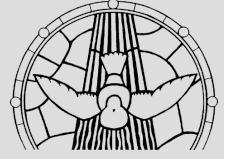




Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland October 2024 Journal



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Celebrating Reformation Day : A Call to Renewed Faith and Hope

This year has been a remarkable one for Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland. After celebrating the 900th anniversary of Forgan Church, a milestone that honoured nine centuries of faith, community, and resilience, we are about to make another piece of history. For the first time, our church will observe Reformation Day on 31st October 2024. The celebration will begin at 2pm in the Church, and it is an event that feels particularly timely as our church—indeed, as our entire denomination—stands at a crossroads.

Reformation Day is observed on 31st October every year and it marks a pivotal event in Christian history: the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. On this day in 1517, Martin Luther, a German monk and theology professor, nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Castle church, sparking a movement that challenged the practices and doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church. Luther's act was not merely about theology; it was about the courage to call for reform, justice, and spiritual renewal. It was a moment that redefined the landscape of Christianity, giving rise to Protestant denominations and reshaping the church's mission and its role in society.

As we prepare to commemorate Reformation Day, it is impossible to ignore the context of our present moment. The Church of Scotland is experiencing significant change—marked by doctrinal shifts, structural reconfiguration, and practical challenges like the closure and merging of congregations. This season of transition reflects the broader reality of organised Christianity in the Western world, which faces declining attendance, increasing secularisation, and a shortage of ministers. It is a time that calls us to pause, reflect, and consider how we might faithfully respond to these challenges.

The Reformation, at its core, was driven by the desire for spiritual renewal and a return to the central teachings of Scripture. Reformers like Martin Luther, John Calvin, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Knox sought to ground the church in the foundational principles of the faith, now encapsulated in the "Five Solas": faith alone (*sola fide*), grace alone (*sola gratia*), Scripture alone (*sola scriptura*), Christ alone (*solus Christus*), and to the glory of God alone (*solus Deo gloria*) [Michael Reeves, *The Unquenchable Flame: Discovering the Heart of the Reformation* (Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2010), 45]. These principles are still deeply relevant to us today. They remind us that the authority of our faith rests in God's Word, that salvation is a gift of grace, and that our mission as a church is to glorify God in all that we do.

Reformation Day also celebrates the courage of those who stood up for their convictions, even in the face of great opposition. It invites us to remember that personal faith, freedom of conscience, and the pursuit of truth are worth fighting for. In a time when the future of our church may seem uncertain, we find strength in the words "Ecclesia semper reformanda est"—"the church must always be reforming." This phrase speaks directly to our moment: we are called not to preserve tradition for its own sake, but to allow God to continually reshape and renew us for His purposes.

As we gather to celebrate Reformation Day, let us use this time as an opportunity to reflect on our identity as a community of faith. What does it mean for Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland to choose renewal, to lean into God's promise, and to courageously embrace change? Let us find inspiration in the boldness of the reformers who knew that the essence of church life is not about standing still, but about moving always closer to the truth of the Gospel.

As we celebrate, we remember that God has always been faithful, guiding His people through times of abundance and times of trial. Just as the reformers called the church to return to the core of the Gospel, may we too be emboldened to seek His presence anew in this season. The story of the Reformation tells us that God uses even the most uncertain times to draw His people closer to Him. As we face our own challenges, let us trust that God is still at work, leading us to a future full of promise and transformation.

Let us gather on 31st October, not only to honour the courage of those who have come before us but to celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ—the same hope that sparked a reformation and the same hope that sustains us today. "The church must always be reforming." May this become our prayer as we seek to write the next chapter in the story of Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland. We look forward to seeing you on Reformation Day!

