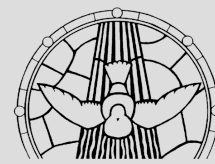


Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland September 2025 Journal



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

When the Church Becomes a Marketplace

You know you are in Scotland when someone says, "The church has closed, but it has reopened as a pub, and at least now it is full on a Sunday!" Or when a once-thriving kirk becomes a climbing wall and someone jokes, "That's the first time Presbyterians have raised their hands in worship in a while!"

We chuckle at these quips, but beneath the humour lies a sobering truth. Across Scotland and indeed much of Europe, churches that once echoed with psalms and prayers are now cafes, gyms, flats, cinemas, and community centres. Meanwhile, in Lagos, Nairobi, or São Paulo, it is the opposite: warehouses and cinemas are becoming places of worship because there isn't enough space for the crowds. And so, we find ourselves asking, "What has become of the church?"

In John 2, Jesus enters the temple and finds it turned into a market. A place meant for reverence had been repurposed for revenue. And gentle Jesus responds with unexpected passion: He makes a whip, overturns the tables, and drives them out, declaring, "*Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!*" This wasn't a tantrum. It was a prophetic act. The issue was not that trade was happening, but that the heart of worship had been displaced. Sacredness had been commodified. A space set apart for communion with God had been cluttered with everything but God. It is a moment that speaks powerfully to our own time.

Church buildings are closing across Britain, not because they lack beauty or history, but because they have lost their heartbeat—true worship. And while it is easy to point fingers at secularisation or shifting culture, John 2 invites us to look inward. What clutters our worship? What fills our churches and our hearts?

The Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard once warned, "*The human race has taken the liberty of softening Christianity until at last we have taken away everything which is truly Christian.*" The danger isn't just that our churches become cinemas; it is that our worship becomes theatre. That our faith becomes one more item on life's menu. That the sacred is reduced to the sentimental, and the holy is crowded out by the habitual. But Jesus doesn't merely cleanse buildings. He redirects the conversation: "*Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it again.*" He was speaking, John tells us, of His body. This is the Gospel's astonishing claim: that sacredness is not finally about architecture, but incarnation. The true temple is Jesus—God with us. And now, by His Spirit, we are called to be temples of the living God.

So, here in Newport-on-Tay, the question is not merely, "Can we keep the building open?" It is, "Can we keep the flame alive?" Can we be more than caretakers of heritage—can we be carriers of holiness? May our kirk not only stand as a symbol of the past but serve as a sanctuary for the present—a place of prayer, compassion, truth, and joy. A space where clutter is cleared, Christ is central, and hope is born again. Let us not be mere consumers in a marketplace of religion. Let us be disciples who are radically shaped by Christ, zealous for His presence, and living temples in a world desperately needing God. And may it be said of us, as it was of Him: "*Zeal for your house consumes me.*"

Every Blessing,

Rev. Dr. Amos B. Chewachong (PhD)

OUR CHURCH'S VISION STATEMENT

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

Evening Services

Our next evening Communion Service will be on
Sunday 28th September at 6:30pm
in the Church.
It will be led by our minister and all are welcome.



EVENING SERVICE

Mailing List

If you would like to join our mailing list to receive a weekly email with the intimations, details of upcoming events and the Order of Service and Zoom link for the Sunday service please email

newportcos@btinternet.com



Thank You!

Thank you so much for the flowers I received after my recent illness. Much appreciated!

Susan Myles

A huge thank you for the beautiful, beautiful flowers, caring thoughts and prayers delivered at what was a terribly sad, difficult, heartbreaking time. Thank you for the kind nomination and thanks to Margaret Imlay for the very personal delivery.
Love, light and laughter.

Kathleen, Richie and Harris Peter-Tennant

Thank you very much for the beautiful bouquet of flowers I received for my birthday.
Very much appreciated.

Norma Roberts



Many thanks for the lovely flowers we received from the church for our Sapphire Wedding Anniversary in June. It was most unexpected but very much appreciated with a lovely visit from the deliverer, Mandy Wilman. Blessings to you all.

