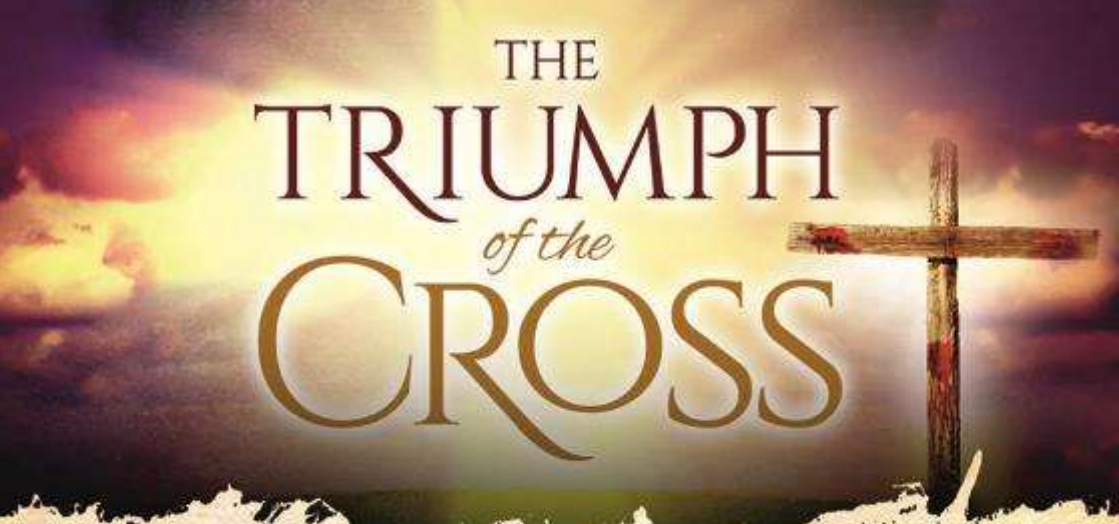


THE
TRIUMPH
of the
CROSS



GRAPEVINE

Spring - Summer
2020

New Machar Parish Church

Worship

Sunday Service - 10.30 a.m weekly.

Communion Service 1st Sunday of each month except July & August

Monthly Informal Evening Service, 1st Sunday of each month

6.30pm, The Pathway Centre

Occasional Café Style Worship in The Pathway Centre, 10am

Summerhill House Service 6 p.m.

3rd Sunday of each month.

Cool Club and Cooler Stuff meet in the Pathway Centre
after the Children's Address.

Crèche facilities are available during all morning services.

Refreshments are served in the fellowship area of the church
at the close of worship.

There is a **Prayer Meeting** on Tuesday evenings from 7.00 -
8.00 p.m. in the Crèche or Fellowship Area. All welcome.
(see page 17)

For pastoral needs or questions regarding baptisms or marriage,
or for more information on our church, Rev Douglas McNab can be
contacted on
01651 862278

Email: dougie.mcnab@btinternet.com

A full list of Church contacts can be found on page 27

More details on these events and more
can be found on our website

www.newmacharchurch.org

What's On

The Church as we know it on Sundays is now closed but the Church of Jesus Christ remains open through us, our faith and trust in God and we shall all find ways to worship him and praise him. The bible is always a good starting point and we all have at least one of these in our homes.

We have been pursuing other ways of worshipping together online through Facebook, and we now have a YouTube Channel, where we will be uploading messages and devotions from Douglas, so that everyone can join in.

[New Machar Church on YouTube](#)

There is a study on one of our favourite hymns, "In Christ Alone", on our website

[In Christ Alone](#)

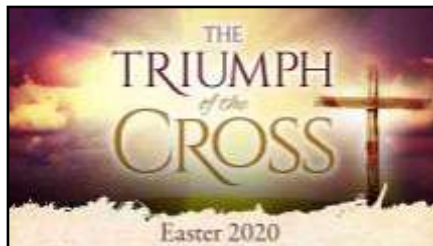
During Holy Week, there will also be a series of sermons by Douglas

[The Triumph of the Cross](#)

Our Grapevine is normally full of upcoming events but as we are unsure of timescales, this issue will be a space for worship and reflection as we approach the Easter Celebrations and beyond. If you wish to print a copy of this issue or share electronically to a family member or friend please do so.

May the blessing of God be with you now and always.

Newmachar Church.





The New Manse,
NEWMACHAR,
AB21 ORD
March 2020

Failure or Success?

For the vast majority of people to be in love is a great thing.

