

KNEC NEWS



May 2018



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





This month includes

From the Manse

Prayer Matters

Men's Fellowship

EnerJ

Holiday Club

Induction

Boys' Brigade

The Break

In Focus

Kids' Korner

From the Manse



By the time you read this I will have started as your new minister and hopefully will not have made too many gaffes! Not that I make a habit of making gaffes but I recognise that it's part of our human condition to have weaknesses as well as strengths. I'm looking forward to getting to know people well and I believe that one of the best ways to get to know one another well is to share our stories and to bring them into the light of God's great story of his love for us. That's why I'd like to make time to meet, one to one, with as many of the congregation as would like to, in the weeks and months ahead, so we can share our stories and hopefully you will allow me to pray with you as we do. Everyone has a story and everyone's story matters. I can't wait to hear yours as we begin (and continue) the grace-filled ministry of Christ together.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:6-7)*

I believe prayer really does make a difference. When Sarah and I went to Stirling, we wanted to begin ministry there with forty days of prayer during which we held small prayer gatherings each morning and evening and encouraged everyone to be prayerful during that period. God spoke clearly to us about one or two things we should begin with.

Cont'd

Looking back, it was these one or two things which even today are continuing to bear fruit in the reign of God. As a result, lives have been changed as people discovered a new relationship of faith in God.

The Bible tells us that when we take time to listen to God and then respond in faith, we see heavenly things appear. Sarah and I are excited about what things God will lead us to do together, as a result of having listened to him and then step out in faith.

Thank you, Lord, for your gracious hand in all things.

Thank you for all you've done so far.

Here I am, ready to do your will.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Alistair Cowper

PASTORAL VISITS



Please advise Rev Alistair Cowper, Rev Dr Brenda Robson 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.



Dear Friends,

I cannot get over your tremendous generosity and kindness to Janet and myself on our last Sunday with you. I've been to the doctor, but he can't cure my excitement and astonishment at what you gave Janet and myself. the B.B. vase has been well filled with wonderful flowers! Your cards were touching and delightful, the two cheques were a complete surprise - but a lovely surprise! And any gift from children brings a lump to my throat, but the macaroni at Tony Macaroni's will ease the throat. I should explain that EnerJ gave me a token to spend at Tony Macaroni's. I'll maybe take Janet with me! They also gave me a huge collage of the Gifts of the Spirit, which will go well with the spirits the Singing Group at Kirknewton gave us! There were lovely personal gifts too, and so many good wishes and God blesses that they could pave my way to heaven. In fact I'm on cloud nine, which the pop song of long ago said was nearly at heaven!

I've really enjoyed my time with you, and I mean it. A friendlier and more supportive congregation surely does not exist. you even put up with my strip tease in the pulpit, and the constant sniffs from "sniffy willie"!

Finally, to say just "thank you" for all you have given us seems inadequate, so I'll say it 3 times.....**thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!**

God bless you all..... *Ken*

We thank God for the “24 hour prayer pop in”. For every person that came and every prayer prayed. For a real sense of worship and joy and hope. We were blessed too by those who came to play music and sing and worship God with their gifts. It was wonderful to see the children too on Sunday trying out all the prayer activities. Lighting a candle for the world and writing a word from God on a piece of slate to take away were both done with great enthusiasm.



As I write this we will be praying for the Induction on Wednesday 18th April of Rev Alistair Cowper and for his ministry in this place.

Can you join with us in praying specifically for him and his family as they settle into their new home and community. Ask God for his protection around them, the giving of God’s vision for his ministry and God’s grace for every situation.

If you have something we can pray about for you on Monday evenings please ask, we are very happy to stand with you in prayer.

Personal confidential prayer and blessing are available after the service in East Calder in the prayer room. Just make your way through after the morning service.

FATHER GOD,

we remember all who are in difficult circumstances at this time. Health. Finance. Relationships. Addictions. Family. Bereavement. Disappointments. Faith.

Thank you that there is nothing we cannot talk to you about. Thank you for loving us and caring for us and always being with us even in the darkest times.

Help us to open our eyes, ears and hearts to your presence around us. To give thanks always for your many blessings to us.

In Jesus’ name we ask you these things. Amen

Prayer Secretary



Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets in East Calder Church Hall on Saturday mornings at 8.30am with Breakfast.

We have had a number of interesting speakers and we shared recently a joint worship meeting with the men folk at Holy Trinity Church in Wester Hailes.

