

The Kirk News

May/June 2024



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Calendar Overview

Church Services.

MAY 2024

- 5 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Alistair Keil
- 12 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Joint Service with Balerno Parish Church. Worship led by Prof John Sawkins, followed by a Prayer Tree service.
- 19 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Rita Welsh.
- 26 Currie Kirk at 10.30am. Worship led by Rev Alistair Keil, followed by informal communion.

JUNE 2024

- 2 Currie Kirk at 10.30am. Worship led by Rev Anne Logan. Followed by Stated Annual Meeting
- 9 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Peter Graham.
- 16 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Neill Crawford.
- 23 Balerno Parish Church at 10.00 am. Joint service led by Rev Anne Logan. Picnic to follow.
- 30 Currie Kirk at 10.30am. Worship and Communion led by Rev Anne Logan.

Other dates to remember

MAY 2024

- 4 Coffee Stop! opens today, Currie Kirk, 2—4pm
- 7 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon. GCHall
- 9 Boys Brigade
- 10 Boys Brigade
- 11 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 12 Boys Brigade
- 14 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon. GCHall
- 16 Guild Outing—all day
- 16 Boys Brigade
- 17 Boys Brigade
- 18 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 21 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon. GCHall
- 23 Boys Brigade
- 24 BB Annual Display, 7pm
- 25 Coffee Stop! Currie Kirk, 2—4pm
- 31 Family Quiz Night, 7pm. GCHall

JUNE 2024

- 1 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 4 Summer Pop Up café, GCHall, 10—12
- 8 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 11 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon
- 15 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 18 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon. GCHall
- 22 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk
- 25 Summer POP-UP Café, 10.30—12noon. GCHall
- 29 Coffee Stop! 2—4pm, Currie Kirk



Letter from Anne (our Interim Moderator):

Dear Friends,

The gardens are blooming, the trees are green, the days are lengthening and most of us are beginning to think of summer. For many of us, that will mean some holiday time.

We spend a weekend each year with our family at a well-known Perthshire Hotel. As a family, we have been going there for more years than we care to count. Indeed, my husband, Mike has been there, at least once a year since he was 10 weeks old and one of our grandsons was only ten days old the first time he stayed there. There is something special about going on holiday somewhere which is very familiar, there is a sense of homecoming. But, it has to be said, one of the first things the children do, is have a tour round – to see what has changed or is different from their last visit.

It can be good fun and relaxing to go back to places we have been before and enjoy the familiarity, but equally, most of us enjoy visiting new places. But even in a new place, somewhere we have never been, there are usually things that are familiar or remind us of home – we catch a voice speaking English; we see children playing; we see washing hanging out on the line; we smell the aroma of cooking or baking as we pass someone's home.

Whatever way you are planning to spend the summer, whether at home or in familiar surroundings, or whether we are exploring somewhere new, we give thanks to God – the God of the Ages, the God whose love is unchanging – but the God who still says 'I am about to do a new thing.'

Blessings! Anne

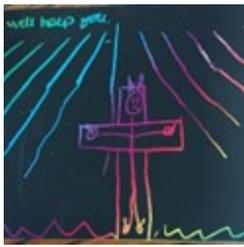
Rev Anne Logan writes a weekly letter—if you'd like to receive this, please send your email request to admin@curriekirk.co.uk.

Presbytery Plan

The Steering Group continues to work on the Basis of Union between Currie Kirk and Balerno Parish Church. Many things are falling into place, but there is still some work to do. In some ways creating the Union document is the easy part, ensuring a smooth and harmonious transition for the congregations is much harder. At present, the suggested name is 'Kirk of Currie and Balerno,' however, that will need to be acceptable to the Presbytery and to the relevant departments at 121 George St, before we can make any assumptions. Whilst the Kirk Sessions and Congregations don't vote on the individual clauses of the Basis of Union as they arise, the Kirk Sessions and Congregations do get to have their say and to vote when the document is complete.

Easter celebrations at Currie Kirk.

On Wednesday 27th March, Primary 5 children from Nether Currie School came up to the GCHall to hear the Easter Story. It's called 'Easter in a Box' where the children are in groups and learn about Palm Sunday, Garden of Gesthemane, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. There were thought moments and activities. A selection of them are below:



On Good Friday there was a community 'Walk of Witness' from Balerno Parish Church to Currie Kirk, stopping along the way for reflection and prayer. There were 24 of us walking in sunshine!



Easter Morning—There was an outdoor family service at 9am, followed by coffee and pastries, before the Communion Service. There were two crosses filled with daffodils to represent the joy of the risen Christ.



Rev Anne Logan with the Cross on Easter Day.

Flower seeds were handed out over Easter time. Please send in any photographs of the flowers they produce.





The Currie Kirk Guild

As we approach the end of our 2023/24 session there is only our outing to Galashiels/ Melrose left to enjoy. Many thanks to all those who contributed to and attended our Daffodil Tea at the end of March where we raised £660. Throughout the session we have welcomed new members, sadly lost some and enjoyed a variety of speakers. Our annual outing takes place on Thursday 16th May leaving GCH at 10am to journey to Galashiels where there is an opportunity to visit the Great Tapestry of Scotland then on to Melrose. There are still seats left on the coach so, if you are interested in joining us, please let me know. The cost is £35 which includes morning coffee and a meal at about 3pm. We should return to GCH about 6pm. Entrance to the tapestry is optional and costs £10.

Louise Lamont Guild President elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk 466-3472

Edinburgh City Mission: An Open Hand

One of the talks at the Guild was from Edinburgh City Mission and became the topic of our Mission, Outreach and Fellowship committee meeting:

An Open Hand aims to provide parents in severe hardship with a present for their child's birthday, along with books and items for each family to play with together, such as simple games and stationery.

We hope to give more children the opportunity to celebrate their birthday by reducing the financial burden it can place on a family. The present given to each child will be specific to that child's interests and tastes so that they receive not just a gift, but one that they will really cherish and enjoy.

An Open Hand is a partnership between Edinburgh City Mission and Greenbank Parish Church. Referral agencies from across Edinburgh will apply for families who are eligible. They will be able to indicate on the application form specific toys the child would wish. This will then be delivered to the family along with the other birthday items.

When a child feels their family are celebrating their birthday, they feel special and significant. It is a time when families can show how much they love and care for someone. A time for the family to create positive, happy memories and help strengthen family bonds. Buying presents for a birthday puts a strain on many families, however, and moves them into debt, or is simply not possible and the children go without a birthday present.



One of the schemes for donations is "*My Birthday – Your Present*", where a donation leaves your bank account once a year on your own birthday, meaning that whilst you are celebrating your own birthday, you are also enabling a child in Edinburgh to celebrate their birthday – a double celebration!

For more information please contact office@edinburghcitymission.org.uk or call (0131) 225-9445

FRIDAY NIGHT ADVENTURE

When: Friday 10th May, 6-8pm

Where: Bristo Baptist Church, 1 Queensferry Rd, Edinburgh. EH4 3DJ

Who: P4-P7

Cost: £3

What: Games, Crafts, Explore the Bible, Snack.

Book your space at: <https://form.jotform.com/240643636077358>

SU Scotland



Shoebbox Appeal—A new way to donate!

Rather than asking for completed boxes this year we're suggesting a different item each month—it may seem a little easier putting an extra item in the shopping basket. In 2024 our suggestion is for the following items to be handed in each month:

March: Snood/scarf/gloves/hats.

April: Socks (especially warm socks) **May: Stationery.**

June: Toothbrush/toothpaste

July: Shampoo/Soap

August: Small toys/gifts

September: Deodorant

October: Sweets (not chocolates)

Please remember it all needs to fit into a shoebox so small is good!

These can be left in the Kirk on a Sunday or dropped off at the Gibson Craig Hall.



Christian Aid Week 12th—18th May 2024.

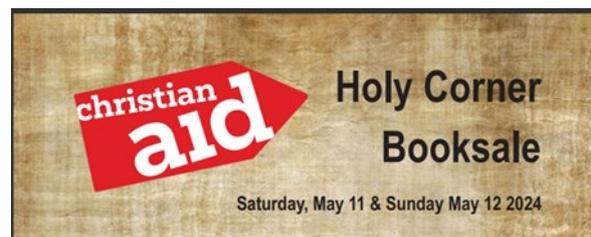
There will be envelopes available in Currie Kirk and in the Kirk office for donations.

Poverty pushed Aline to the brink of survival.

Aline felt the full force of extreme poverty when an early marriage ended in abuse and violence.

Separated from her six children, she was forced to sleep on the streets of Burundi. No home. No healthcare. No security.

But Aline was determined to push back against the inhumanity of poverty, driven by hope, faith and the love of her children. She transformed her life with a little help from Christian Aid.



Care Van and Currie Kirk.

Currie Kirk will no longer be taking a turn in the monthly rota of the Care Van due to the new policy of age limit for driving the van. We've volunteered with the Care Van through Edinburgh City Mission and Bethany Christian Trust since the idea was first suggested by Alan Berry, over 30 years ago. There have been many, many changes over the years—some would say Good whilst others would disagree, but the service has existed 364 days of the year. If anyone is interested in volunteering please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or directly through Bethany Christian Trust.

We will still cook for the Winter Shelter (based at the Hub, Haymarket).

Thank you to everyone who has made soup, donated, and volunteered on the van—too many to mention! Fiona Pigott. (07874—282480)

It's been a busy year for our small but active BB Company. All boys from Junior and Company Sections began the year with a weekend at the Battalion Outdoor Centre at Craggan, Loch Tay. The older boys spent a day on the water in canoes and kayaks with the younger lads enjoying activities on dry land. The Company Section have undertaken a number of classes including Conservation, Social Media, World War 1, and First Aid. Much of their time has also been taken up with National competitions. We entered the Chess, Table Tennis and Badminton competitions and hosted Companies from around Scotland at the Gibson Craig Halls. We also travelled to away matches including ties in Dundee and Kingussie. The boys did really well making the quarter finals of each competition.

The boys took part in the annual Remembrance Day service at Currie Kirk and on Easter Sunday Tony and Conrad Cheung swelled the numbers at the 9.00am service bringing their cousins and mums along too. The boys then rolled their eggs down the slope in front of the Kirk.

Connor McGill is the latest boy to have his name added to the Queen's Badge Honour Board having attended his Completion Course earlier this year. Tony Cheung will hopefully gain his President's Badge when he attends a Skills Course this month. Well done Connor and Tony.

Our Anchors and Juniors have enjoyed a fun packed Session with games, crafts and visits. With a number of Juniors due to be promoted to the Company it is hoped that new boys will flood in to replace them for next Session.

All three sections now look toward our annual Parents Night on Friday 24th May, 7pm.

Bill Brown (Captain), 07878—377897/bill.brown53@yahoo.com

Thank you to everyone who bought a knitted chicken at Easter time, Diane and her team have raised £255 for BB funds. Thanks also to everyone who filled a smartie tube with 20 pence pieces— £111.70.

Favourite Hymns

What's your favourite hymn? Let us know and we will forward a list to the preachers who will be leading our worship over the summer months.

Email admin@curriekirk.co.uk.



Armistice Display of Poppies

Are you able to knit or crochet? We'd like to create a display of poppies in the Gibson Craig Hall front garden and are looking for people who'd like to form a small group to create poppies for us to display.

Red wool and a pattern can be provided.

Thank you to all the knitters who have volunteered so far.

Fiona Pigott, on behalf of Mission, Outreach and Fellowship committee.

FreshStart
helping people make a home for themselves

Now collecting mugs (**no cups and saucers**), cutlery, pots and pans.

Bed linen—sheets, duvet covers, pillow cases etc.

NO duvets or pillows. NO furniture or bric-a-brac.

Donations may be handed into the Gibson Craig Hall or taken directly to Fresh Start

The office hours are currently restricted, please call before you come! (0131) 451 5141



Family Quiz Night, Friday 31st May, 7pm. Gibson Craig Hall.

Tickets—£5 per person (Children free!) Light buffet, BYOB.

Come as a group or come on your own and join a team. Tickets from the Kirk office or any member of the MOF committee.

Coffee Stop! We're Open

Our Saturday café is now open, 4 May until 28 September, 2—4pm (last orders at 3.30pm). If you can spare any time during the summer to bake or just be there to pour coffee, teas, or just chat we'd be glad to hear from you! If you're looking for a chat and friendship on a Saturday afternoon or a cuppa at the end of a walk then please come and join us. This year we're adding in a craft table for any children.

Contact Fiona Pigott if you're able to help (see back page for contact details)





SUMMER POP-UP CAFÉ at the Gibson Craig from May to August 2024

Before COVID, do you remember the Summer POP-UP Cafe on Tuesday mornings in the Gibson Craig Small Hall?

The POP-UP Café will open again this summer from Tuesday 7th May, 10.30am- 12noon, running weekly until the end of August*.

All are welcome for tea, coffee and home baking in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. Proceeds will go to Currie Kirk projects.

Contact Viola MacPhail for information on 449 4664 or 07806 806920 or email viola.macphail@gmail.com
*Not open on 28th May as the kitchen will be in use for a function.

On March 23rd, The Heriot Watt Chamber Choir gave a concert in the Kirk. It was a most enjoyable evening, the Choir donated £246.40 to Currie Kirk.

Thank You.

Transport Fund

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



When the minibus was sold and the charity wound up, a great deal of money was released part of which was given to Currie Kirk to set up a Transport Fund. Had the minibus not been sold, these monies would have been used for the upkeep of the bus—tax, insurance, MOT, petrol etc. These would have cost considerably more than paying for taxis to and from church. Please make use of the fund. The money is there to assist you. 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. Again just obtain a receipt and hand it to a committee member. The Kirk's postcode is EH14 6AL.

The Kirk Walking Group

Walks take place on the 3rd Sunday of each month, leaving after the service.



We would love to welcome new walkers. We never go over 4 miles and try always to have a coffee stop at the end of the walk (sometimes a picnic in the summer months!)

For more information please contact Moira McDonald (07853 228751)

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.
EH Fitness Classes	Emma	emma@eh-fitness.co.uk 0771 333 5900	Monday 12.15—1.00 pm. Monday 6.00—7.00 pm. Tuesday 6.45—7.15 pm. Thursday 12.15—12.45 pm. Friday 5.30—6.30 pm. Saturday 8.00—9.30 am.
Parent and Toddler Group	Margaret Milton	07743 067588	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	Barbara Hannaford	0131 453 3012	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	DaleRoy@edinburghleisure.co.uk	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 Allan Murray on 07711 046014 or just call in.

Family News

Baptism: *Jesus said "Let the children come to me"*

Rafe Austin Nowicki, baptised on 17th March 2024.



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

Dorothy Curr, Juniper Green
Andrew Fraser, Currie
Maureen Ure, Currie
John Whyte, Kingsknowe
Ian Davies, Currie
John Eddie, Currie
Hope Hogg, Currie



Please pray for the families

March/April Flower List

May

- 5 Ina Greig
- 12 Mrs S Ramsay
- 19 A Forsyth,
Mrs D Nixon
T Gatenby
- 26 Mrs A Smith
Mrs V MacPhail
Mrs A Haston



June

- 2 B Eunson
- 9 Mrs M McDonald
- 16 Mrs M Watson
- 23 **Joint service in Balerno PC**
- 30 Flower Fund

The flowers are enjoyed and appreciated by the many people they are delivered to after the service. 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

