

KNEC NEWS



March 2018



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



This month includes:

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Men's Fellowship
In Focus
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YOYP
EnerJ
The Guild
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Kids' Korner*

God So Loved the World

‘For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.’ (John 3:16)

This verse has been described as ‘the greatest verse in the Bible’, as it enables us to understand the events of Good Friday and Easter Day. The cross and resurrection reveal the depth of God’s love for each of us.

God’s love is unconditional: God demonstrated the extent of his love by sending His Son into this world, to show us what it looks like: ‘God with skin on’! God graciously loves us, as none of us deserves it. ‘There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less.’ (Philip Yancey).

God’s love is sacrificial: The cross is the supreme demonstration of God’s love, as Jesus identifies with a fallen, suffering world. He died for our sins, removing the barrier between us and God, giving access into God’s presence and release from the power of sin and death.

God’s love is accessible: Jesus’ resurrection makes His eternal life available to all who put their trust in Him. It’s an offer of life with purpose, in which we can know God personally, both now and for eternity.

Bobby Moore described receiving the World Cup from the Queen in 1966 as terrifying: ‘I noticed that the Queen was wearing some beautiful white gloves. I looked down at my hands and they were completely covered with mud’! Although we approach God with dirty and spoilt lives, by the cross and resurrection, we can shake hands with a holy God. He offers us ‘life in all its fullness’, with healing, forgiveness, peace and a fresh start in life.

VACANCY NEWS

On Sunday 4th February Rev Alistair Cowper preached as sole nominee to be our next minister. After the service there was a vote of the congregation. By 105 votes for to 1 against Rev Alistair Cowper was elected and appointed as our new minister subject to the approval of Presbytery. Thereafter The Call was signed by 133 people.

Presbytery now has to decide whether or not to sustain the call and then arrange for Rev Alistair Cowper to transfer from his current charge in Stirling.

A provisional date for the induction of Rev Alistair Cowper to this charge has been set for Wednesday 18th April.



PASTORAL VISITS

Please advise Ken, 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.

Annual Stated Meeting

The Annual Stated Meeting of Kirknewton and East Calder Church will take place on Tuesday 13 March at 7.30pm in East Calder Church Hall.

This is an opportunity for everyone to review the life of our congregation during 2017.

The Treasurer, on behalf of the Trustees, will present the Annual Report and Accounts (copies will be available beforehand) and there will be another couple of reports.

Elections to the Congregational Board will also take place. Some members due to retire may put themselves forward for re-election. If anybody wishes to put forward a new person for election to the Board, please give the person's name to the Clerk along with the name of a seconder and please ensure that you have the person's permission to put his/her name forward. The number of members on the Board will not increase, so votes may have to be cast.

This meeting is your chance to ask any questions regarding the life of our Church.

At the close of the business part of the evening, which will not be prolonged, there will be an opportunity for fellowship over a cup of tea and a biscuit.

We are delighted to announce that the newly reformed Men's Fellowship met up in the Church Hall on Saturday 10th February.



On that morning we had a good turnout of men to hear our first speaker from Holy Trinity Church, Wester Hailes, and on the 24th we had a Paralympic swimmer.

We were really blessed to have these two men come along to uplift and inspire us.

We start at 8.30am with breakfast and commence meeting at 9.00am, so why not come and join us for fellowship, friendship and laughter. You will receive a very warm welcome, all men are welcome.

IN FOCUS

continues on Sunday evenings at 6.30pm in East Calder Church Hall. 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 giving thought 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 25 March:

4 March

One of our members will speak about his 5 favourite hymns and why they are important to him;

11 March

One of our members will share his experience of an aspect of God's character namely God our Redeemer;

18 March

A retired minister will speak to our fellowship on a big issue which affects lives;

25 March

Easter Songs of Praise.

Following the Easter break, In Focus will resume on 8 April.

HOLY WEEK

During Holy Week the Church at East Calder will be open from 7.30pm - 8.30pm on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for prayer. All are most welcome, come for ten minutes or come for the hour.

- Monday: John 17:1-5 our prayers focusing on the world.
- Tuesday: John 17:6-19 our prayers focusing on our community.
- Wednesday: John 17:20-26 our prayers focusing on the lonely, isolated, addictions, family breakdown, money issues, women's refuge and those fostering.