Yet for a tennis player it is a great failure!

How do you define 'failure'?

How do you define 'success'?

Easter is a period of time that challenges our definitions of 'failure' and 'success'. There is the triumphant entry into Jerusalem on what we now call Palm Sunday. A king comes in peace - riding on a donkey - and the vast crowds raise their voices in acclaim and honour. 'Success'?

That week there are a number of exchanges between that king and the established religious authorities. The latter challenge the king's authority for what he does and says. He always seems to refute their allegations, avoid their traps and is 'successful'! BUT the religious authorities start plotting how to get rid of this king: on a permanent basis! Will they be 'successful'? Will the king's 'successes' turn out to be the cause of his ultimate 'failure'?

The king and his disciples share a 'successful' Passover meal. During this meal the king even introduces a few changes to the meal and its meaning. 'Success'? Yet these changes seem to speak of the ultimate 'failure' of this king!

Then there is the 'successful' betrayal of the king. Yet the betrayer hangs himself! 'Success'? 'Failure'? Now the religious authorities have their man! 'Success'? Through persuading the Roman Governor to yield to their requests the religious authorities 'succeed' in getting this king condemned to death. As for the king he suffers the horrendous 'failure' of being efficiently flogged and crucified by the Roman authorities stationed in Jerusalem.

As the king hangs on that cross outside the city wall at Calvary the 'successful' religious authorities mock him! 'Success' to the religious authorities! 'Failure' to the king!

BUT what's that he is saying? **"It is finished."** What is finished? His life? His suffering? His . . . mission?

The king dies! The religious authorities celebrate their 'success'. BUT what was that? The massive curtain in the temple separating the Holy of Holies from the rest of the temple has been torn from top to bottom. Who could get up that high to tear the curtain? Where's the sun gone? Is that an earthquake? What is happening? Is this 'success'?

The king is taken down, there has been no rioting, he is 'successfully' laid in a tomb, it is sealed, Roman soldiers are guarding it to prevent the king's follower stealing the body.

Phew!! That was a hard fought victory! But now let's toast our 'success'!

If the authorities had only realised what they had done, they would have choked on their toast! You see, after all that effort and commitment they had lost! They had 'failed'! The king had 'succeeded'! He came to **'save his people from their sins'**. [Mtt. 1:21] That meant paying the penalty for their sins. That penalty was death. That meant crucifixion! He came to give his people the gift of God. That mission was completed by his death on the cross: **"It is finished."** [Jn. 19:30]

'The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.' [Rom. 6:23]

'Failure'? 'Success'?

Ultimate and total 'success' goes to Jesus!

Oh by the way, on the third day, just to emphasis the point, God the Father raised God the Son back to life, by the power of God the Spirit!

You see God in Jesus the Christ came first and foremost to die not to rise. His victory was his death. His 'success' was his seeming 'failure'. The resurrection, glorious and reassuring as it is, was really just his lap of honour!!

May God bless you richly this Easter by filling you afresh, or perhaps for the first time, with the 'success' of his love!

To God be the glory!

Have a happy and blessed Easter

Yours in Christ,

Douglas.

Come Holy Spirit
Come as the robin in the morning,
Awakening our hearts
With your song.



Come as the dove at evening,
Bringing blessing and peace.



Come as the blackbird at noonday,
gladdening your world with joy.



Come to us as we come to worship,
that we may sing to the Creator,
seek healing for the wounds of
creation and find peace
through active prayer.



From "Seasons and Celebrations"

Easter Worship Songs

Click on the link and sing your heart out.....

["In Christ Alone"](#)



["Up from the Grave He Arose"](#)

["How Deep the Father's Love For Us"](#)

["Because He Lives"](#)



["Christ the Lord is Risen Today"](#)

["The Old Rugged Cross"](#)

["The Power of the Cross"](#)





Holy Week Prayers for all the family to share together

Holy Monday – read John 12: 1- 11

Dear God

Thank you for the story of Mary who recognised how important and precious you are. As we begin our journey towards Easter, help us to draw closer to you. Thank you for all those in the story who heard about Jesus' miracles and believed in Him. Help those who do not know you to hear about you this Easter time. Amen

Holy Tuesday – read John 12: 20-36

Dear God

Thank you that you sent your son Jesus to die and take the punishment for our sins. Thank you that you are the light of the world. Help us to follow you and serve you every day. We pray for all those in the world who don't know you yet, that they would come to know you as their Saviour. Amen

Holy Wednesday – read John 13: 21-32

Dear God

Thank you that you are a forgiving God; that no mistake we make cannot be forgiven by you. Help us to love others and forgive them just as you have forgiven us. We pray for those who have been let down and hurt in the past that they would come to know you and your love that never fails. Amen

Maundy Thursday – read John 13: 1-17; 31-35

Dear God

Thank you that your son Jesus came and lived on the earth as an example for us to follow. Help us to love and serve others as your son loved and served the world. Help us to share your love with the world by serving those we meet. May the way we love others speak of your love in the world. Amen.

Good Friday – read John 18: 1-19; 42

Dear God

I am sorry for the mistakes I have made, for the times when I have made bad choices or been disobedient. Thank you that you sent your son Jesus to die on the cross for us. Thank you that when Jesus died on the cross, he took the punishment for all my mistakes and all the mistakes of the world. Amen

Holy Saturday – read Matthew 27: 57-66

Dear God

Thank you, God, that you always keep your promises. Thank you that even though Jesus died and was placed into the tomb, he had promised He would come back to life. Help us to be patient and to trust you when we are waiting for things. Thank you that you will never let us down, that you are always there for us. Amen

Easter Sunday - read John 20: 1-18

Dear God,

You loved this world so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, everyday. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. Christ is Risen, He has Risen Indeed.

All for your glory we pray. Amen.





The SWEET Truth of Easter

These candies tell a story-
the best news you'll ever hear.
-It's about Jesus dying on the cross
so that we could be brought near.

So hold them and turn them and you will see...
the "M" become a "W" an "E" and then a "3"

The "E" stands for... Easter....
God's everlasting love and His eternal plan.

It reminds us of the cross
and the way God rescued sinful man

The "3" represent the 3 days Jesus spent in the grave....
By His death, His children He did save

The "M" reminds us of the mercy the Messiah showed
as He died in our place.
and the miracle of the resurrection
so we can see Him face to face.

The "W" reminds us... that He alone
is worthy of our worship and praise
and calls us to be His witnesses
around the world for all of our days.

by Bethany Tapp

<http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-poem/>



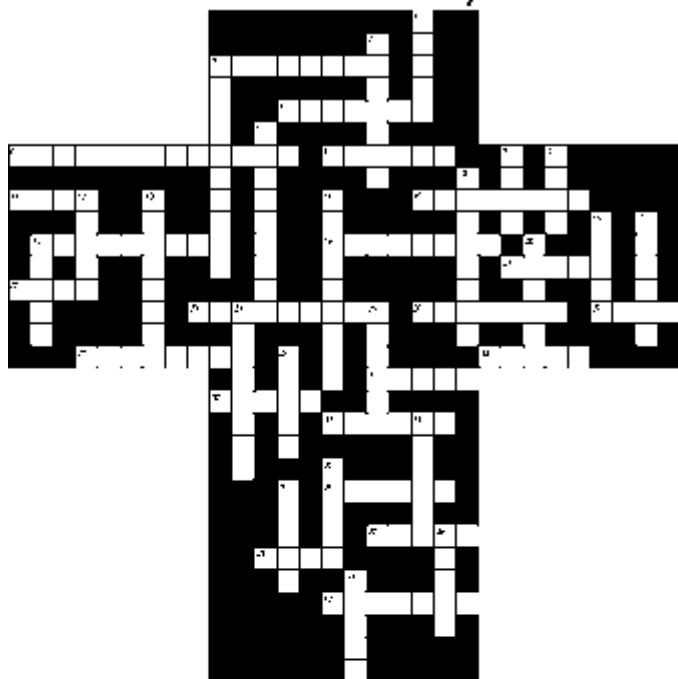
Some activities for you to do. The pages can be printed out to complete.

Easter Dot-to-Dot

Connect the dots by using the given Bible verse. (Matt 28:6)

