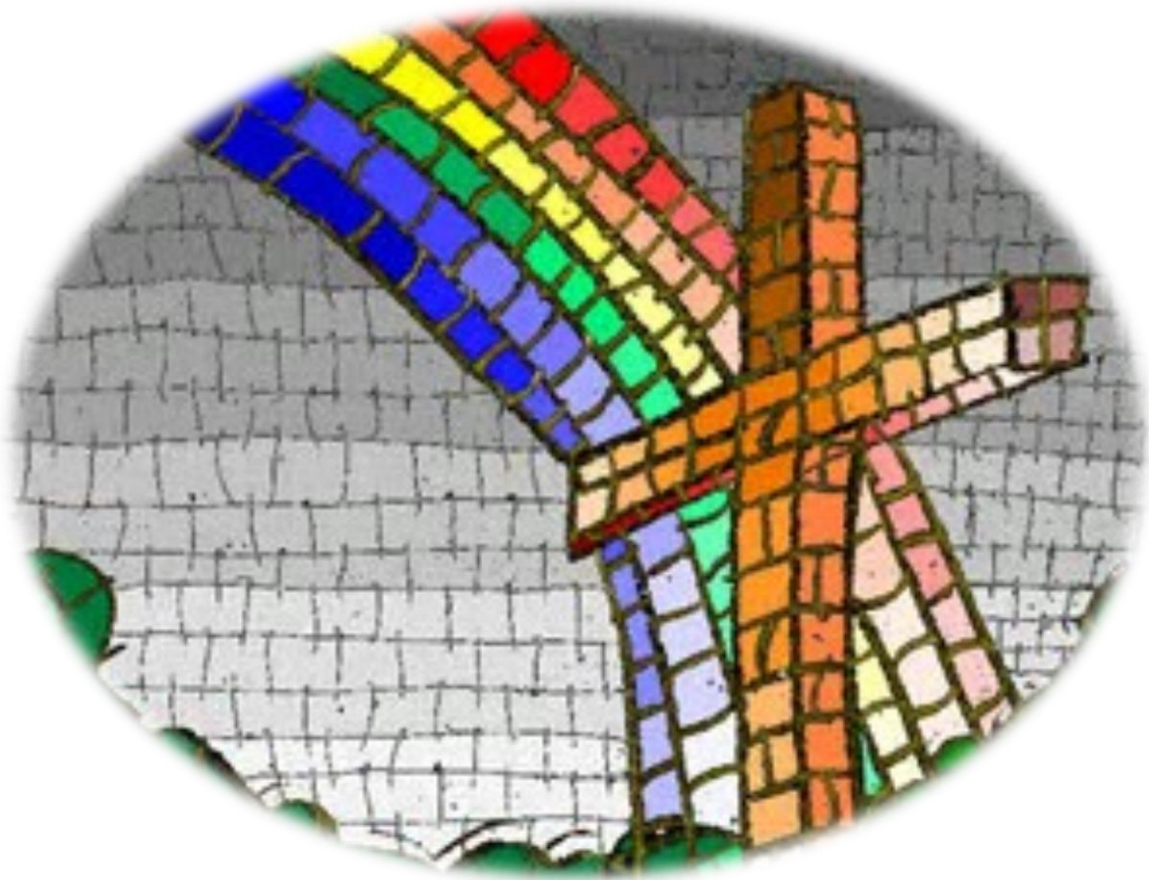


KNEC NEWS



JUNE 2017



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



This month includes:

East Calder Gala Day

PVG & Safeguarding

View from the Pew

Boys' Brigade

Holiday Club

Lunch Club

EnerJ

News from Session

Kids' Korner

ALL TOGETHER



Why, do you think, did Jesus choose 12 men to be His disciples?' What was the point, as Jesus was a miracle worker and a very eloquent speaker. He could walk on water; change water into wine; multiply food for thousands of people; heal the sick and forecast future events. So why did Jesus choose some fishermen, a tax collector and a few lesser known guys to be with Him everywhere?