Eleanor & Philip Owen

Thank you so much for the beautiful bouquet of yellow flowers we received for our Golden Wedding. It was a wonderful uplifting surprise.

Pat and Yvonne Golden

Thank you for the lovely flowers we received while Jamie was unwell in the summer. The thoughts and prayers were much appreciated.



Claire Owen

Gordon and I have both been touched by the kindness of the church family on the passing of Gordon's mum Sheila. We thank each and every one of you for all the kind words, cards and flowers. Some of you may know that Sheila had dementia and Alzheimer's. It has been a difficult few years for the family but we give thanks that she is now at peace.

Diane Miller

Thank you very much for my lovely flowers I received for my birthday.

Diane Frost

Jesus performed miracles and it's a miracle that 25 years ago we found each other - especially as now we can hardly find anything (keys, specs, what I came in here for ...).
We are blessed to have enjoyed 25 happy years together and doubly blessed that our church family helped us celebrate with the gift of flowers. Thank you.

Kenny and Kirsteen Cruickshanks



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Safeguarding

Just a reminder that all elders and volunteers require to attend safeguarding training. Below is a reminder of the different types of sessions and which one is relevant to you.

Volunteers or paid employees in a regulated role (i.e. requiring a PVG) - Introductory Training

Volunteers/paid employees who are also Trustees - Introductory Training and Trustee Training

Trustees only - Trustee Training

Coordinators/Panel members - Introductory Training and Advanced Training

Ministers/OLMs/Readers - Introductory Training, Advanced Training, Ministries Training (formerly Leadership Training)

All training must be redone at least every 5 years (preferably sooner), and you redo the highest level that you have previously done when appointed in your role: so someone who is a volunteer and trustee would only have to redo the Trustee Training, and a coordinator/panel member would redo the Advanced Training.

Safeguarding Training Calendar - Autumn 2025

Introductory Training

Tuesday 7th October - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Sheila Boyd

Monday 3rd November - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Alan Monk

Trustee Training

Monday 15th September - 2.00 - 4.00pm - Burntisland - In Person led by Alan Monk

Wednesday 15th October - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Alan Monk

Thursday 13th November - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Sheila Boyd

Advanced Training

Thursday 23rd October - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Sheila Boyd

Wednesday 19th November - 7.00 - 9.00pm - Online led by Alan Monk

Any queries or bookings contact **Lesley Gray**, Safeguarding Co-ordinator (lesley.gray@talk21.com).

Request Card

- Would you like to receive a visit or a telephone call from the Minister, your District Elder or a member of the Pastoral Care Team?
- Would you like to inform the minister of someone in need of a visit or a call?
- Are you interested in becoming a member of our church?
- Are you keen to arrange a baptism or wedding in our church?

....if so, please fill in one of the 'Request Cards' entering details on the reverse, before posting it in the yellow box provided and you will be contacted soon.

Request Cards can be found on the side of the yellow post box, which is located on the small table beside the font as you leave the church by the link corridor.

Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland	
Request Card	
I would like ... (please tick)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To receive a visit or speak on the phone with the Minister	<input type="checkbox"/>
To receive a visit or speak on the phone with my District Elder	<input type="checkbox"/>
To receive a visit or speak on the phone with a member of the Pastoral Care Team	<input type="checkbox"/>
To inform of someone in need of a visit or in need of a phone call	<input type="checkbox"/>
To explore joining the church	<input type="checkbox"/>
To ask about a baptism or a wedding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please fill in the details overleaf → and post this card in the yellow box.	

Christian Aid

Many thanks to all who donated money either by envelope during Christian Aid Week or via the Penny Bucket over the last wee while.

A total of £642 was given which is a goodly amount. Thank you for your kindness and support for the people you help but will never meet.

Margaret Imlay

Abundant Living - Sharing our Blessings

Last month when I took the service, God blessed our time of fellowship together with a connection that comes from a commitment to our shared faith. We showed thanks by sharing our blessing through donations made at refreshments after the service. Our generosity raised an amazing £148.54 for Christian Aid. This demonstrates the depth of faith that lives and breathes in every member of our church family. It is inspiring to be part of this - thank you.