He is
said. Matt 28:6 not here:
He as He For
risen, is

The Easter Story



Across

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3. It means "A place of a skull:"
Where He was crucified | 26. "Father, _____ them, for they
know not what they do." |
| 4. These guys were crucified on each
side of Him. | 27. He shed His blood so our _____
would be forgiven |
| 6. And He was numbered with the
_____. | 28. The Last Supper was a celebration
of this Jewish holiday |
| 7. Jesus was anointed with precious
ointment in preparation for His
_____. | 30. The ruler of Galilee |
| 11. This part of the temple was torn in
two from the top to the bottom | 31. This was sent to strengthen Him
when He was praying in the
garden |
| 15. And when the sixth hour was
come, there was _____ over the
whole land. | 32. This apostle denied that He knew
Jesus three times. |
| 18. This Roman said "Truly this was
the Son of God" | 33. This wealthy man of Arimathea
buried Him. |
| 19. The high priest who said it was
expedient that one man die for all | 37. The doubtful apostle |
| 21. The _____ of blood was
purchased with the betrayal money | 38. "A spirit has not _____ and bones
as ye see me have." |
| 22. The disciple that took Mary home
as his own mother | 40. And they stripped Him, and put on
Him a scarlet _____. |
| 23. He appeared first unto Mary
_____. | 42. They gave Him this to drink when
He was on the cross. |

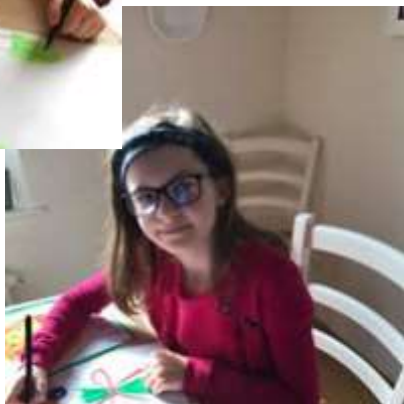
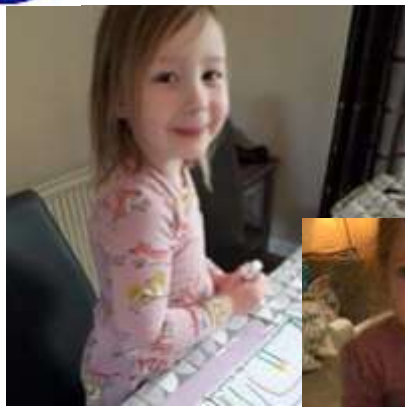
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cke, Inc. 000000

Down

- The father-in-law to the high priest. Jesus was first brought to him
- Another name for the place of His crucifixion
- The garden where Jesus prayed before He was arrested
- And it was the third hour and they _____ Him.
- This was written and set over His head: "_____ of the Jews"
- Judas betrayed Jesus with a _____
- "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every _____"
- Joseph took His body down and wrapped it in fine _____
- The prisoner released by Pilate instead of Jesus
- The pharisee that brought spices for His burial
- The apostle who betrayed the Christ
- "Why seek ye the _____ among the dead?"
- He was taken up; and a _____ received Him out of their sight.
- Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of _____
- And they crucified Him, and parted His _____, casting lots:
- He appeared to two disciples on the way to this village.
- Jesus told Peter to feed His _____
- The Roman governor who washed his hands of the whole affair
- This was rolled in front of the tomb and then sealed
- and His sweat was as it were great drops of _____.
- The soldier pierced His side with this _____
- He is not here, for He is _____ as He said.

He is Risen







PROMISE

I have set my rainbow in the clouds as the sign
of My covenant with the earth. [Genesis 9:13]



GOD IS LOVE.
WHOEVER LIVES
IN LOVE LIVES
IN GOD, AND GOD
IN THEM.

School Pastors

The School Pastors have been busy. We have started helping the guidance department with some classes as they are quite short staffed. We help the pupils with their stuff. They are doing 'Internet Safety' at the moment. We help the less able ones and assist the teacher.

Our lunch club is growing. We now have 32 children attending. We are thinking of running 2 sessions a week so we can have smaller numbers and can give more attention to the children.

God Bless

Anna

(Volunteers always required, it is brilliant!)

An example of some of the work the children have done



PRAYER MEETING

TUESDAY 7pm

A one hour meeting held in the Fellowship Area. A time for our Church family to come together to sit in silent prayer or join others in prayers for our Church, community and events worldwide. Cards for confidential prayer requests at the end of the pews.



Bring everything to the Lord in prayer.....

Our prayer meeting took place as normal this last week, but members came together in their own homes due to the wonders of technology. If you would like to take part, [get in touch](#), and

Lord, in this time of national uncertainty
and as the next few weeks unfold
we look to You for Your gentle guidance,
as we pray for the health of our loved ones,
of our friends and neighbours,
and as we give thanks
for all those helping others at this time.
AMEN



Something to think about when we are together again

Smile at us, too

If after church, you wait a while,
Someone may greet you with a smile;
But if you quickly rise and flee,
We'll all seem cold and stiff, maybe.
The one beside you in the pew
Is perhaps a stranger too;
All here, like you, have fears and cares,
All of us need each other's prayers.
In fellowship we bid you meet
With us, around God's Mercy Seat.

