

THE KIRK NEWS

DECEMBER 2024 /
JANUARY 2025



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Rev Anne Logan writes a weekly letter—if you'd like to receive this, please send your email request to admin@curriekirk.co.uk to register.

Calendar Overview

Church Services in Currie Kirk

DECEMBER

- 1 Joint Advent Carol Service in Balerno, 10.00am—Rev Derek Munn.
- 7 Currie Kirk open 11 am—2 pm for quiet reflection. Short Bereavement service at 12.30—Rev Susan Galloway
- 8 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am—Second Sunday in Advent—Rev Susan Galloway—followed by Prayer Tree Service
- 13 Messy Church—Gibson Craig Hall—2-4 pm
- 15 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am—Third Sunday in Advent—Rev Susan Galloway—Lessons and Carols
- 22 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am—Fourth Sunday in Advent—Rev Susan Galloway
- 24 Gibson Craig Hall—Christingle/Pyjama Service 6.30 pm—come and make your Christingle from 6 pm
- 24 Currie Kirk—Watchnight Service at 11.30—Rev Susan Galloway
- 25 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am—Christmas Day—Rev Dr Anne T Logan, Interim Moderator
- 29 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am—Reflective Worship for the Year's End led by Rev Susan Galloway



JANUARY 2025

- 5 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway.
- 12 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway followed by Prayer Tree Service.
- 19 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway.
- 26 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway. Followed by Communion

Other Dates to Remember

December

- 3 Guild Meeting at 10 am—Poppy Scotland—Speaker: Karen Campbell.
- 17 Guild Meeting at 2 pm—Christmas Party.

January

- 21 Guild Meeting at 2 pm—Another Nicht Wi' Burns—Speaker: Margaret Anderson
- 24 **Deadline for February/March Kirk News**

December and January Boys' Brigade Meetings (except school holiday week)

- Anchor Boys and Junior Section—Gibson Craig Halls—6-7.30pm meet every Thursday
- Company Section—Gibson Craig Halls 7.00—8.30pm—Games evening every Friday
- Company Section—Gibson Craig Halls 6.30—8.30pm every Sunday



A Message from our Locum Minister Rev Susan Galloway

Faith

If only we had the faith of the child that came from school and said to his mum: 'On my way home, I waved to Lord Jesus!' 'Child', his mum said, 'surely you did not see our Lord Jesus'. The child answered: 'No mum, I didn't, but he saw me!'

As the light of the days is taken over by darkness earlier and earlier, we are moving toward the end of a year in which we have the lives of many taken in violence, in war, in senseless shootings. We have seen the impact of climate change ravaging lives through floods, fires and earthquakes, thousands of people losing everything, sometimes even losing hope. When I think on this, I am reminded of the words spoken by a young man after witnessing human suffering and loss:

'I am not going to let go of hope, I am not going to let go of love, I am not going to let go of God'

..... a plea, not to let go of God, from one of today's biggest stars, Justin Bieber.

Isn't it easy sometimes to do just that To let go of God?

Maybe, but God doesn't ever let go of us. How do we know that He doesn't?

Through our faith, and through the faith of so many, those who have gone before us in faith and those who are with us in faith now, far away or close to us. Through the truth of the words of John in the Bible.

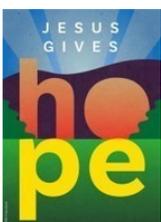
'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it...' (John 1:5)

Here emerges a refusal to let darkness, which comes with all our struggles of so many different kinds, overcome hope. A hope that comes through a glimpse of the light from heaven that came down to earth, in a vulnerable child that grew into a man.

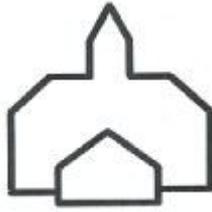
May God's blessings be with you and your families this Christmas and in the new year.

Blessings Susan.

Rev Susan Galloway
Locum Minister, Currie Kirk
T: 0788 1093480



JOY to the WORLD



Presbytery Plan Update

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian on 5 November a motion was passed confirming that the parishes of Currie and Balerno would enter into a linkage to be overseen by an Interim Minister. This had previously been passed overwhelmingly by both Kirk Sessions and congregations.

