

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

Minister	Rev Ricky Reid The Manse, Foveran Tel: 789225 reidricky8@hotmail.com	Treasurer	Mr Alasdair Sloan Auquharney House, Hatton AB42 0QY Tel: 01779 841166
Session Clerk	Mrs Sue Edwards 6 Airyhill View Newburgh AB41 6DW Tel: 789139	Sunday School	Mrs Christine Mitchell Old Mill of Collieston Slains, Ellon AB41 8RG Tel: 751743
Clerk to the Board	Mrs Pamela Sloan Auquharney House, Hatton AB42 0QY Tel: 01779 841166		Mrs Erica MacKenzie Brookfield, Foveran, AB41 6AP. Tel: 789416
Roll Keeper & WFO Recorder	Mrs Christine Fordyce Craigard, Foveran AB41 6AP Tel: 789236		Mrs Wendy Colquhoun 2 Eider Road Newburgh Tel 788969
Property Convenor & FAX Leader	Mr Andrew Mitchell Old Mill of Collieston Slains, Ellon AB41 8RG Tel: 751743	Editor of Church Newsletter & Website	Mrs Jane Bradford 49 Main St Newburgh. Tel: 789511 jane@bradford1.net
Gift Aid Treasurer	Mrs Christine Mitchell Old Mill of Collieston Slains, Ellon AB41 8RG Tel: 751743	Safeguarding Coordinator	Mrs Lindsey Dickie 5 Laverock Road Newburgh Tel: 789103

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



Summer 2018

Mighty Answers to Prayer

This is the title to chapter two of E.M. Bounds' little book, 'Obtaining Answers to Prayer.' As is his usual practice, Bounds heads every chapter with a story or testimony or some other thought-provoking words.

'Mighty Answers to Prayer' begins with an account of the Mission Meeting in Osaka, Japan led by Bishops Lambeth and Wainwright. Perhaps someone can find out more of their history and dates.

This is what Bounds records:

'One day orders came from Japanese officials that Christian meetings were no longer allowed in the city. Lambeth and Wainwright did all they could, but the officials were unrelenting. The Bishops then retired to the prayer room. Supper time arrived and the Japanese servant girl came to summon them to their meal, and she fell under the power of prayer. Mrs. Lambeth came to find out what was happening, and she fell under the same power. They then rose, went to the mission hall, and immediately started a prayer meeting. God fell on the assembly, causing two sons of the city officials to come to the altar and be saved. The next morning one of the officials in authority came to the mission and said, "Go on with your meetings, you will not be interrupted." The Osaka daily paper came out with the headline, "The Christians' God Came to Town Last Night."

Can you imagine our local paper reporting, "Last Night the Christians' God Came to Foveran."

But why not? Has God changed, or have we? Have we become a careless, prayerless denomination and people? Scotland has a great history when it comes to prayer and Mission. It was said of the Queen that she feared the prayers of John Knox more than the armies of England. Several years ago, many Brazilian Christians and Pastors came to Scotland to repay a debt of gratitude to the UK who had sent missionaries to their country. On arrival in London and after a little research, they discovered that the missionaries had come from Scotland, so they moved up to Edinburgh!

When Ananias was told to go and pray for a man named Saul to receive his sight (Acts 9. 11 – Saul, a man known as a persecutor of the Church), God gave him assurance that there was a change in Saul by this little phrase, 'for he is praying.' Prayer is one of the most authentic signs of a person having faith.

How is our faith? Is it showing its presence by us praying? What is the condition of the Church as regards this? How terrible that the day will come for many of this generation of believers who will see all the blessedness that was missed because we did not ask, did not pray! Think about what we are missing!

Ricky

Holiday Club Meet-Up



A chance to get together after school for stories, craft, snack and games. Open to all children (pre-school need to be accompanied by an adult). Church Hall, Main Street, Newburgh, 3.20pm-4.30pm, 25th May, 29th June, 28th September and 30th November.

Soul Food Sunday



Our new Drop in Church has been well received within our congregation and the whole community. It runs on the last Sunday of every month from 6pm-8pm.

Our first Soul Food Sunday held on Palm Sunday, 25 March, focussed on the Resurrection and the evidence for it. We featured a clip of Lee Strobel, a former investigative journalist's personal investigation into the evidence for Jesus. Lee Strobel was determined to prove to

his wife that the Resurrection was fake – he couldn't! The film, The Case for Christ, is based on Lee Strobel's true story. If you missed it search in YouTube for Lee Strobel 'The Case for Christ'.



