

## 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](http://www.fpchurch.co.uk)

## Church Directory

Minister	Rev Ricky Reid The Manse, Foveran Tel: 789225 <a href="mailto:reidricky322@gmail.com">reidricky322@gmail.com</a>	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	Editor of Church Newsletter & Website	Mrs Jane Bradford 49 Main St Newburgh. Tel: 789511 <a href="mailto:jane@bradford1.net">jane@bradford1.net</a>
Property Convenor & FAX Leader	Mr Andrew Mitchell Old Mill of Collieston Slains, Ellon AB41 8RG Tel: 751743	Safeguarding Coordinator	Mrs Lindsey Dickie Moorlands 8 Main Street Newburgh Tel: 789103
Gift Aid Treasurer	Mrs Christine Mitchell Old Mill of Collieston Slains, Ellon AB41 8RG Tel: 751743		

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

# Foveran Parish Church Magazine



Autumn 2018

## The Good the Bad and the Ugly

I once worked with two other ministers, and in a throw away phrase, one of them referred to us as the 'Three Stooges.' This was funny, and as sometimes happens, other names sprang to mind. I called us, 'the good, the bad and the ugly.' It then occurred to me that this was a rather uncomfortable name because we never got around to deciding who the good one was, nor who was the bad and the ugly!

In the Christian Church, the message of the Gospel is called the good news. I heard recently of a member in another Church, whose minister was teaching through the book of Romans, comment after many weeks, that that was the first week in months that he had not left church feeling downcast because all the talk was about sin!

Why do we talk about the Cross, and death and sin and all this sort of stuff, that many people say is discouraging? I suppose that part of the problem is that in our present culture, we always want to go straight to the reward. We buy ready meals because we don't want to take time to cook. We fly in jets to save time, often for no other reason than to waste time at the other end! We want the reward now, the gain without the pain.

Sign up to any gym, a language course, or a sporting club. Decide to learn to play an instrument. Try the violin. I promise you, there will be pain for everyone in the house before the music gives any reward, and even then...!

However, the nature of life is that we need to know something of the whole matter before we can appreciate the situation. Imagine you go to see your doctor, and he tells you cheerfully that you need to have your leg cut off! Is that good or bad news? I would say that that was bad news. However, suppose he goes on to say that the tests show that we have a disease in the leg that if left untreated would kill us, but if we have our leg amputated, we will live! Isn't it actually good news because it deals with the bad?

Let us apply that to the Christian message. The Good News is that we can live, and live for ever and ever and ever. That is what we like to hear. However, the situation is that at the present moment, we are already spiritually dead and will stay so for ever and ever and ever. That is bad news. But then we are told that Jesus came to deal with the bad news, and make the Good News ours!

Would you not consider it worthwhile to check all this out? The good news is that we can be rescued. The bad news is that we are sinners and have to be rescued. The ugly truth is that we do not deserve to be rescued. That is why the news about Jesus is good news. He rescues people who deserve nothing, but does it anyway, because His love is so great!

**Ricky**

**Thank you**

A big thank you to Wendy Colquhoun for doing the job of taking the Church Hall bookings, and also goodbye and good luck to Wendy and her family in their move away to warmer climes. Thanks to Jean Jones who has stepped in to fill the vacancy, so if you need to book the Hall please contact her on 789240.

**Sue Edwards**

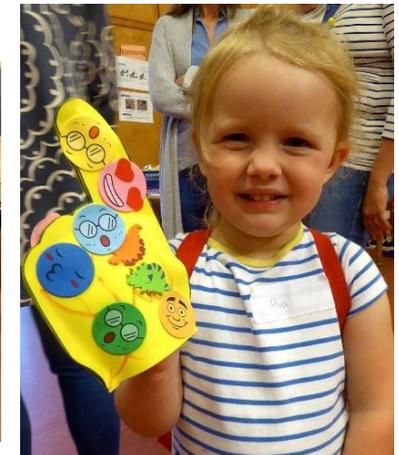
## Teen Ranch & Holiday Club in Pictures!



13 youngsters went to Teen Ranch, a Christian outdoor activity centre near Dundee, for a weekend in June. They had amazing weather and amazing fun! Thanks to Christine Mitchell & Roddy Mackenzie for taking them.



Holiday Club was a great success! The children had a brilliant time while learning about Jesus. Thanks to Christine and her big team of helpers for giving their time to organise and deliver it.



# COMMUNITY LINKS

## Scottish Country Dancing

If you walk past the Church Hall on a Monday, between 10 and 11 am, your peaceful morning reverie may be disturbed. Scottish dance music can be heard, and if you hang around long enough, there will be gales of laughter. Why not come in to see what's happening?



We are a group of about 12 who meet every Monday morning during school terms, to do some Scottish Country Dancing under the tutelage of Jean Jones and Christine Fordyce. Some of the class would admit to being complete novices when they joined; others were dancers in their younger days (although the knee joints may be a bit more creaky now). I can

remember gym lessons from my schooldays when we would file into the hall, and every few weeks there would be Miss Coutts sitting at the piano. Oh joy – it was to be Scottish Country Dancing! Most of us loved it, learned many things (which are still buried in the brain. Somewhere). And at the end of the class we all chorused, “Thank you, Miss Coutts!”. Fast forward some years, and our music comes from a CD, but we still say a heartfelt “Thank you” to our patient teachers.

At present, our class members come from Foveran, Newburgh and Collieston, but we'd be delighted to welcome people from farther afield. We pride ourselves on being a friendly and welcoming group – dancing experience not essential. And what we have learned! There are five basic dance steps, and then we can pit our brains to progression through the dances. Did **you** know that many of the formations in Scottish Country Dancing originated in the French Court? We have promenades, pas de basque (which my P.E. teacher at school called “padeeba”), and progression moves like poussettes and allemandes. Jean and Christine do their best to keep us in step, as it were, although we can sometimes be a bit like a teacher's Monday morning talkative (unruly, even) class. But most of all, we are sociable and have fun, and each of us can be as sedate or as energetic as the mood takes us. Then there's time for tea, coffee and chat.

Next time you're near the hall when our class is on, come in and say “hello”, see what we get up to – and maybe join us?

**Frances Morrison**

# CHURCH ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHT

## The Big Band

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness. Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre, praise Him with tambourine and dancing, praise Him with the strings and pipe, praise Him with the clash of cymbals, praise Him with resounding cymbals.

**'Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!'**

Psalm 150 v 1-5



Every new era in the church's life has inspired an outpouring of Christian worship and praise to God through the writing and singing of new hymns and songs.

The Methodist revival in the 1700s gave us a whole host of new hymns such as 'And can it be that I should gain an interest in my Saviour's love?', 'Love Divine all loves excelling', 'O for a thousand tongues to sing.'

The Salvation Army gave us a whole host of new hymns, e.g. 'O God of Burning Cleansing Flame' and the revival under Moody and Sankey gave another new collection of our later favourites. We've seen revivals in Cornwall, Lewis, Liverpool, Aberdeen and in fact at various times all over our land each with new hymns and of course the Welsh revival with songs like, 'Here is Love vast as the Ocean'. The Billy Graham mission to the UK in the 1950s sparked another plethora of praise and worship music. As each new generation in the church rises, more hymns are written in the current musical styles. Of the older ones, the most meaningful and powerful hymns survive, while others fade away and are forgotten.

The way we communicate and the music we listen to is changing constantly. This does not mean we abandon the old hymns; in fact, we have the potential for an even richer repertoire of old classic organ hymns, modern versions of old hymns and many new and powerful praise songs. We have an even greater diversity than ever available to us to praise and worship our Saviour. We can join with saints of old

and sing 'O come O come Immanuel' from the 1400s alongside hymns written by modern Christian musicians such as Robin Mark and Stuart Townend with 'We Praise You for your faithfulness, O Lord' and 'In Christ alone my hope is found'.

Foveran Parish Church is blessed to have so many young people who come along to play in our church music group. From week to week, young people arrive bleary eyed but willing to give of their time, tolerating the enthusiastic oldies trying to wake them up! In addition to their commitment every week, they bring us encouragement and joy by playing in the Big Band which leads worship at various points over the year. The cacophony of noise comes together to bring Psalm 150 to life!



Our praise band is open to all who would sing or play for the glory of God and hope to lead the congregation each week to a closer relationship with Jesus as hearts are lifted in praise to our Saviour. We are fortunate to have guitarists, drummers, a violinist, clarinettist and a pianist as well as a trumpeter and saxophonist (or two) for our more celebratory Big Band days – sounds a lot but we will always be happy to have new recruits. It's about praise not performance.

If you'd like to play or sing with us, we'd love to have you. Please just speak to one of us on a Sunday morning after the service and we'll get you involved.

**'Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.'** Psalm 95 v1

**Ruth Mills and Andrew Mitchell**

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### 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, 28<sup>th</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> November.



## MEMBERS' LIVES

**Mrs Christine Fordyce**



**Q How long have you been attending Foveran Parish Church?**

A Over seventy years!

**Q How many ministers have you seen come and go?**

A Eight - Rev Arthur Gordon, who baptised me and who was killed in the War, Rev J Erskine Stewart, Rev Richard Robertson, Rev Robin Wallace, who married John and me, Rev John

Cook, Rev Neil Gow, Rev Kenneth Pryde and Rev Ricky Reid.

**Q What is your favourite memory about the Church?**

A Singing hymns with my parents and sisters in Foveran Church as I grew up.

**Q What did you work at before you retired?**

A I was a primary teacher (in Berefold and, after it closed, in Ellon Primary).

**Q What are your hobbies and interests?**

A Grandchildren, photography, reading, knitting, walking, dancing, driving, piano-playing, listening to music - from Beethoven to the Beatles and Elgar to Ed (Sheeran).

**Q Tell us something about yourself that most people don't know....**

A I like to go ice-skating (although a friend told me I was too old for that!), I help in two primary schools, I watch Formula One and Superbike racing and I attend Aberdeen FC games with John.

**Q What are three words you would use to describe what Foveran Parish Church has meant/means to you?**

A Peace, hymn-singing, fellowship.

