

Dyce Parish Church
linked with
New Machar Parish Church



“Building meaningful relationships with God, each other and the community... Reaching up, Reaching in, Reaching out.”

Letter to our New Minister

We warmly invite you to consider joining us as minister of our linked parishes of Dyce and New Machar — two communities of faith on the edge of Aberdeen, four miles apart yet closely connected as one church family.

Together we are families of faith with a strong Biblical foundation. We value Christ-centred worship, draw deeply on our traditions, and are open to fresh leadership and remaining relevant in today’s ever-changing world. Outreach is close to our hearts. We have a vibrant children’s ministry, a gift for hospitality, and active service across both communities.

We also currently benefit from an MDS worker focused on children and families ministry, a number of recently trained worship leaders, some of whom have completed a preaching course, and an OLM serving as Locum. You will not be building from scratch; you will be joining a team.

Our location is something we are genuinely proud of. We sit at a wonderful meeting point of urban and rural life, close to Aberdeen Airport, with easy access to the city’s facilities and the breathtaking beauty of Aberdeenshire on our doorstep.

Our congregations work well and happily together. We share monthly joint services and much more besides, and we are excited about drawing even closer under the guidance of a new minister. Amongst our shared life together you will find:

- Worship Services & Café Church
- Children's Ministry
- TNT (Tea & Testimony)
- Prayer Meetings
- Bible Study and Alpha
- Easter and Christmas Events
- The Guild
- A Harmony Group — a growing and joyful expression of fellowship through song, open to all voices

We are also part of a wider parish grouping alongside Brimmond, Stockethill and St Columba's, where we regularly come together to pray, worship and share fellowship.

We are looking for a minister who brings:

- A passion for faithfully communicating God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit
- A gift for sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the wider community
- An enthusiasm for the life and work of local churches
- A heart for serving people of all ages

And in return, here is what you will find in us:

- Active, loving and committed congregations, willing partners in the work of God's Kingdom
- A broad range of talents among our volunteers and ministry teams, ready to support and serve alongside you
- Friendship, care and genuine investment in your wellbeing and flourishing as our minister
- Communities open to change and expectant of what God has ahead

Our new minister will have a choice of manse, located in either Dyce or New Machar, in a part of Scotland that truly is a wonderful place to live.

We look to God for our future and trust Him to lead the right person to us. If you sense a calling to be part of what He is doing among us, we would love to hear from you.

Please do take time to explore our parish profiles at dyceparishchurch.org.uk and newmacharchurch.org.uk — they will give you a fuller picture of who we are.

With every blessing,

Your Church Family at Dyce and New Machar.

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DYCE PARISH CHURCH

Parish Profile 2025

Reg. Charity No. SC016950



Our Church Family



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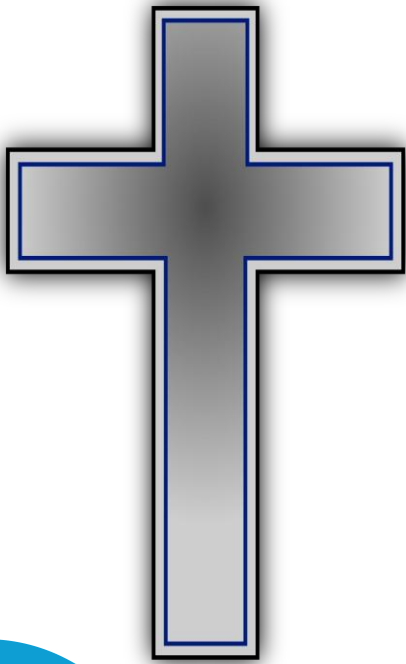
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Welcome

We are excited to welcome applications to our unrestricted charge to lead us into a new era at this time of significant and exciting change within the Church of Scotland in this beautiful and peaceful part of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. We're looking for a Minister who will care for the congregation and community, leading us not just in worship and prayer, but also in helping us find new ways to bring God's love to both young and old. We are looking for a team player who can communicate easily at all levels and who will care for our congregation and understand the important role that outreach will play in the work of the congregation. We want our Minister to provide the guidance, leadership and inspiration we need if we're going to meet the challenges we face in the parish and in the wider community. We have a vacancy for a full-time Minister of Word and Sacrament to work alongside our Ordained Local Minister, our Family Worker and a Youth Worker. Our ministry team also includes experienced elders.



Our Vision



Dyce Parish Church's vision is to inspire the community in Dyce and beyond with the Good News of Jesus Christ through genuine and enthusiastic worshipping, witnessing and serving. This is reflected in our Mission Statement:

Building meaningful relationships with God, each other and the community – reaching up, reaching in, reaching out.

We seek a minister to share and help us develop our mission.

