



Parish News

Ferryhill Parish Church Magazine

Autumn 2016

THE LURE OF FEAR

Minister's Message

In 1933 in his first Inaugural Address as President of the United States of America, Franklin D Roosevelt famously challenged the American people in



the midst of the Great Depression, by stating his "firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself— nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

We rarely hear the second part of this sentence today but it helpfully clarifies what FDR meant.

FDR knew the value and power of optimism and hope at a time when fear ran rampant across his nation and world. His speech is laced with Biblical imagery. His warning against the money changers of his time and their incoherent plans to

rescue the American people from the depression ended "when there is no vision the people perish", a direct quote from Proverbs 29:18.

Fear has a unique power to stymie a hope-filled vision. Over the last months we have witnessed the alarming take-over of the Republican party in the USA by Donald J Trump, the self-proclaimed billionaire and reality TV star. The fact-checking website Politifact records that only 4% of Trump's statements are true; a staggering 71% are mostly false, false or "pants on fire". This is far in excess of most politicians. Trump has shown poor knowledge of world affairs.

For example, he did not know that Russia had taken over Crimea. He has repeatedly insulted and mocked others and he carries out a continual barrage of bullying over social media.

Despite exhibiting these poor attributes for a world leader, Trump has expertly fueled the fires of fear

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in a time when many people in America and around the world feel deeply uncertain about the current state of affairs and are reeling from the changes that globalisation has brought to the world.

One such change is the migration of people between nations. Trump proposes a big wall and described the banning of more than a billion Muslims from entering the USA, while bandying around the terms rapist and terrorist with abandon.

Trump presents fear of the other as the starting point of any solution. We must acknowledge that while what we witness today in the USA is extreme, it is far from unique. The rise of far right wing groups across Europe attests to the common concerns of many. Stoking up fear of the other is frequently used as a means to distract us from the real reasons for the problems that post-industrial nations like our own are facing at the moment. It is easy to blame immigrants, people of colour, those who look and sound different, who have a different religious belief, and so on. It raises the heat and anger another notch amongst supporters. *continued on page 3*



Church News

Aberdeen Doors Open Days

Ferryhill Parish Church is participating in this year's Doors Open Days: 'get into buildings' which is Scotland's largest free annual architectural event.

People can visit free of charge places of cultural and historic interest which are either not normally open to the public or which usually charge an admission fee. The event aims to encourage everyone to appreciate and to help preserve their built heritage.

Ferryhill Parish Church is a magnificent building with a long history and a rich heritage, so do not miss this wonderful opportunity to discover more about the 'kirk at the top of the hill'.

For more details of the event visit the Doors Open Days website www.doorsopendays.org.uk.

The church will be open on **Saturday 10 September** from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Ferryhill Singers

The Ferryhill Singers are a group of folk who enjoy singing and who meet several times a year to rehearse a variety of different songs which enhance the worship in Ferryhill Church. You do not have to be an accomplished musician to join us: you only need to have a love of singing and a pleasant singing voice. There are no auditions and you do not need to be a church member. We would particularly welcome some more male voices—bass or tenor—but ladies are also very welcome. There is no age range and we are all young at heart, but it would be great to have some younger singers in the group.

If you are interested, please contact Kevin Haggart, musical director, (kevin.w.haggart@btinternet.com) or Shelagh Bain (shebain@hotmail.co.uk)

Autumn Events

Members of the Fundraising Team have been busy organising various events for the Autumn.

On the evening of Friday 30 September, there will be an **'Auld Alliance' Musical Evening** with a French/Scottish theme. A French style meal will be served while you are entertained by the accomplished accordionist David Martin. The second half of the evening will take the form of a ceilidh, with refreshments (tea or coffee and shortbread). Soft drinks only will be served, so please bring your own bottle if you prefer. Tickets priced at £12 will be available from beginning of September from the Coffee Shop.

Saturday 8 October 10 a.m. to 12 noon sees another of our very popular **Table Sales** in the large hall, including a home baking stall. If you would like to book a table (£10), please contact Fiona Firth on 01224 590806.