Prayer



Matters

24 HOUR PRAYER POP IN

There 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. It will be held in East Calder Church on Wednesday the 11th April from 7.00pm until Thursday the 12th at 7.00pm. 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.

MONDAY PRAYER MEETING

We continue to meet weekly in the Prayer Room on a Monday evening at 7.30pm for an hour of prayer. We have a bible reading to begin with and then ask the Holy Spirit to lead us in our time of prayer. Currently around a dozen of us but we would love to grow, please pray and see if this could be for you. If you want a friend the first time please just speak to me.

PRAYER MINISTRY AFTER SUNDAY SERVICE

Each Sunday there is an opportunity to come to the Prayer Room at East Calder after the morning service to be prayed with in confidence. If you have come to Church with a burden please don't go home with it. Any need can be brought to God and we are happy to pray in thankfulness for blessing on your life.

Prayer Secretary

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 March (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 1st March, one of our elders will lead on Matt 5:13 (You are the salt of the earth.....).
- On Thursday 15th March, one of our elders will lead on Matt 5:14 (You are the Light of the world).

All welcome



I would like to thank everyone for their cards and messages during my absence in recent months. They were all much appreciated and I felt upheld by your prayers. I was delighted to be in church to hear Rev Alistair Cowper preach and to be chosen as our new minister. I look forward to working with him and to being part of the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our church. I am returning to pastoral duties this week and will be visiting folk and available for funerals and home communion. I have a wee list already! Please let me know if you would like me to call. I look forward to catching up with you in the coming weeks.

God bless

Brenda Robson

Spring Fayre Saturday 17th March

Last year's Spring Fayre was a great success and we are hoping to make this year's even better. This could be your chance to buy gifts for Easter which are a wee bit different to those you buy in the shops.

What can you do to help?

- We would be pleased to receive donations of new mugs preferably with a child theme & foil covered mini eggs over the next few weeks – these will be gift wrapped with Easter Eggs and sold on the day. *These can be handed to any committee member from now until Sunday 11th March.*
- Are you good at crafts? Would you be willing to make some simple crafts to sell at the Fayre and/or would you be willing to show others and help them to make some too?
- Would you be able to bake for our Cake and Candy stall?
- Do you have any toiletries, gift sets, etc that you won't use but others may like to buy?
- Can you help on a stall?
- Will you tell others about the Fayre and encourage them to come along?
- Will you pray for a really good day of fellowship and fun when many people from our villages will come into the Church buildings perhaps for the first time?

If the answer to any of the above is YES please speak to a member of The Social and Community Committee –

We look forward to hearing from you.



West Lothian Year of Young People Celebration

*A fun day for all ages including music,
worship, games, craft, sports and much more*

Saturday 24th March, 11am-2pm

at Livingston United Parish Church, Fells Rigg, EH54 8AX



Scottish Charity Number: SC011353

www.churchofscotland.org.uk

f facebook.com/churchofscotland
t [@churchscotland](https://twitter.com/churchscotland)

As part of its themed years' programme, the Scottish Government has made 2018 the Year of Young People.

It will give young people, aged 8 to 26, new opportunities to influence decision making on issues affecting their lives and be involved in cultural and sporting opportunities across the country.

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

is an intergenerational event aimed at exploring the six themes of Year of Young People.

There will be various workshops and **1st East Calder Boys' Brigade** on behalf of the West Lothian Battalion have been asked to organise a workshop on Health & Wellbeing. We will have games and activities to suit all ages groups and hope that Kirknewton and East Calder Church will be well represented.

The event starts at 11.00am with Worship and finishes at 2.00pm.

'EnerJ'

The children in EnerJ have been very busy over the last month learning more about God through the story of Noah's Ark and the promise given by the rainbow. They have enjoyed learning the story through a variety of methods – DVD, story telling, a wide range of craft activities, a much appreciated visit from Cool Creatures and quizzes. The children got very competitive in a girls versus boys quiz and the result was very close as they all remembered so much about what they had learned. They cooperated very well to complete a craft for the wall which is well worth a look if you are in the upstairs hall.

It is very encouraging for the leaders to see the enthusiasm of the children and hearing how much they remember of what they have learned and we too learn so much from them.

We look forward to learning more of the Easter story over the coming weeks.