From Grasmere Church



TELEPHONE PRAYER CIRCLE

During this time of crisis, our prayer circle is more important than ever. Don't hesitate to contact us.

All prayer requests and prayers of thanksgiving are in **strict** confidence. Please call Douglas McNab (862778), Bill Campbell (862816)

Come along to our Monthly Coffee Morning

for a chat and a fine piece. Every month we will be supporting a different cause with our sales table and a chance to raise awareness of local charities and groups. In February we had a sales table in support of Christians Against Poverty. In March we had a sale of bric a brac in aid of Balmedie House. Details of events later in the year shown below. Would be great to see you.

Coffee Morning
2nd Saturday each month
10-11.30am
The Pathway Centre
All Welcome



12th September



10th October



9th November



14th December



*Mince Pies, Shortbread
& Christmas Carols*



© Newmachair Church 2017



At The Pathway Centre

Café Church at The Pathway Centre will be on the following dates this year

Saturday 5th September

Saturday 12th December

Suitable for all ages.
Lots of food, chat, singing, inspirational videos.
All welcome....look forward to seeing you there!



And if you love Café Church, join us for our Café Style Worship in the Pathway Centre.
We start at 10am with Tea, coffee and pastries, then follows an informal family service at 10.30am, suitable for all ages.

Dates to be advised





Christian Aid Week: 'Every Last Drop'

Kenya

In February 2017, the Kenyan Government declared a national drought emergency. With 2.7 million people without enough food, the drought is said to be the worst in decades. Droughts are now more frequent and more intense due to the climate crisis. Without a reliable source of water, many communities are struggling to survive.

In Kitui county, eastern Kenya, 8 out of 10 people depend on rain to grow crops both for food and to earn a living. Without enough water, staple crops like maize and beans wither up and die. In the drought, people can't grow crops, which means they can't earn a living. Instead they go hungry. Drought forces people to walk further and further to collect water. This daily burden robs them of the chance to farm and grow food for their families. Elderly women and children are especially vulnerable on these dangerous journeys and can face robbery or even conflict as people battle over scarce resources. Cows, sheep and goats are becoming weaker and weaker in the drought and can't produce milk or be sold. People are struggling to cope. Lives are at risk.

Rose

Rose is 67. Every day, she battles to bring water home for her grandchildren because of prolonged drought. Drought and hunger are driving her to the brink. 'The drought has been severe,' she tells us. 'We have had three long months without water, and now we have to walk long distances. We are suffering.'

Drought is causing a hunger crisis. Crops wither and die. Rivers are bone dry. People are struggling to survive. Rose strives to provide for her grandchildren. She does all she can to give them happy childhoods, like the times she remembers when there was plenty of food. The sad truth is, it doesn't have to reach this breaking point.



There is an earth dam just minutes away from her home. It should be a lifeline. But many people in Kenya, just like Rose, are struggling to survive the drought. With such dire need, every last drop of water in the dam has dried up.

This is Rose's climate crisis. No matter how hard she battles against it, drought leaves her and her grandchildren hungry. The rains are due to come any day now. Rose and her community need our support to help prepare the dam to capture the water, so not a single drop is wasted. The bigger and better the dam, the more water they can capture.

With a dam full of water, Rose would be free from her long, painful journeys. She'd have time to grow fresh vegetables for her family to eat. And she could see her grandchildren grow up and live life in all its fullness.

Unfortunately due to the current crisis we are unable to hold our usual fundraising events for Christian Aid Week, but we encourage you to continue to show your support by donating directly.

Christian Aid Week



Thank you for all your support for our Sponsored Child, HABTAMU EBABU His latest letter can be found on the noticeboard in the fellowship area. We are committed to send £270 in total a year so we ask that you continue to support this worthwhile cause. There will be retiring offerings throughout 2020 but you can give at any time by handing your donation into the church office.



NEWMACHAR L.A.F.F.
(Ladies of all Ages Friendly Fellowship)

We are a group of ladies from the village who get together for some fun and fellowship.

This year we have met for our POT LUCK SUPPER, which was a lovely evening of good food and good chat.

We also had a trip to the cinema, a week or two before they closed, to see Military Wives. A great evening, and highly recommended viewing.

For more info please contact:

Karen Creswell 862477 or Christine MacLeod 862635

For info: www.newmacharchurch.org or our Facebook Page





Calling all men in the Parish of Newmachar.