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

Members Left by Certificate

Mrs Isabella Armstrong &
Mr William Armstrong
Newport-on-Tay Dist 10

Mrs Patricia Barclay
Newport-on-Tay Dist 15

Mrs Edith Campbell
Newport-on-Tay Dist 21

Change of Address

Mrs June Steen &
Mr Stewart Steen
From : Newport-on-Tay
To : Dundee

'Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.' Ephesians 6:10

Holy Communion

We will be holding our
Service of Holy Communion on
Sunday 27th October 2024 at 11am.



Everyone is
warmly welcome to
join us at the Lord's
Table.

If you are unable to join us in person please get
in touch for a Zoom link and join us online.

Advance Reminder!

Our **Remembrance Sunday Service** on
Sunday 10th November
will start at the earlier time of
10:50am to allow us to mark the
silence at 11am.



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 October
we will be 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, tea/coffee,
biscuits, toiletries,
household products
(washing up liquid,
laundry detergent,
etc.), sanitary
goods, diluting juice.



Many thanks.

The Pop-Up Post Office is back to
running on both Wednesdays and Fridays
from 9:30 - 11:30am
in the Kirk House Complex.



Prayer Room

A reminder our Church Prayer Room 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? Some may wish to pray out
loud but there is no pressure to do
so. Not sure where it is - just ask!



TAYFIELD ESTATE

LOGS AND FIREWOOD ETC.

**Newport-on-Tay,
Fife**

Tel. 543400 and 07745045007

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

Organist's Notes

Dear Friends,

Ray and I would like to say a huge thank you for your kindness, support and generosity on the birth of our daughter, Ada. She is now three months old, and thriving. The last few months have flown by so quickly, to the point I don't necessarily remember what day or time it is because it has blended together in a strange way. Despite the sleepless nights for nearly ten weeks, and on occasion, the long cries during the day, Ada has brought so much joy to our lives and we love our new role as parents.

The question often asked is, 'why choose the name Ada'? It was the easiest part of the journey; my Grandfather's (Gibson side) eldest sister was called Ada, and she was a gem. I remember a time she came to visit and I thought to myself, aged five, what a lovely name Ada is. Sadly, she died during the Covid pandemic but she is fondly remembered for her kindness and sharp wit. The Gibsons all agree that she didn't suffer fools gladly!

You may have heard of Ada Lovelace, the celebrated computer programmer and mathematician; this is a nod to Ray's scientific brain which is wired up completely different to mine! Another famous Ada is Ada Blackjack, a woman who survived two years on an uninhabited island alone, despite all the odds that were stacked against her. The name Ada has German roots, meaning 'noble' and also Turkish roots, meaning 'island'. In Hebrew, it translates as 'ornament'. Ada is also a palindrome, very much like my name: Hannah. I like symmetry, especially in music from a structural perspective.

Parenthood has been a fulfilling journey and we look forward to what the coming years may bring for our family.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to the organists who kept the organ singing while I was away on Maternity Leave: Eleanor Owen, Bryan Weir, Garry Fraser and Lewis Thomson. We're incredibly lucky to have so many talented organists in the area and I really appreciate the help and support!



Hannah Chan

Evening Service

We have decided to only hold one Evening Service this month which will be a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 27th October led by our minister. It will be held in the Church at 6:30pm and all are welcome.

National Week of Prayer

From 12th – 20th October 2024, the National Week of Prayer will be a moment where followers of Jesus from all denominations, backgrounds and communities can unite in prayer, worship and intercession, return to the Lord and seek His heart for our nation. For more information visit www.nationalweekofprayer.uk/pray

Christian Aid - Gaza Appeal

Christian Aid is asking churches to hold a collection to send emergency help to the people of Gaza. Christian Aid provides help through trusted partner organisations in Gaza but essential supplies are running low due to the unprecedented situation, and need replenishing.

The destruction in Gaza is on an unimaginable scale.

Nearly 2 million Palestinians have been displaced and are now facing extreme hunger and disease. Civilians have borne the brunt of the violence, including the more than 200 Israeli hostages, at least 100 of whom are still being held in Gaza. More than 40,000 people have been killed, many of whom were children.