## Soul Food Sunday



Our new Drop-in Church is going from strength to strength and we have held a further four since the last newsletter was published. Soul Food Sunday is held in the Church hall on the last Sunday of every month from 6pm-8pm.

In May the focus was Kidnapped! We watched a clip of 'Captivity in Nigeria' where Allana Carson, an optometrist working in Leven, Fife,

told of her three-week capture last October when working in Nigeria for a Christian medical charity. She was kidnapped along with three other colleagues and sadly one colleague was killed. Allana told of their thankfulness for being given a bible by the captors and of their frequent bible reading, prayer, worship and trust in God which pulled them through. The clip can be found in YouTube.

In June the theme was God in Daily Life. We were honoured to hear three live testimonies about God's presence in daily life from first encountering Jesus and being filled with the Holy Spirit to God's strength and unfailing love in times of pain, sorrow and helplessness.

In July, we enjoyed a Summer Barbeque inside, due to the rain outside! We enjoyed a clip from Louie Giglio entitled 'Indescribable' where Louie helps us attempt to comprehend how big our own galaxy is, not to mention how BIG our God is! Dave Bestwick also gave his testimony of coming to faith at a young age, which you can read about below.

In August the theme was 'Is God Faithful?' I spoke of five difficult periods in my life where God's faithfulness shone through - a time of struggle; a time in the wilderness; a time of life changing news; a time where prayer didn't appear to be answered and a time of challenges. Ricky talked of God's faithfulness and provision throughout his life. Dave Bestwick gave details of this summer's Refuel Christian festival in Fochabers with many fabulous key speakers including Jackie Pullinger, founder of St Stephen's Society in Hong Kong and Author of Chasing the Dragon and Sandy Millar, co-founder of The Alpha Course.

In September we have a visiting speaker talking about Slavery Today.

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 all requests received for at least two weeks. You don't need to give your name or any personal detail if you would prefer that. God knows who you are. The dates of Soul Food Sundays for the rest of the year are: 30<sup>th</sup> September – Slavery Today; 28<sup>th</sup> October, 25<sup>th</sup> November & 30<sup>th</sup> December.

**Pamela Sloan**

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### Members' Testimony

I have been asked to put in print something of what I said at July's Soul Food Café, so if you were there it should sound familiar!

In recent years I have had cause to think back with enormous gratitude to something that happened to me 60 years ago. I was a four year old living on a council estate in North Essex when a man came and put up a large tent on the edge of the village football pitch which we looked onto from our house. He was a children's evangelist and held meetings for youngsters like myself and older children too.

I clearly remember singing, "Into my heart, into my heart, Come into my heart Lord Jesus, Come in today, **Come in to stay**, Come into my heart Lord Jesus". It was those words that I have emphasised that give me cause to feel so grateful to God - He has answered the childish prayer by indeed staying.

That God can adapt Himself to a child who has such limited understanding is wonderful to me and as my understanding has increased so has my appreciation of God's goodness. His ways are "past finding out" but the exploration and attempt is a delight!

Ricky recently quoted some well-known Christian who said that if a child is old enough to love his or her parents, then they are old enough to love God! Jesus famously rebuked his disciples for turning children

away saying, "The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these". Let us be very careful that other stern words of Jesus do not apply to us, "If you cause one of these little ones to stumble it would be better that a millstone be put around your neck and you be thrown into the sea".....serious words indeed!

**Dave Bestwick**

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### **Prayer**

A prayer of Martin Luther the great German Reformation leader.  
For Forgiveness of Sins.

'Dear God, before you I confess that I am a great sinner. The Ten Commandments would drive me and commit me directly to hell. But your precious gospel teaches me to know and believe that out of love you have established a kingdom through Jesus Christ. In it you will be merciful and will help unworthy and condemned sinners. So I say my confession of faith in one word: I am truly a sinner, but God is merciful to me. I am your enemy, but you are my friend. I deserve condemnation, yet I know that you do not want to condemn me. You want me to be blessed and to inherit heaven. This is indeed your will. You have permitted this truth to be preached to me and have commanded me to believe it, for the sake of your Son whom you have given for me. Amen.'

From 'Luther's Prayers. Edited by Herbert F. Brokering.  
Augsburg Fortress Publishing 1994.

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### **Social Committee**

For many years the Kirk Roup has been an important fundraising and outreach event for the church. Donations have been down in recent years and in 2017 a successful Silent Auction was held in its place, although attendance was a little disappointing.

After discussion at the April meeting of the Congregational Board, the decision has been taken not to hold an Auction Sale in any form in 2018. Ideas for alternative fundraising events would be welcome, please contact Pamela Sloan, Christine Fordyce or Mary Smith.

### **Dates for your Diaries 2018**

Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Holiday Club Meet-up, Church Hall, 3.30-4.30pm (Christmas Focus)
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Soul Food Sunday, Church Hall, 6-8pm

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### **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)

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### **Pastoral Notices**

#### **Baptisms**

13<sup>th</sup> May James Walkden  
19<sup>th</sup> August Quinn Krauspe

#### **Funerals**

24<sup>th</sup> May Margaret Baird