Doesn't it appear odd that Jesus wanted disciples who, as time passed, were slow to learn; argumentative; frightened; amazed and puzzled? Right from the start of His ministry Jesus must have known He was bringing together a motley group of characters who would not understand Him; doubt Him; and let Him down. Surely, Jesus would have been better off going it alone without having the hassle and frustration!

Well, what is amazing, is that Jesus decided to limit Himself. He wanted the fellowship of close friends to share their good and bad times. He wanted to be involved with them no matter what happened. He enjoyed meal-times, discussions and, no doubt, a joke or two! Jesus came from Heaven to show that in God's Kingdom there is togetherness.

This world can get messy, troubled and nasty, and it is into this cauldron that Jesus came to be involved with its problems. He wanted to share His mission of love and compassion, participating with others, to change places of darkness into God's healing light.

He chose ordinary people, with their weaknesses, anxieties, hang-ups and faults to fill them with His Spirit and transform them into workers for God. Today, Jesus works with us, despite our frailty and stubbornness. He patiently draws alongside us to change our attitudes and behaviour so that we show God's love wherever we are.

Jesus came to build His church: a community of believers who would work and serve together to change society for good. So let's be aware of the Holy Spirit's direction and be encouraged that we are all partners together.

Help to carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2)

Pastoral Visits

Please advise Brenda, Ken, 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.

East Calder Gala Day

Saturday 10th June

Gala day is almost upon us and being one of KNEC's main outreach events in the village, we would like to make it really count. Therefore, the Social & Community Committee requires your help to make it a memorable day.

How can you help?

1. We need volunteers to help make up the rolls at 8.30am in the Church Hall and a team to man the tea tent (even if you can only manage for 1hour) between 12.30pm and 4.00pm.
2. Donations of home baking, or a contribution of money towards the cost of provisions, would be greatly appreciated. It would be helpful if baking is brought along to the Church Hall between 7.00 and 8.00pm on Friday night (9th June), between 8.00 and 10.30am on Saturday morning or directly to the Tea Tent between 11.30 & 12.30 on Gala Day.
3. Tea Tent. We also require volunteers for putting up the tea tent and taking it down! **Any help would be greatly appreciated, especially taking it down! – 9.30am to put up the tent and 4.00pm to take it down.**



We would like to really appeal for lots of baking again this year as it is always popular and quickly runs out. Last year was amazing and people were in awe at the display of cakes so please help if you can!

***What do we need?** – scones, pancakes, tea loaves, traybakes, sponges, cupcakes, tarts – anything would be great!!

***Who do we need?** – YOU!

If you can help in any way, please give your name to any member of the Social and Community Committee (with your help can we make this a Great Gala event and outreach in our community!)

A decision was made by the Kirk Session that all proceeds from the tea tent, after deducting expenses, would be donated to:

West Lothian Foodbank (Reg charity number SC008274 Registered in Scotland) - which we are sure you will agree is a very worthwhile and relevant cause.

PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) Registration and Safeguarding Training

Some people have asked me about PVG Registration and Safeguarding Training and whether or not they need to do both.

PVG Registration

Anyone who is going to work with children or vulnerable adults within the church needs to be PVG registered. The registration will be either for working with children, with vulnerable adults or both. I would issue an application form for completion and this is returned to me with two forms of identification. One of these needs to be photographic evidence (passport, driving licence, bus pass etc.). The other needs to be a utility bill, bank statement or a document with the person's address. As well as the application form, a self-declaration form requires to be completed. I do not see this form and it should be put into the brown envelope which comes with the application pack, signed and then returned to me. Some people may be PVG registered through their work or another voluntary organisation but this does not apply to voluntary work within the church. In this case an existing member form would have to be completed.