To date Christian Aid has raised £2.2 million to help their trusted partners. Although moving around is dangerous these partners have been able to supply aid with food, shelter, medical relief, sanitation, psychological support as well as enabling community-led kitchens. It is estimated that 800,000 people have been supported in this way. But these essential supplies are perilously low and more help is urgently needed. Christian Aid is calling for an immediate and urgent ceasefire but violence is threatening to grow.

Please can you give a donation to provide aid to this shattered area.

Emergency Aid envelopes will be in church to allow us to donate as a church. However, I am aware that many people prefer to simply donate electronically. To do this just Google: Christian Aid Gaza Appeal.

However you do it - please just donate!

Thank you.

Margaret Imlay



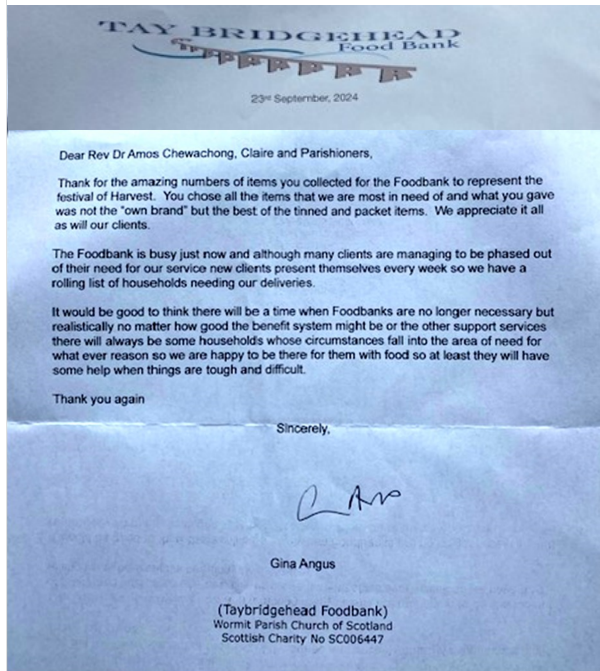
Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 22nd September was our Harvest Thanksgiving Service in the Church. It was led by Chris Cameron, Jane Campbell and our young people and huge thanks go to them for a lovely service. The bake sale after the service also went down a treat! See the Sunday Club article for the total raised!

We had a collection for the local Foodbank which was very generously supported. Thank you to everyone who donated - 285 items were delivered to the Tay Bridgehead Foodbank who were very appreciative and sent this letter of thanks.



A huge thanks also to the flower team for giving of their time and talents to decorate the church so beautifully. Here are some pictures from the Church at Harvest Time.



Photos courtesy of Claire Owen



I am sure that I share the sentiments of all the members of our Church Family who shared in the Harvest Festival service when I say that it was enriching, positive, inspirational and above all filled with hope.

Our young people, ably supported by Chris and Jane, delivered an amazing and creative service that demonstrated the message of God's love through the harvest.

One of the key themes was that the bounty of God's Harvest is not limited to crops and foods, it is about the gifts that we bring through ourselves.

Our youngsters, from ages 2 to 17, showed that the depth of God's love is well and truly alive in Newport. What a blessing to us all.

Kirsteen Cruickshanks

Thank You!

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers that were delivered to me recently. It was lovely to be remembered by you all and to be thought of.



Evelyn Oliver

It was such a lovely surprise to receive the beautiful church flowers the other week. Thank you so much. They were so bright and cheerful and it was lovely to be remembered.

Etta Honeyman

Thank you for the beautiful flowers, they were very much appreciated and admired. Such a lovely gesture. God Bless.

Ann Barona



Thank you very much for the flowers I received recently for my birthday. They were kindly delivered by Ann and I very much appreciated her visit and prayer.

Irene Navickas

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received on the occasion of my birthday. It was a lovely surprise and very much appreciated. I also had a nice chat with Avril who delivered the flowers.