On 12th May we have the Salvation Army coming along to speak to our group and the 26th May ends our session with our "Mystery Day Out".

A warm invitation is extended to all men to come along and join us.

Watch this space for our new exciting programme when we return in September.



EnerJ

We have had a great few weeks at EnerJ learning about Noah's Ark then moving on to Easter. We were privileged to have a visitor to talk to the children about the Last Supper. We got to make our own bread and wine, decorate our own glass and sit around the table to watch a video clip. All the children were so engaged and it was a special week.

We now move on to look at Joseph and look forward to the weeks ahead. On the 22nd April, we are visiting Trust Housing to sing them a few of our songs from EnerJ. We look forward to this visit and would ask you to pray it goes smoothly and is a real blessing to the residents.

The team had a night out recently and enjoyed a team working challenge at the Espionage Escape Room in Livingston. We managed to get out within the hour at a record speed of 57minutes and 2 seconds. This was followed by a lovely dinner, it was a great night of socialising which is important for the team to work well.

Our Church family outing this year is on 24th June so please keep the date free so we can all have a great day out as a church family.

As always we would value your prayers for the children, the homes they come from, the leaders and God's guidance as we seek to do His will.

Thank you.

The EnerJ Leaders





Registration for this year's

HOLIDAY CLUB

will open during May.

Watch out for further information on the Church's web site knec4jesus.org.uk and in the intimation sheet.

Flyers will be distributed through the local schools so register early to guarantee your place!

Reminder to all helpers that our next meeting will be held on:

**THURSDAY 31st MAY AT 7.30PM
IN EAST CALDER CHURCH HALL.**

Bring the light back to the City!

Induction of Rev Alistair Cowper

Wednesday 18th April 2018

The induction of our new Minister, Rev Alistair Cowper was held in East Calder Church on Wednesday 18th April 2018. It was great to see the Church full with representatives from Presbytery, many friends from Stirling and Wester Hailes and, of course, members from Kirknewton and East Calder.

Rousing hymns had the Church buzzing! The sermon was most fittingly delivered by Rev Nelu Balaj as Nelu and Alistair had met during their studies some 7 years ago.

After the service refreshments were served in the hall and it has been some time since the hall had so many people happily enjoying a cup of tea or coffee with sandwiches, cakes and more!!

Although a happy occasion there was also a tinge of sadness as we were saying au revoir to Rev Dr Jaco Boonzaaier our Interim Moderator and to Ken Mackay one of our Locums.

Two members from Allan Park South Church paid tributes to Alistair and Sarah, to their commitment, hard work and their friendship. They will be missed in Stirling.

Now that our vacancy has been filled and the induction over, we look ahead with anticipation and excitement to Alistair's ministry in the Parish of Kirknewton and East Calder.

A few photographs from the evening are on the opposite page.



THANK YOU!

Thank you very much to all involved for an excellent evening. There was a fantastic sense of God's unifying presence and peace among us and the praise of God was powerful. Thank you too for the extremely generous welcome gift. We will make sure we put it to good use.

Alistair and Sarah

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 June's Magazine will be **Friday 25th May**.

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



1st EAST CALDER COMPANY

Another session almost finished – it seems like only yesterday that we started in August. How the time flies past when you're enjoying yourself!!

We'll be meeting as usual on the 4th May and then we're off to the Battalion's May Service on 11th May which is being held in Bathgate High Church.

On 18th May we'll be rehearsing for our Annual Display and Presentation of Awards which will be held on 25th May. We hope that many of the congregation will be able to join us in East Calder Church Hall on the 25th at 7.00pm.

Although the Presentation of Awards is our final '*usual*' meeting night for



the session, the Junior Section and Company Section will be off to camp over the weekend of 1st – 3rd June. This time we're going to the Scouts' Bonaly Outdoor Centre where a number of activities, and alternatives depending on the weather, have been arranged. As you can see from the photo "camping" will not be in tents!

We also look forward to Wednesday 6th June when one of our young men will be presented with his Queen's Badge Certificate at a ceremony in St Michael's Church, Linlithgow. Well done on achieving the highest award in The Boys' Brigade.

Captain



The Break is an opportunity to meet in fellowship for a short time of worship, prayer and thanksgiving. The Break will meet twice during May (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 3rd May, the passage will be Matt 6:5-15 (Prayer).

On Thursday 17th May, the passage will be Matt 5:43-48 (Love your
Enemies)

All welcome.

FUNERALS

Our Sympathies to the families of:

Mrs A MacRae whose funeral service was held at
West Lothian Crematorium on 5th April.

Ms Shirley Thorburn whose funeral service was held in
East Calder Church on 19th April.

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



F*in*OCUS

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

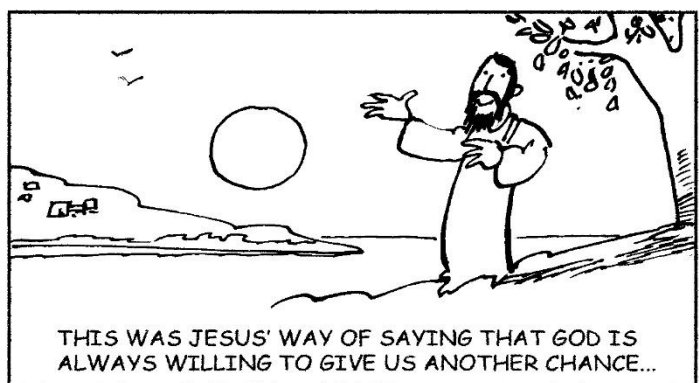
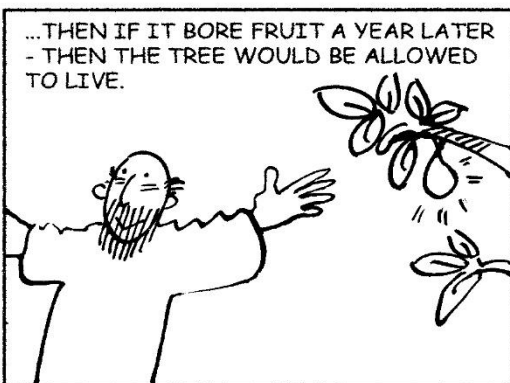
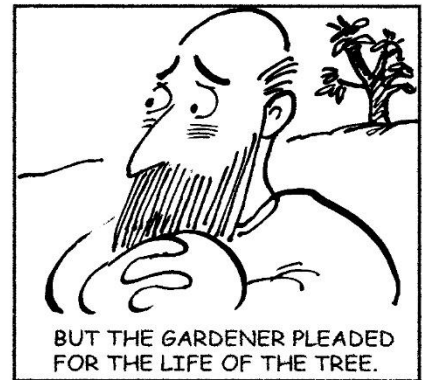
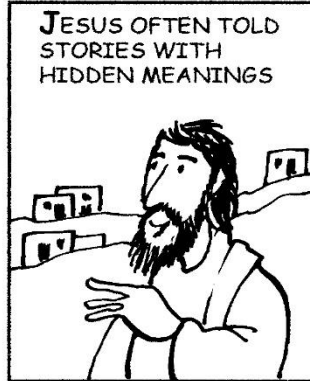
The Bible tells us that God alone is worthy of our worship (Ps 96:4) and so we meet in fellowship to give thanks for God's love and goodness towards us by listening to witness testimonies, reflections, and considering 'big issues' affecting Christians today.

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/coffee.

May Programme:

- 6th May Evening Communion.
- 13th May One of our members will share her experience of aspects of God's character.
- 20th May No In Focus.
- 27th May There will be a review on the hymn "When we walk with the Lord" and the chorus, Trust and Obey.

The parable of the FIG TREE



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)

Tuesday	1 st May	The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	2 nd May	Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	3 rd May	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	4 th May	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	6 th May	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	7 th May	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	8 th May	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	9 th May	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	11 th May	Boys' Brigade May Service Bathgate High Church 7.00pm
Saturday	12 th May	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	13 th May	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	14 th May	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	15 th May	The Guild East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm

CHURCH

CALENDAR cont'd

Wednesday	16 th May	Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	17 th May	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	18 th May	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm Boys' Brigade East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	20 th May	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am
Monday	21 st May	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	22 nd May	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	23 rd May	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	25 th May	Boys' Brigade Display & Presentation of Awards East Calder Church Hall 7.00pm
Saturday	26 th May	Men's Fellowship East Calder Church Hall 8.30am
Sunday	27 th May	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	28 th May	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	29 th May	Kirk Session East Calder Church Hall 7.15pm Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	30 th May	Kirknewton Bible Study Kirknewton Church Hall 10.00-11.00am Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	31 st May	Forget-me-Not Café East Calder Church Hall 10.00am – 12 noon Holiday Club Leaders' Meeting East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm