

THE KIRK NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024



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Calendar Overview

Church Services in Currie Kirk

FEBRUARY 2024

- 4 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Town and Gown Service with Heriot Watt University.
- 11 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Anne Logan, followed by a Prayer Tree service.
- 18 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Grant Gordon.
- 25 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Anne Logan, followed by an informal communion.

MARCH 2024

- 3 Currie Kirk at 10.30am. Worship led by Rev Anne Logan.

Other Dates for your Diary

FEBRUARY

- 4 BB Company Section, 6.30—8.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 6 Guild, 10am, Gibson Craig Hall. "Disappeared Department Stores" , Jane Neil-MacLachlan
- 8 BB Anchor Boys/Junior Section, 6.00—7.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 9 BB Company Section Games Night, 7.00—9.00pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 11 BB Company Section, 6.30—8.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 15 BB Anchor Boys/Junior Section, 6.00—7.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 16 BB Company Section Games Night, 7.00—9.00pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 18 BB Company Section, 6.30—8.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 21 Guild, 2pm, Gibson Craig Hall. "Edinburgh City Mission", Katie Bogle
- 21 Care Van out tonight manned by Currie Kirk volunteers
- 22 BB Anchor Boys/Junior Section, 6.00—7.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 23 BB Company Section Games Night, 7.00—9.00pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 25 BB Company Section, 6.30—8.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall
- 29 BB Anchor Boys/Junior Section, 6.00pm—7.30pm, Gibson Craig Hall

Lenten Study 2024.

'God's Invitation to Relationship'

There will be a series of Lenten Studies on prayer this year.

If you'd like to know more information regarding time and place please contact the Kirk office (currie_kirk@btconnect.com) or Margaret Gordon.



Letter from Anne (our Interim Moderator):

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are preparing for yet another storm to pass across the UK. There seem to have been so many of them this winter. Despite the storms though, there are the very first hints of spring appearing. We notice as we travel to childminder our grandchildren, that the mornings and evenings are becoming fractionally lighter. There are signs of spring bulbs breaking through the ground. Perhaps your thoughts are even turning to hopes of summer, of sunshine, and plans of going on holiday. Often the planning and the anticipation of a holiday can occupy our thoughts and do almost as much good as the holiday itself. We plan what to take and what must be left behind; what to do when we get there; perhaps we even learn a few words of a new language.

As the days roll on through 2024, we find ourselves as Christians, anticipating a different journey. Through the days of Lent, we have the time to prepare ourselves to travel with Jesus on the road to the cross. In Lent we have time to think what we need to take to accompany Jesus and what we will need to leave behind; time to think what it will mean to us to arrive at Easter and perhaps even time to practice a little of Jesus's language of love and compassion. This Lent we hope to have a study series on prayer to help us on our journey. The exact dates will be announced in the weekly letter and in the orders of service.

Blessings!
Anne

Rev Anne Logan writes a weekly letter—if you'd like to receive this, please send your email request to currie_kirk@btconnect.com to register.

Until we find a locum to preach every Sunday, we look forward to the Sundays when Anne Logan, our Interim Moderator, is able to lead our worship. We also enjoy the variety of people who are willing to lead worship on other Sundays, including our own Grant Gordon and Neil Crawford. In the meantime please inform Rev Dr Anne Logan or the Kirk office of anyone who has taken ill, requires a visit or would like to know more about joining Currie Kirk.

Although we are negotiating our way through a period of transition, we look forward to a bright future in Currie Kirk.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

So many Thanks at this time of year!

Thanks to everyone who came along to the Christmas Fayre— we raised £1300. There was a happy atmosphere in both the halls and also in the Tinsel Tearoom. Santa was an added bonus to the event!



OUT THE BOX PUPPET SHOW—This proved to be another popular event. Mary, Joseph and a Donkey named Hank was enjoyed by everyone who came along on 16th December—an enjoyable way to hear and watch the Christmas story.

CHRISTINGLE.

As has become the custom we held a pyjama/nativity/Christingle service on Christmas Eve in the GCHall. It was well attended and everyone entered into the dressing up for the nativity story.

RETIRING OFFERING TO BETHANY.

There were retiring offerings after the Christingle and Watchnight services for Bethany Christian Trust . The total collected and sent to Bethany was £301.76. Thanks.

SHOEBOX APPEAL.

We had an amazing response to the Shoebox Appeal in 2023, the van was full of completed Christmas wrapped boxes to go to Eastern Europe. Who knew that Diane Brown has a secret talent for covering shoeboxes!

To make filling a shoebox a little easier, rather than waiting until October, there's a suggestion that if you'd like to contribute we can store some essentials during the year—more on this on Page 5.

LOOKING FORWARD IN 2024—Mission, Outreach and Fellowship committee

Members of our committee are Fiona Pigott (Chair), Christine Wilson, June Deuchars, John Macaulay, Shona Moyes, Kathryn Harper, Diane Brown and Eleanor Forbes.

We're planning a few family fun events around Eastertime and the end of April. Look out for posters and more information.

Coffee Stop! Our Saturday café will be back in 2024, May 4th until September 28th, 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 warmth and friendship on a Saturday afternoon then please come and join us.



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.



The Currie Kirk Guild

Currie Kirk Guild

Just before Christmas we held our very well attended Christmas Party in the Gibson Craig Halls. MacKenzies did the catering and served us all a delicious pre- Christmas dinner. Once we were finished we were entertained by Dekoy playing a variety of hits from the fifties.

Since returning in January we have learnt about the Braidburn Valley Park from Andrew Swann. Moving into February our speaker on Tuesday 6th is Jane Neil-MacLachlan who will be reminding us about the “Disappeared Department Stores”.

On Tuesday 20th Katie Bogle will be speaking on “Edinburgh City Mission”.



Visitors are always made very welcome at any of our meetings. Just come along and see what happens. For any further information you can contact me on 0131-466-3472 or email elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk.

Louise Lamont (Currie Kirk Guild President)



Crossreach is the banner under which the Church of Scotland’s social care programme is delivered. As one of the country’s largest provider of social services, CrossReach Services include care for older people, help with alcoholism, drug and mental health problems and assistance for homeless people and those with special learning needs.

If you’d like to find out more about the work of Crossreach, their recent newsletter and prayer diary are available at the Kirk on a Sunday or from the Kirk office.

Shoebox Appeal—A new way to donate!

Rather than asking for completed boxes this year we’re suggesting a different item each month—it might 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:

February: Comb/hairbrush	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 (<u>not</u> 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 GCHall.



christian aid

Holy Corner Booksale

Saturday, May 11 & Sunday May 12 2024

WANTED!

Book Donations

- We will be accepting book donations from Wednesday, January 17 until the end of March, 2024
- No home pick-ups, drop-off only, to:
Morningside United Church, Chamberlain Road entrance, at the following times:
Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon
Saturdays 10 am - 12 noon

We Want

- Non-fiction
- Scottish books
- Paperback fiction
- Children's books

We Cannot Accept

- Encyclopaedias
- Academic journals
- Reader's Digest
- Books in poor condition, due to mould, water-damage
- CDs, DVDs

(These won't sell, and would incur disposal costs.)

Morningside United Church, Holy Corner, EH10 4DJ
In aid of Christian Aid: Charity No. SC039150
Booksale website: <https://holycornerbooksale.wordpress.com>

Please hand in any books to the Kirk Office or contact Tim Shepherd directly.

Please note the list of what can be accepted.

Thanks Tim.

Currie Kirk office opening hours are:

Tuesday)	9.30
Friday)	to
Saturday)	12.30

Local events:

Balerno Farmers Market - 2nd Saturday each month.

The Hub at 531—This local community space at 531 Lanark Road, Juniper Green, is now celebrating it's first birthday! It has lots of activities happening every day— Mindfulness, Pentland Sporting Memories, Yoga and Mahjong to name a few. The Hub is open every Monday between 10.30 and 12 for Come for a Cuppa. Anyone who would like to join the Friends of Hub@531 and receive their news can do so by emailing hub531lanarkroad@gmail.com

Did you know.....you can now buy a jigsaw of the Colinton Tunnel.

Buy online at <https://thecolintontunnel.bigcartel.com/> or email colintontunnel@btinternet.com or you can just send a cheque to The Colinton Tunnel, 10 Allermuir Road, Edinburgh EH13 0HE.

Presbytery Plans—the Union of Currie Kirk and Balerno Parish Church.

There isn't much more to report other than meetings are regularly taking place between ourselves and members of Balerno Parish Church. We were so sad to hear of Marion Milne's death—she was an amazing lady who had been part of the Water of Leith planning team since we first started the discussions. She will be very much missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

Over the Christmas Season the Anchor and Junior Section boys enjoyed a trip to the Portal Mini Golf at Chesser and also Cinderella at the Churchill Theatre. The Company boys joined with others from all over Edinburgh and District Battalion for an All You Can Eat World Buffet at Cosmos restaurant at the Omni Centre. How they managed to consume all that food is a mystery!

With the Festive season over it is back to something like normal. The Anchors and Juniors are growing hyacinths and the staff are continually receiving pictures of the growing bulbs and emerging blooms.

The Company boys are surprising us all with their chess, table tennis and badminton skills. BB Companies from Dunblane, Falkirk and Dundee have fallen to our lads. The latest victims were the 125th Glasgow who our boys dispatched in the badminton.

By the time the Kirk News is published we will have travelled to Inverness for table tennis and hosted East Kilbride for chess. We will also know who we play in the next round of the badminton which could involve travel to either Stirling or Buckie. Whatever happens we are immensely proud of the boys having reached the last eight in each of the National competitions entered.

Bill Brown

Captain

The 65th Edinburgh Company meet:-

Anchor Boys/Junior Section for boys P2 - P6 (aged 6 - 11), Thursdays, 6.00 - 7.30pm.

Company Section for boys P7 - S6 (aged 11 - 18 years) Sundays, 6.30 - 8.30pm.

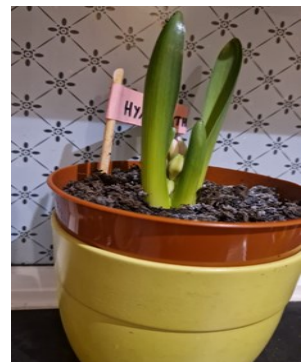
New boys for all Sections welcome.

All Sections meet in the Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West.

Further information from Bill Brown (Captain) on 07878377897 or email bill.brown53@yahoo.com



Some beautiful hyacinths the boys managed to grow.



Christine and Martin Wilson are the couple who tirelessly collect Fresh Start donations from the Gibson Craig Hall on a regular basis. As there is a restricted list of what Fresh Start will accept, Christine and Martin need to sort the donations into 3 piles—Fresh Start, Charity shop and the tip (as a last resort). This is a plea on their behalf—please check the list of acceptable goods on the Fresh Start website before bringing donations to the Gibson Craig Hall. It will save a lot of time and effort!

Massive thanks to Christine and Martin from the MOF committee.

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.

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

Fairtrade Fortnight will be Monday 9th—Sunday 22nd September 2024.

The Mission, Outreach and Fellowship committee will be hosting a lunch during this fortnight—details to follow.



Balerno Fairtrade Morning, 2nd March 2024

Please join the Balerno Fairtrade Village Group on Saturday 2nd March, 10 –12, in the Balerno Parish Church halls. There will be stalls selling Fairtrade foods and crafts; try some free samples; pedal a Scotmid-sponsored Fairtrade banana drink on the famous smoothie bike; try the scavenger hunt; win a hamper, or a tasty cake from BPC's very own FT Mill Café

Learn about Transform Trade— A global community of farmers, workers, collectives, campaigners, donors and supporters, who work together for trade that values people over profit.

There will also be refreshments and baking by the Balerno Guild, with children's activities close by.

At 11 am, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh will present awards to the Balerno Schools Fairtrade Art Competition 2024 prizewinners, with big thanks to both Scotmid and all three Schools' staff for all their support.

'Be fair to the world – choose Fairtrade!'

Thank you so much, in advance. See you there!

Lesley Henderson, from Balerno Fairtrade Village Group

The Currie Kirk Singers

The Kirk Singers have been on the go continuously since the early nineties. Every year, over the Autumn and Winter months, our small band of enthusiasts venture forth to sing for and entertain a wide variety of audiences - care homes, friendship groups, church groups - and we'd really love to keep going! We enjoy what we do; it's great fun and when we see a smile or two in the faces of our audiences it makes it all worthwhile. What we do isn't particularly polished, and it's certainly not high brow, but over the years our programmes have included a mix of songs from the shows, folk songs, traditional Scottish songs, pop songs and the like. And we always try to inject a fair chunk of humour in what we do!

So here's the sales pitch!!! Our numbers have fluctuated over the years and to remain viable we're always on the lookout for new members. If you enjoy singing and feel you might like to join us we'd love to hear from you. Please phone me on 07572861123 and we can have a chat. Gordon Cranford.

Transport Fund

If you need transport to get to Kirk on a Sunday, your taxi fare will be refunded from the Transport Fund. Please ask for a receipt and give it to an Elder on duty. Please note the postcode for the Kirk is EH14 6AL.

New Scots!

Following the success of our get together on October 14th 2023 we are planning another Salaam Gathering in 2024.

As yet no dates have been agreed with the groups involved but if this is something which might interest you in being part of, please watch this space!

MOF Team

The Kirk Walking Group

We had a very successful annual lunch with the walking group recently and this gave us the opportunity to discuss future possible walks.

These walks take place on the 3rd Sunday of each month, leaving after the service. Our next walk is on Sunday 18th Feb, destination still to be decided.

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 Halls are 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.
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	tomlowe69@hotmail.co.uk	Thursday 10.15 —11.15 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

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

Margaret Ramsay, Currie
George Armstrong, Currie
Helen Clayton, Currie
Elma Blance, Currie

Please pray for the families



Baptism

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

Amelia Jayne Ferguson, baptised by Peter Graham on Sunday 14th January.

February Flower List

February

- 4 Mr Allan Forsyth
The Macdonald family
- 11 Mr & Mrs Collins
- 18 Mrs B Chambers
- 25 Allan Forsyth



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 (currie_kirk@btconnect.com).



WHO'S WHO

NAME	CONTACT	EMAIL CONTACT/TIMES	TELEPHONE NO
Interim Moderator	Rev Dr Anne T Logan	annetlogan@sky.com	
Currie Kirk Church Office (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)	Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West, Currie, EH14 5NY Email currie_kirk@btconnect.com	Tuesday) Friday) 9.30am—12.30pm Saturday)	451 5141
Joint Session Clerks	Louise Lamont Isobel Webber	elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk Isobelwebber@btinternet.com	466-3472 07702 784186
Treasurer	Eddie Pigott	pigottsef@icloud.com	07891 613360
Offerings & Gift Aid Treasurer	Eunice Stewart	eunicestewart48@gmail.com	449 6832
Data Protection Officer	Vanessa Martins	vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com	
Weddings/Funerals	Contact Church Office	currie_kirk@btconnect.com	451 5141
Organist	Michael Wilson	currie_kirk@btconnect.com	451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls Bookings	Viola MacPhail	gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com	07806 806920
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Liz Potter	lizpotter66@virginmedia.com	07769 684029
Kirk Flowers	Isobel Webber	isobelwebber@btinternet.com	07702 784186
Life and Work	Shona Moyes	shona.moyes@btopenworld.com	
Magazine Distributor	Jean Dick		451 5141
Boys' Brigade Captain	Bill Brown Anchors/Juniors Company/Seniors	Thursday 6.00-7.30 pm Friday 7.00—8.30 pm Sunday 6.30-8.30 pm	449 4905 07878377897
Care Van	Fiona Pigott	Third Tuesday of the month.	07874-282480
Fresh Start	Christine Wilson		538 2567
Pastoral Visitors	Contact church office		451 5141
Currie Kirk Singers	Gordon Cranford	Various	07572 861123
Guild	Louise Lamont	1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.	466 3472
Walking Group	Moir McDonald	Third Sunday of each month.	07853 228751



The Kirk News

Can now be found on the Currie Kirk Website with one click to <http://www.curriekirk.org/>
Kirknews—why not mark it as a favourite. **Articles for the Mar/Apr issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Thursday 22nd Feb '24**

Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.