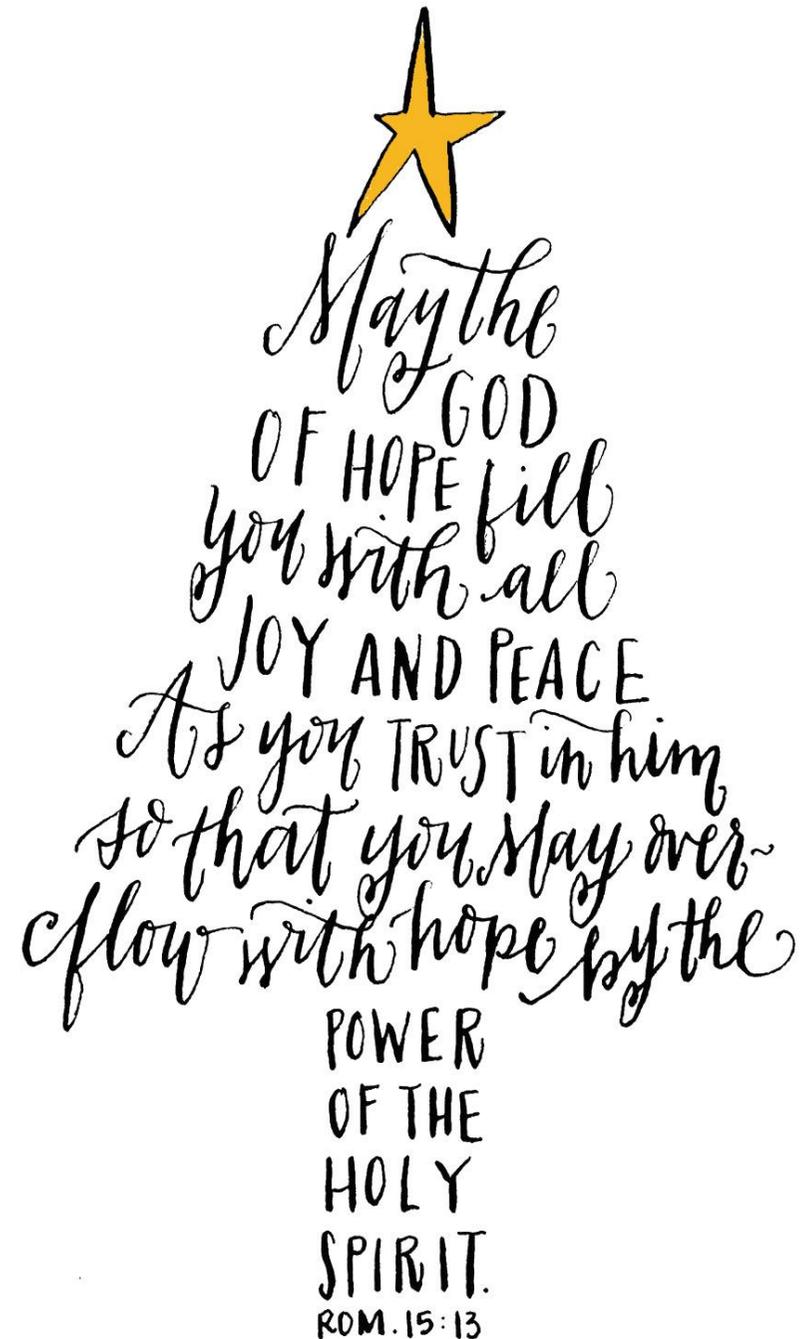


*We warmly invite you to join in our
Christmas celebrations this December 2017*

- Sunday 10th Christmas Tree Lights Turn On outside Holyrood Chapel, 4pm. Family event with carol singing, mulled wine & mince pies will be served in and around the church.
- Thurs 15th Dec Festive Corner Café 10-12noon, Church Hall.
- Saturday 16th Community Carol Singing in Newburgh Public Hall from 4pm with mulled wine and mince pies. All welcome, family friendly.
- Sunday 17th Evening Carol Service, 6pm in Holyrood Chapel. All Welcome.
- Christmas Eve Family Children's Christmas Service, 11am in Holyrood Chapel.
- Christingle Service, 4pm in Holyrood Chapel. All families very welcome.
- Watchnight Service, 11.30 pm in Holyrood Chapel. Carols sung from 11pm.
- Christmas Day Christmas Morning Service, 10am in Holyrood Chapel.