The ACCLAMATIONS, a popular ecumenical local choir, will be holding a concert in Ferryhill Church on Friday 28 October at 7:30 p.m. Tickets costing £5, including refreshments, can be obtained from members of the fundraising team or at the Coffee Shop. All money raised will go to the Manse Appeal Fund. Please come along for an enjoyable evening of music and fellowship.

A date for your diaries is the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3 December. There will be more information in the Winter issue of Parish News as well as notices and posters in the church and Coffee Shop nearer the time.



The Guild

A warm invitation is extended to anyone in the parish who would like to come along and find out about the Ferryhill Guild. This Church of Scotland organisation meets on the first and third Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. each month from September to April. The Guild has a varied and lively programme of talks, discussions, social events and engagement with fundraising and educating about the projects that The Guild is supporting.



The Guild is open to men and women and if you are interested, please do come along. You will find a group of friendly, interesting and forward looking folk. You are not committing yourself by coming along to see what we are doing.

If you would like more information, please contact Diane by email at guild@ferryhillparishchurch.org.

Stewardship

Stewardship means making the best use of what resources we have for the greater good. In the Church it means using our time, talents and money to care for the church in physical ways such as maintenance of buildings and grounds, but also to allow the people of the church to carry out their mission to do God's work within the congregation, the local community and the wider world. We recently invited members to reconsider what they as individuals can contribute of their gifts. We thank those who delivered and collected the material and those of you who have made a positive response. We look forward to the benefits of your actions in improving our resources.

Church News

Christian Aid Week 2016

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christian Aid week appeal in May, when we collected £700, which will be increased by Gift Aid recovery. The extremes of climate change as ever affect the poorest communities most. During Christian Aid Week we focussed on how families in Bangladesh cope with devastating floods. Christian Aid helped by providing materials to raise their homes on platforms. Today Malawi and much of South and East Africa is suffering a famine after a long drought. There will be another chance to make a donation to aid Christian Aid's work at our Harvest Service on Sunday 4 October.

THE LURE OF FEAR

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Acknowledging that our addiction to cheap material goods inevitably leads profit-driven companies to seek the cheapest labour force is not as attractive to consider, even if it is more honest.

The lure of playing the fear card is all too tempting for politicians seeking to divide and conquer.

What breaks my heart, as a Christian minister, is to see many Christians in the USA side with 'The Donald'. There is nothing, literally nothing I have heard in Trump's speeches and comments that I can align with the teaching and life of Jesus of Nazareth. While Jesus sought to bring reconciliation, Trump seeks to divide; where Jesus healed strangers and challenged us to walk the extra mile, Trump seeks to build walls and demonise others; where Jesus turned the other cheek, Trump bullies; where Jesus sought justice, Trump speaks the language of revenge; where Jesus walked the way of non-

City-Wide Prayer Gatherings

People from across the city gather for prayer each month to think about the needs of people within the city and with a particular focus on those refugees coming to Aberdeen from other troubled parts of the world.

The autumn gatherings are:

Friday 16 September at Woodside Parish Church, Church Street.

Friday 21 October at The Mission, St Machar's Drive.

Friday 18 November at Midstocket Church, Harcourt Road.

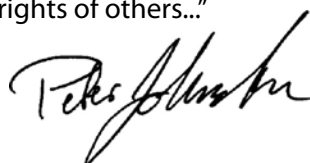
Each gathering is held between 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

violence even to the cross, Trump asks why he cannot use nuclear weapons.

The lure of fear is attractive. It has always been thus, and we see its destructive temptation repeated through history time and time again.

Fear does not have to have the last word.

It is in our hands, those with faith in God and those with faith in humanity, to stand up to this fear-full rhetoric wherever we see it and tell a different story: one of hope and justice, love and grace, reconciliation and peace. These are the values that Jesus tells us shape the nature of God and the Kingdom of God. As FDR said in 1933: "in the field of world policy I would dedicate this Nation to the policy of the good neighbour—the neighbour who resolutely respects himself and, because he does so, respects the rights of others..."



