

KNEC NEWS



"we have come to worship him."

DECEMBER 2018



Kirkcaldy and East Fife Parish Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity No: SC006973



This month includes:

From the Manse

House Groups

The Break

In Focus

EnerJ News

Torchlight Procession

Just Listen

Boys' Brigade

The Guild

Kids' Korner

Worship Services Dec & Jan

Love Grows in Frail Flesh

“Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favour with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!”



(Luke 1:30-33)

The birth of Jesus, God with us, is an amazing miracle. Only God could have devised such a plan to take on human flesh and be born, through water and blood, in an animal’s shelter.

Anyone who has ever been present at the birth of a child knows that something supernatural is going on. How is it possible? That this fragile bundle of human flesh, with perfectly formed limbs and unique finger prints, can emerge from within the womb of a mother?

Mary was likely only a teenage girl when the angel visited her, but from that moment on, the love of God was growing inside her. God had “taken notice of this lowly servant girl” (Luke 1:48) and she knew that from now on she would be blessed. She needn’t be afraid. Nothing was impossible for the God who had spoken to her.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, may you know, that because of this incarnation, the love of God is growing inside you too. And despite your hesitations and doubts, the God who is with us, is determined to bring his gift to fulfilment, so that you might experience grace upon grace, and live and love, out of the overflow of his mercy.

May your soul praise the Lord, and your spirit rejoice in God the Saviour.

Baptisms



Funerals

*Mr David Blair on 19th October
at West Lothian Crematorium*



*Mrs Margaret Jones on 5th November
at West Lothian Crematorium*

*Mrs Violet Heeps on 15th November
in Kirknewton Church*

Pastoral Care

Please let Alistair or Brenda know if you'd like a home visit, or to go out for coffee. They don't always know who'd like a visit, so it would help if people asked for one. They'd hate to miss out people. Also, if you are happy for Alistair to hold your 'phone number on his mobile 'phone, please let him know if you haven't done so already.

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.

House Groups

December will see our House Groups complete their study of 'Reclaiming Jesus'. Groups meet for the last time this year during the week commencing 17th December.

House Groups will start up again after the Christmas break on 9th and 10th January. Groups meet on a Wednesday evening (at 7:30pm) and at the Manse on a Thursday evening (7:30pm).

All are welcome.

The Break

The Break continues the theme 'The Miracles of Jesus' and will meet once during December.

On Thursday 6th December, the theme will be 'First miraculous catch of fish on the lake at Gennesaret'. Come along and join this short service of praise, worship and fellowship - 12:30pm, after the Lunch Club.

As this will be the last Break of this year, thanks to all who have led, supported and attended during 2018.

After the Christmas break, we will resume on Thursday 17th January 2019 when the theme will be 'Jesus cleanses the man with leprosy'.

In Focus is held each Sunday evening at 18.30 in East Calder Church Hall. In this time, we meet in fellowship, to worship and praise God, and learn through others experience about God's goodness towards us. All welcome.

The programme for December and January 2019, is as follows: -

- December 2: Café. One of our members will tell of her passion for writing books, poems and stories and reflect on how God has empowered her to do this;
- December 9: One of our members will share about a new beginning or ending she has experienced and will reflect on how it has helped her know God better;
- December 16: Christmas Community Songs of Praise will be held this year in the Partnership Centre at 18.30. Please feel free to bring friends along.
- 2019
- January: 6 Café. One of our members will share how the Prayer Group enables fellowship and encourages outreach;
- January 13: An evening when someone will reflect on getting to know God better through experiencing a new beginning or ending;
- January 20: Big Issue: Safe Families for Children, will discuss the Church as a safe family for all;
- January 27: Café. One of our members will tell of his work and passion to study and show animals to others and how God has empowered him in this line of work;

Please think about coming along to meet others at In Focus. Refreshments will be provided.

In Focus Planning Team

Daily Bible Reading Notes

Bible reading notes can help us in our walk with Jesus. Should you wish to continue, or start to purchase notes, which help us apply the Bible to our daily lives, then you may wish to consider any of the following: -



Every day with Jesus / Life every day (1 year, 6 issues = £3.25 each or £19.50 per year);

Daily Bread / Encounter with God (1 year, 4 issues = £4.49 each or £17.96 per year);

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 February's Magazine will be **Friday 25th January**.

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' – now available to listen to via the website or to download or subscribe as a podcast on iTunes etc – the links are all on the website. 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

A decorative banner with a wavy, scalloped border in a light orange color. The text "ENERJ NEWS" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font in the center of the banner.

ENERJ NEWS

We have continued our fun at EnerJ and hope you can enjoy seeing our crafts on the walls and photos on Facebook.

Our Samba event in aid of the West Lothian School Bank - (charity number: SC046483) went very well. Around 70 people attended and great fun was had. We are delighted to say we raised £380 profit to go to the charity. As well as collecting money, we would like to give you the opportunity to give old or new school clothes/shoes. There is a box at the entrance of East Calder Church to collect items if you have any used uniforms that are still in good condition or if you would like to buy some for this good cause.

Our Christmas party will be on Saturday 15th December 2.30-4.00 in the Sports Centre. Always a fun time with our “special visitor” to see the children.

The Nativity Service is fast approaching and we are starting to get ready for that. This will be Sunday 23rd December. We will be on holiday after that and EnerJ will return in the New year on Sunday 13th January.

We wish you all a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas.

With love

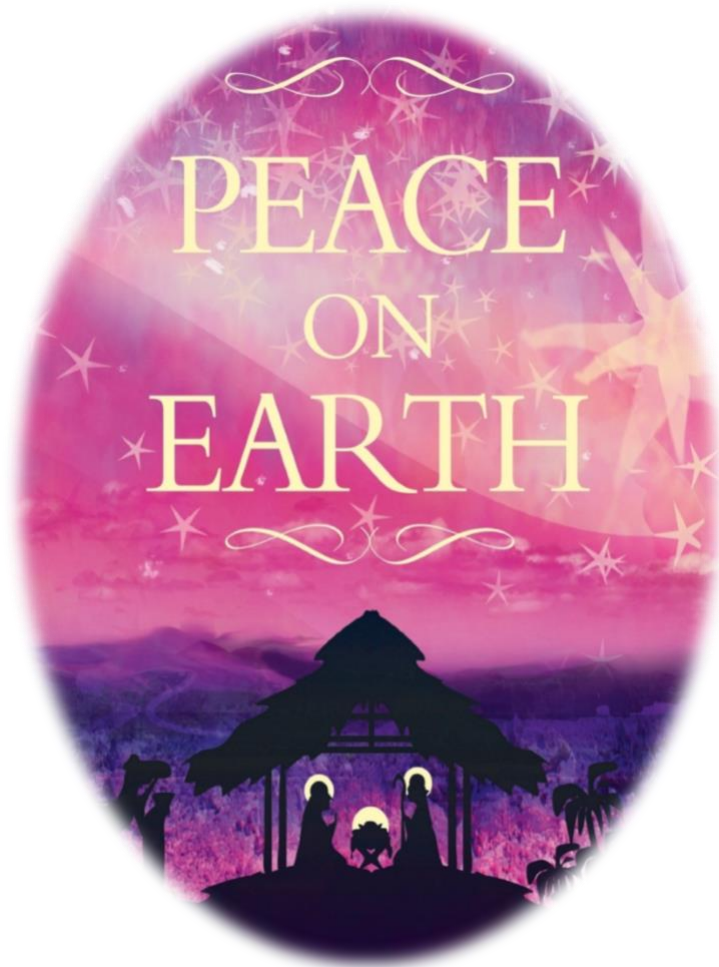
The EnerJ Team

SERVICE OF HEALING

It is hoped to have a Service of Prayer for Healing in the new year - watch out for a date. This will probably be held on a Sunday afternoon, possibly 13th January at 4pm, but this is to be confirmed.



Torchlight Procession



Our Annual Torchlight Procession with Carol Singing, prior to the Watchnight Service in Kirknewton Church, leaves from Meadowbank Road at 9.45pm on Monday 24th December. Torches will be provided and hot drinks and mince pies will be available prior to the Service which begins at 11.30pm.

Please wrap up warm and join us.



Thank Dickens for Christmas as you know it!

Ever wonder where many of our Christmas traditions come from?

A surprising amount of our modern Christmas celebrations can be traced back to the well-loved story of 'A Christmas Carol', by Charles Dickens. When you read 'A Christmas Carol', you discover almost a template of the 'ideal Christmas' which we still hold dear today. Dickens seems to have selected the best of the Christmas celebrations of his day (he ignored some of the odd excesses) and packaged them in such a way as to give us traditions that we could accommodate and treasure – more than a century later.

So, for instance, in A Christmas Carol, Christmas is a family day, with a family-centred feast. In a home decorated with holly and candles the characters enjoy a roast turkey, followed by Christmas pudding. They give their loved ones presents. Scrooge even gives donations to charity (!).

And all the while outside, there is snow and frost, while church bells ring, and carol singers sing, and hope for mulled wine. In 'A Christmas Carol' there is even a Father Christmas – in the shape of Christmas Present.

Only the Christmas tree itself came later, when Prince Albert imported 'a pretty German toy' that won the heart of the English court, and hence the rest of Victorian society.





A few of us met to look at a DVD listening training course called 'Just Listen - God's challenge to listen in a noisy world'. We are half way through it and are being helped by a trained facilitator. I think the course is excellent and will help those who participate to improve their listening. If we get better at listening within our church, I think there will be a direct positive effect on the health and well-being of our community. Who knows where this might lead? God knows.

From the end of January, I will be encouraging us all to form small groups to get together and look at this material. The better we are at listening, the more our community will be blessed and our church will grow. If you'd like a sneak preview of the material please ask me, or go to www.acornchristian.org

Many thanks to all who have donated towards the provision of hampers for needy families in our community. We hope to present these to our local primary schools the week before Christmas.

If you'd like to give a donation then please see Alistair.





A few dates for your diary



Readings, Carols and Mince Pies - On Friday 14th December at 7.00pm, we will be having an open evening with Carols and Readings followed by tea/coffee and mince pies.

If you are free please come and join us – we'd love to see you.

Christmas Post - Once again we will be organising a Christmas Card postal service in the villages of Kirknewton and East Calder. The cost will be 25p per card and please pop the money in the post box with your cards. Post boxes will be in both Churches on 9th and 16th December. The cards will be delivered on or as soon as possible after the 16th.



In previous years we've had a few envelopes with incomplete names and addresses or no addresses at all! It would be appreciated if full addresses are given.



Burns Supper – Plans are already in hand for our next Burns Supper and Quiz on 25th January. The support we usually receive for this is great so hopefully many of you will manage along. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of January.

The profit from all our fund raising activities this year is going to The Boys' Brigade (Church of Scotland) World Mission Fund – Charity No. SC016662

Our last meeting night in the hall this year is on the 14th although the Company Section are going for a Bowl and Bite at Deer Park on the 21st. We return on Friday 11th January.

On behalf of the Boys and Leaders I wish you a Happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2019.

Captain

Free Will Initiative

If you haven't yet written your will here is an opportunity to have your will written by a solicitor free of charge. You would be invited to consider giving a charitable donation to the church if you like. We hope to host this as a community event for both Kirknewton and East Calder early in 2019, so watch this space for more details.

THE GUILD

meeting on 4th December will be an Advent Carols & Readings Event and will be the last Guild meeting for 2018. A warm welcome awaits all who wish to join us in the hall at 7.30pm. Hot Christmas mince pies will be served with Tea and Coffee and there will be time for fellowship. The Guild will then have a break over the winter and will restart in March 2019. Keep a look out in the intimations for details.

We wish everyone a joyous time of advent as we await Christmas.

SCOTLAND UNITED IN PRAYER FOR PARLIAMENT (SUPP)

invites YOU to come and join them on:

Tuesday 15th January 2019 6.00 - 7.30 pm in the Scottish Parliament.
(You need to be there by 5.30pm)

The closing date for registration is: 11th January 2019.

Do think about it - it is a quite special experience.

Prayer for Christmas Joy

Loving, generous Father,

This Christmas, please help us to keep you at the centre of our preparations and celebrations.

May our thankfulness for the gift of your precious son, Jesus, motivate all that we think and say and do. May the joy of His coming shine from us and attract those who don't know what Christmas really means, so that they want to find out!