Safeguarding Training

Before working with either children or vulnerable adults, the Church of Scotland have made it mandatory that safeguarding training is undertaken. In our case this is provided by West Lothian Presbytery and I receive information about when and where these take place. They are very often in the evening but some take place on a Saturday morning and usually last for about two and a half hours. Safeguarding training is separate from PVG registration and before working with children or vulnerable adults both PVG registration and Safeguarding training must have taken place.

Safeguarding Co-ordinator

View from the Pew



In Chinese philosophy, 'yin and yang' describe how seemingly opposite or contrary forces may be complementary, interconnected, and interdependent in the natural world. As we settle into our period of vacancy, we are enjoying a sort of *yin and yang* effect with our locum minister and our assistant minister alternating our Sunday services.

Brenda paints beautiful word pictures and creates wonderful images. Who will forget the Warrior Bride with her white wedding dress lifted to expose her 'tackety boots'? We know that 'the Church is the Bride of Christ'; **and** we know we are to put on the armour of God and fight the good fight (with all our might). But which of us had thought of reconciling these two very different images into one bride in combat boots?

(Although a wee trawl through the internet reveals there is currently a fashion for this incongruous outfit. It does get over the wedding-day problem of cripplingly sore feet, standing in killer heels for hours on end!)

Then there were her unforgettable images of heaven, the very antithesis of the usual jokey picture of sitting around on a fluffy cloud for eternity, strumming a harp, bored out of our minds. Brenda's heaven sounds amazing, fascinating and fulfilling. Her story of the long-distance swimmer, who gave up when almost at the far shore because he could not see it for the fog, was a modern-day parable of our efforts to reach out to heaven and how we give up because we cannot see it or know how near it is. We live in a fog of doubt, often suffering our faith to be ridiculed, eroded and argued away. If we can dispel that fog, we will see the shore that is heaven.

It is closer than we think. She encouraged us to seek the 'thin places' where the veil between our whispering voice and God's listening ear is very thin, where we can see through the fog.

Kenneth is the yang to Brenda's yin: he is a man of science with a meteorology background. His metaphors come from the world of physics and other scientific disciplines. He likened our relationship with heaven to two prisoners awaiting the morning when one will be executed and one will be released. They are in different space-and-time continuums: the first one sees his life coming soon to its end; the second sees his life stretching into the future. Two different realities.

We are probably surrounded for a lot of the time by people who are mentally and spiritually in the place of the condemned prisoner, expecting their lives to come to an end when they die. But we are not in that continuum: we are with the prisoner who expects his release and looks forward to his future. We know that we have eternal life and that it has *already begun* for us with our earthly lives. Death will be simply our gateway from the prologue (our lives now) into the main story (our eternal life in heaven).

Such inspiring and encouraging messages from both our preachers, told in such different ways.

Out of the
mouths of
babes

submitted by Rev Ken Mackay

and the next thing he made were houses and the plases was called paris.

you no the curvy bit ner your wast well God took that bit out of Adam and made a lady out of it.

after that God made a lady and made the lady sume clothes to were and God made lots of things and lots of people had apples to eat.

Then one day some thing terbbire happened because a slug came and poped out of the tree and said to Eve come and eat an apple but Eve said no, no, no I cant God said but the slug persevered her to.

And one day God did a strange thing to Adam he put him to sleep by a pill and he took a rib from his tummy, a bottom rib and he made a pen pal for Adam. I want to tell you something said Adam don't touch them tow trees near the pond.





ANNUAL REPORT 26th MAY 2017

The session began with a total of 21 Boys (we are pleased to advise this increased to 24 during the session) and we held our Annual Enrolment Service on Sunday 25th September in East Calder Church.

A Service of Thanksgiving was held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of West Lothian Battalion of The Boys' Brigade in St Michael's Church, Linlithgow on 18th September. A good number of members from 50 years ago up to present day attended and it was a great opportunity for a catch-up.

During October the Company Section Boys paid a visit to Livingston Police Station as part of their Community Badge.

A few of us attended The Battalion Founder's Day Service which was held in Uphall on 2nd October this session.

In November 1st East Calder organised a Samba Band Workshop and Craft Morning on behalf of the Battalion for Anchor Boys and Junior Section. It was a great morning of music followed by making masks, drums and various other bits and pieces.

During December three of our young men completed a further step towards their President's badges by attending a Building Your Skills Course in Edinburgh.

Once again we had a Christmas Card Delivery Service which raised £270 towards our annual camp. Over 1,000 cards delivered – even those with no addresses!

January was our Burns' Supper and Quiz attended by over 80 people. The Boys worked very hard this year making all the speeches and toasts, serving the meals and presenting the trophy which was won by "1st Degree Burns". Well done to all of them! We made a profit of £230 which also went towards Camp expenses.

In February three of our Boys headed off to BBHQ at Carronvale for the Battalion Activities Weekend with a number of Boys from Companies throughout West Lothian. The programme included worship, sports, indoor and outdoor activities, computer games not forgetting catching up with Boys from other Companies. This year one of our senior Boys went along as a staff helper.

March was a busy month, the Anchor Boys celebrated the Battalion's 50th anniversary with a party at Yo-Yo Soft Play in Bathgate. Fun, ice cream and cake what more could you ask for?

The Junior Section took part in the Battalion Figure Marching competition and did us proud followed a couple of weeks later with the Spiritual Competition based on the parable of The Lost Sheep once again they did very well.

We participated in the Church Spring Fair and this year we raised £106 to support The Boys' Brigade World Mission Climate Conscious Total Village Project in Bangladesh.

After the Easter break it was time for our Annual Camp and on 28th April 17 Boys and 4 Leaders headed off to Canty Bay, which has become a favourite spot with the Boys, for a fun-filled weekend. No doubt the leaders will be discussing next year's camp during the summer break.

On 12th May the Battalion May Service and Presentation of Junior Section Gold Award Certificates was held in Armadale Parish Church. Four of our Boys gained their Gold Award this year – these Boys will move up to the Company Section next session.

This year we are delighted to present three young men with their President's Badges. They have now achieved the second highest award in The Boys' Brigade and we congratulate them and wish them well in their work towards their Queen's Badges during the next two years.

Well done to all the Boys on receiving the badges they have worked for throughout the session.

Our new session will begin on 25th August (details on page 17)

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 September's Magazine will be **Sunday 20th August.**

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**'.

The Parish Profile and copies of KNEC News are also on the website.

Have a look!

If you would like to receive KNEW News by email please send your email address to:
knecnews@btinternet.com



Registration for this year's
HOLIDAY CLUB
is now open.

Registration forms can be obtained from both Churches
on Sunday mornings or by emailing:

holidayclubknec@outlook.com

Registration closes on 25th June

Look forward to seeing you all in August!

LUNCH CLUB – SESSION 2017/2018 AND ONWARDS

On 1st June, when the Lunch Club closes for the summer break, five members of the staff are retiring, after many, many years of very faithful service.

As a result, the Lunch Club is looking for the following –

- 1) 5 Lunch Club Volunteers;**
- 2) 6 Soup Makers;**
- 3) 1 Sweet Maker**

Can you help with this very important outreach once, or even twice, a month? If you feel that you would like to fill one of these vacancies, or would just like some more information, please speak to any of the helpers at church.

PRAAYER MEETING

DURING THE VACANCY A MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN THE PRAYER ROOM AT EAST CALDER CHURCH FROM 2.30PM - 3.30PM.

THIS WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY AND SEEK GOD'S BLESSING UPON US AS WE GO THROUGH THE PROCESS OF WAITING FOR A NEW MINISTER TO BE CALLED.

EnerJ

It is hard to believe another year is coming to an end at EnerJ. We have had a great year working through lots of new songs and learning the meaning of them.

We are really looking forward to the church outing to Scoughall in East Lothian after the family service on 25th June. The bus we have booked has 70 seats and we would love to fill each one. Please help support the outing. You can put your name on the bus cut out or give your name to any of the EnerJ teachers.

All welcome.

During a vacancy it is more important than ever for the fellowship to pull together and support one another and events. This might be something you could bring someone along to that you would like to invite to church!!

As we are young one heavy we do not have any p7 children but do have a few starting school and our prayers will be with those children and their parents as they get ready for such a big step after summer. We also have a few children starting nursery who will join us and we pray for them in this new venture and look forward to welcoming them to EnerJ.

Please keep us all in your prayers over summer as the children enjoy their holidays and as we make plans for next year's programme.

Wishing you all a happy, fun and safe summer.

News from Session

1) Giving to Charities. At the Session meeting on 25th April Session agreed that the following charities would be supported over the next year.

The offerings at the Christmas Eve services will continue to go to the Scottish Bible Society (SC010767).

The offerings at the Easter services (Monday to Friday) will continue to go to our missionary partner via AIM (SC037594).

The tea money at East Calder will continue to go to Scripture Union Scotland (SC011222).

The In Focus tea money will continue to go to Alzheimer Scotland (SC022315).

The retiring offerings at both the August and October communions will go to the Wilsons via AIM (SC037594).

The retiring offerings at both the January and April communions will go to the Vine Trust (SC017386).

Any surplus from the Tea Tent at the East Calder gala will go to the West Lothian Food Bank (SC008274).

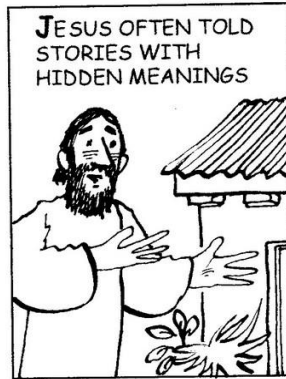
2) Organisations and Outreach. Session agreed or noted the following.

Session agreed that the Break should operate whenever the Lunch Club meets, currently twice a month, from September. At present the Break only operates once a month.

Session noted the retiral at the end of June of some very long serving volunteers at the Lunch Club. Clearly, new blood is required to ensure that the Lunch Club, a valuable outreach activity, can continue next session.

Session noted that we are struggling to get volunteers to carry on the work of the church. However, it was mentioned that there are over 40 folk helping in one way or another with this year's Holiday Club. Perhaps more often we need to identify and then ask folk to do things as they are often loathe to put themselves forward.

Session Clerk



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 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 7.30pm 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 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
Kirknewton Bible Study				Last Wednesday of each month 10.00am-11.00am Kirknewton Church Hall
Men's Fellowship				
Praise Band				Sundays: 11.00am East Calder Church and 6.00pm East Calder Church Hall

CHURCH CALENDAR

(See Organisations' meeting times on page 17)

Thursday	1 st June	Lunch Club East Calder Church Hall 11.30am The Break East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	2 nd June	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm
Sunday	4 th June	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus Communion: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	5 th June	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	6 th June	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	7 th June	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	9 th June	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm
Sunday	11 th June	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	12 th June	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	13 th June	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	14 th June	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	16 th June	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm
Sunday	18 th June	Morning Worship Services Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am In Focus: East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	19 th June	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	20 th June	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm

CHURCH

CALENDAR cont'd

Wednesday	21 st June	Housegroups 7.30pm
Friday	23 rd June	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm
Sunday	25 th June	Joint Family Service & Picnic East Calder 11.15am Prayer Meeting East Calder Church Prayer Room 2.30pm
Monday	26 th June	Prayer Group East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	27 th June	Singing Group Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	28 th June	Housegroups 7.30pm
Thursday	29 th June	Forget-me-not Café East Calder Church Hall 10.00am- 12 noon
Friday	30 th June	Kosy Kaff Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm

SUMMER SERVICES

There will be joint services during July and August.

JULY – KIRKNEWTON CHURCH at 9.45am.

AUGUST – EAST CALDER CHURCH at 11.15am