Diary

September Services

Sunday 4 September 2016

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Lead Us Not Into Temptation"
Sunday Club and Crèche
- 19:00 Café Connect in the Foyer

Wednesday 7 June

- 11:00 Cowdray Club Care Home

Sunday 11 September

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Fallen Promise"
Sunday Club & Crèche

- 18:30 The Cosy House Youth Group

Sunday 18 September

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Faith's Promise"
Sunday Club & Crèche

- 18:00 Evening Service in the Memorial Chapel with Holy Communion

Sunday 25 September

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Promise of a Dream"

Hall Lets

Ferryhill Parish Church has an extensive suite of rooms and halls available for let. If you would like to enquire about a hall let please contact the office or email bookings@ferryhillparishchurch.org.

Common Fairtrade Myths

Most people are familiar with Fairtrade, so why do the same misconceptions about what it is and how it actually works keep cropping up?

The Fairtrade Foundation (www.fairtrade.org.uk) has highlighted some of the most common ones.



Myth 1: "Fairtrade Products are more expensive"

Are they though? The range of Fairtrade products is now huge, with over 5,000 Fairtrade certified products for sale in the UK, many of them supermarket own-label or inexpensive mainstream brands.

All major supermarkets now have Fairtrade own-label inexpensive tea and coffee ranges. Three of the UK's top five favourite chocolates - Cadbury Dairy Milk, Mars, and Maltesers are Fairtrade, along with 100% of bananas in Sainsbury's, Co-op and Waitrose. All the tea and coffee at high street giants Greggs is Fairtrade and they are currently trialling Fairtrade bananas in 350 outlets.

Those looking for a bargain will also note that discounters Lidl are selling Fairtrade roses. With more supermarkets and mainstream brands than ever selling Fairtrade, can you really afford to keep saying it is more expensive?

Myth 2: "Anyone can stick the Fairtrade badge on their product and claim it's ethical"

The idea that companies just slap the FAIRTRADE Mark on their products willy-nilly when they want to claim ethical credentials just doesn't hold up. The Mark is a registered certification label for products sourced from producers in developing countries. Products that display it must meet Fairtrade Standards, set by Fairtrade International (www.fairtrade.net)



These Standards apply to both producers (the farmers and workers) and traders (the shop you buy from) so if a company wants to have the FAIRTRADE Mark displayed on their product, they have to first ensure that it meets all of the Standards or they could open themselves up to legal action.

Myth 3: "Only a small percentage of the price you pay for a Fairtrade product goes back to farmer"

This one comes up all the time and is based on the misunderstanding that Fairtrade farmers are paid a percentage of the retail price you pay for a product in a shop – this is not the case.

The retail price you pay as a consumer is determined entirely by the retailer.

The Fairtrade price that the farmer receives applies at the point where the producer organisation they are part of (such as a coffee co-operative) sells to the next

person in the supply chain (usually an exporter or importer). This is intended to ensure farmers and workers can cover their costs no matter how low the world price for their commodity falls.

Myth 4: "Fairtrade locks farmers into a fixed price"

You may have read about the 'Fairtrade Minimum Price', and this is indeed a real thing. But it's a safety net, calculated to cover farmers' costs of production, and only coming into play in a worst case scenario. It is not something that locks farmers into a fixed price.

In simple terms, if the market price of a product such as coffee falls below the Minimum Price set in the Fairtrade Standards, then under Fairtrade, farmers would receive this guaranteed Fairtrade Minimum Price.

This safety net means farmers can cover their production costs which helps them to predict their income and budget for the future. However — and this is really important — if the market price of coffee is above the Minimum Price, then the market price is the basis for negotiations between the farmers and their buyers and of course they can also negotiate higher prices on the basis of quality and other factors.

It's also worth remembering that in addition to receiving the Minimum Price or market price, Fairtrade producers also receive a bonus-type payment called the 'Fairtrade Premium'. This is an extra sum of money that they decide democratically how best to spend in their community.



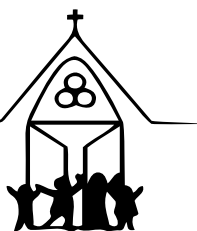
People And The Church

In the Aberdeen area, the demographic and physical landscape has evolved over the decades and will continue to change. Aberdeen is no longer solely dominated by the steeples and crosses of Christian churches, we now have religious buildings that include temples, synagogues and mosques.

In Ferryhill Parish Church we recognise the diversity of people living within our parish area, people of different faiths and of no faith. The Ferryhill Parish Church logo is: "A Kirk for All". We welcome people of different faiths and those with no faith to participate with us in the activities that are hosted within the Kirk's buildings or to join with us as a community in worship as each of us feels comfortable within an open Christian tradition that seeks to listen to the voices of others in order to better live in community with all.

Some of the many organised activities that take place within the church include badminton, coffee mornings, music concerts and table sales. There

A Kirk for All at Ferryhill



are also volunteering opportunities to help support the members of our local community.

It is always good to see new folk becoming involved, sharing their talents and making new friends. The coffee shop in the Church foyer is always a good place to start! This is very much at the heart of the Ferryhill community and is open Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and on Saturday until 12 noon.

Being involved in the life of a Church does not necessarily mean attending every Sunday. People can come along as often as they are able; we are here whenever you wish to connect.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35

"A Dangerous Game"

Queen's Cross Church will be hosting the follow-up film to Anthony Baxter's award winning "You've Been Trumped" documentary at the end of October.

They have been granted permission to show his latest thought provoking film "A Dangerous Game".

David and Moira Milne, who are residents on the Mennie Estate where Donald Trump's controversial golf course was built, will be present to take part in a Q and A session after the film has been shown. The screening will take place on Friday 28 October 2016 at



7:30 p.m. in Queens Cross Church, less than a fortnight before the American Presidential elections.

Diary

October Services

Sunday 2 October

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Passover Promise"
Sunday Club & Crèche
- 19:00 Café Connect in the Foyer

Wednesday 5 October

- 11:00 Cowdray Club Care Home

Sunday 9 October

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Unfulfilled Promise"
Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 16 October

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Prayerful Promise"
- 18:00 Evening Service in the Memorial Chapel with Holy Communion

Sunday 23 October

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Perpetuity's Promise"
Sunday Club & Crèche
- 18:30 The Cosy House Youth Group

Sunday 30 October

- 11:00 Worship for all ages
"Promises of Provision"
Sunday Club & Crèche
- 18:00 Remembrance Service in the Memorial Chapel

Prayer

Providing God, you are over-generous in all that you supply for us in life. This is a world with the means to sustain all of life; to provide sustenance, nourishment and opportunities for all people.

Let us live as those who acknowledge that without you we are nothing, and help us come to a sense that 'the potential of creation' to sustain the whole of creation, means we must play our part in making the provisions of your love available to all.
Amen.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Aberdeen For A Fairer World

Aberdeen for a Fairer World has opened a new retail store dedicated to promoting and supporting Fairtrade, fairly traded, and ethically traded goods on 44 Union Street, next to Jamie Oliver's Italian restaurant.



They hope that, by offering a wide range of goods, they can raise demands in Aberdeen for Fairtrade products and encourage other businesses to pledge for Fairtrade as well as highlighting and teaching about global issues. Tea and coffee is available to takeaway, as well as packaged biscuits and chocolate. Additionally, they will stock a large variety of durable goods, such as fabrics and jewellery. A catalogue service is available to order anything their suppliers sell but which are not held in stock at the store.

The new store opened on Saturday 13 August and is now open Thursday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please do visit and support Aberdeen for a Fairer World in this new venture.

More details about Aberdeen for a Fairer World are available through <http://www.afairerworld.org.uk/>.

Concordia String Orchestra

Join Concordia String Orchestra at their next concert, which takes place at Ferryhill Parish Church on Saturday 26 November at 7:30 p.m. Conducted by Tim Tricker, Concordia String Orchestra is a group of amateur musicians who play bi-annual concerts at Ferryhill Parish Church. The programme for the November concert includes: Mendelssohn's String Symphony No.1, Taverner's The Lamb, C.P. Bach's Flute Concerto and Suk's Serenade.



Tickets are available on the door at £8 for adults, £5 for concessions and under-12s are free.



Concordia is always looking for new players so, even if it has been a while since you played, they would be delighted to hear from you. Please visit their website at www.concordiastringorchestra.org.uk and click on the 'Contact Us' page.

Lunch Club

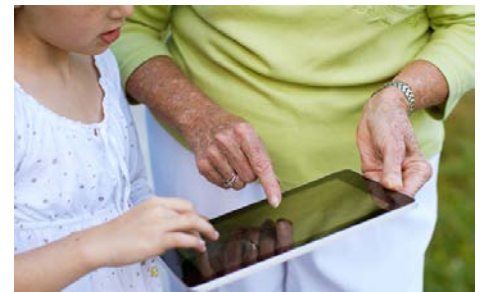
The Lunch Club at Ferryhill Parish Church is open to anyone over 55 every Tuesday during term time from 12:30 p.m.

A nutritious two course lunch plus tea/coffee is served for £4.00 with the opportunity to meet up and chat with other folk in the community much appreciated by regular attendees.

Anyone can come along: you do not need to be a church member or have any church connection. You do not need to come every week either, although most people do come regularly as they enjoy the food and the company. Please consider coming along – you will be made very welcome. The Lunch Club starts on Tuesday 6th September.

Ferryhill School Project

The Primary 7 pupils at Ferryhill School are planning a project which they hope to start in September and they need the help of some local Senior Citizens. If you are unsure about how to use a mobile phone, an iPad/tablet or other digital technology and would like to learn, this might be of interest. The pupils would teach you how to use these devices with confidence.



They are also hoping that some older folk in the community might be able to talk to them about WW2 experiences or life in the 1940s. If you are interested in either or both of these things, please get in touch with Christine from the Silver Surfers on 07752112301. Your help would be greatly appreciated.



Happy 18th Birthday to Phoenix Youth Theatre

Phoenix Youth Theatre has operated from the halls at Ferryhill Parish Church since 1999 and is now commencing its 18th successful year.

The theatre school offers an exciting theatrical experience to children aged four to eighteen years and aims to encourage pupils to achieve their personal best in the performance of acting, singing and dancing.

Weekly classes build throughout the year towards a variety of performances, culminating in at least one major theatre production each year.

As well as performance experience, the exercises and theatre games used in class assist the pupils in developing skills which will aid them through life, all while having a thoroughly enjoyable time!

In June 2016, Phoenix Youth Theatre presented their highly acclaimed production of "Oklahoma!" and have further exciting productions planned through the next session, including a revue show in November and the opportunity to participate in Phoenix Theatre's adult company production of "The King and I" at His Majesty's Theatre next January.

To enrol your child for Phoenix Youth Theatre's 2016-2017 session, please contact info@phoenixaberdeen.co.uk or telephone 01224 863946 or by post to the office address at 22 Baillieswells Road, Bieldside, Aberdeen, AB15 9BB.

"Get Your Kids In On The Act!"

PHOENIX YOUTH THEATRE

Weekly classes in:
ACTING, SINGING & DANCING
working towards highly acclaimed theatrical productions and encouraging:
CONFIDENCE, DISCIPLINE & TEAMWORK

Classes held in Aberdeen City centre

Contact us NOW to enrol your child!

website: www.phoenixaberdeen.co.uk
email: info@phoenixaberdeen.co.uk
office: 22 Baillieswells Road, Bieldside, Aberdeen, AB15 9BB

01224 863946

Diary

November Services

Wednesday 2 November 2016

11:00 Cowdray Club Care Home

Sunday 6 November

11:00 Worship for all ages
"Principled Promise"
including the Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday Club and Crèche

19:00 Café Connect in the Foyer

Sunday 13 November

11:00 Worship for all ages
"Prophetic Promise"
Remembrance Sunday
Sunday Club and Crèche

18:30 The Cosy House Youth Group

Sunday 20 November

11:00 Worship for all ages
"Covenantal Promise"
Sunday Club and Crèche

18:00 Evening Service in the Memorial Chapel with Holy Communion

Sunday 27 November

11:00 Worship for all ages
First Sunday in Advent
Sunday Club and Crèche

18:30 The Cosy House Youth Group

Ferryhill Parish Church

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This summer's zoo-themed Summer Club for primary school children was another great success with more than 70 children attending during the week. We heard stories from different animals around the zoo, sang songs, made many amazing crafts, played games and enjoyed a mini zoo with live animals on Saturday.

The week was finished off on Sunday with a welcome to Ellie the Elephant returning to the zoo with a great celebration including the graduation of our trainee zookeepers.

A huge thank you to all the volunteer zookeepers who gave up their time to make this week happen. We all had a brilliant time at Zefi's Zoo!