The ideal person to join our team is someone who will bring enthusiasm and energy and take a leading role in discipleship of our congregation as well as helping us to grow and develop our church. We seek:

- An inspiring teacher to guide us and continue our Bible based ministry to enable us gain a deeper understanding of God's word.
- A facilitator who is able to encourage and empower others to use their gifts.
- An excellent communicator who can reach out to all ages and engage with our community.
- A commitment to mission led ministry.

Our Current Church

We are a warm and welcoming congregation located in a suburban village on the outskirts of Aberdeen. We are a community of faith with a heart for worship, fellowship and outreach, grounded in our mission statement:

Building meaningful relationships with God, each other and the community – reaching up, reaching in, reaching out.

In Dyce we have a desire and make our aim to be faithful and preach the Gospel, listening for God's guidance and building meaningful relationships with God, each other and the community.

The Congregation of Dyce has a positive and proactive outlook with teams taking on the work of the church in absence of the Minister. Among our collective strengths is that we have a dedicated OLM, Session Clerk, Children's and Family Worker and Administrator to keep the church together supported by a team of volunteers.

With a roll of around 400 and a weekly attendance of around 60 to 100, we are a multigenerational church with a broad demographic that includes older members, teenagers and young families. Our worship reflects this diversity, offering a blend of traditional and contemporary worship styles.

We have celebrated 10 baptisms in the last few years, 26 people have joined our church. A number of these have attended from other congregations due to closure or re-organisation of churches in our Presbytery.

We were recently joined by a number of those who fled Ukraine while they were housed locally.

The church has a positive approach to reaching out in the community. These include visits to the local schools, both Primary and Secondary. The Church of Scotland Guild meets regularly and is open to all the community.

There is a Friendship Group who meet fortnightly. Tuesday Coffee mornings are held in the Church Hall, run by volunteers from the church and community. The church runs Alpha courses to reach out to both youth and adults in the wider community. Bible Study courses are held during the year.

Volunteers within the church and community run a Foodbank to meet the needs of our local community and work with Foodbanks around Aberdeen, supporting each other. This initiative is supported by the whole community including our local supermarket.

We are a self-supporting church and our accounts will be available for inspection on application.

Our church fabric is maintained in good order.

Our Community

Dyce is a village with a large primary school and a secondary school which is attended by pupils from Dyce and Newmachar. Both schools have active parent councils. The secondary school has a centre of excellence for Music and the congregation has close links with this and are regularly invited to concerts by these talented young musicians.



Dyce is a well-resourced community with a medical centre, a vibrant Community Centre, Library, Community Council, Community Hall, an active Gardening Club and a Bowling Club as well as youth football clubs, a local rugby team and a Cricket Club. There are also local gyms and hotels. There are several small shops and takeaways and a supermarket within the village. Guiding and scouting groups are very active in Dyce. There are dancing schools and there is an Air Training Corp for young people to attend.



There are 3 sheltered housing complexes within the village and a care home as well as an assisted living complex, all of which enjoy good links with our church. Services of Worship continue to be conducted in some of these on a regular basis.

Dyce is built around a large central park with rugby and football pitches, an all-weather pitch and a play park. The village has great links to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire with train and bus services from the village. The River Don runs along the edge of the village and this, along with the old Formartine railway line, is well used by walkers.

As a result of North Sea oil and gas there are large industrial estates surrounding Dyce, especially west of the airport. A Church of Scotland minister has been appointed as the new chaplain to the North Sea energy industry. They will work with the UK Oil and Gas Chaplaincy Trust to provide pastoral support to people who work in the sector and their dependents.

We are very fortunate to live in such a scenic part of the world with excellent transport connections where visiting the countryside, Royal Deeside, coastal towns, villages, beaches, spectacular cliff and historic castles is so easy.



History of Our Church

Christian worship in Dyce has ancient roots. The earliest known place of worship was the Kirk of Saint Fergus, the ruins of which still stand in a peaceful setting high above a scenic bend in the River Don, next to the old churchyard.



While the original date of construction is unknown, the church certainly predates the Reformation and appears to have been rebuilt several times throughout the centuries. It remained the centre of worship for the community until 1872, when two new churches were built to serve a growing population: a Free Kirk (later known as the West Church) and an Established Church at Upper Kirkton.

However, both locations involved long walks for many members of the congregation. As a result, a “Mission Hall” was established in the 1890s on Victoria Street in Dyce to provide a more accessible place of worship. This hall eventually became what is now the current Dyce Parish Church.

In 1929, following the Union of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church, the West (Free) Church and the Parish Church united under the leadership of Dr Cox. Dr Cox was a notable figure in the wider Church of Scotland, serving as Chief Clerk to the General Assembly and authoring the definitive textbook on Church of Scotland Practice and Procedure.

This rich history reflects Dyce’s longstanding commitment to Christian worship and community, which continues to shape the life and witness of the congregation today.