Come and join us on the first Saturday of each month in the Pathway Centre.

Meetings start at 8.30am with coffee and bacon rolls followed by a talk and discussion from either one of the group or an invited guest.

All meetings are informal, relaxed and are finished by 10AM.

All men are welcome and we would be delighted to see you at our next meeting.

(Don't want to run out of bacon rolls so give us a call and let us know you are coming).

Phil Nicolson

Tel: 01651 862998

John Mackay

Tel: 01651 869468

John Gordon

Tel: 01651 862025



Giving Grapevine to friends and neighbours

Please forward this edition to friends and family. We will hopefully be able to print the next edition as normal.

TRANSPORT TO CHURCH

If you would like transport to church on a Sunday morning we have several volunteer drivers who would pick you up, and take you home again after the service. More volunteer drivers would also be very welcome.

Please contact Christine at the church office to arrange for transport Tel 869375

HOSPITAL VISITING

Please continue to let us know if anyone is ill at home or in hospital, so that one of our visitors could visit them, or just to let them know we are thinking and praying for them.
May Anne Taylor 862882

LIFE & WORK

The official magazine of the Church of Scotland offers good value at £2.80 per month. It is full of interesting articles, debates and book reviews as well as news from around the world. If you would like to subscribe or try a free sample please see Christine MacLeod.

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Funerals

Helen Begg
Albert Moir
Georgina "Georgie" Murray
Georgina "Gina" Murray
Ian Massie
Johan Anderson



The Church of Scotland World Mission Stamp Appeal

World Mission stamp collection

Thank you all for your ongoing support with bringing in your used stamps for this project. I recently posted almost one kilogram of them and that is a lot of stamps! I had to chuckle to myself when the lady at the post office asked what was in the parcel.

This years project is supporting The Women's Development Centre in Kandy, Sri Lanka. This helps women and girls who have survived rape, sexual violence and family rejection, returning them to education or learning skills that will allow them to make a living. You can see the poster at the back of the church along with more information about the work of WM in the booklet.



https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission/get_involved/campaigns/stamp_appeal

Do you shop online?

Do it through **easyfundraising.org.uk** and raise a free donation for New Machar Church every time you shop! Pay for your holiday, car insurance or Christmas shopping and we will receive a donation. A very simple way to raise funds while shopping.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/newmacharchurch/>



The banner features the Easyfundraising logo at the top left, which consists of a stylized 'e' in a circle and the text 'easyfundraising.org.uk' and 'feel good shopping'. Below the logo, the main text reads 'Collect **FREE donations** every time you shop online'. A central yellow bar contains three steps: '1. Join' with a pink heart icon, '2. Shop' with a green shopping basket icon, and '3. Raise' with a yellow coin icon. At the bottom, there is a row of logos for partner retailers: amazon.co.uk, John Lewis, ebay, Expedia.co.uk, Booking.com, Sainsbury's, and Argos.

Search the web and raise money

Are you one of the millions of people that use a search engine like Google every day? Why not switch your searching to easysearch and raise money?

Every time you search the web using <http://www.newmacharchurch.easysearch.org.uk> instead of your usual search engine, you'll raise half a penny for New Machar Parish Church.

Search just 15 times a day and you can raise around £25 a year. So the next time you need to find something online, please use <http://www.newmacharchurch.easysearch.org.uk> and raise money for New Machar Parish Church with every search you make!



Useful Contact Numbers

Minister	Rev. Douglas McNab	862278
Session Clerk	Bill Campbell	862816
Treasurer	Ian Urquhart	862428
Church Officer	Lewis Taylor	862882
Grapevine	Christine MacLeod	862635
Youth & Children's Ministry		
	Karen Creswell	862477
Gift Aid/Freewill Offering	Bill Fraser	862501
Fabric Convenor	John Gordon	862025
Safeguarding Contact	Karen Creswell	862477
Church Office		869375

The church office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30 - 12.30 pm, and our church administrator Christine is available to answer any queries you may have. You can also contact the office on 01651 869375 during the above hours.

Articles for inclusion in the Autumn/Winter edition of grapevine should be sent to Christine MacLeod by 25th August
admin-newmacharchurch@btconnect.com

Charity number SC024017

Hearing Aid
loop available



Join us for



at The Pathway Centre

Saturday 5th September

6 - 8-30pm



Food & Drink

Music

Video clips

All Ages Welcome