Our second Soul Food Sunday entitled Close Encounters, held on 29 April, featured three testimonies and God's name was well and truly glorified! The first testimony was a clip of an interview with Darrell Tunngley - a former drug dealer, addict and convicted armed robber. While serving a five-and-a-half-year prison sentence Darrell attended an Alpha Course and God dramatically broke into his life. The interview can be viewed on YouTube. The second testimony was from a lady in the community outlining how her prayer request submitted at the first Soul Food Sunday was heard by God and her prayer for a home for her family has been amazingly answered. The third testimony was Joni's story. Joni Eareckson Tada is a quadriplegic whose faith in Jesus grew as a result of her diving accident. Joni's testimony can be found on YouTube. Joni concludes that despite being in agony each day she wouldn't trade her relationship with Jesus for any amount of walking!

Individuals, couples and families with babies, young children and teenagers have all been attending. People of all ages are most welcome. The Drop in Church is designed to be just that – drop-in. You

can come and go - stay for as short or as long a time as you would like. There is always lots of tea, coffee and food!

Prayer request cards are on hand along with the 'prayer teapot' for dropping the cards into. The church prayer groups pray for at least two weeks for all requests received. Prayer cards and the prayer teapot

are also always on display at Corner Café on a Thursday and prayer cards and a prayer box are in the Church during Open Church Monday-Wednesday 10am-3pm.



Prayer requests can also be made via the Church's website –

there's a link on the frontpage at www.fpchurch.co.uk. You don't need to give your name or any personal detail if you would prefer that. God knows who you are. Please never underestimate the power of prayer!

The dates of the Soul Food Sundays this year are: 27th May, 24th June, 29th July, 26th August, 30th September, 28th October, 25th November, 30th December. We look forward to welcoming you.

A Prayer

We will be including a prayer in each issue of the magazine which you can use in your personal prayer life if you wish.

For faith to overcome trials.

O Father and God of all comfort, through your word and Holy Spirit grant us a firm, glad and grateful faith. By it may we easily overcome this and every other trial, and at length realise that what your dear Son Jesus Christ himself says is true: "But take courage; I have conquered the world." (John 16:33). Amen.

From "Luther's Prayers" Edited by Herbert F. Brokering. Augsburg Minneapolis 1994.

Easter



Easter was celebrated up Gallows Hill again this year where a short service was held before breakfast at the Church Hall. There were beautifully designed eggs by the children and lots of winners in the decorated egg competition! A service was then held in the church.

Hymns

I Love hymns. I can't say that I always have, because the ones we used to sing in hymn practice at school were not all that cheerful, or at least the chosen tunes weren't and as a result, I can truthfully say that I am still not very keen on 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' or 'God is Love, His the Care'.

When I was 16, a friend invited me to her church and I couldn't believe that not only were the tunes cheerful – some even had choruses! - the words were amazing too and I was hooked. I can remember going to a funeral not long after I'd been going, it was for one of the previous

Pastors and the first hymn was 'With Harps and with Viols, there stands a great throng' and I turned to Mum and said "I thought funerals were supposed to be miserable, are you allowed hymns like that??" She was as amazed as I was, but we decided it was because this faithful servant of God was actually looking forward to being with His Lord and Saviour, and so therefore, it must be alright.

Hymns are not more important than reading the Bible, but they can enhance our worship in many ways. They do this for me in the following ways:

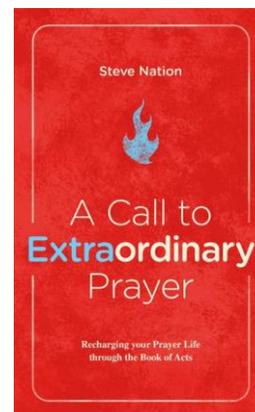
- 1) Some hymns are lifted straight from Scripture and given tunes – 'The Lord's my Shepherd', 'At the Name of Jesus', 'How lovely on the Mountains are the Feet of Him'
- 2) Some were written as the result of an experience the hymn writer themselves had – 'Rock of Ages Cleft for me', 'Amazing Grace', 'When Peace like a River'
- 3) Some remind me of Christians I have known. At the church my friend invited me to, which I later joined, we often had an informal time after the evening service, where on occasions we sang hymns, and people were allowed to select their favourites, but they then had to say why, and what it meant to them. Whenever we sing those hymns, I think of those dear people, some of whom have since been 'Called Home' (They've died, knowing that Jesus is their Saviour and have gone to be with Him in Heaven.) – 'Guide me Oh Thou Great Jehovah' (a fellow teenager who was Welsh), 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine' (my friend's Mum), 'There's a Work for Jesus' (an ex missionary), 'What a Friend we have in Jesus' (the lady I used to help at Sunday school).
- 4) Some are meaningful to me due to hearing them at significant points in my life – 'Give me a sight O Saviour', 'In Loving kindness Jesus came', 'I am not skilled to understand' and 'He giveth more Grace when the burdens grow greater'.
- 5) I also have some favourite hymns, but this tends to change on a regular basis although some will always be favourites – 'Here is Love vast as the ocean', 'Great is the Gospel of our Glorious God', 'In Christ Alone' and quite a few of the above.