Our Ministries

Our church is active and alive throughout the whole week with a range of ministries that nurture faith, serve the community and provide fellowship:

- *Prayer ministry: We believe that the church is built on and sustained through prayer. This is supported through twice weekly prayer meetings.*
- *Children's ministry: Sunday clubs, Mainly Music, Mainly Babies, Toddlers, Messy Church and seasonal holiday clubs.*
- *Youth ministry: A weekly youth club offering space for connection and spiritual growth.*
- *Community ministry: Regular services in our sheltered housing and old people's homes, a friendship group for older adults.*
- *Discipleship and Fellowship: Bible studies, Men's buttery and blether, The Guild and weekly coffee mornings.*



On a Sunday, our services are held in the church building at 10.30am. On the first Sunday of the month the congregation from our linked church in the neighbouring village of Newmachar join us for worship, on the third Sunday of the month we join them in New Machar Church for joint worship. We enjoy a time of fellowship following our worship over a cup of tea or coffee.

Throughout the year there are special services for Easter week, a sunrise service on Easter Sunday, Harvest Thanksgiving, Remembrance Sunday, Guild dedication service and a range of Christmas services. In summer we have enjoyed a more informal café style church over the last few years.



Our Team

Dyce Parish Church is led by an active Kirk session with the minister carrying the role as the teaching elder. We currently have 31 elders in our Kirk session.

Following the introduction of the unitary constitution we developed teams of elders and members of the church and all work with the strengths we have been given to serve God in our community. These Teams include:

- Pastoral Care – active in supporting our congregation and parish through difficult times.
- Discipleship and Outreach – run Bible studies and Alpha courses as well as any other outreach activities. We have currently just completed youth alpha.
- Fabric – looking after the day to day running and upkeep of all our buildings as well as looking to make improvements to meet the needs of our ever-changing community.
- Fellowship – supporting all events with catering as well as helping to organise church events.
- Worship – to support the minister and OLM through leading worship, Bible readings and prayers, to provide technical support for the church services.
- Finance – to ensure good stewardship of our finances, this includes our treasurer.

The church is supported by a dedicated team. We are looking for a minister who will enjoy working alongside our:

- Children and Families worker (MDS) 25 hours
- Ordained Local Minister (OLM) 10 hours
- Church Musicians
- Church Administrator
- Church Officer
- Full time Youth Worker (vacancy)
- Many hard-working volunteers

Family Worker and Youth Worker



We have a proactive Children's and Family Worker who has been in post for 8 years and works 25 hours per week. The Family Worker complements the minister and volunteers as an outreach to the community of Dyce:

Running weekly outreach groups for children and families which include; Mainly babies, Mainly music, Messy Church, Thursday toddler group, seasonal Holiday clubs and leading Sunday club.



Has established a link with Dyce Primary – running weekly Mainly Music sessions for Language Support Provision and ASN base. Visiting classes to teach RE topics especially at Christmas, working alongside the minister.



Providing Pastoral care to families via visits and providing opportunities for families to explore faith at home.

Leading services as required, usually end of year service at summertime, Christmas Nativity and Family Christmas Eve service.

Working alongside church leadership team and volunteers to ensure we are serving our church families and wider community the best we can. Partnering with church leaders/volunteers in New Machar church to bring family worship and children's ministry together with Dyce church.

We appointed a Youth Worker in June 2024, but due to family commitments he is no longer with us. We hope to recruit a new Youth Worker in 2025. This post will be paid for by funds held on behalf of the congregation. While the Youth Worker position is vacant, the Family Worker along with a committed team of volunteers, has been leading and supporting the youth ministry. They recently completed Youth Alpha.

Ecumenical Context



- In the surrounding area, there are various Christian denominations including the Church of Scotland, Episcopal Church, Roman Catholic, and Redeemed Christian Church of God, Jesus House.
- Additionally, we have an ecumenical partnership with the local Roman Catholic Church, which uses our Dr. Cox Room on Saturday nights for their worship. Many of their members help at some of the children's activities and attend coffee mornings.

World Church

In recent years we have developed a good relationship with Mission Aviation Fellowship.

We continue to support Compassion and Arab World Mission. The Guild contributes to the work of the World Church through their projects.

For many years, the young children and now all the congregation have supported Tansen Hospital, Nepal by collecting “brown pennies” which are sent out to further the work of the hospital.

The congregation has supported both Christian Aid, Tearfund and Leprosy Mission. Also, the church of Scotland stamp appeal and Vision Aid via Vision Express by donating used spectacles.



Church Building



The church building is located on Victoria Street, the main street in Dyce.

It comprises the main sanctuary, church office, Dr Cox meeting room, strong room, lounge, kitchen and toilet.

Car parking is “on street” but there is an area adjacent to the church hall which is owned by the city council and is used by members of the congregation when attending worship and events at the church and hall.



Church Hall



We are fortunate to have a separate church hall opposite the church. It includes a main hall, smaller meeting room, kitchen, store and accessible toilets.

There are twelve external organisations and eleven church-associated groups using the hall. All bookings are managed by the Session Clerk and church Administrator, with a church team member overseeing the opening and heating.