Kirsteen Cruickshanks

Summer Reflections

It felt like yesterday when at the end of June, I said 'bye, have a great summer!' or 'see you in three weeks; I'm off the organ bench!' The summer has been a strange whirlwind of enjoying the final stages of Maternity Leave and preparing to go back to work but also playing the organ and piano a lot more than I intended to.

It was a bittersweet experience; although it was a joy to be able to make time for music again in a way I didn't before in the last year, the music-making was for people who sadly passed away and had the final goodbyes in our beautiful church.

I have played at many funerals over the years: some full of laughter, some with bizarre music requests which was meant as a joke from beyond the grave, some full of pain and sorrow, and others where I couldn't find any words that could possibly offer any comfort to the grieving family members.

Most recently, I played for the funeral of Mrs Judith Wilkes, and it was one of the hardest things I've ever done.

Since then, I've had much time to reflect on loss, grief and closure. All of us have experienced this and we all have different coping mechanisms in moving forward to find a way to heal. I like to think those who have left us are in a better place - if you have seen the film 'What Dreams May Come', I imagine the afterlife to look exactly like that.

One source of comfort is the piano - Mrs Wilkes' piano. The instrument was played near enough 2-3 hours a day since 2002 until arthritis set in her hands around six years ago. I was fortunate to have my lessons on this instrument too; the last piece we studied together was the Revolutionary Étude by Chopin back in August 2009. Fast forward to October last year, the piano was moved to my house and I've been looking after it ever since.

We connected through our mutual love of music: she was passionate about French impressionist and 20th century piano works, chamber music, opera, German lieder and Baroque music. As well as being a talented pianist, she was a gifted singer. She encouraged her pupils to think, reflect, and make their own musical decisions, while conforming to the rules of performance practice. She cared deeply for her pupils, showing great empathy, and left a lasting impression as a musician, mentor and friend.

I could write thousands more words and it still wouldn't be enough to describe someone like Mrs Wilkes. A piano piece I have always associated with her is Les Romances sans Paroles, (Opus 17/3) by Gabriel Fauré, because of the expression in her playing, her gentle nature, and her love for Fauré's compositions. If you have time to listen to it, I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

Hannah Chan
Organist



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more volunteers ...**

**Are you 18+ and can you spare a couple
of hours a week gaining lifeskills, working
as part of a welcoming, friendly team?**

Our vibrant church coffee shop relies on volunteers to
help run our community space.

***Duties can include baking, soup making,
serving, chatting and more-
speak to us about the role for you?***

For further information contact Diane:

dianemillermanna@gmail.com

01382 542781



Festival of Psalms – Sunday 5th October 2025

11am Newport Church of Scotland

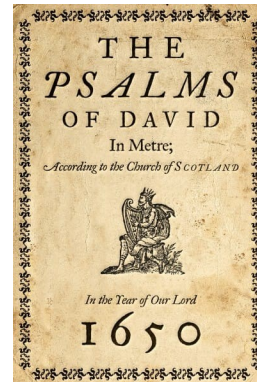
Celebrating the 375 years of the Scottish Metrical Psalter



Festival of Psalms

On Sunday 5th October our service will be a Festival of Psalms. The whole cluster (Balmerino & Wormit, Creich, Flisk & Kilmany, Leuchars St Athernase & Tayport, and ourselves) is joining together to celebrate 375 years of the Scottish Metrical Psalter with a service in our church at 11am. The service will include poems, readings, talks, banner and flower displays as well as singing by the children, the cluster choir, the Tay Bridgehead Worship Group and of course the congregation!

Please join us as we all worship together and share in fellowship over tea and coffee in the hall after the service.



Community Chest

COMMUNITY



CHEST

We are continuing to collect foodstuff for our Community Chest Appeal to support three 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. There is a particular appeal for tinned meats, tinned veg, tinned soup, biscuits, tea and pasta sauces. Other suggested donations include (but are not limited to) pasta, tins of fruit, beans, UHT milk, toiletries, household products (washing up liquid, laundry detergent, etc.), sanitary goods, diluting juice.

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.

Many thanks for your support.



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 NEWPORT

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www.thenewportclinic.co.uk



Please remember to get in touch with any questions, comments, suggestions or items for future editions.

Postal address on back page

email: newportcos@btinternet.com

facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/newportontaychurchofscotland>

Visit our website - www.notchurch.co.uk



manna matters



Since our last manna matters my husband's mother Sheila has passed away. We would both like to thank everyone for the cards and flowers received on this sad occasion. Also the many kind and thoughtful words spoken to us both. They have been very much appreciated.

The summer has been quiet as many people have been away on holiday. This has included our assistant manager Morag and her family who enjoyed a lovely holiday in Jersey.

Many of our younger volunteers will be starting college and university in September and we wish them well in their new chapters. This does leave spaces in the rota, so if you have time on your hands to help in manna we would love to hear from you.

The shop will soon be filled with seasonal gifts as we prepare for Christmas. The warm scarves and gloves will soon be back on sale for those who like to make an early start to their Christmas shopping.

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



Harvest Thanksgiving Service

On Sunday 28th September we will have our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service. This will be an all-age service at 11am in the Church.

After the service there will be a bake sale, led by the young people, to raise money for Subair, the child the Sunday Club are sponsoring through World Vision (more information in the Sunday Club article).

As is customary we are having a special collection at the Harvest Service for the Foodbank. Please support this if you can by buying an item or two at your weekly shop and bringing it on 28th September (or any Sunday in September). More details and suggestions of items can be found in the Community Chest article. Cash donations are also welcome which allow the Foodbank to buy any fresh food items required. This can be given to Claire Owen.



*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously
will also reap generously."*

2 Corinthians 9:6

Parish Register

New Members by Certificate

Mrs Eleanor Tennant &

Mr Frank Tennant

Drumoig

Dist 27

From: Leuchars St Athernase and
Tayport Parish Church

*"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has
welcomed you, for the glory of God."*
Romans 15:7

Deaths

25th Jun Mr William Berry
Newport-on-Tay

Dist 13

4th Aug Mr Andrew Adamson
Newport-on-Tay

Dist 27

Funerals

28th Jul Mrs Evelyn Oliver
Newport-on-Tay

29th Jul Mrs Doris Smith
Newport-on-Tay

12th Aug Mrs Judith Wilkes
Newport-on-Tay

*"For I consider that the sufferings
of this present time are not worth comparing
with the glory that is to be revealed to us."*
Romans 8:18

Steven Stewart

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DD6 8AD
Mon - Fri 9am to 4.30pm
T- 01382 549383 (24hrs)

info@stewartfunerals.co.uk

www.stevenstewartfunerals.co.uk

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Summer Lunchtime Concerts: Wednesdays@One 25

These returned for a fourth season of four concerts this past summer.

On 30th July, we were treated to a performance by the community choir A Choir'd Taste which included one of our own Guild members Diane Miller. This was followed on 6th August by the Ferryport Fiddlers, an all-age community music group. On 13th August the quartet of Susan Sneddon (piano), Sarah Elgin (flute), Kirsty Elgin (cello/double bass), and Cameron Maclean (percussion), gave a wonderful performance. The series concluded on 20th August with an organ recital by the St Mary's Team in Concert consisting of David Smith, Robin Bell and Ron Oliver. Among other pieces, this featured work by the local composer William Bernard.

All the concerts were very well received. There was a good attendance ranging from 44 to 70. A total of £705.15 was raised. Most of this money will go to support the national Guild Projects. See below for more details.

This year for the first time we invited the performers and audience to join us for refreshments in the hall after each concert. (This took the place of the Wednesday Afternoon Club for the four weeks). This proved very popular and allowed time to talk to each other as well as to the performers. A special highlight was the home baking provided by Margaret Wright and Anne Griffiths. Many thanks to them.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way to support the concerts. An especially big thank you to Hannah Chan who brought the programme together. I know that Hannah already has some concerts planned for 2026 so watch this space ...!

Wednesday Afternoon Club

Following the end of the concert series, this has returned to the normal time of 1.30pm to 3pm each Wednesday in the Agnes Duncan Room.

