

NEWMACHAR CHURCH



GRAPEVINE

Monthly Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2006

Dear Members & Friends of Newmachar Church

Welcome to the November edition of Grapevine.

In this edition you will find details of services & events taking place in November at Newmachar Church. Copies of this edition will be available on a Sunday throughout November. Feel free to take a copy to friends or family who may like to receive one.

As December is such an important time at Newmachar Church, the Christmas edition of Grapevine will be distributed as before to all homes in the parish. Can we ask those people who have kindly volunteered to distribute previous editions to note that the Christmas Grapevine will be available from Sunday 19th November. If you are not able to help us this time, please inform us as soon as possible so we can find a replacement to cover your area

In order to have the publication ready for this date, we will be meeting on Saturday 18th at 9 a.m. in the Village Hall to fold and collate the copies. The more volunteers we have the less time it takes to complete the job. If you have an hour to spare, please join us. Refreshments will be provided!

All items for inclusion in the Christmas edition should be sent to Christine MacLeod by Sunday 12th November and should include events planned for January 2007.

Thank You
Christine MacLeod
christine.macleod@btinternet.com

Newmachar Church Book of Quotations 2006

If you would like to contribute to this, please give copies of your favourite quotations, poems or stories, funny or serious, to Bill Campbell or Christine MacLeod as soon as possible, we would like to have the book published for Christmas.

Thank you for your support

Building Improvements - Works Update

The work on the church finally started in earnest on Monday 9th October. The old entrance doorway and vestibule area to the church have been demolished with the foundations for the new part of the building about to be laid.

Monthly meetings will be held with the architect, building contractor and surveyor to discuss the progress of the work and to review costs.

To date £181,329 has been raised for the building improvements, leaving another £16,000 to find.

Fundraising events are on going. Approximately £278 was raised from the recent successful “Walking Leisure Hunt” in Newmachar, organised by Sandy and Agnes Cran. Bill Campbell is keen to receive contributions for his book of favourite poems, sayings, short stories, quotations, etc. He hopes to produce the book in time for Christmas – good stocking filler. John Gordon is organising the production of mugs for sale depicting the ‘old’ and ‘new’ Church.

A Date for your Diary There will be a fundraising evening for the building improvement fund held at the Newmachar Hotel on Thursday 23rd November 2006 at 7pm. You will have the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping as **Virgin Vie** and **PartyLite Candles and Holders** will be for sale, along with charity cards and paper – all your Christmas shopping rolled into one evening of chat and fun in a relaxed and cheery environment! Please note that goods must be paid for on the evening by cash, cheque or credit/debit card. Please come along, bring your friends, family and neighbours. Everyone is welcome!

Glenda Gray
Building Project Co-ordinator

See our website for current photos of the building work courtesy of our Digital Church Mouse

www.newmacharchurch.org

Church Book group

The idea is for everyone to read the same book and then meet to talk about it. It is about fellowship as much as talking about the book so don't be put off by thinking that it will be a big intellectual discussion.

The book is: "**Soul Survivor: How my Faith Survived the Church**" by Philip Yancey,

the date is: **Fri, 17th November** and it will be held at my home (Tim and Fiona Martin, Hill of Clyne, Straloch, Newmachar, Tel: 01651 882346). Please feel free to contact me for more info. I will have copies of a map to get to ours and some thoughts for discussion at church. Please let me, Fiona know if you are interested.

The book has an average 5 out of 5 star rating on Amazon. Here is the synopsis provided by Amazon:

Over-exposed to the distortions and hypocrisies of Christian churches, Philip Yancey set out in search of a life enhanced by faith instead of diminished by religion.

Having struggled to forge personal convictions about God amid the ironies of life and the incongruities of religion, he looks closer at those whose lives radiate spiritual authenticity rather than pious posturing. From John Donne to Martin Luther King, Dostoevsky to Mahatma Gandhi, G.K. Chesterton to Henri Nouwen, Yancey pays tribute to some of the most remarkable, selfless lives our world has ever known, and asks what we can do to find such beautiful faith in our own lives.

A preface by Yancey covers his personal experience of the September 11th tragedy and his subsequent visit to Ground Zero, which prompted a searing spiritual self-examination.