The hall is used almost daily for various events and is also available for hire. It is occasionally used as an election polling station.

Dyce Manse



The Dyce Manse is a detached villa, built in 2012 providing spacious family accommodation within a quiet, well-established residential area. This was bought as a new build to meet the needs of the Manse family. Our previous Manse was an older building which was difficult to heat and maintain.

The Manse is a 12-15 minute walk from the church, or a 2 minute drive. It is within walking distance of both the primary and the secondary school and is close to a bus stop and a short walk from the railway station.



This is a spacious four/five bed roomed detached house and the accommodation comprises:

Ground floor – Hall, cloakroom/toilet, lounge, dining kitchen, utility room.

First Floor – Upper hall, master bedroom with en suite shower room, guest bedroom with en suite shower room, 2 double bedrooms, a further bedroom/study and an additional bathroom.

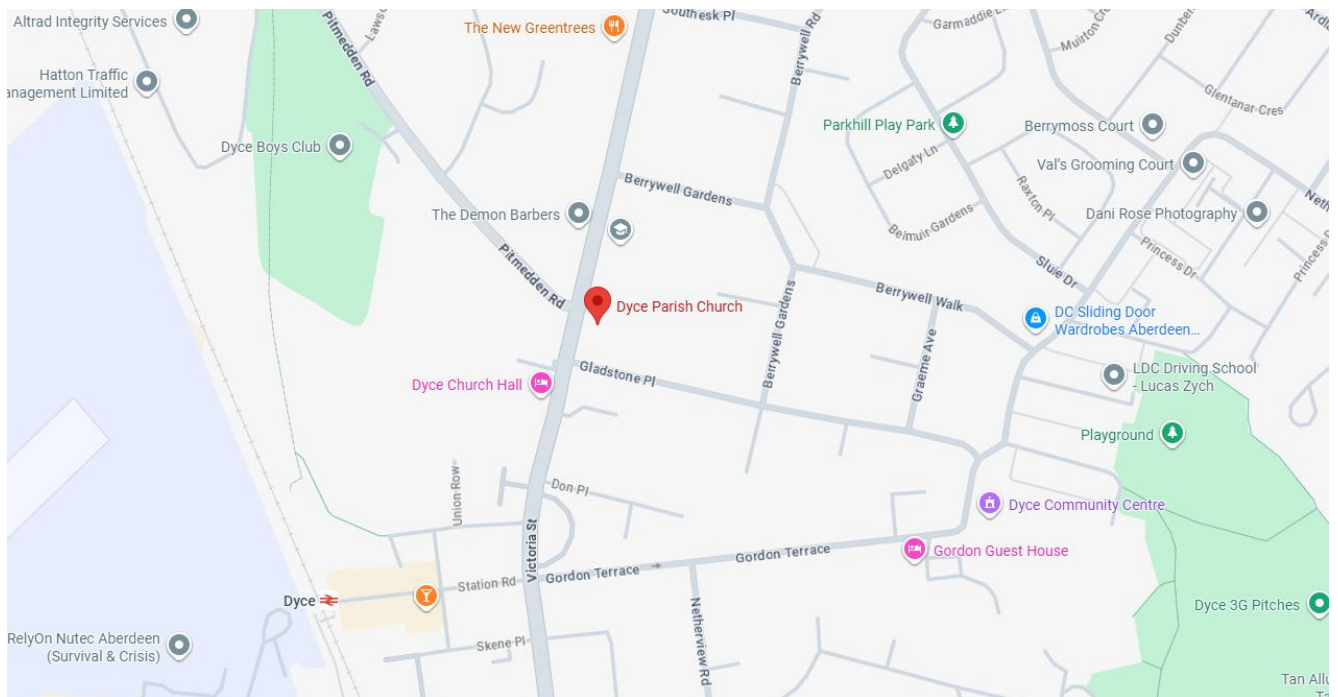
The house is heated by gas central heating system and there is an array of solar panels on the south facing roof.

Outside a driveway to the front of the property provides ample off-street parking for two cars with a single garage fitted with power and light. The gardens to the front are laid to lawn. A good sized, fully enclosed rear garden is also laid with grass.

Our new minister will have the choice whether they live in the Manse in Dyce or Newmachar.

