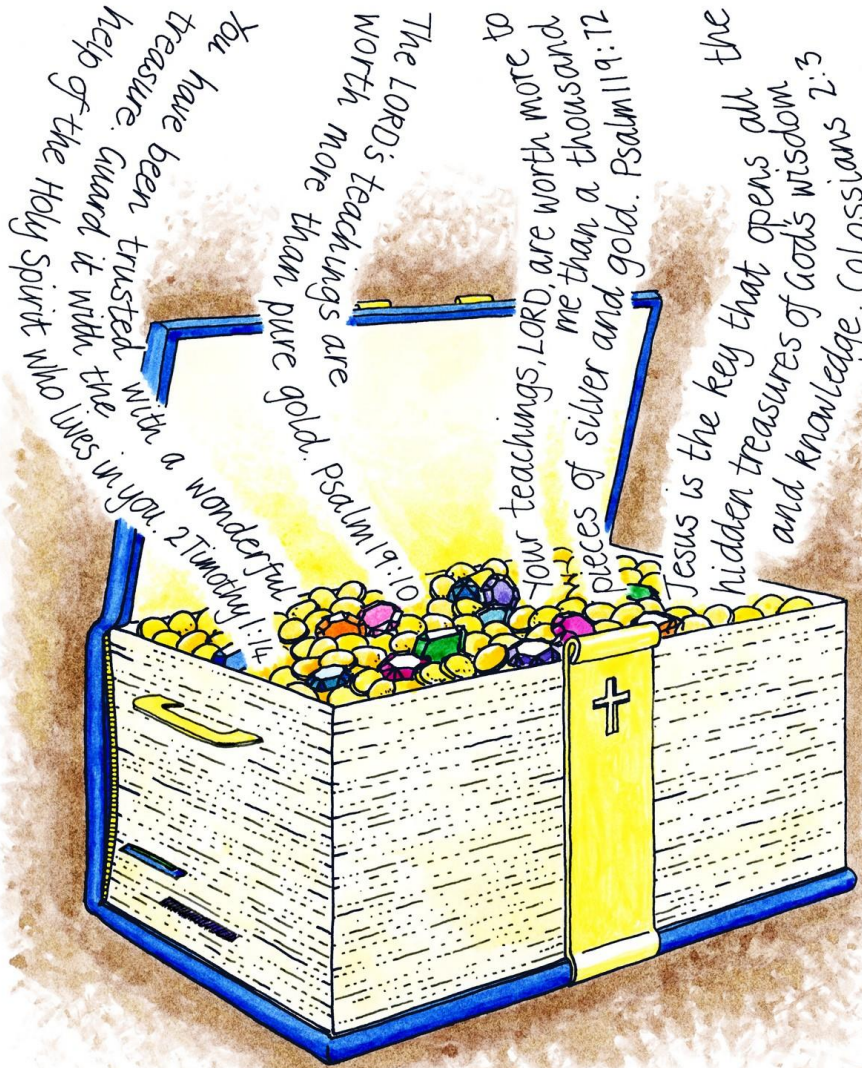


# KNEC NEWS



## September 2017



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





***This month includes:***

***Kirknewton Bible Study***

***In Focus***

***House Groups***

***Holiday Club***

***Financial Report***

***Boys' Brigade***

***EnerJ***

***The Break***



***"I will take refuge under the shadow of your wings until the storm has passed"***

*Psalm 57:1*

Have you ever had a day when you feel like 'just call me Job!?' Like your whole world is crashing around you and you wish you could turn back time? Like your most trusted foundations have been ripped away?

Then you will know how I felt that summer when I returned from the Methodist conference in Plymouth to find the workshop, broken into and ransacked. A quick check revealed my worst fear; most of our stock had been taken. I prayed 'Lord, let me be dreaming!'

