

KNEC NEWS



April 2018



Kirknewton and East Calder Parish Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity No: SC006973



This month includes

Vacancy News

The Break

Prayer Matters

In Focus

Finance Report

Safeguarding

Boys' Brigade

Kids' Korner

The road to Emmaus

The story of the two disciples walking the road between Jerusalem and Emmaus on the

first Easter day is 'one of the immortal short stories of the world' (W. Barclay). Their encounter with the risen Christ is also a model for how we can meet him in our lives.

Hearts Opened.

The disciples displayed 'downcast' faces, as their hearts were preoccupied with grief. They felt let down by God, as well as bewildered by all they had heard. No doubt their emotions prevented them from recognising Jesus walking with them, even though their hearts burned within them. Despite our feelings, Jesus is still with us in situations of loss or desolation, as well as when we feel let down by God or other people.

Minds Opened.

Although this pair knew the Scriptures, they didn't understand what they said about the Christ. Therefore, Jesus opened their minds to make sense of the events they were experiencing. The Holy Spirit also brings God's word alive for us, as He challenges our preconceptions about Jesus.

Eyes Opened.

The couple only recognised Jesus when He broke the bread as they ate together. The turning point came when they invited Jesus into their home and allowed Him to take charge. If we are to recognise Jesus' presence with us, we need to open our lives to Him. What part does Holy Communion play in this?

Open eyes, minds and hearts will lead to open mouths. Having discovered Jesus, the disciples can't keep the news to themselves. The Christian message is never truly ours until we have opened our mouths and shared it with others



VACANCY NEWS

Our new minister, Rev Alistair Cowper, will be inducted at a service in East Calder church on Wednesday 18th April starting at 7.00pm. After the service there will be an opportunity for fellowship in the church hall where refreshments will be served.

Rev Cowper is planning to move into the manse over the following 2 days (19th and 20th April) and will conduct his first services with us on Sunday 22nd April. From then on we will lose the services of our Interim Moderator, Rev Jaco Boonzaaier, and of Ken our locum minister who will preach for the last time with us on Sunday 15th April.

Brenda will remain with us as our Auxiliary Minister. To all three we owe a huge debt of gratitude for all their work with us during the vacancy.

Session Clerk

PASTORAL VISITS



Please advise Ken (until 18th April), Brenda, the Session Clerk, or your Elder of anyone known to you who is ill, either at home or in hospital, and who would welcome a visit.



CHURCH ROLL

If you are moving, or any change is necessary to the entry regarding you on the Church Roll, please give the relevant information to either your Elder or the Session Clerk.

FUNERALS

To all who have lost a loved one we extend our sincere sympathy and the assurance of our prayers.



THE BREAK

The Break is an opportunity to meet in fellowship for a short time of worship, prayer and thanksgiving. The Break will meet twice during April (on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 12.30pm, after the Lunch Club) and will continue our theme 'The Sermon on the Mount'.

- On Thursday 5th April, one of our elders will lead on Matt 7:7-12 (Ask, Seek, Knock).
- On Thursday 19th April, one of our elders will lead on Matt 6:25-34 (Do Not Worry).

All welcome.

Prayer



Matters

24 HOUR PRAYER POP IN

This is an opportunity to pop in and spend some time in church. To pray, to sit quietly, to read, to write, to chat, to listen to quiet music, to be prayed with or to share a cuppa in our prayer café in the prayer room.

It will be held in East Calder Church on Wednesday

the 11th April from 7 pm until Thursday the 12th at 7 pm. Everybody and all ages are encouraged to pop in. We look forward to you being with us, again for as long or as short a time that suits YOU. Please pop in and share in our time of thanksgiving and prayer as we look back to the past and forward to the new Ministry in this place under Rev Alistair Cowper.

PRAYER FOCUS

A reminder of the prayer produced last year as we considered our use of our time.

Living Lord Jesus, we are bound by time but you are not.

Break through, we pray, and redeem our use of your time for these are desperate days. Inhabit our actions, our thinking and our opportunities.