All our services and events are open for everyone. Please come along to any of the above to celebrate Christmas – you do not have to be a 'church-goer'. Families are always welcome too – we don't mind a bit of noise!

Foveran Parish Church is the known name of Foveran Church of Scotland
Registered Charity No.SC011701



Minister's Letter Bake off and Christian Living

I heard a discussion on the radio where the success of the Bake Off programme was being discussed. After all the arguments, it seems that the shift to a new TV channel has not worked against its popularity. One of the commentators in the discussion expressed the view that the programme was popular because everyone at some stage has had a go at making a cake, and even if you cannot produce artistic masterpieces, if you follow the recipe, it may be messy, but it will still taste good.

In the University Organic Chemistry lab I used to use, there was a sign on the wall that said, 'If all else fails, read the instruction book!' Good advice, but it was not always followed!

It is the same in most human activities. If we look left and right before crossing the road, mostly, we will be safe. If we keep to the speed limits, generally, we will be in control of our cars, and so on.

It is the same in Christianity. It is amazing how many people would call themselves Christians, but either disregard the 'Book', or have no idea about the basic instructions!

There is a lot in the Bible, but there are some things repeated over and over again as the nuts and bolts of the faith. Firstly, it is a faith, not a list of things to do. We become Christians by believing in Jesus, in His birth, death on the Cross in our place and for our wrongs, and in His being raised again on the third day. It is because of His rising, that those who believe will also be raised from the dead.

We are to grow as Christians. There is more to faith than the gaining of heaven and the avoidance of Hell. We grow by meditating on the Bible passages. This gives the Holy Spirit the time to make the truth work inside us to change us. We are to pray, fast, give. Jesus said that in the Sermon on the Mount when He said, 'when you pray,' not if you pray. In Acts, the new believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, communion and prayer. Paul speaks about public and house meetings. All of these are part of the recipe of normal Christian life.

Let me encourage you, if you would call yourself a Christian, to follow the recipe, it may be messy, but it will taste good!
Ricky

Christmas 2017



May I, on behalf of all the folk in Foveran Church, wish you a blessed, happy, peaceful and joyful Christmas. May you find peace from anxieties and business, comfort from sorrows and losses, and hope in the uncertainties of the coming year.

There will be a range of events and services during the Christmas period, and these dates and times appear on the back page of this newsletter. May we invite you to any and all the events and services.

Christmas is the time of year, in particular, that we remember and celebrate the coming of the Messiah into the world. The coming of Christ into the World is the hope of the world, for nations, regions and individuals. We invite you to these celebrations hoping that you too will find hope in Christ.

Ricky Reid, Minister of Foveran Parish Church

Festive Corner Café



Corner
a
f
é
Thursdays
10am-noon
Church Hall
Newburgh
all welcome

Please come and enjoy the Christmas spirit at the Festive Corner Café, which will be held on **Thursday 14th December**. There will be plenty of Ythan Bakery mince pies, Christmas cake and Christmas carols! A raffle will be held and a draw will be made for 2 Luxury Christmas Hampers which have been kindly donated. All are welcome!

The café will then be closed for the subsequent four Thursdays and will re-open on **Thursday 18th January 2018**.

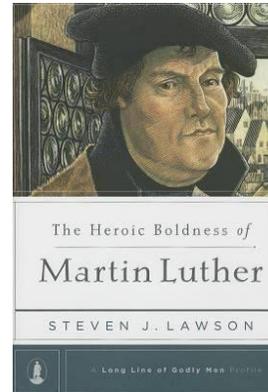
Social Committee Report

As I write, we are looking forward to a Silent Auction in Newburgh Public Hall on 18th November. The event will be an important fundraiser for the church – thanks in advance to all who will support it in any way. Planning is now underway for the Burns Supper in 2018 which will take place, jointly with Newburgh-on-Ythan Golf Club, in the Clubhouse on Saturday 27 January, 6.30 for 7pm.