Useful Links

- <https://dyceparishchurch.org.uk/>
- Dyce Parish Church Facebook page
- Search Dyce Parish Church Youtube channel
- <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare>

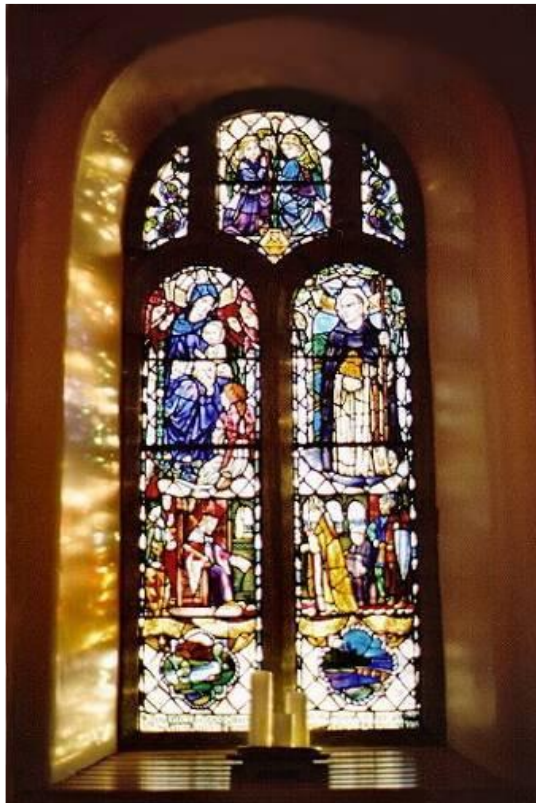


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Reg. Charity No. SC016950



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Our stained-glass window was gifted by Miss M. Crombie of Goval and dedicated in 1916.

The artist, Aberdeen-born Douglas Strachan, has been described as one of the greatest Scottish artists of the 20th Century.

He was the most eminent and prolific stained-glass artist of his time, and a major Arts and Crafts movement artist.

The two main panels feature the figures of St. Machar and the Virgin Mary.

OUR PURPOSE

Our congregation through our worship and our concern for others at home and abroad bears witness to the love of God in Christ.

We recognise that effective witness is dependent on spiritual vitality. We aim to be welcoming and encouraging of others to join the fellowship of our church. Church is about people, the majority of whom are actively involved in the many and varied activities that go on in and around our church every day.

We are a friendly congregation offering a broad ministry that provides a healthy balance of spiritual and social activities throughout the week.

INTRODUCTION

We have been given permission to call a minister to the linked charge of Dyce and New Machar churches with unrestricted tenure, as stipulated in the Presbytery Plan. This is an opportunity for a gifted, enthusiastic minister to continue the faithful witness of Christ in an extensive and diverse parish.

We are a bible-believing church that has a high view of scripture believing it to be the inspired word of God revealed to us through His prophets and chosen people thus having authority in the lives of believers.

In all, we acknowledge our dependence on God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The ideal person to join our team will be:

- Biblical in their theology, holding to the core doctrines of the Reformed tradition.
- Relevant and challenging in their preaching of God's Word.
- Passionate about spreading the Good News to the community at large.
- Committed to working with families and young people.
- Efficient and organised manager of their time. In this you will have the full support of the Session Clerk, Kirk Session, ministry teams and congregation.
- Compassionate and caring pastor to the congregation and the wider parish.

WORSHIP

- Sunday worship takes place at 10.30 a.m. each week.
- 1st Sunday of the month—joint worship at Dyce.
- 3rd Sunday of the month—joint worship at New Machar.
- 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of month—services held at both churches.

There is regular participation by the congregation in the services in the form of leading worship, bible reading, prayers, choir and musical contributions.

The ministry teams lead services once a month, and as required.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated once a month.

We enjoy fellowship over tea and coffee at the end of each service.



All our services are live-streamed from cameras in the sanctuary and recorded on our YouTube channel using state-of-the-art AV and IT equipment, ensuring everyone can participate in worship from home.

- All age worship adapting to the changing needs of the congregation.
- A blend of traditional and modern hymns/songs with organ/keyboard.
- PowerPoint, videos, etc, are used via screens/monitors.
- A warm welcoming atmosphere, leading to a feeling of togetherness and inclusion during worship.



New Machar YouTube Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@NewmacharParishChurch>

Special Services:

- ❖ Christmas Services (Advent, Nativity, Christingle Family Services)
- ❖ Annual Memorial Service (remembering loved ones)
- ❖ Baptism Services
- ❖ Founders Day and Guide Thinking Day
- ❖ Holy Week and Easter Sunday
- ❖ Pentecost Service
- ❖ Celebration of Children and Youth
- ❖ School year-end services
- ❖ Christmas Services
- ❖ Harvest Thanksgiving
- ❖ Remembrance Sunday



KIRK SESSION

New Machar has a Kirk Session comprising 14 Elders which meets regularly and operates under a Unitary Constitution.

In 2005, the Kirk Session decided to follow the church organisation model described by Rick Warren in the *Purpose Driven Church*. From this, five teams were formed:

- Worship
- Ministry
- Fellowship
- Outreach
- Discipleship

In addition to these teams, there is also a Fabric and Finance Team respectively. All teams comprise Elders, members and adherents of the congregation.

Communion Roll

We have 150 members on our Communion Roll with an average of 40 people attending Sunday worship. Our live-streamed service reaches out to people who worship from home and cannot attend in person.