As we began to pick up the pieces my eye fixed on one of our silver rings, the words 'Jesus is my rock' are deeply engraved and highlighted in gold. I picked it up and held it close to me; the words engraved themselves on my heart and mind. I picked up a string of pearls and I was reminded that 'Jesus is my pearl of great price'. Then I picked up the 'ascending spirit dove' pendant from under the table, where it lay trampled...and suddenly peace flooded in like a river, in all the mess I was reminded that Christ is near!

Sometimes there are no words to explain away a sense of loss or personal pain, when that thing, or person or place that we held dear is ripped away or why things happen that we don't understand. So, Lord, I will take refuge under the shadow of your wings until the storm is passed.

Can you relate to my experience, are you going through tough times? Then come with me into this sanctuary, into the secret place of the Most High. Right here in the eye of the storm I call his name, Jesus! And he is here! Here is strength for each new day, here is my treasure! Here are riches untold! Here is love, here is peace, and here is life, health and beauty and all the joy of heaven!

*Norma Murrain*

## 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.

**The service on 27<sup>th</sup> August is the last joint summer Service. From 3<sup>rd</sup> September Services will revert to the normal times: Kirknewton 9.45am and East Calder 11.15am.**



## Letter from Joan McKenzie

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you so much for your very generous gift sent in May. I so appreciate you remembering me and the work in Chad. All is going well with my work and the health project almost finished. I expect to continue with that into October. Recently I've been asked to help/support two Ethiopian families coming to live near the hospital. We now have housing for them. The Ethiopians are gifted in evangelism and I know God will use them there. Juliette and I are happy to see improvements in maternal/child health. Pray for us as we finish up this work.*

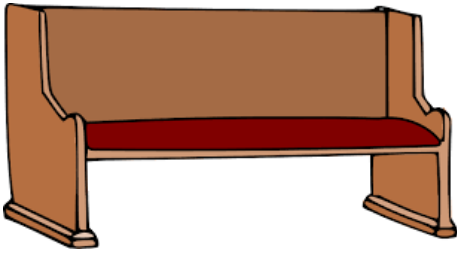
*My Love,*

*Joan.*

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.



# View from the Pew

*View from the Pew is having a well-earned break. We are extremely grateful for your articles during the past seven years and hope you will return soon.*

## Worship Service times

Normal worship services take place in Kirknewton Church at 9.45am and in East Calder Church at 11.15am.

The following exceptions/special services will take place between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

Sep 24 <sup>th</sup>	Worship Service BB Enrolment Service	Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am
Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	Back to Church Sunday Harvest Thanksgiving	Both Churches <i>but</i> Family Service at East Calder
Oct 15 <sup>th</sup>	Stewardship Services	Both Churches
Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Communion Services	Both Churches
Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance (Joint Service)	Kirknewton 9.45 am
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bereavement Service	East Calder 3.00 pm
Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Joint Christmas Family Service	East Calder 11:15 am
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship Joint Christmas Family Service Joint Christmas Eve Service	Both Churches East Calder 7.00pm Kirknewton 11.30pm
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Communion Services	Both Churches

## 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](mailto:knecnews@btinternet.com) The deadline for October's Magazine will be **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.**

## 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](mailto:knecnews@btinternet.com)

# Kirknewton



The group is led by the Minister with the aim of exploring particular Bible texts or wider Bible topics in relaxed and informal surroundings, which allows a freedom for people to voice concerns and anxieties about the Bible, the Church and the world. Of course, in addition to the formal discussion and learning there is also fun and laughter as the group share with each other life's ups and downs and put the world to rights. We meet in Kirknewton Church Hall on the last Wednesday of the month from 10.00 – 11.00am. For further details contact the Session Clerk.



# INFOCUS

In Focus, our Sunday evening service of Worship, Praise and Fellowship restarts after the summer break on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September (East Calder Church Hall at 6:30pm). As in previous years, there will be a number of different categories throughout the year:

- Cafe: My favourite 5 Mission Praise worship songs.
- Experiential: Sharing experience of aspects of God's nature.
- Reflection: On the verses of MP 760 "When we walk with the Lord".
- Songs of Praise evenings.
- Talks on 'Big Issues' from a Christian perspective.

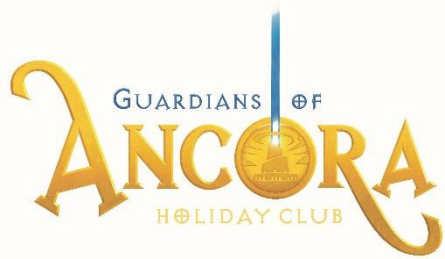
The programme starts with a welcome back evening at which the different categories for the year will be presented.

We look forward to welcoming all back to In Focus on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September (if you have never attended In Focus before, please come along and join in Fellowship).

**House Groups** our mid-week opportunity for bible study, sharing, fellowship and prayer will restart on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Like last year, groups will meet on a Wednesday evening at 7:30pm. Throughout the year, the groups will study the gospel of John.



All welcome.



## HOLIDAY CLUB

Well that's it over for another year! What a great time we all had in the Hall of Memory beginning with our warm up exercises and short film,



then we were out in the park playing games (we had 4 out of 5 dry days) and back to the hall for some lovely baking.



Next we watched the drama and what great actors we have in the congregation and so well directed.

On then to find the story-treasures, do some crafts, icing sandal biscuits was a favourite (I wonder why?) - fill in our journals, learn the Memory Verse and sing our theme song "Guardians of Ancora". A very packed morning.



50 children were registered for the Holiday Club and an average of 39 attended each day. We had a great group of 40 volunteer helpers, many in the hall and many more working in the background.



The Friday evening was attended by many parents and friends - over 100 in the hall including the children. It was fun, noisy and the amount of cakes was unbelievable.

It was great to see 12 children from the Holiday Club in Church

on the Sunday morning when the congregation were able to hear a little about Ancora and see photos which were representative of the whole week.

A great big "THANK YOU" to all those who helped in so many different ways.

***"BRING THE LIGHT BACK TO THE CITY"***

## ***The Church's Financial Position - August 2017***

All of the following financial information is correct as at 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

### **Receipts**

Our current overall income is £70,604 which is behind budget by £610 (0.8%). This figure includes the Gift Aid from donations to date which will be claimed later this year totalling £6,137.

Our offerings total of £49,613 is behind budget by £1,337 (2.6%). It is important to note that there has been a significant reduction in income from weekly offering envelopes. For comparison purposes, at this stage last year the total offerings were £55,658.

The income derived from people and groups using our church premises is ahead of budget by £378 (14%). In terms of weddings and funerals, we have received £1,640 to date, which is ahead of budget by £703 (75%). Fundraising activities, namely the Spring Fayre and Gala Tea Tent, have been successful with £786 raised at the Spring Fayre which went towards church funds. All proceeds from the Gala Tea Tent (£1,111) were donated to West Lothian Foodbank as agreed by Kirk Session in April.

### **Payments**

Our general expenditure to date is £72,482 which is over budget by £526 (0.7%).

This variance to budget is primarily due to investing a £5,000 legacy left to the Church last year in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust Growth Fund as agreed by the Board. This outgoing is partially offset by lower than budgeted minister's expenses due to our vacancy and a council tax rebate of £1,077 as the manse is unoccupied. Expenses relating to finding a new minister are not budgeted but rather brought to the Congregational Board for approval once known.

The cost of looking after our church buildings is £10,201 to date, which is £513 (5.3%) over budget. Current expenditure includes a number of small property maintenance expenses as well as more significant work on slates and guttering and the repair of lightning conductors for both churches. As a church family, we remain indebted to the volunteers who help to maintain our church properties.

### **Net position versus budget**

The 2017 Annual Budget presented to the Congregational Board members at the end of 2016 projected income of £109,380 and expenditure of £107,921 which would result in an end-of-year surplus of £1,459. The current net position is a deficit of £1,879.

I would urge anyone paying income tax on their salary or pension to complete a Gift Aid form. Donating through Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give for our church, at no extra cost to you. For donations received from November 2016 until the beginning of April 2017, we have been able to claim back £7,918 for our church. Our Stewardship Convenor, will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding Gift Aid.

If you wish to set up a standing order, or start using Weekly Offering envelopes, then please discuss this with me.

I would ask that you please give the finances of our church your prayerful consideration and thank you for your continued support.

Treasurer



## 1<sup>st</sup> East Calder Company

After what has seemed a very short summer, we started back again on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> August. Another full session has been planned and the Boys will be kept busy working towards various badges and awards in the three sections. We should have one Queen's Man this year and three of our older Boys are starting their two years of work towards their Queen's Badges.

Our Enrolment Service will be held in East Calder Church on 24<sup>th</sup> September and the Battalion's Founder's Day Service will be held in Whitburn South Church on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

The Battalion is organising a few events over the session and the Anchors and the Juniors will have an opportunity to go to a Fun Event/Christmas Crafts at Blackburn on 25<sup>th</sup> November. The Anchors will also have a chance to return to the Soft Play at Bathgate early next year.

The Juniors will have the usual indoor 5's, handball, spiritual and figure marching competitions as well as a general knowledge quiz.

The Company Section will be able to take part in their spiritual, badminton, indoor 5's and orienteering competitions. There is also an activity weekend at Carronvale for the P7s, S1 & 2 Boys.

The Battalion is also considering a triathlon event for the Company Section so we'll see how we manage with that!!

We will be going for a weekend camp again probably around June and plans are being finalised for that.

A busy year - so let's get started!!!

Our EnerJ journey

# EnerJ

Well it seems some time ago now since our family outing in June. This was a fantastic day and we are delighted to say was well attended with the bus being full and people taking their cars. The weather was kind to us so we got our picnic and some time on the beach, fellowship and singing outdoors.

Looking forward, our program this year sees us starting a journey through the Bible. This program has been done before but not for a few years. Whilst the activities will change, the leaders strongly believe the message for the children who previously heard the bible passage will now take a different meaning from it. We are still young one heavy and do try to make EnerJ as fun, informative and friendly as possible.

As we start our new session will you join us in prayer for our children as they return to or start nursery/school. Please also pray for us as we seek to encourage all our children on their faith journey and seek God's guidance in this.

Thank you.  
EnerJ Team

## The Break

starts again on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September in the Fellowship Room (back of East Calder Church). The Break is an opportunity to meet in fellowship for a short time of worship, prayer and thanksgiving.

This church year, the Break will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (12.30pm, after the Lunch Club). The theme for the year will be the Sermon on the Mount and each meeting will be led by a member of our Fellowship.

All welcome.

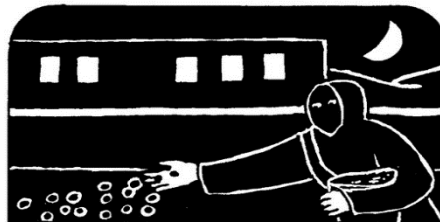
## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew chapter 13:24-30, 36-43

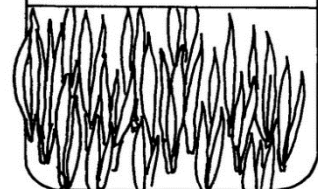
Jesus told this story to help explain  
what his Kingdom, the Kingdom of  
Heaven, is like...

A farmer's workers sowed  
good wheat seed in his field.

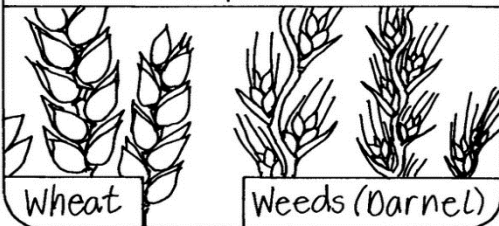


At night an enemy came  
and scattered weed seeds

When the seeds  
sprouted they  
looked the same



When the plants grew bigger  
the workers spotted the weeds



Wheat

Weeds (Darnel)

They asked the farmer



How did this happen?

An enemy did this



We'll pull  
up the weeds!

No, you might pull up  
some wheat with them.  
Wait until harvest time



You will be able to sort them  
out, and put the wheat in the  
barn... and burn the weeds



People asked



What does  
this story mean?

The field is the world  
and the good seeds are  
the good people



The weed seeds  
are the evil people. At the end  
of time they will be separated.

The angels will bring  
the good people to me  
in heaven.





# CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Organisation	Contact(s)	Email	Tel	Details
<b>Prayer Group</b>				Mondays: 7.30pm East Calder Church Prayer Room.
<b>Youth Church</b>				S1 to S4, Sundays: 11.15am East Calder Church
<b>Kosy Kaff</b>				Primary school age children Fridays during school term 4.00-5.00pm Kirknewton Village Hall
<b>EnerJ</b>				Ages 3 – 11. Sundays: 11.15am East Calder Church Hall
<b>The Boys’ Brigade</b>				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
<b>The Guild</b>				1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in month 7.30pm East Calder Church Hall
<b>House Groups</b>				Wednesdays 7.30pm
<b>Singing Group</b>				Tuesdays 7.45pm Kirknewton Church
<b>Baby and Toddler Group</b>				Thursdays: 9.30am-11.30am Kirknewton Church Hall
<b>Lunch Club</b>				1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month 11.30am-12.30pm E/C Church Hall
<b>The Break</b>				1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month 12.30pm-12.50pm East Calder Church Prayer Room
<b>Forget-me-not Café</b>				Last Thursday of each month 10.00am-12noon East Calder Church Hall
<b>Kirknewton Bible Study</b>				Last Wednesday of each month 10.00am-11.00am Kirknewton Church Hall
<b>Praise Band</b>				Sundays: 11.00am East Calder Church and 6.00pm East Calder Church Hall

# CHURCH CALENDAR

(See Organisations' meeting times on page 17)

Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	<b>Kosy Kaff</b> Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm <b>Boys' Brigade</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	<b>Morning Worship Services</b> Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Prayer Group</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>The Guild</b> East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm <b>Singing Group</b> Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Kosy Kaff</b> Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm <b>Boys' Brigade</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Morning Worship Services</b> Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Prayer Group</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Singing Group</b> Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Kosy Kaff</b> Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm <b>Boys' Brigade</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Morning Worship Services</b> Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am <b>In Focus:</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Prayer Group</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm

# CHURCH

## CALENDAR cont'd

Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>The Guild</b> East Calder Church Hall 7.30pm <b>Singing Group</b> Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Housegroups</b> 7.30pm
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	<b>Lunch Club</b> East Calder Church Hall 11.30am <b>The Break</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 12.30pm
Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	<b>Kosy Kaff</b> Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm <b>Boys' Brigade</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Morning Worship Services</b> Kirknewton 9.45am East Calder 11.15am Boys' Brigade Enrolment <b>Prayer Meeting</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 2.30pm <b>In Focus:</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Prayer Group</b> East Calder Church Prayer Room 7.30pm
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Congregational Board</b> East Calder Church Hall 7.00pm <b>Kirk Session</b> East Calder Church Hall 8.00pm <b>Singing Group</b> Kirknewton Church 7.45pm
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Kirknewton Bible Study</b> Kirknewton Church Hall 10.00 – 11.00am <b>Housegroups</b> 7.30pm
Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Forget-me-not Café</b> East Calder Church Hall 10.00am- 12 noon
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Kosy Kaff</b> Kirknewton Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm <b>Boys' Brigade</b> East Calder Church Hall 6.30pm