Help us be alert to your presence in every moment.

For every day, and all we are, is yours.

AMEN

Ephesians 5:16 The Message

Prayer Secretary

F*in*OCUS

Please consider coming along to an informal evening service on Sundays at 6.30 pm in East Calder Church Hall to meet in fellowship

with others. The Bible tells us that God alone is worthy of our worship (Ps 96:4) and so we meet in fellowship to give thanks for God's love and goodness towards us by listening to witness testimonies, reflections, and considering 'big issues' affecting Christians today. There is an open invitation to all, because when believers get together, God is there also. Refreshments are offered so that sharing fellowship can continue over tea/coffees.

Programme until 17 June 2018:

8 April 2018

One of our members will speak about his 5 favourite hymns and why they are important to him (rescheduled).

15 April 2018

One of our members will share her experience of an aspect of God's character - "God our shield".

22 April 2018

One of our members will speak to the fellowship on a big issue which affects lives.

29 April 2018

One of our members will reflect upon verse 5 of hymn "When we walk with the Lord" and the chorus, trust and obey.

6 May 2018

Evening Communion.

13 May 2018

One of our members will share her experience of aspects of God's character.

20 May 2018

No In Focus.

27 May 2018

One of our members will review the hymn “When we walk with the Lord” and the chorus, trust and obey.

3 June 2018

One of our members will speak about their 5 favourite hymns and why they are important.

10 June 2018

One of our members will share her experience of an aspect of God’s character - “God the Good Shepherd”;

17 June 2018

Summer Songs of Praise.