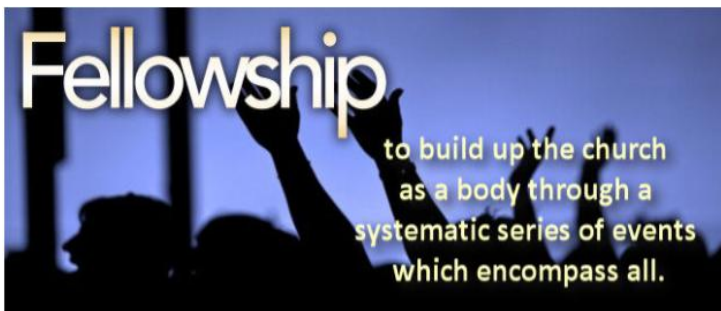


MINISTRY TEAMS



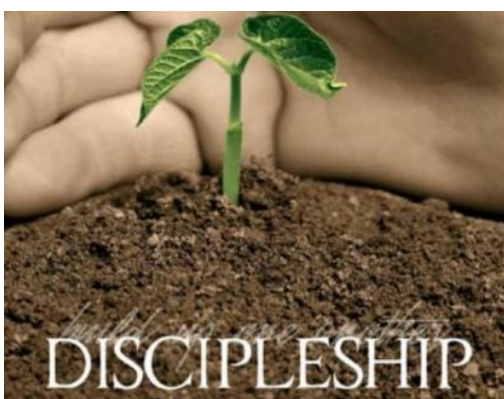
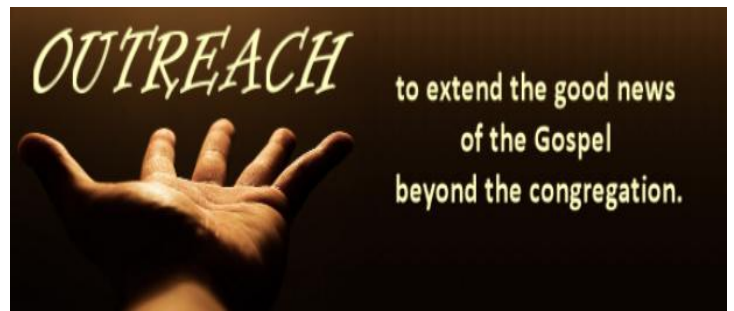
To enable and encourage regular attenders to exalt and magnify God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, through expressing their love and devotion to him through, for example, song, music, prayer, drama, dance and Holy Spirit-inspired preaching of the Word of God.

To put hands and feet on to our Christian commitment by reaching out to members and non-members in practical ways with the love of God.



To encourage members to develop Christian relationships with each other. Enabling them to feel part of the family of God that offers support to its members.

To reach out to people in the parish and community who do not attend church, seeking to care for and show them that they are important to God, and to us, drawing them into fellowship.



To enable the people of God to become more like Jesus through the study of The Word, prayer and service.

EVENTS WITHIN THE CHURCH & PATHWAY CENTRE

Prayer Group

We have an active prayer group who meet once a week. They pray for our congregations, the community, the church and the wider world.



Coffee Mornings

Our Coffee Mornings take place once a month on a Saturday morning and are well attended by both congregations and community, where folks can gather to catch up over a coffee/tea and home bakes. Money



raised from the coffee mornings is raised for different local charities (e.g. New Machar Primary School, First Responders, Sheltered Housing, Living Well Dementia Café, Mother's and Toddlers, Community Flowers, Christian Aid and Salvation Army).

TNT Evenings (Tea & Testimony)

An evening where both congregations from New Machar and Dyce can meet in fellowship with one another over a light meal, worship and share our testimonies.



Warm Space

Over the winter months we offer a space to meet in the church fellowship area.

Newmachar Church Warm Space – Tea/Coffee/Soup

With winter upon us, we will be providing a warm space on Wednesdays December 11th and 18th and January 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th from 12pm.

A chance to enjoy some company, some refreshments and some warmth together. All welcome ☺



Foodbank

We collect items for our foodbank on a weekly basis.

We donate to Dyce Foodbank, Trussell Trust and Aberdeen Cyrenians. The local primary school donates to our foodbank too.

The New Vine

This is our joint parish newsletter for communicating church news and events to our congregations and communities published quarterly.

<http://www.newmacharchurch.org.uk/assets/files/newsletter--festive2024print.pdf>

Summerhill House Services

A monthly Sunday afternoon service takes place at Summerhill House, the sheltered housing complex in the village.



Outreach Events

A fun afternoon sharing the work of MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) with the community, where we had the MAF Plane and Simulator, games and food inside.



Church Picnic

Our annual picnic with Dyce takes place each summer at Haddo House where we get together for some food, fellowship and fun.



New Machar Primary School

We have a great connection with the teachers and kids at our close by local primary school. The school come over for their end of term services and Christmas celebrations. Classes come over on a regular basis to hear more about Easter, Christmas, Harvest time and to hear how Jesus loves them all. We also go to the school and take assemblies.



