

Focus on Fetteresso

At the commencement of the morning service on Sunday, Session Clerk Frank Dunn read a formal notice informing the congregation that the Rev Dr Fyfe Blair would preach as nominee for the vacant minister's position at the 10.45am service on Sunday 25th January, immediately following which members of the congregation would then be asked to vote on his appointment.

Reverend Bill Wallace, recently retired after 38 years ministry in Caithness, took the service, and with the children's help, showed that while it might take 30 seconds or more to build a wall with bricks, it could be knocked down in less than one second. So it was with the church; slow and difficult to build up and share Jesus, but easy to knock down by judging and criticising others.

Mary Wood did an excellent job of reading Nehemiah 8, (including a large number of unpronounceable names!) and 2 Timothy 3.

In his main sermon, Rev Wallace focussed on how everyone, no matter how unimportant or lowly their job or position, is remembered by God and can play a vital part in furthering God's kingdom. The joy of the Lord is our strength, and that can change and comfort us all, no matter what our sins are. We should do our best to encourage and build up each other, and do something positive about others' needs. We should commit ourselves afresh in the New Year, and worship and honour God continuously.

Keith Stewart led a large group of singers and musicians at the evening service, reading from Mark 13. Reverend David Stewart preached on the topic "Sign of the times", and asked what Jesus was trying to say as he talked about the signs at the end of the age. The probability was that Jesus was focusing on what the signs meant for the people of his day, in their lifetimes. He urged them to hold on, be patient and wait it out – God's love will never end. Jesus is always here, still touching people, still changing lives – and he is coming back! We must prepare for his coming, and live our lives expectantly, continuing to share our faith with others.

An Alpha Course Introductory Evening will be held next Tuesday 20th January at 7.30pm, with a daytime course scheduled to start on Wednesday 28th at 12noon. Full details are available from Brenda Robertson at 731363 or the church office.

The Fetteresso web site www.fetteresso.org.uk gives news, views, and updates on past and forthcoming events in the church calendar.