



Our motivating vision is...
'To be Love Light and Life'

Sunday 1 January 2017

10:00am – 'Welcoming The Light'

Leading & Preaching: Stewart Patrick

Duty Elder: Stewart Patrick Communion shared today.
Children – Holidays DVD for you is on during the message time

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Stewart Writes... Surely this is a great way to commence 2017 - In worship, His word and in sharing communion together, on this the first day of the New Year. If you are a visitor here with us this morning, we welcome you to share in every way with us in praise and worship and communion.

1 John 1:5 (MSG) "This, in essence, is the message we heard from Christ and are passing on to you: God is light, pure light; there's not a trace of darkness in him."

In the lead up to Christmas and New Year the theme of 'God's Light' came to us here at MUP Church in ways that grabbed our attention. One was the profound impact of the famous 'Earthrise' photo from Apollo the 8 crew 48 years ago, and another related to it, is a word given to us arising out of a dream/vision received from the Lord by a fellow leader here; "My desire is to position and prepare as many of my people as desire to receive and carry my glorious light, to all who walk in darkness in this place." ('this place' being Gisborne/Tairāwhiti). This 'positioning' and 'preparing' is something we believe God is doing for His people, but it all hinges on Jesus question to Martha and to us; "I am the resurrection and the life. Do you believe this"? Do I believe? It is where I must return to, back to the core of my faith, which we explore today from Revelation 1: 5-6.



For Prayer & Praise this week...

- 'Carols by Candlelight' on Christmas Eve was a lovely time on a perfect clear and cool evening. All the seats were filled and once again many folk from the community came along with their children, and Grandparents came with grandchildren. It always amazes me who comes out for this event, and they get a clear gospel message there every time. We pray for the lasting impact of this in peoples lives.



- **TeHahi' On Call** – Stewart & Sepoima are 'on call' over 1,2 & 3 of January, for the local Police 'Pastoral' initiative for victims of crime and violence. They would appreciate your prayers for wisdom on this the second week Te Hahi has been running.

'Love Offering' this morning for the Christmas Eve Bus Crash victims

Some folk from MUP I know have already donated to the Tongan Bus Crash support fund, but this morning we will also have a kite basket for a 'Love Offering', on the auditorium table. This will be given to the local Tongan Methodist Church to assist with the support of the families involved in this tragedy.

Foodbank Update: From July to December 2016, just over 100 food parcels were issued to local agencies for families in need. No food parcel requests this week, but it is still 'early days' yet as we anticipate requests to steadily increase over the summer period – particularly when school starts back. Bless All whom have contributed food, vouchers and gifts towards this worthy cause.

Rosters: The roster for Feb/Mar/Apr 2017 will be finalised in a couple of weeks' time. Please let me know if you will be away during this 3 month period. We would gladly welcome new volunteers, even if to be of service for just for one Sunday - **Sepoima**

	Today 1 January 2017	Next Week 8 January 2017
Greeters	Dene Whibley, Al Clements	Nancy Nelson, Lyn Frampton
Explorers crèche	Marilyn Patrick	Marylou Parker
Ministry Team	Jan Newman	Peter Burrows
Cups of Tea	C&V Robinson, Laraine Hindle	S.Tulia, Moira Smith, Peter Oram
Flowers	Elaine Oates	Debbie Dobbie
AV & Sound	Rodney Nelson, Jackson Holland	Dione Russell, Paul Cosson
Counters	Noel Coffey	Noel Coffey

There is nothing the nearness of Jesus cannot overcome.