Children's Ministry

Our Sunday School, known as the *COOL Club*, (Children of Our Lord) meet monthly on a Sunday afternoon. The current roll is approximately 15 children, ranging from 5 to 11 years of age. There are regular leaders, and helpers who have all completed PVG checks.



During *COOL Club* meetings a range of activities such as games, craft work, singing and bible stories are used to illustrate God's love for them all. We always have pizza and juice too!



We organise a joint Christmas party with Dyce children, and also organise a joint *Holiday Club* for primary aged children in the summer.



L.A.F.F.



Ladies of all Ages Friendly Fellowship

We are a group of ladies from the church and village who get together regularly for some fun and fellowship and to encourage each other. Recent events have included afternoon tea, potluck supper, food and quiz night and *The Greatest Showman Singalong*.



Sing-Along

A group of people from the church and village who get together monthly for a coffee/tea and home bakes and enjoy singing along to various music.



CHURCH BUILDINGS

The Church

The church was built in 1791. The interior has been refurbished this year to provide a warm and welcoming sanctuary. At the back of the sanctuary, we have the Fellowship Area, where the congregation gathers at the end of the Sunday service for coffee, tea and fellowship.



The building incorporates the sanctuary, fellowship area, office, small meeting room, upper room and 2 kitchens.

All areas comply with disabled access legislation. The facilities are available for church groups and community groups.

The office is open and manned by an Administrator on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Manse

The manse, set in a mature well-kept garden on a quiet road, was built in 1986. There are four bedrooms, a sitting room, a dining room, a large fitted kitchen with breakfast area, a study, a utility room, a bathroom and separate shower room, an attic and a double-garage. The property is double-glazed and has oil-fired central heating.



The manse has a spacious study, a perfect place for silence, reflection and repose. It offers a commanding view of the gardens and surrounding meadows with vistas in three directions.



The Pathway Centre

This is dedicated facility where Church and Community can interact. It is used by for both church and community activities. We have youth activities, support groups, church and non-church people and people of all ages using the centre.



Officially opened in 2018 on Easter Sunday, it comprises a main hall with multimedia facilities, a small meeting room and small kitchen for preparation of refreshments. It is well suited for meetings, conferences, etc.

The facility was funded and is owned by New Machar church. Rental income is received from hiring the facility.



CHURCH STAFFING

Our Kirk Session and ministry teams which includes our Children's Ministry work closely together with our OLM, Joan, and are open to new leadership, change and difference ways of doing things.

Joan Thorne (OLM)

Locum Minister



Lewis Taylor

Church Officer



Lorraine Miller

Administrator & Cleaner



FINANCE

Our church finances are healthy with Income regularly exceeding Expenditure.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<u>Income</u>	£88,357	£83,153	£54,516	£58,625
<u>Expenditure</u>	£67,915	£52,938	£35,444	£55,089
<i>Surplus</i>	<i>£20,442</i>	<i>£30,215</i>	<i>£19,072</i>	<i>£3,536</i>

In 2023, we spent £13k on updating the AV system in the sanctuary.

During 2024-25, we spent £30k on redecorating and recarpeting the sanctuary which had not been refreshed for a number of years.

Throughout the year we regularly make Special Collections in support of various charities at coffee mornings and by retiring offerings in the church.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Our parish name is derived from the name of the church, which in turn was taken from the Patron Saint of Aberdeen, St. Machar.

The original 17th century church building was replaced by the current one in 1791. Over a century later, the Parish Church was renovated and reconstructed in 1913 with new seating, organ and Communion Table installed. A stained-glass window showing St. Machar and aspects of parochial history was gifted to the church in 1915 by Mrs. Margaret Crombie as a family memorial.

The Parish Church of New Machar is an officially listed original late 18th Century building; although altered and added to it remains a landmark, sited as it is on a slight rise in the centre of the village.

In 2007 an extension was added to the church building at a cost of around £200k creating additional space for administration, Sunday School and church activities. In 2018, a standalone building called the Pathway Centre was opened, adjacent to the church building, at a cost of £280k to provide a facility for community-based activities as well as other church functions.

With the rapid expansion of the population and numbers of houses springing up, it is hoped the Church will remain the spiritual centre of a vibrant and growing community.

PARISH & VILLAGE LIFE

Newmachar is a lovely, friendly village to live in with good communication links. The Parish extends from the north of the River Don to Whiterashes on the A947. Newmachar itself maintains a village atmosphere, yet it is less than 10 miles away from the Aberdeen City centre, with its comparatively buoyant economy.

Transport and Travel

A bus service to Aberdeen and to the north runs through Newmachar. The village is only 4 miles from the train station at Dyce and within easy reach of Aberdeen and Inverurie Stations. Dyce Airport provides both national and international flights.

Communication

Newmachar has a Community Council, which acts within its remit on issues of local concern. The Newmachar News, supplying information on activities, services and businesses, is delivered to homes in the village on a quarterly basis. The Community Council also keeps a notice board at the Co-op.

Education

The village has a toddler's group and Playgroup. Newmachar primary school has a nursery attached for 3 years upwards. There is also an After School Club based in the school. For secondary schooling, transport is provided to Dyce Academy, which incorporates Aberdeen Music School. Aberdeen has two universities (Aberdeen University and Robert Gordon University) and a College of Further Education (North East Scotland College).



Due to council cuts the local library closed at the end of June—however, borrowing facilities and activities are being moved to the school and Axis Centre.

Health

There are GP practices based in Dyce, Oldmeldrum, Udney and Bridge of Don and a pharmacy in both Newmachar and Dyce, and a podiatrist. Summerhill House provides care for the elderly. There are good health care facilities in Aberdeen, where Aberdeen Royal Infirmary is one of Scotland's teaching hospitals. The village has a First Responder Group.

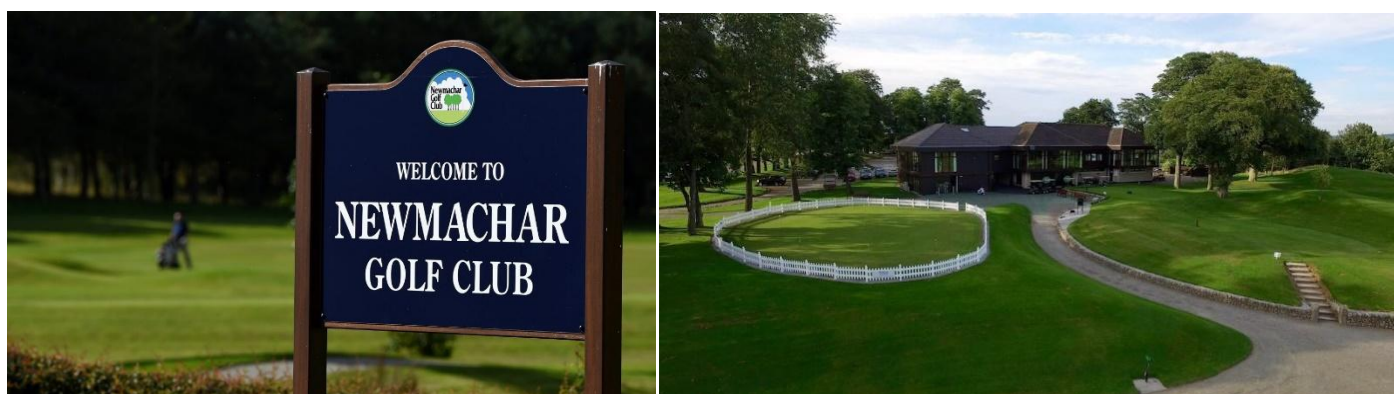
Business and Employment

The area surrounding Newmachar is good farming land. This traditional industry influences the community, as does the offshore energy industry located in Aberdeen.

Newmachar itself has local Co-op incorporating a post office, a hotel, a local pub/restaurant and other shops and businesses situated centrally. Dyce and Aberdeen provide a range of employment and shopping facilities including national chain stores.

Leisure

Newmachar has a sports centre (Axis Centre), bowling green and football ground. Newmachar Golf Club has two 18-hole golf courses with a driving range.



There is also an equestrian centre within a few miles. Dyce Academy has a swimming pool for pupil use and there is a pool in Inverurie for public use.

There are a wide range of classes and clubs in the village (e.g. Scout and Guide groups and their younger preparatory classes using a purpose-built hall), dance classes, over 50's club, WRI and a Gardening Club.

The Axis Centre is a multi-purpose facility and aptly named as it can be found in the centre of Newmachar, built to cater for all ages in the local area and beyond.

It was officially opened on 30th August 2014.



Owned and managed by the community, for the community, it is run on a not-for-profit basis as a registered charity with the aim of promoting opportunities in culture, learning, sport, leisure, health and well-being.

WORLD CHURCH

Christian Aid

We have been physically and prayerfully supportive of Christian Aid. Over the last ten years we have raised just over £10,000, specifically during Christian Aid Week and associated ventures.



Compassion



We have been involved with Compassion over the years and sponsor a child which our *COOL Club* writes to on a monthly basis.

Compassion gives a child in poverty education, access to healthcare, protection from malnutrition, and mentorship. Child sponsorship with Compassion is a powerful opportunity to become an encourager for a child living in extreme need.

Blythswood

Every year at Christmas we collect shoeboxes and fill them with toys, personal care items, school supplies and fun gifts. The shoeboxes are delivered by Blythswood to 8 different countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine) bringing hope to those less fortunate than ourselves.



FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Church Website:** <http://www.newmacharchurch.org.uk/>
- **Facebook Pages:**

Church: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064828627151>

Pathway: <https://www.facebook.com/ThePathwayCentreNewmachar>



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