Attendance is generally small with five or six guests (but sometimes more!) each week. All are welcome to come for the refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits) often with some home baking, and company (with plenty of opportunity to chat). Thank you to Margaret Wright who coordinates everything and to Anne and Brian Griffiths who help almost every week.

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

Project for Ukraine

We are delighted that the Sunflower cards with Catherine Johnston's design are still on sale through manna. Please choose them to send your thank you notes, best wishes or just because they are lovely! All the money we raise from them is transferred to the Newport and Zolotarevo Twinning Association (NAZTA) to support our friends in western Ukraine.

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 pray for peace and bear witness to the ongoing suffering of people affected by conflict around the world. Many have expressed an inability to help, but this is a powerful way to pray for peace in our actions and those of world leaders. Please do join us on Thursdays outside the Church, starting promptly at 7pm and lasting 5-10 minutes.

If you don't feel able to come in person, why not join on Zoom. Please ask Neil Merrylees or Claire Owen for the link (it's the same every week).

National Guild

As noted in previous Journals this year, there are four National Guild Projects which we are supporting.

- These are:
- **Bibles for Bairns**, partnering with the Scottish Bible Society,
 - **Build My Church** in Bulgaria,
 - **Operation Hope** in the Christian communities of Upper Egypt, and
 - **Let's Build a House** a partnership between the Guild and CrossReach.



The money raised by our summer concerts will largely be going to support these four projects.

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 Rededication Service

Our Guild Rededication Service is planned for the 14th September 2025. If you want to know more about joining or supporting the Guild, this might be a good opportunity to hear about the work going on.

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

New Blood Required for manna Management Committee

In March 2026 manna cafe will celebrate 20 years of existence! I, as chairperson of the manna Management Committee, will be retiring from that position and from all organisational aspects of manna at that point.

The manna Management Committee is a group of friendly and dedicated people who are caught by the vision of manna to be a long term presence in our community, showing the love of Jesus Christ in all the relationships which arise out of the project, including fund-raising towards a Christian Youth Worker and supporting Fair Trade. Some of us have been around for a long time and it really is a moment where we need fresh input if we are to continue in the long term.

Does that vision strike a chord with you? A stirring within that you could maybe contribute in some way to manna's ongoing contribution to the community here?

And just what does manna contribute to our community?

We offer an intentional welcoming and inclusive space for anyone who walks through the door. We have a history of giving work experience placements to help people on their employment journeys, giving positive, confidence-building experience to school youngsters, building friendships and connections between volunteers and not least, giving outlets for creative baking urges!

If you feel sparked in any way by this or know anyone who might be and wonder if you might be able to play a part by being on the manna Management Committee, please get in touch with me for an informal, no obligation chat.

Please keep manna and its future in your prayers as we look ahead beyond our 20-year anniversary.

Thank you.

Alison Heywood

alisonbob@btinternet.com

07719 367 347



Monthly Prayer Requests

As we head into the Autumn and the season of new starts for many we would ask you to pray for :

Young People

Both in our church and outwith; for protection and guidance whatever stage they are at.

Chris Cameron

Our former Children and Youth Worker, for his new work as Schools Ministry Coordinator, setting up Scripture Union groups and curriculum events in all the feeder schools for Madras College in North East Fife. And we give thanks for Chris's work in his time with us, opening young hearts and minds to Jesus.

People Struggling with Health Issues and Undergoing Treatment

Please pray for healing, strength, hope, patience and peace.

Quote from Julian of Norwich

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance. It is laying hold of His willingness."

Thank you.

Newport Church Prayer Group

Ann Barona, Nancy Pong, Neil Merrylees, Diane Miller, Jane Campbell, Catherine Johnston, Katie Cameron and Alison Heywood



A reminder that 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!

Sunday Club Update

Summer Activities

We finished the year with our celebratory service on 29th June where the children were all given a gift. We met afterwards with members of the church family in Victoria Park for the annual picnic. It was very warm and sunny and lots of different games were played.

Over the summer, there have been a series of Funday Sundays. We are very grateful to all members of the church family who regularly help with Funday Sundays. 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. If you would be able to help support this year's Funday Sundays (especially during the October and Christmas holidays), please let Fiona Hutchinson know (email: fionah2208@gmail.com).