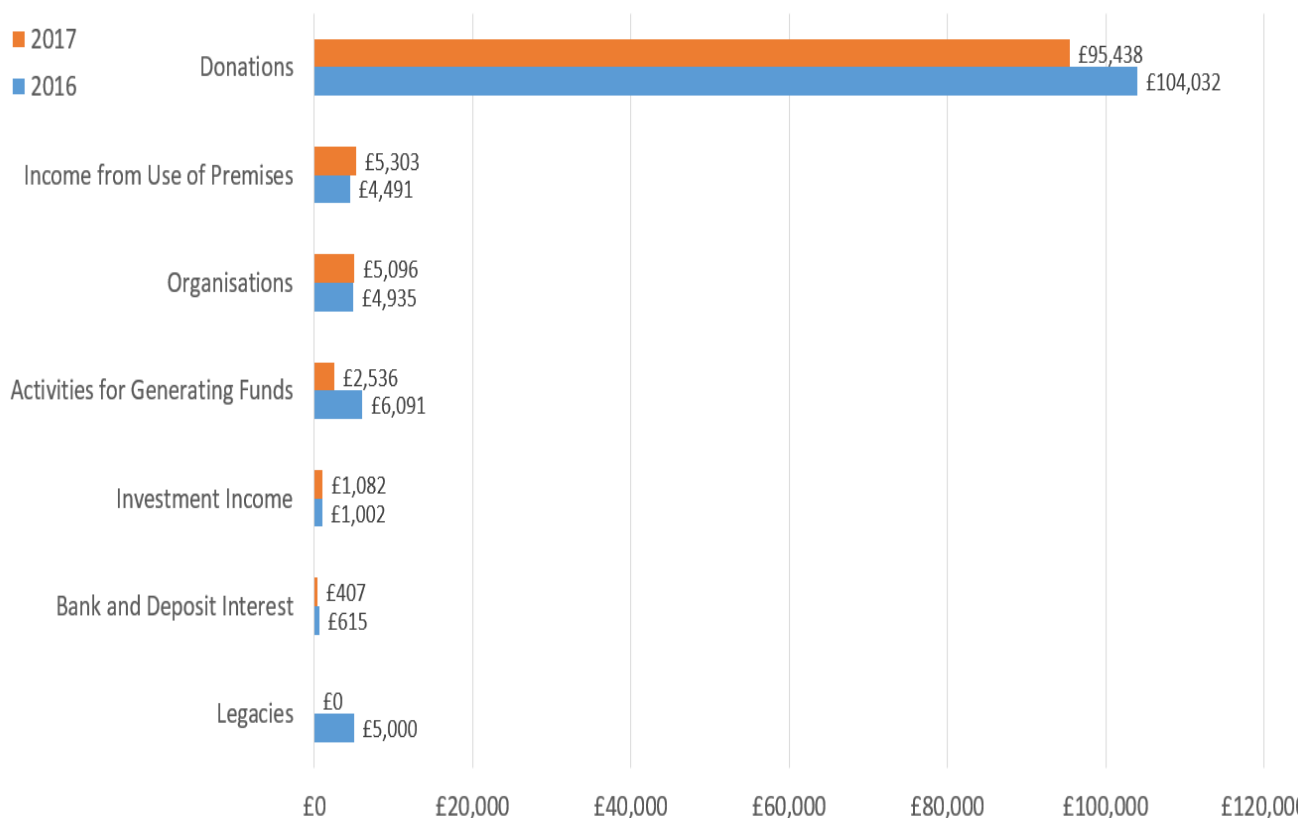
2017 Annual Report & Accounts

The 2017 Annual Report and Accounts were presented at the Annual Stated Meeting on 13th March. The full report and accounts are also now available on our website - <http://www.knec4jesus.org.uk>. If you require a paper copy, please contact the treasurer.

Total Receipts were **£109,862** and total Payments were **£110,556**, resulting in a small deficit for the year of **£694**. It is worth noting that the year-end position in 2016 was a surplus of £9,944, which was overinflated due to receipt of a £5,000 legacy from a former Church member in late 2016. The subsequent investment of this legacy has contributed to the deficit position in 2017 as it is treated as an expense. Consequently, it is important to recognise the impact of this legacy when comparing last year's performance with that of 2016.

