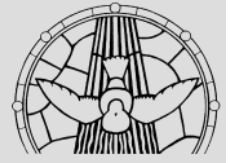




Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland April 2026 Journal



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Who Will Roll the Stone Away? John 20:1-10

There is a question that sits quietly at the heart of Easter morning: "Who will roll the stone away?" It is an old question, but it feels very close to us just now. In our own church community, here in Newport-on-Tay, we carry both encouragement and concern. Numbers remain small, yet there is real life among us. Young families, a hopeful Sunday School, and a willingness to serve remind us that vitality is not always measured in size. As we look toward deeper partnership across our church cluster, we do so with hope, but also with honest anxiety. The distances are wide, the resources are few, and the task feels heavy at times.

Beyond our church community, the weight grows even further. Immigration rules continue to strain families and futures. The war in the Middle East and Ukraine feels nearer than geography suggests, shaping prices, security, and the emotional climate of our lives. Across Scotland and the wider United Kingdom, many are quietly carrying work pressures, anxiety, family burdens, and a kind of institutional weariness that is harder to name but just as real. These are our stones. Some are visible, others hidden. And like the women at the tomb, we ask: Who will move them?

Earlier this year, Florence and I spent a week of retreat in Malta. One place stayed with us, the Millennium Chapel in St Julian's. It offered not just beauty, but stillness. In its quiet spaces for prayer and counselling, and in its simple meditation garden, we found room to reflect. One line, attributed to Pope John XXIII, lingered: "The world will never be the dwelling place of peace, till peace has found a home in the heart of each and every person." That insight speaks deeply into our moment. Modern psychology echoes something similar. As one widely cited principle puts it, coping is not about removing all stress, but about finding ways to live meaningfully alongside it. In other words, not every stone is immediately taken away. But we are not left alone with them.

Easter does not begin with everything resolved. It begins in the dark, with worry, with unanswered questions. And yet, the stone is already rolled away. This is the quiet, steady truth of the resurrection. God is at work ahead of us. Before we have solved the problem, before we have gathered enough strength or clarity, God has already begun to make a way. The risen Christ meets us not after everything is fixed, but in the midst of fear, calling us by name.

So, this Easter, we do not pretend that the stones are light. We do not ignore the pressures within our church, our nation, or our world. But neither do we carry them alone.

The stone has been rolled away.
Christ is risen.
And that changes how we walk forward, together.



We wish all our church members, and those who may yet find their way among us, a very Happy Easter, and the deep joy of knowing that, in Christ, the stones of our lives will be rolled away.

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.

Holy Communion

We will be holding our Service of Holy Communion on Sunday 26th April 2026 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.

Thank You!

Many thanks for the lovely flowers I received recently. They brightened up the day and were much appreciated.



Jim Johnstone

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers that I received a few weeks ago. They were greatly appreciated.

Catherine Merrylees



Many thanks for the flowers I received last month. After taking ill while away on holiday it was very good to be back home safe and sound and much appreciated to receive the flowers

Pam Laurence

Parish Register

Death

9th Mar Mrs Ann Russell
Drumoig Dist 27

*"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*

Members left by Certificate

17th Mar Mr Christopher Cameron &
Mrs Katie Cameron
Newport-on-Tay Dist 6

To: Leuchars St Athernase &
Tayport Parish Church

26th Mar Mr Alexander (Sandy) Harper
Dundee Dist 30

To: Fountainhall Church of Scotland
Aberdeen

*"Trust the Lord with all your heart.
Don't depend on your own understanding.
Remember the Lord in everything you do.
And he will give you success."
Proverbs 3 v 5 & 6*

Kirk Session

The next meeting of the Kirk Session will take place on Wednesday 15th April at 7:30pm. This will be a hybrid meeting held jointly in the Agnes Duncan Room and on Zoom. Elders please note the change of date.

Flower Arranging

The Wednesday Flower Arranging Group meet every second Wednesday in the Church Hall from 10 - 11:30am.

If you are interested in learning about flower arranging or would like to try different ways with flowers, then this is for you!

Please see Margaret Wright for more details or come along on 8th or 22nd April to find out more.



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

manna matters



manna celebrated our 20th Birthday on Wednesday 11th March. We gathered in the church hall on Sunday 8th March for a party to celebrate this milestone. We had three of our ministers present - Amos Chewachong, Stan Brook and Ken Pryde. Irene Sherriffs and her family too were amongst many who had taken time to travel back to Newport to celebrate with us. We were delighted to welcome so many of our past volunteers to join in and mark this special occasion.

We also took time to thank Alison Heywood for her outstanding commitment to manna over the last twenty plus years as she steps back from her role as chairperson of our Management Committee. She was presented with flowers and a gift voucher.

manna, like all the High Street, is quieter due to the ongoing road closure in West Road making Wormit a bit cut off at the moment. Hopefully the essential work will be completed soon and we will get back to normal.

Ellie continues to help us in manna and is becoming an excellent barista. We are so fortunate to have her helping us at the moment. The No One Left Behind is a great scheme. We have had some lovely people take part in this scheme and we hope it will continue creating other opportunities for other youngsters to gain confidence and valuable experience.

God bless.

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

manna (01382) 542781

Diane Miller (Manager) 07707 241338 & dianemillermanna@gmail.com

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



Our three Ministers (Stan, Amos & Ken)



A Choir'd Taste performing at manna's party.

Photos courtesy of Graham Johnston

Steven Stewart
Funeral Directors

Here when you need us most

Funeral Plans from
Golden Charter
Smart Planning for your life



Cupar
15 Provost Wynd
Cupar
KY15 5HE
Mon - Fri 9am to 5pm
T- 01334 655323 (24hrs)

Newport-on-Tay
38 High Street
Newport-on-Tay
DD6 8AD
Mon - Fri 9am to 4.30pm
T- 01382 549383 (24hrs)

Monthly
Payment
Plans
Available

info@stewartfunerals.co.uk www.stevenstewartfunerals.co.uk

Editorial

As Lent draws to a close it is an ideal time to reflect. Whatever you gave up, sacrificed, added in, prayed for during Lent I hope that you feel stronger in your faith and more connected to God. However just because Lent has ended doesn't mean our practices need to change. If you added in daily prayer - keep going! If you gave up something do you need it back or could you give your money/talents to others in need? Lent and Easter is just the beginning. Jesus gave his life. What will you give next?
Claire

Monthly Prayer Requests

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

John 14:27

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Peace to you from God our Father
Peace to you from His Son, Jesus Christ, who is our peace
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life giver
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

A Prayer for Hope from the Book of Common Order:-

God, ground of our hope, when we are cast down or dismayed, keep alive in us your spirit of hope. Fill us with all joy and peace as we lead the life of faith, until, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we overflow with hope; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Newport Church Prayer Group

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



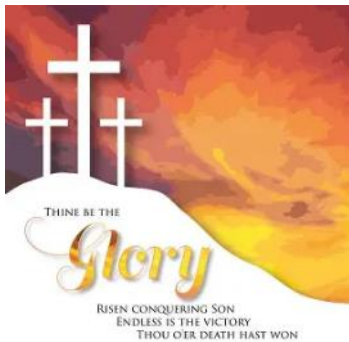
Our Church Prayer Room is a lovely quiet space available for reflection and prayer. It is available whenever the Church is open and you are encouraged to make use of it. Why not drop in before the Church Service for a quiet moment?

Some may wish to pray out loud but there is no pressure to do so. Not sure where it is - just ask!

Thine Be the Glory: A Hymn of Easter Joy

Easter Sunday has fast approached! Among the many traditions that shape this day, singing the famous hymn 'Thine Be the Glory' still remains a highlight for many congregations and choirs, and has done for many generations.

The hymn's origins begin in the late 19th century with Edmond Budry, a Swiss hymn writer, who composed the original French words 'À toi la gloire'. Written as an expression of celebration and joy, the text very quickly gained popularity across Europe. It was later translated into English by Richard Birch Hoyle in the early 20th century, which eventually found its place in English-speaking churches. The text tells a story, and without a doubt, evokes images of victory over death, celebration, and Jesus rising from the tomb.



What makes the hymn distinctive is its tune. Rather than being a newly composed piece from the 19th or 20th century, the melody comes from the renowned German born composer, George Frideric Handel. It is taken from one of his large-scale works, Judas Maccabaeus, first performed in 1746. In its original setting, the tune was part of a joyful chorus that marked victory and triumph. These are all qualities that made it a natural fit and this pairing of text and music, although separated by more than a century, proved to be effective.

Over time, the hymn grew in popularity, particularly in the UK, where it became closely associated with Easter Day. Its strong, uplifting, bold melody and clear structure make it easy and memorable for congregations to sing. The harmonic journey is clever: it begins in the key of D major, journeys to

A major, to the relative B minor and eventually settles midway on the angelic F sharp major. As with any hymn, it makes its way back to the home key and certainly in this case, seamlessly.

The hymn's appeal lies in its energy and familiarity. The bright, flowing and confident tune fills the church, creating a sense of occasion, and encouraging everyone to sing their hearts out. For many of us in the church, it is inseparable from memories of Easter, making it both uplifting and deeply nostalgic. Many of us learned this tune as young children and it is one that stays with us well into adulthood.

Singing 'Thine Be the Glory' every year at Easter is more than a tradition; it is a moment where we come together to celebrate Christ rising from the dead and reflecting upon what it means, and what it means to us. It is a hymn with an endurance, and will continue to be a favourite for many more years to come.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter!

Hannah Chan

Sunday Club Update

Teaching in March and April

In March we continued to look at biblical characters with sessions on King Saul (where we made crowns) and King David, then moving on to New Testament figures such as Mary, the mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene and Judas Iscariot in the run-up to Easter. We also celebrated Mothering Sunday on 15th March.

We'll be taking part in the all-age service on Easter Sunday and then will have 2 Funday Sundays during the Easter Holidays. 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 willing to help support this year's Funday Sundays, please let Fiona Hutchinson know (email: fionah2208@gmail.com).



On the last Sunday of April we'll be out for the whole service and looking at Solomon, with a Godly Play Sunday following a couple of weeks later.



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.

Emma Wisher

On behalf of the Sunday Club Team

Youth Update

In our journey through Lent one of the things the Newport Youth have been considering is what some people do to follow Jesus' example of self-denial in his time in the wilderness, and why they do it. You might have guessed that not everyone in the group was brim-full of enthusiasm for giving up our creature comforts, but we did appreciate that doing so can be motivated by our commitment to Jesus. We also thought about giving up such things in Lent, not as a negative thing, but as a way of cutting out distractions to allow God to transform us through prayer, study, and how we imitate Jesus in our relationships. We also celebrated the custom of not fasting on Sundays in Lent by baking cookies one Sunday and sharing them with the congregation at coffee time. I think the Youth would all agree that this was the part of our Lent studies that went down the best.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our family Easter worship, when some of our teenagers will have the opportunity to share in leading the service. Later in April we hope to join with other youth groups from around the North East of Scotland at the Magnitude worship night, run by SU Scotland. Magnitude worship nights are exciting and uplifting occasions, with teaching, prayer, and contemporary worship aimed at spiritually feeding our young people. And we will stop off at McDonald's on the way there for bodily feeding, too.

Please continue to give thanks and to pray for the Youth in our church family who are continuing to explore life following Jesus.



And if you would like to follow what we discovered about the transforming work of God in the pages of the Bible, here are the verses we have shared:
Joel 2:13, Matthew 4:17, Acts 3:19, Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Colossians 3:9-10.

Graham Johnston



WHO IS LIFT?

THE NAME LIFT STANDS FOR LOVE IN FELLOWSHIP AND TRUST. WE ARE AN ECUMENICAL GROUP OF 18-40 YEAR OLDS WHO MEET WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GUILD.

WHAT IS OUR AIM?

OUR AIM IS TO HAVE A SPACE WHERE YOUNG ADULTS FEEL LIKE THEY BELONG AND CAN HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD WITHIN THE WIDER CHURCH, WITH A FOCUS ON:

★ MISSION ★ FELLOWSHIP ★ AND DISCIPLESHIP

WHAT DO OUR MEETINGS LOOK LIKE?

WE MEET ONLINE ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 7PM-8PM. WE HOLD FRIENDLY, RELAXED AND INFORMATIVE MEETINGS WITH A MONTHLY THEME AND WE OFTEN HAVE A SPEAKER AND A DISCUSSION AFTER.

SOUNDS GOOD! HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

YOU CAN JOIN BY FILLING OUT THE FORM THAT'S PINNED TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND TO FIND OUT MORE EMAIL US OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM

✉ YAG@churchofscotland.org.uk

👍 Lift CofS

📷 @lift_cofsg



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/).

During Holy Week Amos did a video reflection filmed on location around Newport-on-Tay. These are also available to view on the Church website.



K2/Scripture Union

In over 450 schools in Scotland, Scripture Union groups are meeting on a weekly basis. Some are in large High Schools, others are in small rural Primaries. The focus is the same whatever the setting: to give children and young people an opportunity to discover and explore the message of the Gospel in an informal and relaxed setting. Some groups meet in the lunch break; others might meet after school when there is less pressure on time.

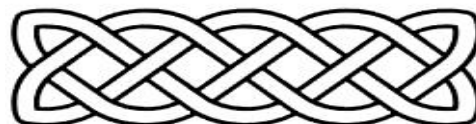
But whatever the context, the aim is the same and children and young people appreciate that adult helpers are interested and engage with them as they learn together. Through games, quizzes, crafts and interactive Bible stories, the pupils discover so much of the Christian message in ways that are both fun and challenging.

K2 works in partnership with local churches. We are currently running an SU Group in Newport Primary for P4-P7 on a Friday lunchtime and would like to be able to give more children the opportunity to attend a group and we would be looking for volunteers to assist in taking this forward. An experienced leader would prepare the resources needed but supportive adults are needed to engage with the children each week. Full training will be given and PVG clearance through Scripture Union Scotland is needed to meet the School's requirements for adults volunteering in schools.