Finally, the committee is sorry to lose one of its members, Anne Botheroyd, who is moving south to be nearer to her family. Anne has done a tremendous amount of valuable work over the years which we have all very much appreciated, together with her warmth and friendship. She will be sorely missed, but assures us that she will be back to visit in the not too distant future. We look forward to that!

Mary Smith (Social Convenor)

Book Review



November the 1st was the day 500 years ago that Martin Luther, an obscure Theology Professor in the new Wittenberg University, nailed a list of 95 propositions for discussion on the Church door. This act is regarded as the beginning of the Reformation which has given rise to so much that we take for granted today. To mark this event, there have been events and special services held all around the world.

I came across a little book by Steven J Lawson titled 'The Heroic Boldness of Martin Luther.' This is a very well researched and

written primer on Luther and his particular contribution to the early days of the Reformation, which ultimately shaped so much of the life and culture of the UK, especially Scotland.

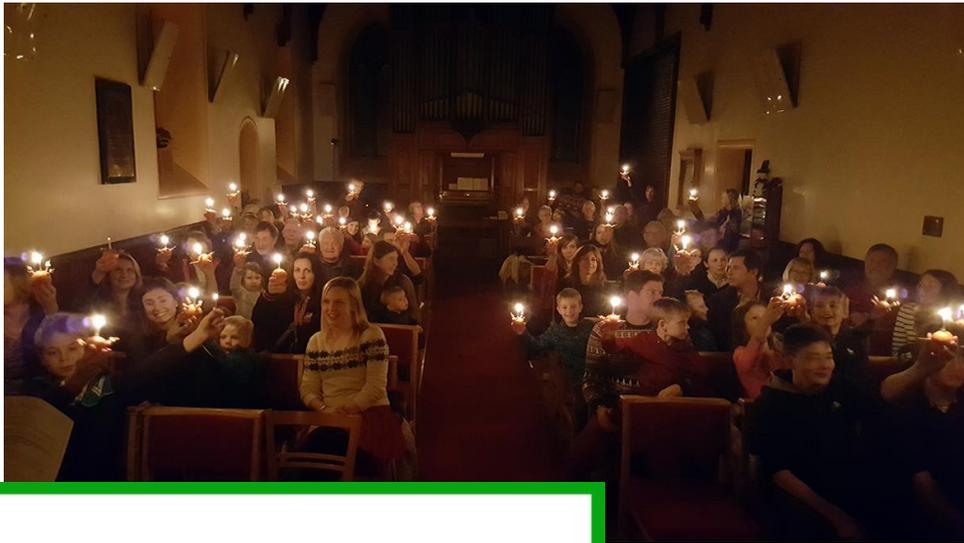
It covers briefly his early life and the particular emphasis he placed on certain disciplines and outlooks, and has much to make the present day Christian Church think about.

The chapter titles are educational in themselves, including such things as, 'A deep conviction about the Word,' 'A passionate delivery in the Pulpit,' and 'A fearless declaration of the Truth.'

Someone has said that if we do not understand where we have come from, we will not be able to set a course into the future, or words to that effect. That is why it is important to know something of our historical Christian roots.

Lawson's brief book is a good and brief starter 122 pages. Good end notes if you want to go deeper, and very readable in a few hours. Reformed Trust Publishing ISBN 978-1-56769-321-8
A nice little stocking filler!

Ricky Reid



Please do come along to any or all of our Christmas Services this year. From the lively Community Carol Singing in Newburgh Public Hall – which this year will feature the church’s Big Band – to the atmospheric Christingle Service in the church on Christmas Eve where everyone gets to make and light their own Christingle candle, they are all sure to get you in the Festive Spirit and remind you of the reason for the season.

COMMUNITY CAROL SINGING

Newburgh Public Hall
Saturday 16th December, Starts 4pm
Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
ALL WELCOME

Organised by Foveran Parish Church which is the known name of Foveran Church of Scotland. Registered Charity No. SC011701

Our Vision

Our vision is to be a church which inspires people with the Good News of Jesus Christ through our enthusiasm, worship, witness, nurture and service

www.fpchurch.co.uk

Church Directory

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