Operation Christmas Child

Once again we are preparing to collect boxes filled with gifts which will be distributed to children in need in Africa or Eastern Europe. This will be coordinated by the charity Samaritan's Purse. Deadline for collection will be **Sunday 12th November**. Boxes and lids should be covered separately in festive wrapping and filled with small items such as pencils, toothpaste, cuddly toy, boiled sweets, warm clothing e.g.. hat, scarf and gloves. All items should be new or nearly new. Your gift will go a long way to meeting the needs of children who are victims of war, poverty, famine, disease and natural disaster. Thanking you in advance for your support.

For more information please contact Anne Ross at Church or by phone Tel. 862802

Mission Partners

Our Presbytery mission partners are Alistair and Mary Morrice serving in central Asia. They are part of a group of 600 partners in 17 different countries.

Alistair's work is with the International Church and has members from all over the world, as well as the local community who are who are usually queuing up to be allowed to become members. He is also involved with the setting up of a Hospice for the area.

Mary is helping to run an Old Peoples home, with about 300 residents. Families often abandon their elderly relatives because they cannot afford to look after them.

The Church of Scotland has stopped the funding for the partners, so they will have to rely on donations from elsewhere.

Newmachar Kirk Session decided we would have a retiring offering at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service and the Christmas Service to help make up their funding.

Amount collected at Harvest Thanksgiving Service £58

Retiring offering for friends of Balmedie House was £76.00

The retiring offering for November will be for the Orphanage in Sierra Leone

Sylvia Aitken

Social Dance

A social Dance is to be held in Newmachar Hall on Friday 17th November 2006, 8 -12 p.m. Dancing to Johnny Duncan. Teas & raffles. Please come and support us. Tickets £5 each, profits going to Church funds.



Learn to cherish the moments of life

In our time in history we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider roads but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less.

We buy more, but enjoy less, have bigger houses, yet smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. Better education, but less sense, more knowledge, less judgement, more experts, yet more problems.

There is more medicine, but less wellness. We drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values, talk too much, love too seldom and hate too often.

We have learned how to make a living, but not a life, added years to life not life to years. We plan more but accomplish less, learned to rush but not to wait. We've been to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a neighbour.

Yet among all this, remember, spend time with your loved ones, they will not be around forever, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person will soon grow up and leave your side.

Remember to cherish the moment. It may never come again.

Newmachar Church
Leisure Treasure Hunt

The recent leisure hunt was a successful event which finished on Sunday 15th October, although few people came along for the reading of the correct answers to the clues.

I would like to thank Mr Milne who made up the clues, the typist, those who sold the quiz sheets, all of you who bought them and participated in the hunt. Also thanks to the people who made monetary donations and the lady who helped with the teas on Sunday afternoon .

The Prize winners were:-

- 1st - Mr and Mrs Archie Low, Newmachar
- 2nd - Mrs Isabel Dempster, Newmachar
- 3rd - Mr and Mrs Graeme Shewan, Newmachar

The sum of £278 was raised for Church Funds

Alexander P Cran

Useful Contact Numbers

Minister	Manson Merchant	862278
Session Clerk	Bill Campbell	862816
Treasurer	Ian Urquhart	862428
Building Project	Glenda Gray	862665
Church Officer	Yvonne Cowieson	869292
Grapevine	Christine MacLeod	862635
Cool Club	Sheena Merchant	862278

Sunday Services will be held in Newmachar Village Hall until further notice

5 Nov Sunday Communion Service, 11 a.m.

12 Nov Remembrance Sunday Service, 10.50 a.m.

19 Nov Sunday Service, 11 a.m.
Summerhill House, 6 p.m.

26 Nov Sunday Service, 11 a.m.

Crèche facilities are available at all morning services

More information can be found on our website
www.newmacharchurch.org
E-mail info@newmacharchurch.org

What's On in November

8th - Guild, Village Hall, 8 p.m

11th - Coffee Morning, Village Hall, 9.45 - 11.30 a.m.
"Souled Out", AECC, 7.30p.m.

12th - Deadline for grapevine articles

15th - Monthly Prayer meeting, 7.30 p.m

17th - Social Dance, Village Hall, 8 p.m. - midnight

23rd - Christmas shopping evening, Newmachar Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

25th - Guild Christmas Fayre, Village Hall, 10 - 12 noon