

Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland

SC003301

Minister:

Rev Ruth Kennedy Email: RKennedy@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: George & Margaret Morrison

Tel: 01463 592530 Email georgemorrison547@gmail.com margaretmorrison297@gmail.com

SERVICE TIMES FOR FEBRUARY

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

February 2026:

Monday 2nd: Monthly Afternoon Tea in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 3-4pm.

Thursdays: 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th: Prayer Meeting in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin at 10.30am.

Thursday 5th: Spiritually Strategic Teams follow-up meeting from 7.30pm - 9.00pm at Daviot Church.

Fridays 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th: Crafts, Coffee and Chat at Daviot church - 10.30am - 12noon.

Bible Study at Daviot Church - Taking a break and will resume for Lent.

Monday 9th: Strathnairn Guild meet at 2pm in Croy Church.

Speaker - Edith Knowles. Topic - Doll's House and Miniatures.

Wednesday 11th: Guild meet at Tomatin at 2.00pm. Speaker: Andrew Fothergill, MAF.

Tuesday 17th: Gaelic medium service at Daviot Church at 7.30pm. (Rev Norman MacIver.)

Sunday 22nd: Communion.

Monday 23rd: Prayer Gathering at 7pm in Daviot Church.

Tuesday 24th: Kirk Session meet at 7pm in Daviot Church.

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

Communion

Breaking bread and drinking juice from the cup together is a deeply rich, spiritual practice of our faith and we do it because Jesus tells us to. It is a special event set apart with particular blessings. It is open to anyone who loves Jesus or who wants to love Him. We would love for you to join us on these dates to celebrate communion: 22nd Feb, 2nd April, 24th May, 13th Sept, 22nd Nov.

Blythswood Items for February

Tin of mince/stew - 1kg bags of rice - Tin of potatoes/smash - Tin of ham/corned beef - Tin of meatballs - Tin of tuna - Box of tea - Mens deoderant - Shampoo - Washing up liquid.



Find us on Facebook

Strathnairn and Strathdearn Parish

Our parish website can be found at:

<http://www.strathsnairnanddearn.co.uk/>

For recorded services at Croy go to YouTube and search for
Strathnairn and Strathdearn Parish Church

Bitesize Hope with Ruth

For the Snowsports in Scotland, this is looking like it might be a good season. And I find myself inspired by the cross country skiers who slide their way up the hills I am hiking up or through the woods I have adapted to skate through! I love how God uses others to encourage us out of our comfort zones to try something new. Sometimes gently with hesitation, sometimes excitingly with gusto.

I was hiking in the snowy hills with friends recently, one a missionary to Brazil back home for a holiday. We had good kit, read the mountain weather reports and had chosen a safe route. Turned out it was a popular blue sky day route with others hauling their legs through the very deep snowdrifts, forging their own paths. We laughed as we collapsed in snow, encouraged each other, shared hot drinks and stories. And when we got to the saddle between two hill tops, they turned right and I went left.

I was on my own.

Nobody else to take a turn of discovering how deep the snow was in front of me on the pathless hill. When my leg disappeared in the white stuff, over my knees, for the umpteenth time, I realised despite all the love I had for solo adventures and exploring the mountains, I enjoyed this type of strenuous adventure much more with others. I called it quits and returned the next day with company.

When God puts us in the company of others, such as Church it is because this is good for us. Each of us have a place of belonging in Church – and those who don't yet come, you too, have a place of belonging here! The faith adventuring friendships we build and create are sources of encouragement, inspiration and support. Of discipleship where we learn from each other about living the way of Jesus, loving Him, and loving all those around us. Everyone. In church, out of church. In the adventure of mission, we go with Jesus, and we go with each other. Isn't a solo-adventure.

I wonder who you might be walking with and who is walking with you? Reach out and love well friends, there are many Jesus-adventures for us all to have, together!

***'Go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.'* (Jesus Christ)**

Our Learning Community with Cairn will be coming to an end in the Spring and we wanted to share with you a bit about what we have been learning. As previously shared, a Learning Community is a two-year process of learning together, looking at building a discipleship culture (refocussing on every member ministry); building a leadership pipeline; creating ways for sustained mission activities; looking at ways to take this further.

The Kirk Session and others have been exploring how to take this forward and have been looking at building teams around the the Five-Fold Ministry (APEST). The five-fold ministry refers to the leadership gifts bestowed upon the Church by Jesus Christ, as outlined in Ephesians 4: 11-12. "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up". These verses refers to the five roles God has called Christians to fill; Apostles, (who provide foundational vision and govern; Prophets, who communicate divine insight and heart; Evangelists, who are compelled to spread the Gospel to the unreached; Shepherds, who shepherd and care for the spiritual wellbeing of the flock; Teachers, who ground the community in sound doctrine and understanding.

The "gifts" in Ephesians 4 are actually the people (the body of Christ). They are how we are "wired" instead of spiritual gifts given to a person. Someone who is "wired" as a Shepherd may very well provide hospitality as they desire to welcome people into their home to provide a place of care and safety. However, a person who is highly apostolic and a low Shepherd who still has the desire to be radically hospitable, but with a very different motivation. They want to start something new. Pioneer a new work, wanting to form a new venture by welcoming others into that new adventure.

We have all participated in the five-fold ministries questionnaire to see where our own gifts lie, and when we have evaluated all the responses, we will be looking to form teams, working together, toward the future of our church, where every member of our body is equipped for service.

While we are currently uncovering the specific ways God has equipped us to serve, and to truly see this fruit come to life, we need your prayers, encouragement and grace. Please engage in conversation about what is being learned, and remain open to new perspectives in our shared mission. With your support we are ensuring that every part of our church is empowered to do the work of ministry together.

Cairn Learning Community Team.