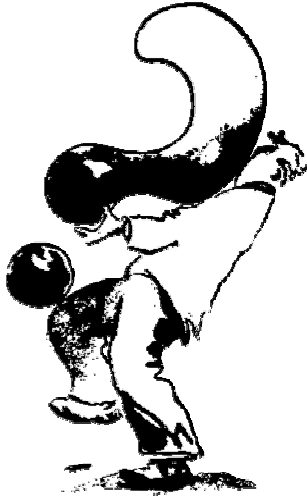


# NEWMACHAR CHURCH



*Alpha*

*Grapevine*

*October*

*2008*

## Dear Members & Friends of Newmachar Church

Welcome to the October edition of Grapevine.

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

The closing date for articles for the November edition will be Sunday 19th October and should include events taking place during November.

Thank You

Christine MacLeod

*outreach@newmacharchurch.org.uk*

---

### CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

Newmachar Church is hosting its first ever congregational conference on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2008 starting at 9.30 am

It will be held in the Acorn Centre in Inverurie West Church

It is open to all involved with Newmachar Church and interested in the future life and witness of our church.

With full participation of the congregation we hope to decide on our priorities for our teams of worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, outreach and fabric.

A lunch of soup and sandwiches' is being provided for all.

A 'Sign up' sheet is available in the fellowship area to leave your name.

Alternatively you can give your name to Session clerk Bill Campbell, your Elder, or Gordon, our church office administrator on 869375.

"Come follow me" Jesus said "and I will make you fishers of men"

Mark 1 v17

### SAVE THE DATE!

We know it is a bit early but just some advance notice that the Crafty Carollers event will take place this year on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Details will follow later, but put the date in your diary now so that you don't miss out.

# NEWMACHAR CHURCH WELCOME PACK

Can you help with welcoming new families and neighbours to our community by giving them a welcome pack from the Church? Our welcome pack gives some information about our Church and the local community with a card to leave with your name and the name of the Elder for that district. All we ask is for you to say hello to your new neighbours.

If preferred, you can let your Elder know there is a new family in your street or let me know and I will deliver it.

The packs are in a box in the Church fellowship area with a sheet to record the address it is being delivered to.

Grateful thanks for your help

Moira Lee

---

## CHRISTIAN RESOURCES FOR THE FAMILY

Fancy doing a bible study with your children or grandchildren to share your faith and His love for them?

Here's a starting point try the 5 min devotion for kids (you'll need a P.C with a media player or you can download one for free) from CBH Ministries it's called 'Keys for Kids' and this link will take you right to it

<http://www.cbhministries.org/kfk/home.php>

& one for Mums this one takes less than 60 seconds to listen to!!!

[http://oneplace.com/ministries/Proverbs\\_31/](http://oneplace.com/ministries/Proverbs_31/)

It's from a radio station (Faith Talk radio on <http://oneplace.com/FaithTalk/> some interesting talks for adults)

and finally if you ever want to know the content of a particular film? or review what's on at the cinema that your kids (or you) want to watch, or gaming reviews but don't know how to vet it before actually seeing etc. take a look at <http://www.pluggedinonline.com/> it's the website of 'Focus in the family' (James Dobson) check out what they say in their mission statement.

# **Building hope, building homes**

## **Africa- Mfuleni**

The house build took place in Mfuleni, a Township around 25 miles around Cape Town. The majority of people in Mfuleni live in house structures (shacks) made of tin. These people had moved here in the late 1990's following floods and fires in different Townships across the western Cape. I witnessed 100's of thousands of these shacks, stretching for miles and miles. Most of the houses have no formal water supply, electricity or toilets. The level of poverty here produces many social problems including unemployment, child neglect and abandonment.

On arriving at Aberdeen airport, I was introduced to the members of the Scottish teams, these strangers were to be my companions, workmates and roommates for the next week.

Saturday arrival in Cape Town proved to be a glorious day and we set out on a bus trip to view the scenery and absorb the atmosphere. We were taken around the glorious beach front and shown the exuberant homes that were built into the rock face.

Sunday was an emotional day for us all, all the teams (21) were taken to the church for worship and to meet their new homeowners. as we were in full Scottish attire accompanied by 2 pipers, we were asked to come into church once everyone else was seated, the atmosphere was unbelievable. We met our new homeowner , she was a married pregnant woman with 1 small child, whose husband was away trying to find work to provide for his family. Our other family was a young gentleman and his wife who had 2 small children.

Monday was the first building day, team spirits were high but this excitement was not to last. The weather had changed it was monsoon rains. We were hustled into a local school hall for worship and health and safety talks, here we heard the bad news that we could not start building today. After lunch time we boarded buses and were taken round the streets to see for the first time, the extent of the poverty and deprivation first hand. These sights will never leave me as I witnessed the rain pouring through the cracks in the roofs of these wooden shacks.

Tuesday -Rain ! , again we arrived at the school for morning worship and the news that the rain was hopefully going to stop later that morning, our prayers were answered and the sun began to shine. Our first visit to the site, we stood on the foundations of the new house and got our first team photo on the site. Cement had to be mixed by hand and 14kg blocks had to

be lifted and cemented to foundations. With one day lost we worked our socks off, and by 5pm we were well on our way to building a home.