Start of the new year

Our first Sunday Club service of the new school year was 24th August where we met for welcome back activities and games. We also said goodbye and thank you to Chris as he takes up his new role. He will be much missed by all of the children, their families and the leaders and we are grateful for all that he has done in his time as our Children & Youth Worker. Teaching begins from Sunday 31st August where we'll be looking at characters from the Bible including Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.



Update on Sunday Club Sponsorship through World Vision

As you know, we have committed to sponsoring a child through World Vision. Subair is 9 years old and lives in Mozambique. The children keep up-to-date with his progress through frequent reports received from World Vision.

For further information about World Vision and its work, do have a look at their website: www.worldvision.org.uk

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 some bake sales this year - our next one will be on Sunday 28th September!

Emma Wisher

On behalf of the Sunday Club Team

Pastoral Care Group

This is a small, recently formed group with a twofold aim.

The intention is to act as a friendly link between the church and those who can no longer attend in person by visiting them on a regular basis. We would also offer pastoral support to anyone experiencing some temporary difficulties. In all these contacts any information will be treated with confidentiality.

If you would like to talk to one of us, or think you know of someone who might like to do so, please contact Margaret Imlay on 07840231659.

Cleaner

manna has a vacancy for a relief cleaner.

This will be working a minimum of 5 weeks a year as holiday cover.

Hours of work are Tuesday - Saturday from 5pm-6.30pm (or later in the evening if that suits).

Please contact Diane Miller for more information

dianemillermanna@gmail.com

07707241338



Prayer Requests

If anyone has a prayer request for the church Prayer Team, and cannot easily access the prayer slips and prayer boxes in the church and manna, please do not hesitate to contact Alison Heywood on 07719 367 347 or email alisonbob@btinternet.com and she will pass the request on straight away to the Prayer Team WhatsApp group.

Prayer
Requests



Youth Update

This summer I was involved in Young Life Summer Slam in Tayport, where we shared the Gospel with Secondary Students across the Madras College cluster. I was able to share my testimony to the young people. It was great to be a part of this outreach event, seeing young people become Christians, and others take steps closer to God.

As a final hurrah, we took some of our young people to the Cinema in July to see The Bad Guys 2, which was a brilliant film, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

Going forward, the main contact for youth groups will be Catherine Johnston.

Our Sunday morning youth group (Spark) has already started up. Ignite (our Sunday evening group) will begin shortly.

On a small personal note, thank you so much for everyone who contributed to our Young People's Ministry here in Newport-on-Tay. I couldn't do what I achieved without each and every single person, who gave up their time, money or spent time praying for us. We saw first hand God working in young people in many different ways.

I will personally keep the ministry and the church in my prayers.

Blessings

Chris Cameron, Children and Youth Worker

Chris's Farewell

On Sunday 24th August we said our final goodbyes to Chris. He was presented with gifts during the morning service and there was a soup lunch organised in the hall afterwards.

During Chris's 7 years with us he has led Alpha Youth, built up several youth groups, delivered SU programmes at Newport Primary School, started Messy Church, led Holiday Clubs and more!!

As Chris moves on to a new job, we give thanks and praise for all the work he has done with us and wish him every blessing in his new role.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:11



With the departure of our lovely Children and Youth Worker, Chris, we are in need of some volunteers for our Sunday morning and Sunday evening youth groups. If this is something you feel able to support or want to enquire about please speak to either Catherine or Graham Johnston. Both regular and occasional help would be greatly appreciated!

We are also in need of a few more helpers for crèche during church.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering and helping our wonderful young people.

Thank you.

Catherine Johnston

Final Message

Hi everyone,

I wanted to write a special message dedicated to everyone who has supported our Children's and Youth Ministry over the last 7 years. We will be exploring some highlights, some answered prayers and I'll say a little bit about what is next for me in my new role as Schools Ministry Coordinator with Kingdom 2000.

Over the last 7 years we have worked tirelessly to share the gospel with as many children, young people and families as possible. We had some incredible highs and some personal lows as well (mainly my health and a pandemic!).