Receipts

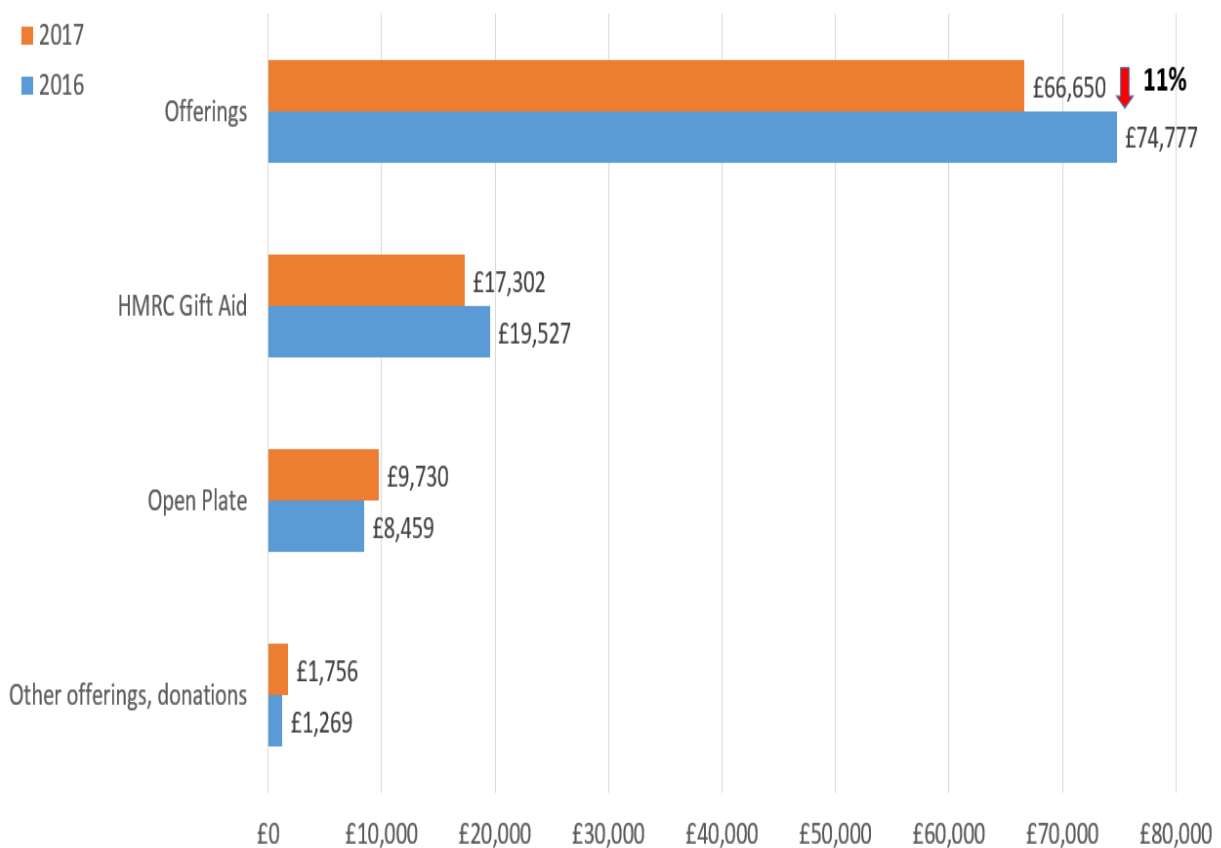
Total Receipts in 2017 compared to 2016



Total Receipts across key headings within the accounts are broadly similar to 2016 with a few exceptions: 2017 saw a reduction in overall Donations and lower income from Activities for Generating Funds (due to fewer weddings and funerals taking place in our Church and the funds raised at East Calder Gala being donated to West Lothian Food Bank).

A further breakdown of Donations is provided below for information.

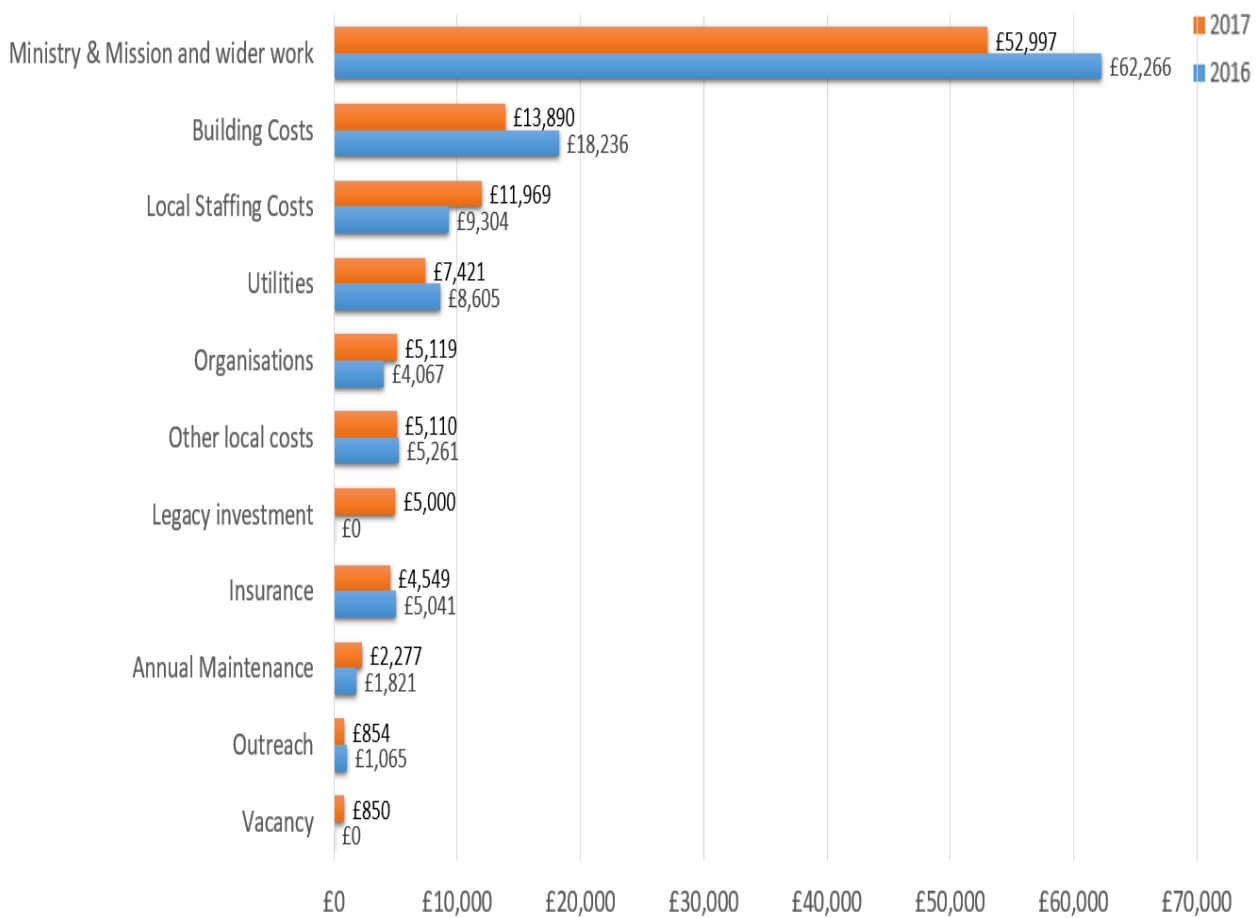
Donations in 2017



The principal source of income remains weekly offerings and tax recovered on Gift Aid donations. Compared to 2016, there has been an 11% reduction in such donations; however, a small increase in open plate donations has helped offset some of the difference. Gift Aid continues to be one of the simplest means whereby our Church can benefit financially, therefore, if you are a tax payer, either on your salary or pension, please consider signing a Gift Aid form.

Payments

Total Payments in 2017 compared to 2016



The key differences in 2017 compared to 2016 in terms of Payments are the reduced Ministries and Mission allocation payment, Minister's expenses and pulpit supply expenses due to our vacancy. The cost of our locum is included within Local Staffing Costs. During 2017, significant property expenditure for the Church included work on slates and guttering, the repair of lightning conductors, repairs to the windows at Kirknewton Church and re-doing the floor and lighting in East Calder Church Hall.

Our grateful thanks go to our Property Convenor and his group of helpers who look after all our properties. Their ongoing work has successfully kept our property costs down again this year.

It is worth noting that the budget for 2017 estimated income on the General Account, i.e. excluding organisations, to be £109,380 (actual £103,483) and forecast costs of £107,921 (£103,612). Therefore, whilst income from donations has been lower than anticipated, so too have expenses.

In terms of our collections for third parties, £3,805 was raised for eight charities during 2017.

Please give prayerful consideration to the finances of our Church and thank you for your continued support. Finally, if you would like a Gift Aid form, a set of envelopes or a Standing Order form then please just ask me.

Treasurer

'Safeguarding Courses'

Two Safeguarding courses are available for volunteers wishing

to work with young children. These courses are mandatory and must be completed before being able to work with any group of young children within the church.

1.

Friday 27th April 7.00-9.45 at Blackburn & Seafield Parish Church Hall, 5 MacDonald Gardens, Blackburn EH47 7RE

2.

Monday 21st May 7.00-9.45 at Livingston United Parish Chapel, Lanthorn Community Complex, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston, EH54 6JL

If you wish to attend one of these courses, please advise the Safeguarding Co-ordinator and she will put your name forward.

CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Requests should come to the Hall Convenors, by the end of the first week of each month and they will be referred to the Congregational Board.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

If you have an article for KNEC News please submit it, preferably by email, using the dedicated address: knecnews@btinternet.com

The deadline for April's Magazine will be **Friday 20th April**.

CHURCH WEBSITE

The Church's website includes sermons. To access them all you have to do is to go to the home page <http://www.knec4jesus.org.uk> and click on '**Sermons**'.

Copies of KNEC News are also on the website. Have a look!