Under a linkage the Kirk Sessions of both churches continue to operate separately albeit working closely together under the Interim Minister. The finances of both churches will also continue to operate separately. The Interim Minister will be appointed by Presbytery. He or she is specially trained to work with parishes who require extra assistance before becoming fully united. It may be some time before the Interim Minister is appointed as there are only 13 for the whole of Scotland.

We need to emphasise that, although Currie Manse is up for sale, neither church will close nor will the associated halls. Balerno Manse will remain available for the foreseeable future, but it is unlikely that the Interim Minister will move in.

The only downside to all of this is that, when the Interim Minister takes up post, both parishes will lose their Interim Moderator and Locum Minister.

New Elders

Currie Kirk ordained three new Elders and welcomed two existing Elders on Sunday 24 November.

The new Elders are June Deuchars, Isobel Webber and Christine Wilson. June and Christine have been heavily involved with many children's activities over the years and are members of Mission, Outreach and Fellowship committee. Isobel Webber has been heavily involved in the Guild and is currently the Editor of Kirk News. She volunteers in the office to cover holidays and has joined the AV team. She is also the Joint Session Clerk.

We wish them well as they move further in their journey of faith within Currie Kirk.



Neill, John
Christine, Isobel, June



The Currie Kirk Guild

As we draw nearer to Christmas the Guild has already enjoyed a number of meetings. One of the most memorable was Tim Purves speaking on "Operation Unicorn" about the late Queen's funeral in which he played an integral part. It was wonderful to get a sneak peak behind the curtains. A very successful Coffee Morning in aid of the Vine Trust was held in October at which we raised over £500. We will be supporting a new charity from January so watch this space. Rev Susan Galloway conducted a very moving Rededication Service for us.

Moving into December there is a meeting on Tuesday 3 December at 10am when the speaker will be Karen Campbell from "Poppy Scotland". We round off the first part of the session with our Christmas Party on Tuesday 17 December from 1-4pm. On 21 January at 2pm our first speaker of 2025 will be Margaret Anderson with whom we will enjoy "Another Nicht wi' Burns"

Please do join us for any of our meetings. You will be made most welcome. For further information either email me on elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 466-3472.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a joyous start to 2025.

Louise Lamont Currie Kirk Guild President



65th Edinburgh Company

(Registered Charity No. SC034640)

The Company provided the Colour Party for the Currie Kirk Remembrance Service on Sunday, 10 November with Lt Duncan Cameron providing the bagpipe accompaniment at the War Memorial as the wreaths were laid. The Colour Party consisted of Bill Brown, Duncan Cameron, L/Cpls Rory McGill and Tony Cheung. When we formed up at the Memorial WO Chris Grierson took the Company Colour. L/Cpl Tony Cheung did the readings at the Service.



On the 17 and 24 November the Boys travelled to Motherwell and Overton to compete in the National Championships in table tennis and chess. We wish them all the best.

The Anchors and Juniors will attend the Battalion Christmas outing to the Cameo cinema to see The Muppet Christmas Carol on 14 December.

The last Thursday night in the Gibson Craig Hall for Anchors and Juniors this year will be the 10 December. They will resume on Thursday, 9 January, 2025. The last Friday club will be the 13 December. The last Sunday for the Company Section will be the 15 December. The Company will resume on Sunday, 12 January, 2025 with the Friday club resuming the 17 January.

Christmas

Find words that are forward, up and down. No diagonal or backwards words.



1. LIGHTS
2. SNOWMAN
3. BELLS
4. JOYFUL
5. FRUITCAKE
6. JESUS
7. MANGER
8. PRESENTS
9. GIVING
10. FAMILY

11. FRIENDSHIP
12. BETHLEHEM
13. CHURCH
14. SINGING
15. JINGLEBELLS
16. THANKFUL
17. NATIVITY
18. SANTA
19. RUDOLPH
20. CHIMNEY

A word search grid shaped like a Christmas tree. The grid consists of 20 rows of letters. A yellow star is at the top. A brown skirt-like shape is at the bottom. Several red circles are placed on the grid, likely indicating where words have been found. The letters in the grid are as follows:

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J G H C
M M G E
G G G Z T S
J D I A J Q
K S Z V P E U K
E M U I A B W E
C H I M N E Y N W S
G A F T G Q I D S S
B E T H L E H E M X I J
W F A M I L Y G R M N Q
G Z H K E M R I I X R G N Q
M A N G E R B Z T N C I T M
C V U I H E J V J V J P N X X N
U G G D E C F V I W T L G M G F
Q W P G T T V M A G M A Y N Q C U I
H N Q R G H L L I F L G N K O D H I H N
V A J E U R Q M L R E N K P W Y U T I R
B P T J S J T H M O I B I F V M S R C H K G
M C I G E H R M U V E E Z U F A Z C A Y O P
T K M V A N E Y A Z Y N L D L Y N V H K Z I D I
I R F I A T T C E L E D L U F F I A E E J S Q E
W T U H T P S A A V I X S S A N T A K J Q H Z E Y B
E Z D I Y D Q A B Z G Q H S Z Q I W H E F H A K L Z
Q T T O N S W Y J E D H F I K Q B Y S U S U F E J C G K
R W X L R U P C O L G T G P G S S Y I D U J T Y Y Z Y M
P D G S P R S L O E L E S C Z W M F T D F S K W K Y M D F K
I W J U H O P V I C S V J O Y F U L A G R G S G O O L L R M
    
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Joint Balerno and Currie
Advent Study
 Sunday evenings in December
 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd
 7pm Gibson Craig Hall

Stephen Carroll
 we are using the book
 'Walking Backwards to
 Christmas' which will be
 available to buy. To book a place
 and for more details contact:

bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk
 Tel. 0131 449 7245

The Advent Study sessions will be led by Rev Derek Munn and Rev Susan Galloway.

For further information and to book a place, contact bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk or phone 0131-449-7245



13 December 2024
Gibson Craig Hall: 2-4 pm

FUN and GAMES—CRAFTS—BIBLE STORIES



Refreshments

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK I'm fundraising for Crohn's and Colitis UK

HOGMANAY CHARITY CEILIDH

Tuesday 31st December

Dancing to
IAIN MACPHAIL BAND

8pm till 12.45am

Gibson Craig Hall

Tickets £15
BYOB+Glass

Contact Viola 449 4664
07806 806920

Improved lives today, and a world free from Crohn's and Colitis tomorrow

www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk

Registered charity in England and Wales Number 107048, Scotland Number SC020502

FR registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Transport Fund

Do you have difficulty getting to church due to mobility issues or lack of transport? Then the transport fund is for you.

A great deal of money was released when the Minibus Fund was wound up. Part of which was given to Currie Kirk to set up a Transport Fund. All that is required is a receipt from the driver which you can hand to any Elder on duty and the money will be refunded to you. For journeys home from church just bring the receipt the following week or whenever you are next in church. You can also use it if you have difficulty getting to and from the Guild. Church postcode is EH14 6AL.



Currie Kirk Garden of Remembrance

The idea behind the Garden of Remembrance and accompanying document was to personalise the names of those servicemen and woman who are commemorated on the Memorial Boards within Currie Kirk, turning Names into People.

Using the websites Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) and Scotland's People (Scottish National Registrar of Scotland) the research began!

In addition to providing some biography of the 109 names, the information uncovered is an amazing insight to the Social History of the villages of Juniper Green, Currie and Balerno in the first half of the 20th Century.

Of the 80 names on the two WWI Boards, 31 men were Royal Scots—this was the local Edinburgh Regiment. Four men, born here, served with the Canadian Infantry and two with the Australian Infantry. Three men served with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Other Scottish Regiments in which the men served:

Kings Own Scottish Borderers; Scots Guards; Highland Light Infantry; Cameron Highlanders; Gordon Highlanders; Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders; Seaforth Highlanders; Black Watch; Royal Flying Corps.

One woman, a Nurse, is commemorated.

Of the 26 names on the WWII Boards, 6 men served with the Royal Air Force and one with the Canadian Air Force, 3 were in the Royal Navy. Traditional Scottish Regiments still feature;

Seaforth Highlanders; Royal Scots; The London Scottish; Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders; Lothian & Borders Horse.



One man was with the Royal Army Medical Corps.

There is a book containing all the information – if you would like to read it please contact the Kirk Office (0131 451 5141) for a loan. It'll be on our website: www.curriekirk.org



Harvest Soup Lunch

Due to all the Presbytery meetings in early October, our Soup lunch was delayed until 20 October. Those who came along enjoyed some wonderful soup and home baking. We were able to send £136.70 to Christian Aid.

Shoebboxes

Sixty-four completed shoeboxes were uplifted by Blythswood Charity on 4 November. This year the shoeboxes are being delivered to Ukraine. Thanks to everyone who donated towards this appeal.



Poppies

Thanks to everyone who knitted, crocheted or sewed poppies for us! We had a slight panic mid-October as to whether we'd have enough but many people joined the call!

We created a display of poppies on the wall of the Gibson Craig Hall and a Garden of Remembrance beside the War Memorial outside Currie Kirk. A very fitting and moving tribute. Monies collected in the afternoon will go to Poppy Scotland—£140.



Food Bank Donations

Harvest Thanksgiving Service. All donations were welcomed at the Juniper Green Food Bank. Thanks to everyone



Christmas Cakes.

This will be my last year baking and selling Christmas cakes. I've been doing them for over 20 years and have given Bethany Christian Trust all the profit over these years.

Thank you for all your generous support.
Fiona Pigott



Community Activities

The Gibson Craig Hall is available to hire. The Booking Co-ordinator is Viola MacPhail

Contact Details: gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com
Tel: 07806 806920

	Contact name	Tel/email	Day
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	douglaslowe51@btinternet.com	Monday 7.30—9 pm twice monthly, October to March.
Currie Community Council		curriecouncil@gmail.com	2nd Wed of the month 7.30—9 pm, except July & December.
Currie Creatives (Music)	Shona Moyes	07752 459203	Tuesday 6.30—8.30 pm.
Parent and Toddler Group	Kate Pearson	kate.q.kate@gmail.com	Friday 9.30 am—11.30 am (term time only).
Octagon Club	Claire Maloney	07999 410721	Wednesday 7.00 —9.00 pm, September to June.
Pentland Ladies Probus	Marion Wallace	wmkwallace@aol.com	4th Tuesday of month, 10am—12, from Sept to May.
Pilates	Ellen Foster	07983 863143	Saturday 10.30—11.30 am
Steady Steps	By referral		Thursday 9.30—11.00 am and 2.30—4.00 pm
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	tomlowe69@hotmail.co.uk	Thursday 10.15 —11.15 am.

Coffee and Conversation

Currie Library every Friday from 11 am



The Meeting Place

The meeting place is held every Monday for the over 65's and their carers, in the Scout Hall Forth View Crescent, Currie, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Lunch is served for a modest £5.00.

Our main focus is offering a place to all our residents looking for companionship in a safe friendly environment where they can enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

For more information phone 07711 046014 or just call in.

Family News

Obituaries: *Jesus said "I am the Resurrection and the Life"
(John 11:25)*

Lorraine Elizabeth Cowan, Currie
Isabella Innes, Currie
Agnes McFarlane, Currie
Rena Milligan, Balerno
Elizabeth Rhynas, Currie
Mabel Whyte, Edinburgh
Alan Furneaux, Edinburgh



Please pray for the families

New Members

Calum Brown, Currie
Tricia Henderson, Currie



Baptism: *Jesus said "Let the children come to me"
(Luke 18:16)*

Mabel Ann Cameron Wray
James David Hunter Arnot
Aurelia Hunter Slizewska

Baptised by the Rev Susan Galloway on Sunday 17 November 2024



Dorothy and Michael Collins would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and the lovely church flowers received for the occasion.
Many thanks.

December 2024 & January 2025 Flower List

December 2024

- 2 Mrs S Law
- 14 Mrs C Lindsay
- 21 Mrs D Brown
- 28 Flower Fund Donations



January 2025

- 5 Mrs J McColl
- 12 Mrs E Smith
- 19 Flower Fund Donations
- 26 Flower Fund Donations

The flowers are enjoyed and appreciated by so many. Thank you to those who have donated. If you wish to dedicate flowers on a particular Sunday please get in touch with Isobel Webber or the office
admin@curriekirk.co.uk