Wednesday - window frames in, gable ends on.

Thursday - Trusses onto roof, batons on then started on roof tiles, internal wall for bedroom up.

Friday we made steps up to the front door, glass into windows, and walls had to have a near finished look. 2.30pm and we had a handing over ceremony, where the keys and a bible were handed to the homeowners.

Saturday I visited St Josephs, Home for invalid and chronically ill children. The pictures I will hold in my heart for the rest of my life.

Sunday we travel home

In all I had the most fulfilling and amazing experience of my life. As I look back, I see our visit was so much more than building. we bonded as a group, worked hard, but had fun. We were in an area with many different languages, but with goodwill, smiles and respect we built relationships that didn't need words.

Memories that will last forever.

Thank you for your support  
Audrey Wood

### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH?

Come along to the new prayer group "The Church on it's Knees" held in church on Tuesday 8-9pm no special skills required

John Wesley said "God does nothing except in response to prayer" and "Prayer is where the action is"

"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. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you." Jeremiah 29:11-12.

### Encounter '08

I have some spare seats in my car if anyone is looking for a lift to this event on the Saturday 4th Oct please contact Katie Robertson

### **Used Stamps**

Please continue to collect stamps for World Mission. This year they are going towards getting girls back into education in India. If you have an old stamp collection that you no longer want, this could also be donated. It would help if you could cut the stamps, leaving a quarter of an inch of paper around the edge. We would be grateful for volunteers to help trim stamps already received. A big thank you to Andrew MacLeod for regularly helping to trim stamps.

### **Transport to Church**

If you would like transport to church on a Sunday morning or any other service, we have several volunteer drivers who would pick you up and take you home again. We also need more volunteer drivers. If you could help or would like transport, please contact Sylvia Aitken on 862206.

### **Traidcraft**

The new Traidcraft magazine is available on the Traidcraft table in the church. Please feel free to have a look and start shopping for Christmas. Buy early to avoid disappointment.

### **Hospital Visiting**

Please continue to let us know if anyone is ill at home or in hospital, so that one of our visitors or Manson can visit or just to let them know we are thinking and praying for them.

Sylvia Aitken 862206  
May Anne Taylor 862882

### **Christian Aid**

We are looking for a new Christian Aid representative. If you are interested in the work of Christian aid and would be willing to help out, please contact Sylvia Aitken on 862206.

Thank you to Linda Urquhart for all her hard work over the past two years, the amount raised was really tremendous.

## **CHURCH COFFEE MORNING**

WANT TO CATCH UP WITH  
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS  
OVER A CUPPA?  
WHY NOT JOIN US  
SECOND SATURDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
9.45AM TILL 11.30AM.  
FELLOWSHIP AREA OF  
NEWMACHAR CHURCH.  
HOME BAKES, WITH FAIR  
TRADE TEA AND COFFEE.  
JUICE FOR THE KIDS



## Newmachar Church Guild

WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008 7.30 p.m.  
SPEAKER: MRS I PENNIE  
“YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT”

WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 7.30 p.m.  
SPEAKER: MR JIM CLARK, SCOTLAND NORTH  
CO-ORDINATOR ,THE LEPROSY MISSION  
**Sales Table**

### CHURCH OFFICE

The church office is open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 - 2.30 pm, and our church administrator Gordon is available to answer any queries you may have. You can also contact the office on 01651 869375 during the above hours.

Manson is still available to contact on 862278.



### Useful Contact Numbers

<b>Minister</b>	Manson Merchant	862278
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Bill Campbell	862816
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ian Urquhart	862428
<b>Church Officer</b>	Francie Littlejohn	862176
<b>Grapevine</b>	Christine MacLeod	862635
<b>Cool Club</b>	Sheena Merchant	862278
<b>Church Office</b>		869375

## Sunday Services



- 5 October            Sunday Communion Service, Church, 11 a.m.
- 12 October          Sunday Service, Church, 11 a.m.
- 19 October          Sunday Service, Church, 11 a.m.  
                         Summerhill House, 6.30 p.m
- 26 October          Sunday Service, Church, 11 a.m.

Crèche facilities are available at all morning services

Cool Club meets in the upper room of the Church at 11 am

More information can be found on our website  
[www.newmacharchurch.net](http://www.newmacharchurch.net)

### What's On in October

- 2nd    Monthly evening service, 7 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup>    Walk with water, 2pm
- 8<sup>th</sup>    GUILD, Church, 7.30 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup>    ALPHA, 7 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup>   Coffee morning, Fellowship Area, 9.45 - 11.30 a.m.
- 16<sup>th</sup>   ALPHA, 7 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup>   ALPHA, 7 pm
- 25th   Men's Breakfast Rally, Beach Ballroom, 8.30 a.m.
- 30<sup>th</sup>   ALPHA, 7 pm

More details on these events and more can be found on our website  
[www.newmacharchurch.net](http://www.newmacharchurch.net)