

Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland Journal September 2024

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland : 900 Years of Faith, Legacy, and Future Vision



On Sunday 18th August 2024, Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland marked a monumental milestone—the 900th anniversary of its founding, which began as Forgan Church. This extraordinary occasion brought together generations of the church community, from the youngest children to the elders, in a vibrant celebration of a shared journey of faith that has spanned nearly a millennium.

The congregation gathered on the historic grounds where Forgan Church once stood, a site now hallowed by centuries of worship and devotion. Leading this significant service was an honour, as I delivered a sermon themed "Building on the Legacy of Christ: Honouring the

Past, Sustaining the Present, and Securing the Future." This theme captured the essence of our church's long history and the vision that guides us forward, reflecting on the unchanging foundation upon which our faith is built.

In my sermon, I drew a parallel to the life of Dr. Michael DeBakey, a pioneer in heart surgery whose ground-breaking innovations were rooted in a simple skill he learned in childhood—sewing. Taught by his mother, this basic ability became the cornerstone of his medical achievements, just as our church has been grounded in the unshakeable foundation of Jesus Christ. As the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Reflecting on the church's historical journey, we marvel at the faith and resilience of those who have built and sustained this sacred place through the ages. Established in 1124 and first registered at St. Andrews in 1150, the original Forgan Church stands as a testament to the steadfast devotion of its early parishioners. These early Christians braved harsh winters and difficult conditions, yet their unwavering faith led them to the church, time and time again. Over the centuries, the church has undergone significant changes, including major repairs in 1770, the addition of seating in the early 1800s, and the construction of a new parish church in 1842—now united into Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland.

The story of Forgan Church is more than just a record of architectural changes; it is a narrative of a community deeply rooted in faith. This church has served as a spiritual home for generations, witnessing the ebb and flow of life in Newport-on-Tay. From the villagers who braved the Newport braes to attend services, to the boatmen who raised funds for a gallery, the church has always been a focal point of community life.

In celebrating 900 years, we are reminded that our task is not merely to maintain a building or a tradition, but to nurture a living community of believers. As I reflected in my sermon, "Let us enjoy the fruits of those who laboured before us but let us also plant seeds for those who will come after us." Our charge is clear: to build with the enduring materials of faith, love, and truth, ensuring that the foundation of Christ remains unshaken for another 900 years.

As we move forward, let us hold the following words from my reflection close to our hearts: "On what is my life built? If all else falls away, will I stand firm on the foundation of Christ?" For it is this foundation that will endure, anchoring us in times of change and guiding us as we build a future worthy of our rich past.

Every Blessing,

Rev Dr Amos Chewachong

OUR CHURCH'S VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Parish Register

Deaths

16th June Mr Henry (Rae) Strachan
Newport-on-Tay Dist 12

24th June Mr Geoffrey (Geoff) Martin
Newport-on-Tay Dist 17

24th Aug Mrs Robina (Ruby) Leslie
Newport-on-Tay Dist 32

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

Change of Address

Mr Christopher Wilman &
Mrs Amanda Wilman
From : Balmerino Dist 31
To : Newport Dist 13

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

Community Chest

We are continuing to collect foodstuff for our Community Chest Appeal. The Kirk Session 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. During September we will be supporting the Tay Bridgehead Foodbank.

COMMUNITY



CHEST

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.

We will have a special collection on Harvest Sunday when our young people will be bringing donations. Please consider bringing an item or two on 22nd September to support this appeal.

Suggested donations include (but are not limited to) pasta, tins of fruit, tins of soup, beans, UHT milk, tea/coffee, biscuits, toiletries, household products (washing up liquid, laundry detergent, etc.), sanitary goods, diluting juice.

Many thanks.



Evening Services

During September we will hold two evening services with one being led by our minister and one by a member of our Worship Team. The Evening Services will be held in the Church at 6:30pm and all are welcome.