When I came in October 2018, we changed our age group range to P7 – S6. We also explored and eventually decorated our youth room with our young people's help. Also in this year, we started our ministry in Newport Primary School, where I would volunteer once a week and help in the playground during break and lunch as well as going round classes and helping wherever I could. Some days I sharpened pencils for 2 hours, other times I would help with P.E. and once I spoke about my trip to Berlin! Through this time, we built up an incredible outreach which provided opportunities for us as a church. These included running curriculum events such as Bible Alive; we donated over 20 bibles to the school, provided tents for outdoor learning, and participated in a number of assemblies.

With our young people we provided multiple opportunities for them to go to camp, with over 25 different young people attending at least 1 Scripture Union Camp, with some attending multiple camps! We also ran Alpha Youth twice within the seven years. We had some incredible conversations with our young people - each time we saw young people build up their faith, gave opportunities to the big ask questions, and we even saw a couple of young people dedicate their lives to Jesus. Praise God! Another big highlight was our discipleship group where for two years I worked closely with Emily, Rachel and Stuart, where we met every two weeks, barring school holidays, in manna, helping these young people go deeper with God. Over this time, we studied Hebrews, Everyday Theology for Teens, Believe and Be Baptised and a book of prayer by Max Lucado.

I could highlight so much more, like how we began Messy Church in 2023, and had lots of families come through our doors from across our Cluster, or Church Weekend Away, or A Tale of Two Kings Holiday Club this Easter partnered with SU Scotland where we prayed for 50 children and young people to attend, and we had 51 come. We could go on about our staple groups of Sunday Club, Spark and Ignite, seeing young people dedicate their lives to Jesus, and so much more.

We couldn't do any of this without your support, whether you gave up your time to serve in one of our ministries, you gave financially to our ministries, or you spent time praying for us - thank you so much!

Finally, I wanted to share a little bit about my new job. I am now the Schools Ministry Coordinator for Kingdom 2000, where I will be working with primary schools across St Andrews and Tay Bridgehead area. The vision of Kingdom 2000 is to see children and young people in North East Fife explore the bible. I will be looking to build upon the work we already did in Newport Primary School, and hope to establish a lunchtime SU Group and continue on with Curriculum Events.

Kingdom 2000, through dedicated volunteers, currently run 2 SU Groups in Canongate and Lawhead Primary Schools and we hope by June 2026 to have established 6 SU Groups within local Primary Schools. We also hope to extend our curriculum events programme across multiple schools as well.

Kingdom 2000 run a WhatsApp Prayer group who receive one or two messages a week, asking to pray for specific groups, events or schools in the upcoming week.

We are looking for your support, whether that is in prayer, in giving your time to volunteer, or give financially to support our work. Please get in touch, I would love to hear from you. My new work e-mail is chriscameron.k2@gmail.com

Thank you for everything over the past seven years from both of us, especially for the incredible send off in August!

Blessings,

Chris and Katie Cameron

Photos courtesy of Catherine Johnston and Lesley Gray



Calendar of Worship

Sunday 7th September 2025 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : M Imlay

Reader : P Owen

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : S Myles

Delivery : C Barr

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

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : J Wylie, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : M Shiels

Sunday 14th September 2025 at 11am Guild Rededication Service

Service led by Guild Members

Beadle : G Johnston

Welcome : L Robertson

Flowers : J Johnston

Delivery : F Durward

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

Crèche : F Harris

Sunday Club : S Kent, F Hutchinson

Young Persons' Elder : D Miller

Sunday 21st September 2025 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : J Johnston

Reader : W Imlay

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : M McNicol

Delivery : A Gray

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

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : A Gray, E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : S Johnston

Sunday 28th September 2025 at 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

All-Age Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : S Johnston

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : Harvest Flowers

Flower Delivery : A Heywood

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

Sunday 28th September 2025 at 6:30pm

Communion Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 5th October 2025 at 11am Festival of Psalms Cluster Service

Beadle : C McCowan

Welcome : J Johnston

Flowers : L McCrickard

Delivery : M Imlay

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

Crèche : J Taylor

Sunday Club : J Wylie, S McCowan

Young Persons' Elder : L Gray

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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 21st September 2025.**

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