Margaret McNicol

Sunday Club Update

Teaching in September and October

We have continued our series on Beginnings, looking at rebellion (Adam and Eve), corruption (Cain and Abel) and judgement (Noah). We will be continuing with confusion (the Tower of Babel) on the last Sunday in September before two Funday Sundays during half-term.

The Sunday Club children took on various roles as part of the all-age service for Harvest on 22nd September. We also held a bake sale to raise money for our sponsored child Subair.

Volunteers needed for Funday Sundays

We are very grateful to all members of the church family who regularly help with Funday Sundays. If you would be willing to help support this year's Funday Sundays, particularly those during the Christmas and Easter holidays, please let Fiona Hutchinson know (email: fionah2208@gmail.com).

This is an opportunity to share an activity with the children, with some ideas being board games, origami or other craft activities, baking, a sport or a scavenger hunt. It's really positive for the children to have the opportunity to meet different adults in the church family.

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 school year. Our first one was following the Harvest Service on 22nd September and we raised £123! Many thanks to everyone who donated home-baking and bought the goodies.



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 am very blessed to be heading away on holiday (yes AGAIN!!). This time we are heading back to our favourite place - Tenerife; just my husband and I for some much needed rest and relaxation. However all things in manna will continue and you won't notice I'm away. Morag and the team will be providing you all with the same wonderful service as usual.

Prayer Box - If you would like someone to pray for you or for someone you know, we have a box in manna near the main window of the cafe for you to place your request.

The Leprosy Mission - Catalogues and order forms have been placed in the church pews - please take one home. Catalogues and any orders can be handed in to manna or back to the church for the attention of Diane & Morag. Doing this will help support manna. You can place orders up until Sunday 27th October. All orders are payable on collection from manna, NOT on ordering, just in case items are out of stock. We have a selection of Leprosy Mission Christmas cards on sale now too.

Support for manna - We have had a very unexpected response to Alison's appeal. People have offered money in the form of a one-off donation and as a monthly regular ongoing donation. We feel very blessed by this and are very grateful to those choosing to do this. If you would like to support manna in this way please speak to Diane or Morag who will put you in touch with our treasurer Andrea.

It is a difficult time for small businesses like ours and we are not immune to the added expenses occurring in recent years. However we are a small business with a dedicated team of bakers, shop volunteers, committee members and regular customers. We are indeed very blessed and grateful.

Thank you all so much.
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

Spark

We have been continuing our series on Revelation. We are currently looking at the seven different letters to the seven different churches! It has been very helpful to get to grips with the book of Revelation and understanding the context of the different churches and in different cultures, and how they were influenced by local laws and culture!

Ignite

It has been an incredible September! At the start of the month we did our first trip, which was to Wild Shore in Dundee. Five brave young people and one brave leader entered the water and had great fun on the inflatable course! The water wasn't too cold for the time of year either!

During September we have completed a mini-series on Nicknames for Jesus, where we looked at Jesus as a servant, Jesus as the King of Kings, to name a few.

Both Spark and Ignite will be off for two weeks and will return on Sunday 20th October.

A couple of events for our youth to look forward to are:

Sunday 27th October – Among Us Night in the Church – This is where we all dress up in different colours, wear different hats and the crewmates will complete tasks, before the imposters stop them. This will be great fun night and this will run from 7pm – 8.30pm.

Sunday 3rd November – Magnitude Worship Night at Perth Baptist Church (Cost £5). This is a fun worship filled night. We will be meeting at manna at 5.30pm (Please ensure your young person has eaten before they arrive). We will be returning to manna at 9.30pm.

Please do let me know if your young people are attending both or either events!