Sadly there are some very good hymns that we no longer sing ('There's a work for Jesus' being one of them and it is hard to find any hymn books from the last 100 years with it in), but if you can get hold of a hymn book, check out the ones I've mentioned (those are the first lines) if you can, and read them thoughtfully as part of your worship. It may even lead you to new discoveries or to refresh your memories with half remembered favourite hymns of your own. For the media generation, many hymns are

now sung on Youtube and lyrics can also be found if you do searches through your usual search engine channels.

Remember that although we do sing some newer worship songs at the first part of our service, we still sing many traditional hymns as well, and all have meaningful words. Join us on a Sunday for some singing and worship, if you don't already do so.

Sue Edwards.



Book Review - 'A Call to Extraordinary Prayer' by Steve Nation

Christian Focus Publications, 2017. ISBN 9781527100893

I think that it is a tragic thing when a nation like the UK, which possibly has the richest Christian literary tradition of any nation in the world, doesn't read! I think that if a Church member is not reading some wholesome Christian literature, printed or on line, then we are neglecting our souls. Throw away the novels and comics, turn off the soaps and unplug your brain from the endless streaming of music, and take an hour to read, to think, and to apply what you read to your soul!

Those of you who know some revival history of Scotland and New England will recognize that Steve Nation has 'borrowed' the beginning of the title of a little book written by Jonathan

Edwards in the 1700s. His book was the theology of a prayer initiative which arose in Scotland and made its way over to the New World.

Steve's book is not an attempt to modernize or update Edwards' work, but is a response to the great things that God has done through prayer in our nation, and to instruct and encourage us to do what many have never done, namely to gather together and pray.

Steve goes through the Book of Acts and looks at the prayer practices of the Early Church. They did not have money and power, the web and god TV, the printing press and church buildings. However, they did have the presence of the Holy Spirit, and God present in their prayers. I think that if we look at Acts and the Early Church, we will be forced to agree that they actually saw more happen in their age than we have seen in Scotland for many years. What is one of the things that they were devoted to? Acts 2v42 – 'and to prayer.'

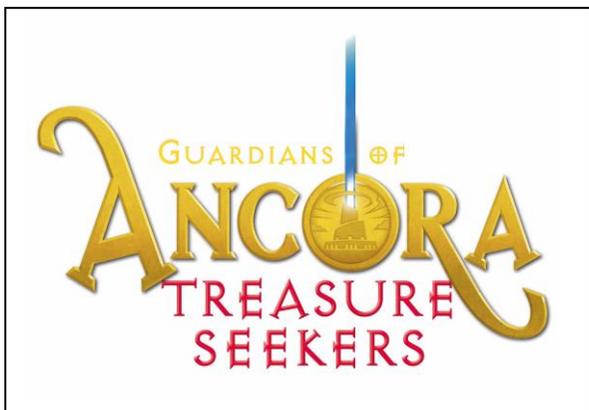
This is only a little book, 111 pages in all, and its cost is about £5 or £6 I recall. Read it through, and then take a week, or however long we need, over each chapter, praying as in Acts and we will learn to do the most important Christian work that we can do – to pray. I say this because 1Timothy chapter 2 begins. 'I urge then, of first importance, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone'. This is the work of the Church, and we must do this seriously. This little book will encourage and help. I will have a few copies available to borrow.

Ricky

Each issue, we will be highlighting a different church activity, and a different link we have with the community. There is a lot going on - we just want to show you it all!