In Jesus' name and for His glory,

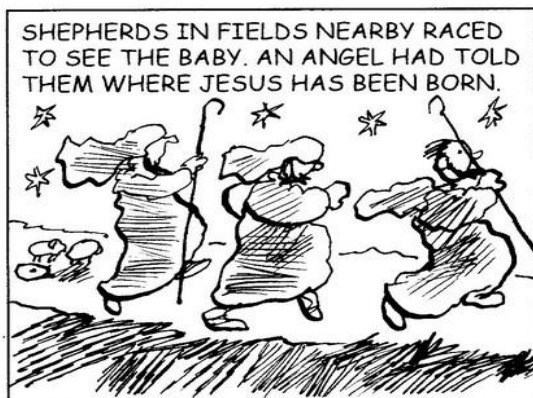
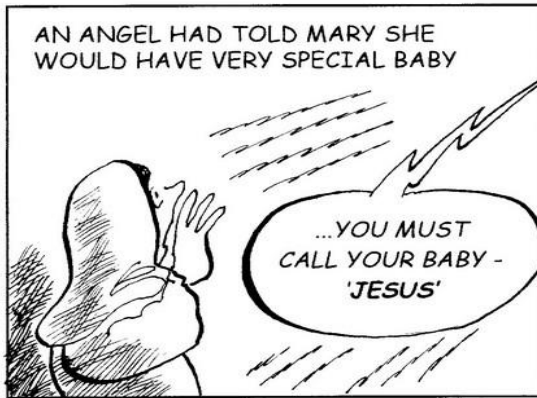
Amen.

by Daphne Kitching

PP Prayers & Poems Dec 18



The First Christmas



WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

DECEMBER & JANUARY

2 nd December	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	Bereavement Service	East Calder Church	3.00pm
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm
9 th December	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm
16 th December	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	Community Carol Service	East Calder Partnership Centre	6.30pm
23 rd December	Joint Christmas Family Service	East Calder Church	11.15am
24 th December	Joint Christmas Family Service	East Calder Church	7.00pm
	Joint Christmas Eve Service	Kirknewton Church	11.30pm
30 th December	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
6 th January	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm
13 th January	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm
20 th January	Worship Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm
27 th January	Communion Services	Kirknewton Church	9.45am
		East Calder Church	11.15am
	In Focus	East Calder Church Hall	6.30pm

CHURCH GROUPS

CONTACT DETAILS and MEETING TIMES

Group	Contact(s)	Email	Tel	Details
Bairns' Rock				Wednesdays: 9.30am-11.30am East Calder Church Hall Pre-school children
Bible Study				Last Wednesday of each month 10.00am-11.00am Kirknewton Church Hall
Boys' Brigade				Fridays: East Calder Church Hall 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
Congregational Board				Meets on last Tuesday of Sept, Nov, Jan, Apr and 3 rd Tuesday of June at 7.00pm and on last Tuesday Feb a joint meeting with Kirk Session at 7.15pm. East Calder Church Hall
EnerJ				Sundays: 11.15am East Calder Church Hall Ages 3 – 11.
Forget-me-not Café				Last Thursday of each month 10.00am-12noon East Calder Church Hall
House Groups				Wednesdays: 7.30pm Thursdays : 7.30pm
Kirk Session				Meets on last Tuesday of Sep, Nov, Jan, Apr, Sep and 3 rd Tuesday of June at 8.00pm and on last Tuesday of Oct, Feb, Mar and May at 7.15pm. East Calder Church Hall

Group	Contact(s)	Email	Tel	Details
Lunch Club				1 st & 3 rd Thursday of each month 11.30am-12.30pm East Calder Church Hall
Men's Fellowship				2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the month East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Open Door Praise Band				Thursdays: 10.30am East Calder Church Sundays: 11.00am East Calder Church and 6.00pm East Calder Church Hall
Prayer Group				Mondays: 7.30pm East Calder Church Prayer Room.
Singing Group				1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays at 7.45pm in Kirknewton Church 2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays in East Calder Church
The Break				1 st & 3 rd Thursday of each month 12.30pm-12.50pm East Calder Church Prayer Room
The Guild				1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays of the month 7.30pm in East Calder Church Hall
Thursday Prayer Group				7.30pm in East Calder Church Prayer Room