If you would like to receive **KNEC NEWS** by email please send your email address to: knecnews@btinternet.com

West Lothian Presbytery – Year of Young People Celebration



West Lothian Presbytery organised a gathering to celebrate the Year of Young People on Saturday 24th March at Livingston United Parish Church.

There were various workshops and three of our Senior Boys organised sports for three of the workshops on Health & Wellbeing. As well as physical activities we also focused on stressful situations and had pictures to colour as colouring has a calming influence. This proved very popular.

About 60 people attended the event and the most enjoyed sport at our workshop was the Kurling.

Two leaders and one young person from EnerJ together with the five of us from The Boys' Brigade represented Kirknewton and East Calder Church at this event.



Due to the school holidays, we're off on 6th April and back at the usual times from 13th April. It's then not long until we start planning our Annual Display and Presentation of Awards. We're pleased that our Chief Guest this year will be West Lothian Battalion's Chaplain who is well known in Kirknewton and East Calder.

We're also pleased to confirm that one of our Senior Boys has now completed all the work for the Queen's Badge and has attended a Completion Course at Carronvale. His Queen's Badge will be presented at our Presentation of Awards.



Three of our Senior Boys have now completed the first year of their Queen's Badge work and they're all progressing well. So hopefully we'll be presenting a further three Queen's Badges next year.

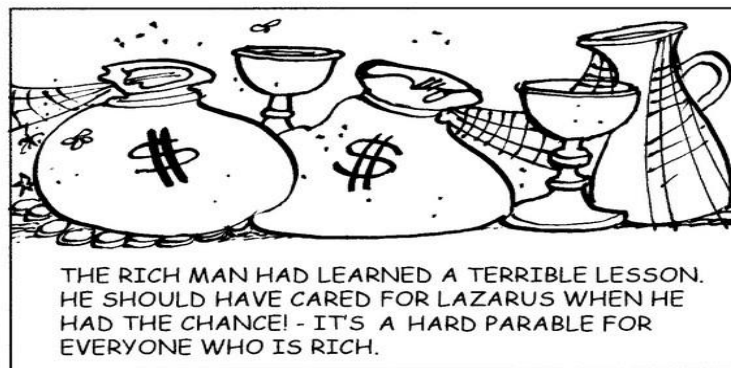
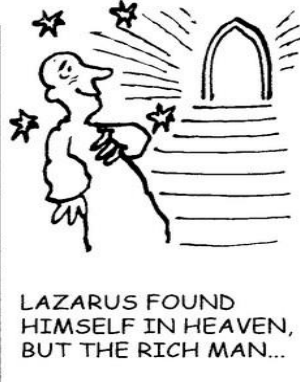
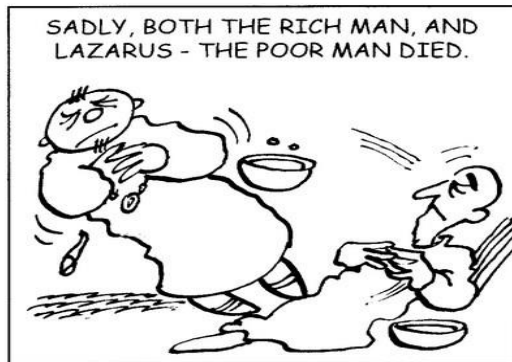
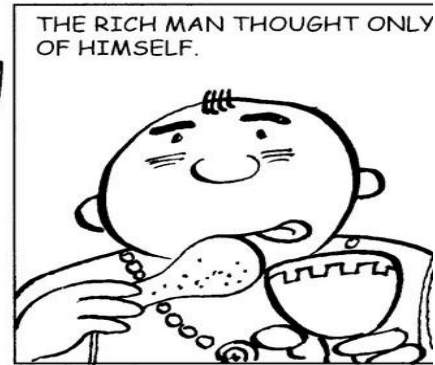
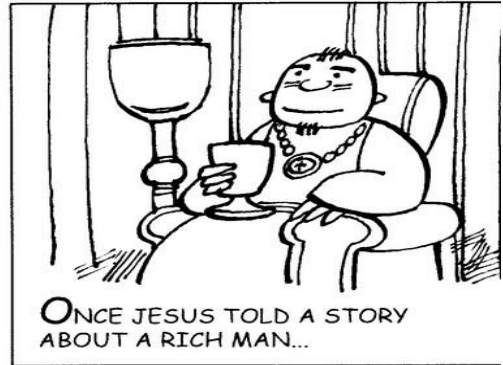
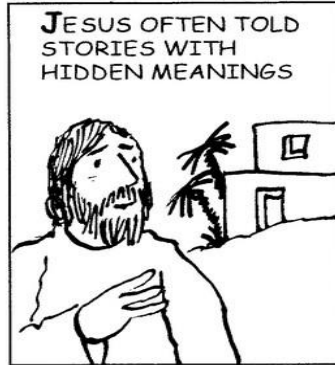
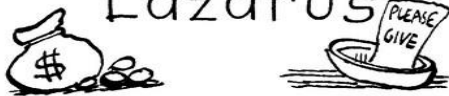


