

## January 2025 Notices

### SERVICE TIMES FOR JANUARY

**The Strathdearn hub, Tomatin at 10 am - Croy Church at 12 noon.**

#### JANUARY 2025:

#### BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP WILL RESUME IN DAVIOT CHURCH IN MARCH

**Sunday 5th:** Preacher - David Whillis

**Monday 6th** - Monthly Afternoon Tea in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 3-4pm.

**Wednesday 8th:** Guild meet at Daviot church at 2.30pm - If The Cap Fits.

**Thursday 9th & 23rd:** 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.

**Friday 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st:** Crafts, Coffee and Chat resumes at Daviot church after the Christmas break - 10.30am - 12 noon.

**Sunday 12th:** Preacher - Rev Edward Andrews

**Monday 13th** - Strathnairn & Strathdearn Guild (Croy) meet at Croy Church at 2pm.  
Group Discussion on Topic - "Sure Foundations". All Welcome.

**Sunday 19th:** Preacher - Rev Edward Andrews

**Sunday 26th:** Preacher - Mrs Vivian Roden

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

#### A QUOTE ABOUT STARTING THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

##### **Jonathan Edwards: A Simple New Year's Resolution**

*Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will. – Jonathan Edwards*

Theologian Jonathan Edwards sums up a new year's resolution rather simply: live for God. It doesn't matter who doesn't join us in doing so, but only that we continually chose to do so every day. Let us remember Edwards' notable new years quote as we enter 2025 to live for God and chose daily to do His will.

#### 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. Resumes 9th January.

Every Friday morning from 10.30am to 12.noon - Coffee & Crafts at Daviot Church. Resumes 10th January.

## News from the Session

At the time of writing, Christmas is almost upon us and we're looking forward to the Christmas Eve Services at the Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin and our United Service of Lessons and Carols at Daviot Church on Sunday 29th led by the Elders and others. We've already enjoyed two Carol Services this year.

The first was at Daviot Church on the 18th when the excellent singers of the Strathnairn Music Initiative started the evening off by treating us to a selection of enjoyable melodies which were warmly received. These were further enhanced by the explanations of the music expertly provided by the leader of the group – a lady who is clearly passionate about her music, and the carol singing in the main part of the programme was all the better for the music group joining in. Alister Cameron was a good choice as MC for the evening, the Service was well attended, and the folk who were there enjoyed further fellowship over tea and cake after the Service. Thanks to everyone who made this such a lovely evening.

The second Service was at Cawdor Church the following evening. Other than funerals and weddings, this was the first church event to be held in Cawdor since the building closed in August 2023. Fiona Lewthwaite led the Service with others taking part, and we were treated to a very enjoyable blend of Scripture passages, well-loved Christmas carols and a couple of other Christmas songs, enhanced by some well-chosen pieces of poetry and personal anecdotes. It was well attended with different age groups represented – and it was lovely to hear the chatter after the Service as people got together to catch up with each other. We hope to have further events in Cawdor Church, and people were encouraged to write down what they would like to see taking place. This event certainly provided a good starting point. Our thanks to all who made this such a successful evening.

### 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.

### **JUST ONE REQUEST**

Dear Master for this coming year  
Just one request I bring:  
I do not pray for happiness,  
or any earthly thing—  
I do not ask to understand  
the way Thou leadest me;  
But this I ask: Teach me to do  
the thing that pleases Thee.  
I want to know Thy guiding voice;  
To walk with Thee each day.  
Dear Master, make me swift to hear  
and ready to obey.  
And thus the year I now begin  
a happy year will be...  
If I am seeking just to do  
the things that pleaseth Thee.

Author Unknown

### **12 Bible Verses of Renewal and Hope for the Coming New Year**

“And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also, he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Rev. 21:5

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” Lam. 3:22-23

“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Is. 43:18-19

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” 2 Cor. 5:17

“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead.” Phil. 3:13

“Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” Acts 3:19

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jer. 29:11

“But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.” Is. 40:31

“I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them...” Ezekiel 11:19

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Prov. 3:5-6

“May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.” Ps. 20:4

“You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths drip with abundance.” Ps. 65:11