CHURCH ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHT

HOLIDAY CLUB Each summer we run a kids' holiday club in Newburgh open to all children in the parish. Usually it's on the last week of the school holidays and is every morning Monday-Friday. It is a week of songs, stories, crafts, games, drama, snacks and fun open to all children aged 3 and over. Each year has a different theme; this year our theme is:



When - Monday 13th - Friday 17th August 2018

Where- Church Hall, Main Street, Newburgh

Time- 10am-12noon

The Treasures of Ancora are Missing! Each treasure reveals an incredible story of the Saga (the Bible). Children will have the opportunity to become a Guardian of Ancora and seek out the Lost Story Treasures. Through their work as a Guardian the children will discover the greatest story of all time starting with the birth of Jesus and ending with the resurrection.

So we can get an idea of numbers, please could you pre-register by emailing christinejmitchell87@gmail.com

COMMUNITY LINKS

CORNER CAFÉ is a community café which takes place in the Church Hall in Newburgh every Thursday morning from 10-12noon. It is run by volunteers, who serve customers with freshly baked scones, toast, tea & coffee, and there are always plenty of biscuits on the tables too. Customers are not charged for what they have but are asked to kindly give a donation on their way out. As well as covering the costs of running the café, the donations are used to contribute to the upkeep of the Church Hall and also a donation is given to a charity, voted for by Corner Café customers, each Christmas time.



It is fair to say that for many people in the parish, Corner Café is a hub of the community. It is a place for young and old to catch up with friends and meet new ones. Young children are very welcome and have their own little table and chairs! There is plenty of room and everyone is welcome.

If you've never come along and are in the area on a Thursday morning, please do visit Corner Café as the ladies there would be delighted to see you.

Data Protection

As many of you will know, by the time you read this, new Data Protection legislation will be in force in the UK. You will have noticed for some time now that internet services you subscribe to have been asking you to click a button to confirming that you wish to keep on getting their services, newsletters or whatever. The Church of Scotland offices have been working through this legislation since the beginning of the year with a view to producing our own literature interpreting the legislation as it applies to congregational and national Church practices. This is not yet completed but will come to us in due course. Some of the issues that are of relevance to us are our long-standing practices with regard to our membership Roll, whom we distribute the Church magazine to, and how we record membership details. We do not yet know what the implications will be, but please do not be alarmed if we contact you in the future regarding some of these matters when they are clarified for us.

Scripture Union at Newburgh Mathers School



I am privileged to have been given the opportunity to run a Scripture Union lunchtime club at Newburgh Primary School. The Club is open to all pupils from Primary 3 to Primary 7 and runs on a Tuesday lunchtime.

The Club introduces children to Jesus in a fun and exciting way. Each session includes a bible story, game, song, memory verse, prayer and lots of questions! Childrens' minds are amazing and the questions are so insightful and thought-provoking.

The children named their club the 'Just Jesus' SU club and proudly wear their badges each week. Attendance is high and I am so blessed to witness each child's journey with God as they grew closer to him and find out more about him.

Please pray for the children, teachers and Head Teacher of Newburgh Primary School and the SU Club.

Pamela Sloan

Activities on Each Week

Sunday Morning Prayer Meeting, 10.15-10.45am, Vestry, Holyrood Chapel
Sunday Morning Service, 11am, Holyrood Chapel
Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10.15-11.30am, Vestry (Contact Yvonne 789225 or Pamela 01779 841166)
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study, 1.30-3pm, Vestry (Contact Yvonne 789225 or Sue 789139)
Thursday House Group, Andrew & Christine Mitchell's house (Contact Andrew or Christine 751743)
Thursdays, Corner Cafe, 10-12noon, Church Hall, Newburgh

Once a Fortnight

Friday Ladies' Prayer Meeting, 10-11.30am every second Friday, Vestry (Contact Sue 789139)
YF Youth Fellowship, every second Tuesday, Paula Hawthorn's house (Contact Paula 789751)

Dates for your Diaries 2018

Fri 25 th May	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm
Sun 27 th May	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Sun 24 th June	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Fri 29 th June	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm
Sun 1 st July	Sunday School prizegiving & picnic
Sun 29 th July	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Mon 13 th -Fri 17 th Aug	HOLIDAY CLUB WEEK, Church Hall, 10am-12noon. For age from 3 years – all welcome!
Sun 26 th August	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Fri 28 th Sept	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm
Sun 30 th Sept	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Sun 28 th Oct	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Sun 25 th Nov	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Fri 30 th Nov	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm (Christmas Focus)
Sun 30 th Dec	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm

Pastoral Notices

Baptisms

11th March Wyatt James Lewis
8th April Lucas Ian Wright