8th Sept Traditional Mrs K Cruickshanks
29th Sept Communion Rev Dr A Chewachong



New Baby

Our Organist, Hannah Chan, and her husband Ray welcomed a little girl, Ada, in to the world on 4th July. They are all doing well and we wish them every blessing as they continue life as a family. Hannah will give an update in next month's Journal.

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him. Psalm 127 v 3

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Vision Statement and Mission Action Plan

Those attending church recently may have noticed the appearance of several small free-standing posters. They graphically represent the outcomes of the Eldership Conference held on Saturday 18th May 2024. The first poster highlights our revised (truncated) Vision Statement – which mirrors that of the Church of Scotland itself.

"Our vision is to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ." The second poster features our Mission Action Plan, i.e. how we will achieve our Vision, and this framework has been developed utilising the key term from our Vision Statement, i.e. 'Inspires'.

I	Influencing Individual Lives and Challenging Social Injustice
N	Networking and Embracing Emerging Technologies
S	Safeguarding People and Protecting Diversity
P	Proclaiming the Good News through Worship and Witness
I	Integrating (Presbytery Plan) and Growing our Membership
R	Responding to Human Need through Prayer and Action
E	Enabling, Equipping and Nurturing our Children, Youth and New Believers
S	Stewarding Church Resources and Protecting the Environment

The next step is to examine and develop a series of realistic and achievable Action Plans for each of the eight above elements. Then, we can embark on the targeted and co-ordinated mission work necessary to 'inspire the people with the Good News of Jesus Christ'.

If you feel you can help us in this task, then please do not hesitate to contact either Bill Imlay or me.

Francis B Robertson

Thank You!

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received, they were such a great pick me up. God Bless.

June Pate

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers I received on the occasion of my birthday. It was a lovely surprise and very much appreciated.

Norma Roberts

Susan and Colin Vincent would like to thank Newport Church of Scotland for the beautiful flowers they received on the occasion of the anniversary of their wedding at the University of Glasgow Memorial Chapel on 4th August 1964.

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers received on our recent Golden Wedding. They were very much enjoyed and they lasted for absolutely ages! We had a lovely time of celebration and we appreciated all the kindness shown by so many good friends.

John and Mairi Shiels

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers I received after my recent hospital stay. They really are gorgeous and very much appreciated.

Muriel McCabe

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received recently. They were very much appreciated.

Catherine Merrylees

Jennifer and I and our families would like to thank you very much for the beautiful Church flowers that we received on the 1st Anniversary of losing our sister and brother-in-law, Lesley and David. The flowers were very much appreciated.

Jane Johnston

Many thanks to all for the flowers which were delivered to us to cheer me up while I am unable to attend Church. A very kind gesture which was much appreciated.

William Berry



My Gran passed away peacefully on 8th August at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the sympathy cards and beautiful flowers I have received. I'm also very grateful for your love, support and prayers at this time.



Katie Cameron

Sunday Club Update

Summer and Funday Sundays

We had our All Age Service on 23rd June to mark the end of the year, including presentations to all the children. This was followed by the church picnic at the Tayfield Estate, where we enjoyed outdoor games and ice-cream.

We are very grateful to all members of the church family who have helped with Funday Sundays over the summer. This is an opportunity to share an activity with the children, with some ideas being board games, origami, baking or a scavenger hunt. We need some more volunteers to help with Funday Sundays over the coming year as otherwise we may not be able to cover them all. If you would be willing to help support this year's Funday Sundays, please let Fiona Hutchinson know.

Teaching in August and September

We had our first service of the new school year on 25th August, and started a new series on Beginnings, looking at the creation story. It was fantastic to have the pictures created by members of the youth group to bring the story to life.

We look forward to taking part in an All Age Service for Harvest on 22nd September.

Update on Sunday Club Sponsorship through World Vision

As you know, we have committed to sponsoring a child through World Vision. We are currently sponsoring Subair who 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.

Fundraising

We continue to fundraise through the regular weekly offerings of the children and donations from members of the congregation and other friends. We will also be holding regular bake sales this year, starting with one following the Harvest Service on 22nd September. If you would like to contribute some baked goods to the sale, please let Jennifer Wylie know – all contributions would be very welcome.

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 that you have all enjoyed the Summer break despite the poor unseasonable weather! Schools have returned and we have three new young ladies joining our manna team - Sofia, Aoife and Mariia. They have helped over the summer holidays and are now our new team of P7 helpers.

The summer has been busy covering holidays of staff and volunteers. I have been to Italy for the first time with my husband and our daughter's family. Morag has been to Jersey with her family. So we have both been blessed with some rest and family time.

We still need a few more volunteers to do laundry, make soup and serve in the shop. Your custom is most welcome too. Some days are very busy and others are quiet but the winter months are usually busier.

We are now starting to focus on our gift shop with cards and gifts for Christmas. Our Christmas cards are now on sale. We have a lovely selection of cards sourced from The Leprosy Mission. We have candles, melts and diffusers from The Long Dog Candle Company. We also have a selection of books also sourced from The Leprosy Mission. We have lovely scarves from Namaste and cosy socks from Shared Earth, so it's worth popping in if you need something different in the gift department.

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

This past summer we have put on a series of events for our Messy Church families. We started in July where we went to Kinshaldy Beach in Tentsmuir Forest. After a wee bit of a walk from the car park we arrived to some beautiful scenery and the sun even shone for us as well. We had games for everyone, people built sand castles and Lewis gleefully was buried up to his chest and he even managed to get out on his own. We served some ice cream and everyone had a great time.

Just a couple of weeks ago, we transformed our hall into a cinema where we served popcorn, juice and watched "Cars", which was released 18 years ago (sorry if that makes anyone feel old!). Those who came had a great time!

Our next event will have happened by the time you are reading this (if the weather has held up!), where we are going for a walk round Morton Lochs, Tayport and discover some of God's beautiful creation! This would be the last of our Messy Church Summer Events.

Our next Messy Church is on Saturday 21st September 11am – 1pm, where we will be discovering and celebrating the life of Eric Liddell, so remember your trainers, practice your rugby passes and practice eating with chopsticks while we look forward to our first Messy Church for this upcoming academic year.

On a quick side note, we have also been applying for grants and over the summer we received funding to help sustain Messy Church for another year. Praise God!

Youth Update

During the summer we have had two fantastic trips. Our first one was our end of school year trip to Tenpin in Dundee. We invited our new P7's to join us and everyone had a great time, and most of the players managed to get at least one spare. In July we took our young people to see "Despicable Me 4", which was a fun family friendly movie, with lots of laughs and the recliner chairs in the Odeon were a big hit!

We are looking forward to restarting our Youth Groups and welcoming our young people back! Both Spark and Ignite are resuming on Sunday 25th August. In Spark, which is our morning group, we will be covering Revelation and in particularly looking at the seven churches mentioned in the book, and at Ignite, which is our evening group we will be looking at a variety of topics from Youth for Christ.

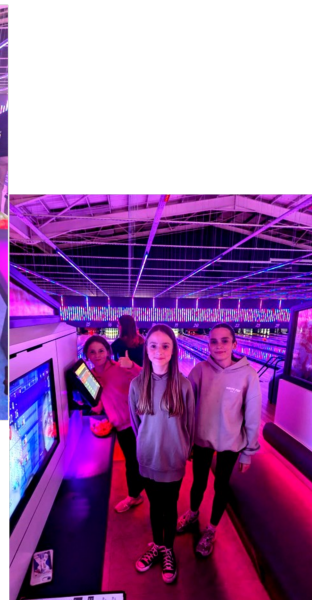
Personal Update

Over the summer, I am delighted to share the news that I have signed a new contract with our congregation where I have become the Children and Youth Worker of Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland. I look forward to this new season ahead. I believe this new role will strengthen our work with families here in Newport-on-Tay and further afield in our cluster of churches. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has volunteered, or is still volunteering with us, without you we wouldn't be able to do as much we are doing right now. Our children, young people and families appreciate you so much, as do I. Thank you!

What I do ask, in order to keep our strong work going with our local school, with Messy Church, with our families, children and youth and more, is for you to consider prayerfully if you can give either your time, talents or money. We have plenty of ideas that will help us share the Good News of Jesus Christ and grow our ministries but may be restricted in the means, personnel or skills. Please keep us in your prayers as we explore our next steps here in Newport-on-Tay! There are exciting times ahead for what God is doing in our community!

Chris Cameron

Children and Youth Worker



Photos from Summer Youth Trips courtesy of Chris Cameron

1124



2024



Sunday 18th August 2024
11am

Service Conducted by
Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
of Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Sunday 18th August saw a very special milestone being celebrated in the life of our church. 2024 is the 900th anniversary of a church being founded in the parish of Forgan. We acknowledged this anniversary by holding an open-air service in the grounds of the old ruined church of Forgan, our mother church.

It's difficult to imagine who attended that church 900 years ago. But they were ordinary people, just like ourselves: individuals, families, parents, children, well-off, poor, educated, uneducated. They were all hugely different from each other in so many ways, but what united them all was their strong faith. And they built a strong foundation of Christian worship that we have inherited today.

The Old Church...

The church built in 1124 is long gone, but we believe that the early building was replaced in the 14th century, and these are the ruins that we see today. So even these old walls have stood for 700 years!

The old church was beautifully situated, but rather inconvenient, being at least a couple of miles from the scattering of cottages along the shore that made up the village in earlier times. It must have been a test of faith indeed for the villagers struggling out there on bleak winter mornings. Small wonder therefore, that, according to the Kirk Session records, the elders were frequently dispatched, mid-service, to scour the Newport braes to round up non-attenders!



In 1770 the church was thoroughly repaired, then seats installed in the early 1800s. Until the eighteenth century, it was quite rare for churches to be fully seated, another test of faith indeed, when sermons were regularly 2-3 hours long! Also at the time of these alterations, Newport's boatmen raised money to construct a gallery at the east end of the church. This was known as the Boatmen's Loft. The farmers' gallery was at the opposite end, and the Laird's Loft was in the north extension, with an outdoor stair for access.

...and the New Church



Despite all these improvements the old kirk's position was still considered too remote. By 1841 the minister, Charles Nairn, was encouraging the building of a new parish church, more conveniently sited on the Leuchars-Newport road. This was completed and opened the following year, 1842. The old kirk was abandoned, and its contents, and even its windows, roof slates and some stone, were disposed of in 'roup' fashion, and the building rapidly deteriorated. Interestingly, the windows of the old church can still be seen today in the summer-house at Tayfield House.

The appropriately named Kirk Road is a present-day reminder of the old path taken by villagers from the Woodhaven end of the village on their way out to both the old and the new Forgan churches.

However, as Newport grew rapidly throughout the nineteenth century, even this new parish church at Forgan could not meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population, and so a new Establishment Church was built in the village in 1870. It was named St. Thomas's.

Dwindling membership forced the closure of Forgan Church in 1981 and it united with Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland, which was formed from the union of St Fillan's Church and St Thomas's in 1978.

Forgan Church Today

Many of you who attended the service were visiting Forgan Church for the first time. For those of you who missed the service and haven't been out there, I urge you all to go - it's well worth a visit! Around the kirk is the old graveyard, in which there are some interesting stones, including those of the Berry family of Tayfield, the Stewarts of St Fort and the Gillespies of Kirkton. Kirkton House stood just over the wall from the churchyard. The ruins of the old house are still there, and a newer house has been built on the site about 40 years ago.



The church and churchyard are now maintained by Fife Council and they appear to be doing an excellent job. I was rather taken aback by their use of black bricks on the weaker parts of the church building, but I very quickly got used to them and they have certainly transformed this historic building from the crumbling and unsafe structure that it was just a few years ago. And, as you can see in the photographs, unlike reports in the press about old churchyards in other areas, Forgan churchyard is beautifully neat and tidy.



Our Anniversary Service



We were so fortunate to be blessed with a wonderfully sunny and warm morning, fairly unusual in this rather unpredictable summer. The service was led by our minister, Rev Dr Amos Chewachong. The congregation numbered between 50 and 60, ranging in age from 9 to 89, and arrived carrying picnic chairs! Our hymns were unaccompanied, apart from by birdsong. They had been carefully chosen as ones well-known to previous generations, but also because most of them had been sung at the 800th and 850th Anniversary commemoration services in Forgan Church.

Early worshippers here would also be singing unaccompanied, just as we did. We are grateful to have been able to acknowledge the achievements of all these early worshippers in this ancient church who through their vision, hard work and most of all their faith, were able to provide a strong foundation for Christian worship in this parish. Let us salute them and ask God to help us to continue their efforts.

Mairi Shiels

Editor's Comment

Many thanks to Mairi Shiels for her work on giving this history, keeping us on top of when significant anniversaries are happening and also helping to plan for this service along with Sheila Johnston and Philip Owen.



The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Summer Lunchtime Concerts: Wednesdays@One 24

These returned for a third season of four concerts.

On the 24th July, Stephen Morrison and Robin Bell (as the 'Puddledub Duo') gave a guitar and organ recital. This was followed on the 31st July by an organ recital by Alison Malcolm. On the 7th August Eleanor Owen gave a wonderful soprano recital accompanied by Robin Bell on the piano and the series concluded on the 14th August with Sarah Elgin on the flute accompanied by Susan Sneddon on piano.

All were very well received. There was a good attendance of just under 50 for each of the concerts apart from the 7th August when there were almost 80. A total of £793.77 was raised for Guild funds.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way to support them. An especially big thank you to Hannah Chan who put the whole programme together.

I know that Hannah already has some concerts planned for 2025 so watch this space ...!



Wednesday Afternoon Club

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

Attendance is generally small with five or six guests each week. However most of these are regulars who come to 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.

There is only one volunteer on each week as we feel that should work fine given the numbers. Anne and Brian Griffiths help almost every week and Margaret Wright looks in on many occasions. A big thank you to Anne and Brian for their commitments and Margaret for co-ordinating everything.

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



Wednesday Afternoon Club Rota

4th Sept - Pam Laurence
11th Sept - Carolyn Barr
18th Sept - Eleanor Owen
25th Sept - Margaret Wright
2nd Oct - Alison Heywood
9th Oct - Mairi Shiels

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.

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 to Zoom the Vigils. If you would like to join please ask me (Neil Merrylees) or Claire Owen for the link.



Guild Article Continued...

The National Guild

The National Guild has three-yearly strategies. The theme for the cycle just coming to an end is 'Looking Forward In Faith' 2021-2024.

There were also six projects locally and internationally that were supported during this time. These were:

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| • There is Hope | BEAT |
| • Chocolate Heaven: South East Asia | PIONEERS |
| • Finding the Light in Every Child: Uganda | STARCHILD |
| • Kazaznu village of Hope: Tanzania | VINE TRUST |
| • A Home for Good: Scotland | HOME FOR GOOD |
| • Hear our Voice: Brazil | UNIDA |

We had accumulated funds from previous years and so agreed to donate £900 to these (£150 for each one).

There is a new strategy and series of four projects for 2024-2027. We plan to use funds from this year onwards to support them amongst other causes. More information on that in next month's Journal.

For anyone wanting to know more about the National Guild have a look at the pages on the Church of Scotland website: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/the-guild>

Guild Dedication Service

A Guild Dedication Service is planned for 15th September 2024.

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

Weaving Worship

Nearly 12 months ago, with the support of the Kirk Session, I embarked on the journey to complete the Weaving Worship training course. This was with the purpose of exploring what leading worship involves.

Taking part in the course gave me the opportunity to learn from the experiences of fellow participants. What quickly became evident was that leading worship stretches beyond delivering the sermon. The foundations of worship are built on the acts of Christian witness we all possess.

There were many points during the training where I would reflect on our own weekly services with a smile and immense feeling of gratitude. The welcome at the door, the audio/visual technology, wonderful music and choir, the youth groups, the coffee and fellowship and flower delivery and much much more provide the building blocks for our worship time. It is not just Amos or the Worship Team who make our services enriching - it is all members of our church family. You included.

In June I completed the course and am currently being supported by the Worship Team to help where I can in our services. I have to be honest that this is a daunting prospect as I am humbled by the academic and encyclopaedic religious knowledge our Worship Team possess. The bar is high!

I am aware that whenever we come to a worship service, we each come with our own needs and thoughts. In helping with the services my aim is to make it easier for us all to get what we need from our fellowship together. My role is to help you bring those needs to God and not to distract you from the space and peace to do this. I am always open to your feedback; please feel free to tell me if there is a way I can make it easier for you to engage in the service.

The next step in my leading worship journey is to deliver the evening service on 8th September. I am grateful to be supported in this by my mentor Francis Robertson. I am also immensely thankful for the encouragement and good wishes I have received from our church family since starting the journey. Your faith in me has given me confidence to take each step on that journey.

Kirsteen Cruickshanks

In every thing
we give
Thanks
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Cake, Coffee and Committees!!

As we start another new academic year and we all 'rev up' a bit after the more laid-back summer period, it seemed a good point to take the time to remind you all of our church cafe's original vision some 18 years or so ago and to ask you to reflect on that and any way in which you might be able to support it.

In March 2006 manna opened its doors and the vision of the original Steering Group was as follows:

"manna aims to provide a Christian service to the community, to support the provision of a Christian Youth Worker and to promote Fairtrade."

We still hold to this vision nearly twenty years later and have returned to it on many occasions to guide us in our decisions.

To achieve this vision we have to remain viable financially but within that parameter we are guided by our faith and the aims outlined in the statement.

We are thankful to God and proud, in the best sense of the word, that we have largely financed our Youth Workers over the years and we take huge satisfaction in enabling the work of Chris (our current Youth Worker) in the church and wider community, bringing the gospel to the children and youth.

We also know that manna has been, and continues to be, a place which offers comfort and a warm welcome to many and we believe that the love of Christ is in that place, showing itself in the relationships there.

We are eternally grateful to all who give of their time and skills to enable manna to run : from staff and volunteers to bakers, soup makers, committee members, people who do the laundry and many more. Our dedicated staff and committee members are a great source of stability and we are so thankful for that.

2023-24 has been more challenging financially with prices rising across the board, while the threat looms of reaching the VAT threshold which had remained unchanged for 7 years or so, only being raised slightly in the Spring Budget this year.

However, time passes and change is inevitable and if manna is to continue in the long term we need new people coming in and for support to continue in all its forms.

So, as we begin another 'year', I am asking you as a congregation to pray for manna and its vision, to consciously consider if there is any way in which you can play your part in continuing our Christian outreach into our community....

That support need not be arduous in any way. It could simply mean consciously choosing manna for a coffee and cake with your friend (we are pretty good at cake!) or else a bowl of home made soup Not too hard??

Thank you.

Alison Heywood

Chair of manna Management Committee

Praying

It was a delight to attend the special celebration ceremony at Forgan recently. The subject of the importance of a good foundation, reminded me to respectfully suggest that Prayer is a vital foundation for all of us.

I would like to recommend the prayer from Paul in Colossians 1:9-12 as a good foundation to pray for each other. I would welcome any feedback you may have.

