

Fife: Eden Tay Parish

November 2024

Interim Moderator

Hello! My name is Ewan Oliver, and I have been asked by Presbytery to serve as the Interim Moderator for the new Parish of Fife: Eden Tay. I am not a minister. I am an elder, formerly at St Columba's Glenrothes and now part of Heart of Fife (Glenrothes, Leslie, Markinch and Thornton).

I've lived in Glenrothes for nearly 40 years and before I retired 8 years ago, I was a Maths teacher, mainly at Buckhaven and then Inverkeithing High Schools. My parents were both born and brought up in Cupar and one of my Grannies was from near Ladybank.

So, the parishes of Edenshead, Falkland and Freuchie, Howe of Fife and Lindores are no more. Everything has changed and we are all together in Fife Eden Tay now. Some aspects of the change will be difficult and perhaps painful, but it is also exciting to discover what God has in store for us.

It is the Interim Moderator's task to help the new parish become fully established and to work with all of you to reach the stage where a new minister will be called. I hope and pray that, with God's help I am equal to this task. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you.

May God bless each one of you and the parish of Fife Eden Tay.

Ewan

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Welcome to the first newsletter for Fife: Eden Tay Parish Church.

On the 1st of October 2024, the five parishes of Edenshead, Howe of Fife, Falkland, Freuchie and Lindores became one united parish.

Since 2017 members from these “legacy churches” have been joining together as Eden Tay Cluster and have shared worship, walks, quizzes, drama events etc. This formal union now recognises the fact that we are one large church family with a new name.

The new parish covers an area of something like 40 square miles, with a population of approximately 14,000 and a church membership of around 800. The mix of hamlets, villages and towns will have three worship centres. The new, amalgamated Kirk Session now has 33 Trustee Elders.

Currently there is no full-time Minister in post but once everything is in place, we can start advertising to find a suitable applicant.

When there is no minister in post, Presbytery appoints an Interim Moderator to help with all the necessary official business. See page one for an introduction from Mr Ewan Oliver who is fulfilling this role for Eden Tay Parish.

A Parish Profile Group, made up of people from each “legacy” parish, has been working on compiling a parish profile – an overview of the places, people and potential - with which to tempt in a new Minister! It is basically our shop window, so the more organised, enthusiastic and missionally active we can be, the better to attract a forward thinking and enthusiastic Minister of Word and Sacrament for our countryside parish.

Since April this year, following a meeting of all the gathered elders, there have been similar groups working on topics such as Pastoral Care, Worship, Property, Finance, Website & Comms, Mission & Outreach. This has given us the building blocks on which to base the work of the new Kirk Session. There is no requirement for members of these groups to be a Trustee Elder and there are currently 43 people involved, which is a wonderfully positive sign for the future.

There will be changes and challenges, but we are positive about the future of our new parish and are enjoying getting to know new friends during our joint services and social events. Come along and see for yourself. This is an ideal time to join in as together we begin to build something new and different.

A quote from a conference somewhere said, "If you don't change anything you only get what you've always had" And another said "Be the change you want to see"..... Food for thought.

This is an exciting time in which to try new things, attend courses such as Weaving Worship and develop new ways of worshipping which suit our new, larger congregation.

Everything we do together will help to bring us a new understanding of the way God is working through His people.

Some dates for your diary

**Sat 23 November 10 -12 noon Auchtermuchty Church Hall
Fife: Eden Tay Church Guild - Coffee Morning**

**Tues 26 November - 7pm Freuchie Church -
The Rock Choir Adults £8 Children £2**

Sat 30 Nov.-10-12 -Freuchie Church Hall -Christmas Fayre

**Sun 1 December - 7pm - Auchtermuchty Church Hall
Tullis Russell Brass Band -£7 - Plus Huge Hamper Raffle**

Wed 4 Dec- 10.30am - Abdie & Dunbog - Celtic Communion

**Sat 7 Dec- 2-4pm Freuchie Church Hall - Christmas Craft
Fayre - for Christmas Lights fund - followed at 5.30pm by
lights switch on with choir, mulled wine, mince pies etc.**

**Wed 18 December - 7pm - Ladybank Golf Club welcomes
Fife Eden Tay to a Christmas Fun Night - £-Donations
on the night - Music, Carols, Quiz, Mince pies, Mulled wine
Best/worst Christmas Jumper/Joke/Poem competition,**

**For more information about services and other dates please
see the new Eden Tay website – www.fife-edentaychurch.co.uk**

Worship Dates

November		
Sun 17	9.30am	Falkland Church
	10.00am	Kettle Church
	10.30am	Auchtermuchty Church
	10.30am	Abdie & Dunbog Church
	11.15am	Freuchie Church
Sun 24	9.30am	Falkland Church
	10.00am	Kettle Church
	10.30am	Auchtermuchty Church
	10.30am	Newburgh Church
	11.15am	Freuchie Church
<i>Until further notice, the above two-weekly pattern of worship will repeat.</i>		
Christmas Worship		
24 Dec – Evening Watchnight		Freuchie 7pm Auchtermuchty 11.30pm Abdie & Dunbog 11.30pm
25 Dec - Christmas		Newburgh 10.30am
<i>On the first Sunday of each month, there will be a joint service moving round the five church buildings as detailed below.</i>		
<i>There will be no worship in any other church building on these Sundays.</i>		
Dec 1	10.30am	Freuchie Church - Eden Tay Joint Worship – First Sunday in Advent - Followed by tea/coffee/biscuits
Jan 5	10.30am	Kettle Church – Eden Tay Joint Worship. Followed by tea/coffee/biscuits
Feb 2	10.30am	Auchtermuchty Church – Eden Tay Joint Worship. Followed by tea/coffee/biscuits
Mar 2	10.30am	Newburgh Church – Eden Tay Joint Worship. Followed by tea/coffee/biscuits
Apr 6	10.30am	Falkland Church – Eden Tay Joint Worship. Followed by tea/coffee/biscuits.

The Church would like to keep in touch with members, so if you have an email address which you are happy to share, and maybe a contact number, please email edentaysessionclerk1@gmail.com

Please don't forget to put your name on the email!

Thank you