If you are interested please email me on chriscameron.k2@gmail.com with the subject title - Volunteering for K2 to volunteer or to find out more information.

Chris Cameron



Christian Aid

An early alert.

This year CHRISTIAN AID WEEK runs from 10 - 16th May. As usual there will be the familiar red envelopes available for anyone wishing to donate.

I have decided to step down as Christian Aid contact person. However this church has given regularly over the years and Christian Aid understandably hopes this can continue. This would involve them having a contact to whom they could send information.

If you would be interested in taking on this role please contact me for more information.

Margaret Imlay
07840231659



THE NEWPORT

CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

For the treatment of Back Pain, Neck Pain, Headaches, Sports Injuries, Pelvic Girdle Pain, Relief from Arthritic Pain and many more...



To find out more or book an appointment call 01382 690606 or visit our website www.thenewportclinic.co.uk

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 April we will be supporting St Salvador's. 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.

The Guild Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland

Return of Summer Concerts: Wednesdays@One 2026

A reminder of the dates of the summer concerts this year:
We hope you are able to come to some of them.

Wednesday Afternoon Club

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

All are welcome to come for the refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits) and often 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.

Fundraising for Ukraine

The Sunflower cards with Catherine Johnston's design and postcards with a design by Jan Winch, are still on sale through manna. All the money we raise from them and other Ukraine contributions is transferred to the Newport and Zolotarevo Twinning Association (NAZTA) to support our friends in western Ukraine. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed.

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

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

With escalating conflict and violence in the world it is all the more important to pray for Peace. One way of doing this is to join the weekly Church prayers for peace.

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

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

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>



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

The Guild of Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland presents

Summer Concerts 2026

Wednesdays@One

Wednesday at 1pm for 30-40 mins

22nd July: The Rose Ensemble

29th July: Robin Bell, Ron Oliver, David Smith and Hannah Chan (organ)

5th August: Andrew Farquharson (violin)

12th August: Megan Cassidy (voice)

Newport Church of Scotland, Blyth Street,
Newport-on-Tay Fife
Scottish Charity Number - SC006758

Calendar of Worship

Sunday 5th April 2026 at 11am Easter Sunday

All Age Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : D Macleod

Welcome : K Cruickshanks

Flowers : Easter Flowers **Delivery** : M Shiels

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

Crèche : F Harris

Sunday 5th April 2026 at 6:30pm

Communion Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 12th April 2026 at 11am

Service led by Miss C Owen

Beadle : N Merrylees **Reader** : F Ritchie

Welcome : C Johnston

Flowers : J Mitchell **Delivery** : P Laurence

Coffee : P Broadbent, M Cuthbertson, K Farquhar + S Kent

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : Funday Sunday

Young Persons' Elder : A Heywood

Sunday 19th April 2026 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : D Miller

Reader : R Caird

Welcome : L Robertson

Flowers : Elaine Thomson

Delivery : M Cuthbertson

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

Crèche : J Taylor

Sunday Club : Funday Sunday

Young Persons' Elder : N Merrylees

Sunday 26th April 2026 at 11am Holy Communion

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : P Owen

Reader : P Owen

Welcome : F Harris

Flowers : P Broadbent

Delivery : G Smith

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

Crèche : D Miller

Sunday Club : Meet in hall for 11am

Young Persons' Elder : D Macleod

Sunday 26th April 2026 at 6:30pm

Thanksgiving Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Sunday 3rd May 2026 at 11am

Service led by Rev Dr A Chewachong

Beadle : C Owen

Reader : J Campbell

Welcome : D Miller

Flowers : J McKendrick

Delivery : C Barr

Coffee : F Durward, A Heywood, L Robertson + F Ritchie

Crèche : J Johnston

Sunday Club : E Wisher

Young Persons' Elder : W Imlay

Contact Numbers

Minister : Rev Dr Amos Chewachong
17 East Station Place, Newport-on-Tay
Telephone: (01382) 542893

email: ACHewachong@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk : Graham Johnston
Telephone: 07724 039 844

Email: g.johnston606@btinternet.com

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

Church Office : 1 Blyth Street,
Newport-on-Tay, DD6 8DB
email: newportcos@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, Fife, DD6 8HP
Telephone: (01382) 543034
email: notchurch@gmail.com

Hall Hire : Jane Johnston
Telephone: 07541 188 411
email: j.johnston58@btinternet.com

Next Edition

If you would like anything included in our May edition of the Church Journal please email newportcos@btinternet.com or have it in the hands of Claire Owen

by **Sunday 19th April 2026.**

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