
email: lesley.gray@talk21.com

Organist : Hannah Chan
Telephone: 07476 372 311
email: hannah.chan.mcs@gmail.com

Finance Convener : Philip Owen
80 West Road, Newport-on-Tay, DD6 8HP
Telephone: (01382) 543034
email: notchurch@gmail.com

Hall Hire : Jane Johnston
Telephone: (01382) 541606
email: j.johnston58@btinternet.com

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our Summer edition of the Church Journal (covering June, July and August) please email

newportcos@btinternet.com
or in the hands of Claire Owen

by **Sunday 19th May 2024.**

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