Strathmain and Strathdearn Church of Scotland.org.uk: Interim Moderator: Rev Dewald Louw Email: DLouw@churchofscotland.org.uk: Session Clerk: Mrs Vivian Roden 01808511355 Email: vroden@btinternet.com

February 2025 Notices

SERVICE TIMES FOR FEBRUARY

Croy Church at 10 am - The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin at 12 noon

FEBRUARY 2025:

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP WILL RESUME IN DAVIOT CHURCH IN MARCH

Sunday 2nd: Preacher - David Whillis

Monday 3rd - Monthly Afternoon Tea in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 3-4pm.

Friday 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th: Crafts, Coffee and Chat at Daviot church - 10.30am - 12 noon.

Monday 10th - Strathnairn & Strathdearn Guild (Croy) meet at Croy Church at 2pm. Exercises with Val Rose. All Welcome.

Wednesday 12th: Guild meet at The Hub, Tomatin at 2.30pm - Crafts with Beryl.

Sunday 9th: Preacher - Lizette Louw

Sunday 16th: Preacher - Rev Edward Andrews (Holy Communion)

Sunday 23rd: Preacher - Jonathan Appleby. This Sunday will also be our regular monthly collection for the Highland Foodbank. You will find a list of the items they would most appreciate in February on the back of this sheet.

EVERYONE WARMLY WELCOME AT ALL OR ANY OF OUR SERVICES OR EVENTS

Thursday 13th & 27th: Cawdor Knit & Natter group meet at Cawdor Bowling Club at 2.00pm. Everybody welcome to bring ANY Craft or just to come along for a cuppa and chat. Donation for heating, tea and biscuits - £2.

COMING UP IN MARCH

World Day of Prayer - Friday 7th March at 2pm in Croy Church

The theme for 2025 is 'I Made You Wonderful'

Our sisters from the Cook Islands have spent the last few years deepening into the theme: "I Made You Wonderful," based on Psalm 139:1-18. The 2025 program invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.

REGULARS

Bible discussion group meet at Daviot Church 2.00pm on Thursday afternoons. Resumes in March.

Every Thursday morning at 10:30am in The Strathdearn Hub - Prayer Meeting.

Every Friday morning from 10.30am to 12.noon - Coffee & Crafts at Daviot Church.

BLYTHSWOOD FOODBANK ITEMS - FEBRUARY

Please help Foodbank by donating the items we are short of in FEBRUARY 2025 Tins of potatoes / smash - Packets of penne pasta - Tins of mince Long life juice / diluting - Oatcakes / Crackers - Shampoo.

Please ensure all donations have a three month use by date. We're so grateful for generosity. Thank you for your care and love for others.

Donations can be handed in to our Foodbank Warehouse at 1 Glebe Street, Inverness, IV1 1RF between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday, or to your local food bank during opening times only, or to any of our charity shops. Thank you for your generosity which makes such a difference to the individuals and families visiting our food banks.

Tesco Inshes Inverness and Asda Inverness have permanent collection points for Highland Foodbank. If you are shopping in any of these stores donations can be placed in the marked cage/crate.

On Wednesday 18th December an evening of winter/Christmas songs followed by carol singing was held in Daviot church. It was much enjoyed by those who attended and £200 was raised that evening. The donated money was given to local charities, The Salvation Army and Munlochy Animal Aid (£100 each.)

Both charities acknowledged receipt of the money and the following is a little information about both.

The Salvation Army.

How does The Salvation Army Fundraise?

Our main concern is making sure that we make it easy and rewarding for you to support the work of The Salvation Army across the UK and Ireland. We try to ensure the starting point in our fundraising is you, and being respectful of the ways in which you want to support us.

We write to our supporters several times a year and we send regular email updates on our work to people who have chosen to hear from us in this way, but when someone wants to hear from us less often, or not at all we respect that. Some of our supporters only want us to be in touch at Christmas-time, which is why that is such an important appeal period for us.

We also encourage people to fundraise for us in other ways too, such as taking part in sporting or activity events such as marathons or fundraise at home, work or in their own churches.

Munlochy Animal Aid

Extract from Newsletter.

Munlochy Animal Aid was set up in 1978. At that time there was no rescue facility in the area, the only kennel being the council stray dog pound which was absolutely bleak. As time passed we became ever more busy and eventually we took over the stray dog kennels and we now cover the Highland Area.

From then on we have been working very hard without let up but not so many stray dogs these days, just unwanted animals. A lot of folk struggling to afford to keep their pets and often state vet bills as their biggest problem. We obviously have to raise a substantial amount of money to keep the centre going. We have around twenty dogs, fifty cats, fourteen horses/ponies, four pigs, some sheep and 'Slioch' our only goat in residence at all times. Our homing figures are good thankfully and we manage to keep things moving along.

We provide assistance with veterinary bills when families are struggling and we provide free neutering for pets. Again this take a lot of money and our last year's vet bills totalled around \pm 77,000. Our fundraising is done in a variety of ways, we have stalls at as many events as possible. We have our own Christmas cards and calendars, we get donations sent in and benefit from legacies. We also have 'Friends of Munlochy' where people set up a direct debit and donate monthly.. Thank you to all, we couldn't do it without you.

PRAYER FOR THE VACANCY

Heavenly Father, you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be his body in this place. We give you thanks for all that has been and all that will be. We ask for your guidance as we work together in this time of vacancy: guidance to be light in our community; guidance to love and encourage one another; and guidance to draw to us the person that is right for us and our community. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.