Another two of our Boys will gain their President's Badges this year so they'll be working for their Queen's Badge over the next two years.

We hope that you all have a lovely Easter.

Captain

The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus



CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Organisation	Contact(s)	Email	Tel	Details
Prayer Group				Mondays: 7.30pm East Calder Church Prayer Room.
Youth Church				S1 to S4, Sundays: 11.15am East Calder Church
Kosy Kaff				Primary school age children 1 st & 3 rd Fridays during school term 4.00-5.00pm Kirknewton Village Hall
EnerJ				Ages 3 – 11. Sundays: 11.15am East Calder Church Hall
The Boys' Brigade				Anchor Boys: 5yrs/P3-6.30pm-7.30pm Junior Sect: P4/5/6-6.45pm-8.15pm Company Sect: P7-18ys 7.30pm-9.45pm Fridays: East Calder Church Hall
The Guild				1 st and 3 rd Tuesday in month 7.30pm East Calder Church Hall
House Groups				Wednesdays 7.30pm
Singing Group				Tuesdays 7.45pm Kirknewton Church
Baby and Toddler Group				Thursdays: 9.30am-11.30am Kirknewton Church Hall
Lunch Club				1 st & 3 rd Thursday of each month 11.30am-12.30pm E/C Church Hall
The Break				1 st & 3 rd Thursday of each month 12.30pm-12.50pm East Calder Church Prayer Room
Forget-me-not Café				Last Thursday of each month 10.00am-12noon East Calder Church Hall
Bible Study				Last Wednesday of each month 10.00am-11.00am Kirknewton Church Hall
Praise Band				Sundays: 11.00am East Calder Church and 6.00pm East Calder Church Hall
Men's Fellowship				2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the month East Calder Church Hall 8.30am

CHURCH CALENDAR

(See Organisations' meeting times on page 17)

Sunday	1 st Apr	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am
Monday	2 nd Apr	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	3 rd Apr	The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Thursday	5 th Apr	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Sunday	8 th Apr	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	9 th Apr	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	10 th Apr	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	11 th Apr	24 Hour Prayer Pop-In From 7.00pm in East Calder Church Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	12 th Apr	24 Hour Prayer Pop-In Until 7.00pm in East Calder Church
Friday	13 th Apr	Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Saturday	14 th Apr	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	15 th Apr	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	16 th Apr	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm

CHURCH

CALENDAR cont'd

Tuesday	17 th Apr	The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	18 th Apr	Induction of Rev Alistair Cowper East Calder Church 7.00pm
Thursday	19 th Apr	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	20 th Apr	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	22 nd Apr	Morning Worship Services - Communion Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	23 rd Apr	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	24 th Apr	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	25 th Apr	Kirknewton Bible Study Kirknewton Church Hall 10.00-11.00am Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	26 th Apr	Forget-me-Not Café East Calder Church Hall 10.00am – 12 noon
Friday	27 th Apr	Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Saturday	28 th Apr	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	29 th Apr	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	30 th Apr	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm