

## Your Minister's Musings

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January

A new year can feel like a blank page—an opportunity to try new things, leaving behind those things that didn't work, and embrace fresh possibilities. Many of us make resolutions: to eat healthier, exercise more, or spend less time on our screens. While some resolutions may fade quickly, others can change our lives.

But what about resolutions for our faith journey or our church community? As we begin this new year, let's reflect on what it means to follow Christ and serve Him as part of the Strathspey Kirks.



In Isaiah 43:18-19, God says:

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!"

This shows how God is always at work, calling us forward with hope and faith. The past may have shaped us, but we cannot live there. Whether last year was spiritually fulfilling or challenging, God invites us to leave behind regrets and embrace the new.

As Paul writes in Philippians 3:13-14:

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

So, what might this look like for us? Perhaps new small groups for fellowship, identifying local needs to address, creating more prayer opportunities, or finding intergenerational ways to connect. Let's dream big and step forward in faith, trusting that God will guide us. If you have any ideas, please let me or one of the Elders know, and we can see if we can make them happen as a congregation.

This week, please take some time to reflect, what new thing is God calling you to embrace this year? How can you be part of His work in our church and community? Let's resolve to deepen our faith, grow our community, and shine Christ's light brightly in 2025. Remember, God's mercies are new every morning, so let's step into the year with trust, courage, and hope!

Amen