Ann Barona

Prayer Room

Our Church Prayer Room (opposite the entrance to the kitchen) is a lovely quiet space available for reflection and prayer. It is available whenever the Church is open and you are encouraged to make use of it.

Why not drop in before the Church Service for a quiet moment? The door may be closed to keep out the noise of kitchen traffic but just come in. Some may wish to pray out loud but there is no pressure to do so.

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

Go Tell it on the Mountain



Inspired by Alison Heywood's impassioned plea, during the morning service on 25th August, to support our manna café, I started thinking about what I could do.

Alison suggested that we could all make a conscious effort to pop in for a tea or coffee every once in a while. Whilst this seems like an easy step, as a full time worker I find it difficult to fit in with manna's opening hours. My thoughts about work made me consider what other skills I may have

to be able to help. At one time in my professional career, I undertook training in delivering customer service excellence. Through this I learned that every business has a unique selling point. When you identify this you can use it to its full advantage.

We are blessed in Newport by a range of coffee shops, each bringing something different to the local community. What sets manna apart from the others is that no matter how busy it gets the staff and volunteers always make a genuine effort to speak with you and to be interested in whatever you are facing that day.

To capitalise on the unique and supportive welcome we all receive in manna we need to spread the word. Academic research shows that whether our experience of customer service is good or bad we are likely to tell 7 people. These 7 people will then recount that story to an equal number of people ... and so it grows and grows.

Whilst I cannot commit to buy a daily coffee from manna, I can actively spread the word of this little haven at the heart of the community. I am sure that I am not alone as there will be many of you who through circumstance are unable to attend manna in person. However, you can spread the word. For example, have you got a new neighbour? Tell them about manna. Do you have a friend, or know someone who has had a new baby? Tell them about manna. Do you know someone who has recently become widowed. Tell them about manna. Do you have friends or family visiting? Tell them about manna. My own personal favourite is when I spot tourists and walkers going along Tay Street. I share the view with them then suggest they refuel at manna before continuing their adventure.

Alison asked us all to consider what we could do to help support the good work of manna. To steal a few words from the hymn book 'Go Tell it on the Mountain' ... and anywhere else you happen to be!

Kirsteen Cruickshanks

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favour he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey.

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

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Calendar of Worship

Sunday 1st September 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

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

Welcome : A Barona

Flowers : C Merrylees **Delivery** : A Waugh

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

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : S Kent, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : F Robertson

Sunday 8th September 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : W Imlay **Reader** : A Heywood

Welcome : K Cameron

Flowers : S Myles **Delivery** : E Wood

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

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : A Gray, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : M Shiels

Sunday 8th September 2024 at 6:30pm

Traditional Service led by Mrs K Cruickshanks

Sunday 15th September 2024 at 11am Guild Dedication Service

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

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

Welcome : J Johnston

Flowers : J Johnston **Delivery** : A Barona

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

Crèche : C Johnston

Sunday Club : J Wylie, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : M Imlay

Sunday 22nd September 2024 at 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

All Age Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong and our Young People

Beadle : S Johnston **Reader** : P Owen

Welcome : M Shiels

Flowers : Harvest Flowers **Delivery** : C Barr

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

Young Persons' Elder : A Heywood

Sunday 29th September 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : J Johnston **Reader** : L Robertson

Welcome : A Barona

Flowers : M McNicol **Delivery** : F Durward

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

Crèche : C Owen

Sunday Club : S Kent, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : S Johnston

Sunday 29th September 2024 at 6:30pm

Communion Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 6th October 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : C McCowan **Reader** : K Campbell

Welcome : L Robertson

Flowers : L McCrickard **Delivery** : A Gray

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

Crèche : F Harris

Sunday Club : Funday Sunday

Young Persons' Elder : E Thomson



All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our October edition of the Church Journal please email

newportcos@btinternet.com

or have it in the hands of Claire Owen

by **Sunday 22nd September 2024.**

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