



## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2024

The Global Focus Working Group have agreed to bring the annual photo competition forward to enable the 2025 calendar to be completed and ready for sale at the General Assembly in June 2024.

Please take time to read through the categories and consider entering the competition. It is good fun and will help raise funds for a worthy cause – this year the monies raised will go support some of the work carried out by Flying Mission Care, Botswana.

You can enter a photograph that you have previously taken that fits a category or embark on an adventure to capture a new moment.

### Photo Competition Categories:

**My Church** – *"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Ps 122:1*

There may be something in your Church that really touches you or stands out for you. It may be a stain glass window or a banner or a particular carving on a pillar; it may be a particular person or group of people. What is it in your Church that is particularly special to you?

**Nature** – *"By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible." Hebrews 11:3*

Flowers, landscapes, seasons, sunset, sunrise, trees – the majesty of God's creation is all around us to see. The diversity of colour, shape, texture and imagery is wonderful. Get the camera out and capture an image that embodies what speaks to you in nature.

**This brings me joy** – *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13*

It may be a photo of your pet, or a wave crashing against rocks. It may be seeing a ladybird or looking at a fiery sunset. There are so many things that bring us joy. Why not take a photo and share it with us?

**On my travels** – *"From one man he made all the people of the world. Now they live all over the earth." Acts 17:26*

The richness and diversity of God's people and his world is amazing. Whether your travels have been in the UK or further afield, what have you seen that has lifted your spirits, intrigued you, filled you with wonder or just left you speechless. Why not share it with us?

**That made me laugh** – *"He will fill your mouth with laughter. Shouts of joy will come from your lips." Job 8:21*

It might have been the expression on someone's face or a sign you saw. It might have been the antics of a pet or a wild animal. What made you laugh?

**Everyday objects** – *"And happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples..." Mark 2:15*

It may be handmade quilt or a lamp or a drawing a child/grandchild did for you. It may be something that is special because of the story behind it. Sometimes, we don't need to look too far to find the subject of an interesting or uplifting photo.

**Wow!! That's amazing** – *"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." Revelation 4:11*

It may be the intricacies of a spider's web or frost on a plant before the sun warms up or a cloud formation. So much in God's creation makes us go 'Wow'! How about capturing it in photo and sending it in to the Photo Comp?

**Architecture** – *"and in the cutting of stones for settings and in the carving of wood, so as to perform in every inventive work." Exodus 35:33*

There are some amazing structures around us. Some old, some new, some where people live or work, others have very specific functions – a bridge, a lighthouse, a train station. Can you beat last year's winner?

## INFORMATION

Please clearly indicate which category or categories you are entering. It would be wonderful if your photograph was accompanied by a relevant Scripture passage. Alternatively, if the focus of the photograph has helped you in your walk with God, we would love to hear about it. Entry Fee is £5 per photograph (or donation) and all monies raised (last year the equivalent of £3 per calendar) will be donated to a charity to be chosen by the Global Focus Working Group – on this occasion, a project run by our Partner Flying Mission Care Botswana.

There are two age groups - 21 and under and 22 and over. The winner, in each age group, will receive a £30 gift card and their photograph will be the front cover of an issue of Stedfast. It is intended the 12 winning images will be made into an exclusive Global Focus Calendar for 2025.

The calendars will be printed and ready to purchase at Ladies' Day, General Assembly, The Gathering at Lendrick Muir and Church Office from June 2024.

## HOW TO ENTER



1. Choose the category or categories you wish to enter.
  2. Photographs must be in JPEG format, be a well-lit, high-quality image and 4-5Mb in size.
  3. Landscape format will work best.
  4. Congregations can submit bulk applications as long as each entry is clearly marked.
  5. Please ask permission of any people in the photographs, especially if they are under 18 or vulnerable adults.
  6. Submit up to three photographs.
  7. When submitting your photographs remember to give your name, email address and phone number. Please also include the competition category and age category.
  8. Please remember to submit your entry fee of £5 per photograph (or donation) by bank transfer. Details of how to pay will be sent upon receipt of photographs.
9. Please send your images to: [photocomp@ufcos.org.uk](mailto:photocomp@ufcos.org.uk)
10. Entries must be received by: **12 noon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024**