Messy Church

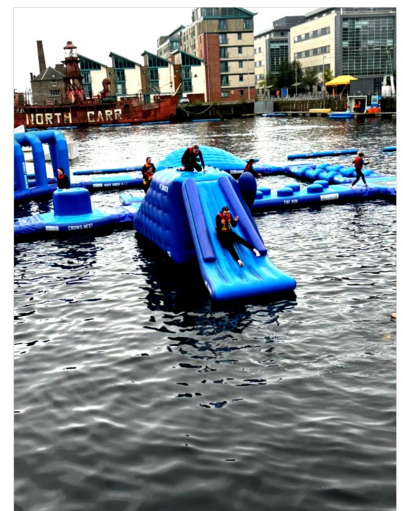
Our theme for September was celebrating Eric Liddell's life. We had some brilliant activities relating to different aspects of his life - from a rugby challenge and 40 yard dash, to a chopsticks challenge, to making our own medals and more.

We learned so much about Eric Liddell and how he lived out his faith in every circumstance, despite considerable pressure from his surroundings and the media. A huge thank you to all our volunteers, and thanks especially to Bill who expertly guided us through Eric Liddell's life.

Our next Messy Church is on Saturday 26th October from 11am - 1pm and the theme is discovering who God is! Hope to see you there!

Chris Cameron

Children and Youth Worker



Photos courtesy of Chris Cameron

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

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Guild Rededication Service

A Guild Rededication Service was held on 15th September 2024 and Amos very kindly led us in worship. As part of the service, all Guild members were asked to say the Guild Prayer of Dedication. It is a prayer that others may be interested in, so it is reproduced below:

In faith, we now dedicate ourselves, through our worship, prayer and action, to serve you faithfully, to love you with all our heart, all our soul and all our mind, and to love one another as your Son, Jesus Christ, has shown his love for us.

Renew us, refresh us, as members of The Guild, as we continue on our journey through life.

Guide our thinking and bless all that we do in your name, whose we are and whom we serve. Amen.



Guild Strategy 2024–2027

As mentioned in the service the National Guild strategy for the next three years is: 'Let us build a house'. The theme for the first year (2024-25) is 'Sure Foundations'. It reminds us of Paul's words in Ephesians 2:19-20: 'Together we are His house, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. And the cornerstone is Jesus Christ Himself' (New Living Translation)

More on the Guild strategy next month. 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>

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 now only one volunteer on each week and that seems to have been working 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

9th Oct - Mairi Shiels
16th Oct - Neil Merrylees
23rd Oct - Elizabeth Thomson
30th Oct - Sheila Johnston
6th Nov - Frances Durward
13th Nov - Pam Laurence

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.

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

Calendar of Worship

Sunday 6th October 2024 at 11am

Service led by Mr W Imlay

Beadle : J Johnston **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

Sunday 13th October 2024 at 11am

Service led by Miss C Owen

Beadle : D Macleod **Reader** : G Johnston

Welcome : K Cameron

Flowers : E Owen **Delivery** : A Heywood

Coffee : A Barona, K Cruickshanks, Elaine Thomson + D Macleod

Crèche : J Taylor

Sunday Club : Funday Sunday

Young Persons' Elder : C Johnston

Sunday 20th October 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : N Merrylees **Reader** : L Robertson

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : M Clark **Delivery** : M Imlay

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

Crèche : C Owen

Sunday Club : A Gray, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : J Johnston

Sunday 27th October 2024 at 11am Holy Communion

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : D Miller **Reader** : K Cruickshanks

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : M Imlay **Delivery** : J Johnston

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

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : Godly Play

Young Persons' Elder : L Gray

Sunday 27th October 2024 at 6:30pm

Thanksgiving Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 3rd November 2024 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

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

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

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

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

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : J Wylie, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : C McCowan

Next Edition

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

newportcos@btinternet.com

or have it in the hands of Claire Owen

by **Sunday 20th October 2024.**

Contact Numbers

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

Organist : Hannah Chan
Telephone: 07476 372 311
email: notcos.organist@gmail.com

Church Office : 3 Blyth Street,
Newport-on-Tay, DD6 8DB
email: newportcos@btinternet.com

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

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

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