The EnerJ Leaders



The Guild resumes, after the winter break, on Tuesday 6th March at 7.30pm in East Calder Church Hall. This will be a Bible Study evening.

On 20th March one of the Boys' Brigade leaders will speak about The Boys' Brigade Church of Scotland World Mission support of Roundabout Power.

All welcome.

Special Worship Services March – September 2018

March 25th	Joint Palm Sunday service	East Calder 11:15 am
March 26 th , 27 th , 28 th	Church open for prayer	East Calder 7.30 pm
March 29 th	Maundy Thursday service	Kirknewton 7.30 pm
March 30 th	Good Friday service	East Calder 7.30 pm
April 1 st	Easter day services	2 services as normal
May 6 th	In Focus Communion	East Calder 6:30 pm
May 13 th	Christian Aid service	2 services as normal
June 24 th	Joint Family service & Picnic	East Calder 9:45 am (Note change of time)
July	Joint services	Kirknewton 9:45 am
August	Joint services	East Calder 11.15 am
September 30 th	BB Enrolment service	East Calder 11.15 am

Communion services will be held on:

April 22nd Both Churches

July 22nd Joint Summer service at Kirknewton



The House Group programme continues to study John's gospel. During March, groups will meet on 7th, 14th and 21st March before breaking for Easter. After Easter, groups will restart on 11th April.

Groups meet on a Wednesday evening at 7:30pm.

All welcome.



As mentioned in the last edition of KNEC News, this year's Holiday Club is the sequel to last year's "GUARDIANS OF ANCORA" and will run from 6th – 10th August in East Calder Church Hall from 10.00am - 12.30pm.

Starting with the birth of Jesus and ending with His resurrection, this holiday club gives children the chance to hear the gospel for themselves and invites them to consider their own response.

While we are delighted that most of last year's team will be returning to Ancora we would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join us.

The first meeting of all volunteers will be held in East Calder Church Hall on Thursday 22nd March at 7.30pm.

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: kneccnews@btinternet.com

The deadline for April's Magazine will be **Friday 23rd March**.

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: kneccnews@btinternet.com



Mouse Makes

Journey to the Cross

Read the Bible - find the answers

READ Matthew 21:1-11

Where did Jesus stop on his journey? vs 1

What did Jesus send his disciples to get? vs 2

What did the crowd spread on the road in front of Jesus? vs 8

What did the people shout? vs 9

What city was Jesus going to? vs 10

READ Matthew 26:17-75

What festival did the disciples celebrate? vs 17

Which disciple denied Jesus? vs 34

Which disciple betrayed Jesus? vs 47

READ Matthew 27

When Jesus was taken to be crucified, what did the soldiers put on him? vs 28-29

What time did Jesus die? vs 45

Whose tomb was Jesus buried in? vs 57

READ Matthew 28

On the third day who rolled away the stone covering the tomb? vs 2

What had happened to Jesus? vs 6,7



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)

Thursday	1 st Mar	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	2 nd Mar	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm World Day of Prayer East Calder Church 7.00pm
Sunday	4 th Mar	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	5 th Mar	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	6 th Mar	The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	7 th Mar	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	9 th Mar	Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Saturday	10 th Mar	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	11 th Mar	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	12 th Mar	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	13 th Mar	ASM East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	14 th Mar	Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	15 th Mar	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm

CHURCH

CALENDAR cont'd

Friday	16 th Mar	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Saturday	17 th Mar	Spring Fayre East Calder Church Hall 10.00am – 12 noon
Sunday	18 th Mar	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	19 th Mar	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	20 th Mar	Kirk Session East Calder Church Fellowship Room 7.15pm The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	21 st Mar	Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	22 nd Mar	Holiday Club Meeting East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm
Saturday	24 th Mar	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	25 th Mar	Joint Palm Sunday Service East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	26 th Mar	East Calder Church open for Prayer 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Tuesday	27 th Mar	East Calder Church open for Prayer 7.30pm - 8.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	28 th Mar	East Calder Church open for Prayer 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Thursday	29 th Mar	Forget-me-Not Café East Calder Church Hall 10.00am – 12 noon Maundy Thursday Communion Service Kirknewton Church 7.30pm
Friday	30 th Mar	Good Friday Service East Calder Church 7.30pm
Sunday	1 st Apr	Easter Day Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am