

THE KIRK NEWS

FEBRUARY / MARCH 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

FEBRUARY

- 2 Heriot-Watt Service (Town and Gown) Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. .
- 9 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Anne Logan followed by a Prayer Tree Service
- 16 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway.
- 23 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Joint Worship with Balerno Parish Church led by Rev Derek Munn and Rev Susan Galloway and followed by Informal Communion.

MARCH

- 2 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway.
- 9 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway followed by a Prayer Tree Service.
- 16 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Neill Crawford
- 23 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway.
- 30 Currie Kirk at 10.30 am. Worship led by Rev Susan Galloway followed by Informal Communion.

Other Dates to Remember

February

- 4 Guild Meeting at 10 am—"Granton Harbour and Newhaven": Speaker: Colin Chess
- 18 Guild Meeting at 2 pm—"Desert Island Discs": Speaker: Rev Dr Stewart G Weaver

March

- 4 Guild Meeting at 10 am—"The History of Edinburgh's Water": Speaker: Allan Shaw
- 12 Balerno Parish Church at 7.30—St Andrew's Jerusalem—Rev Stewart Gillan (see page 4)
- 14 **MESSY CHURCH**, Gibson Craig Hall, 2-4 pm (see page 5)
- 18 Guild Meeting at 2 pm—"Currie and Balerno News": Speaker: Paul Fisher Cockburn
- 22 Guild Daffodil Tea—Gibson Craig Hall—2-4 pm (see page 7)
- 22 **Deadline for April Kirk News**

April

- 1 Guild Meeting at 10 am—"Any Questions?": Speaker: Rev Dr Jim Jack

February and March 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

The Brother

We have all heard of gingerbread houses...but if you take away from the word 'gingerbread house' the 'ginger' and so are left with just 'breadhouse', then you have what the name Bethlehem means: breadhouse.

It was in Bethlehem that the One who later presented Himself as 'the bread of life', was born. He gently encouraged and encourages people to come to Him, when they are weary and heavy laden. Going before us in calling His Father, our Father, we have in Him a brother who wants to carry us, just as the brother in this story does:

Paul got a present from his brother; a big present: a car. When Paul left his office, he found a poor boy standing near his car, looking at it; admiring it. He asked Paul: 'Is that car yours, sir?' 'Yes', Paul said proudly, 'It is. I got it from my brother'.

'Wow...I wish...', the boy said. Paul knew what the boy was going to say. It was quite obvious to him: 'I wish I had such a car...'

Paul thought he knew, but he got it wrong.

The boy said: 'I wish I could be such a brother...'

Paul offered the boy a lift and as they were driving, the boy asked: 'Would you stop at my house...?' Paul understood: the boy wanted to show his family that he was sitting in such a nice car.

When they arrived at the boy's house, Paul stopped the car; the boy got out and ran into the house. A few minutes later he came back, walking slowly. He could not run ... for he was carrying his brother who was unable to walk himself and he said to him:

'Look, that is the car! One day I will give you one.

Paul got out of the car and lifted the boy into his car and took the two brothers for a long drive.

One day...I will give you heaven...

Whose promise is that....?

Jesus...to us.

With every blessing
Susan

(story taken from 'Tomorrow comes the Messiah' by Andre Troost)

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



Update on Linking of Currie Kirk and Balerno Parish Church

The congregations were formally linked on 1st December 2024 as per the Basis of Linking Documents voted on by Kirk Sessions and Congregations in October. We are still awaiting word from the Committee at 121 George St about who will be appointed as Interim Minister and when they will begin work with the congregations. Once Presbytery knows these details, arrangements will be made for a Service of Linking and Introduction of the Interim Minister. We hope these details will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Balerno Parish Church—Wednesday 12 February at 7.30 pm Rev Stewart Gillan

Rev Stewart Gillan, Mission partner for the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian and Minister of St Andrews Jerusalem and Tiberias, will be visiting Balerno Parish Church on Wednesday 12 February at 7.30pm. He took up the post of Minister of St Andrew's Jerusalem and Tiberias and Mission Partner Jerusalem in December 2022, and shares ministry with the Rev Muriel Pearson, seeking prayerfully to serve the congregations and partner with Church, Interfaith and Human Rights organisations on both sides of the wall on the long walk towards a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land. In this, Stewart seeks to bring together the spiritual and strategic dimensions of peace work with people who have been working for justice and peace in God's name all of their lives.



Stewart brings a wealth of insight into the present situation in Israel and Gaza. Anyone who wishes to hear him speak will be welcome to attend.

To those in Currie who were fortunate to visit this Kirk with Willis and Lezley it will be a nostalgic journey. The striking features being the blue stained glass windows and able to sit in the chairs donated by Currie Kirk.



Leading up to Easter—Messy Church

14 March 2025—Gibson Craig Hall

Time 2-4 pm—All Welcome



**FUN and GAMES
CRAFTS
BIBLE STORIES**



Juice and biscuits will be served, as well as Tea & Coffee

Christmas Decorations in the Kirk

Thank you to all who decorated the Kirk over the festive period. A special thanks to Janet and the flower ladies.

The beautiful tree was supplied by the Rosebery Estate and decorated by the Mathesons.





The Currie Kirk Guild

Our first meeting of 2025 was “Another Nicht Wi’ Burns” when Margaret Anderson told us about Burns’ time in Edinburgh while we enjoyed some Scottish nibbles.

Throughout February and March we will be hearing from Colin Chess on “Granton Harbour and Newhaven”, Rev Dr Stewart Weaver on “Desert Island Discs”, Alan Shaw on “The History of Edinburgh’s Water” and Paul Fisher Cockburn on “Currie and Balerno News”.

On Saturday 22nd March we will be holding our annual Daffodil Tea from 2-4pm. Come along and enjoy home-baking, pick up some new books, try your luck at the tombola and purchase some lovely daffodils. All proceeds will go towards Crossreach in aid of their project to assist parents and children with additional support needs.

If you are looking for a new activity in 2025, why not come along and join the Guild. You will be made very welcome. For further information, phone 466-3472 or email elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk.

Louise Lamont Currie Kirk Guild President



65th Edinburgh Company

(Registered Charity No. SCO34640)

The first half of the session is over and the boys have been busy. Anchors and Juniors start back was delayed by the weather but is now back in full swing. The Boys will be participating in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

The Anchors and Juniors attended the Battalion Christmas outing to the Cameo Picture House. The Company Boys attended the Battalion Christmas meal at Cosmo. The Company Section took part in the National Table Tennis and Chess competitions but unfortunately are out of both.

The Boys enjoyed a talk on money laundering and financial crime given by two very senior members of HSBC, Sarah Telford and Colin Christie. Although offered to the rest of the Battalion it was only the Currie Boys who experienced what was a very interesting talk. We are now trying to organise a table tennis competition which will take place over one day and hopefully this will encourage other companies in the Battalion to take part.

The 65th is participating in a Battalion sponsored recruitment campaign. As part of this, advertisements will be placed in local newspapers and magazines which we hope will raise awareness of what is available.

Bill Brown
Captain





Hogmanay Charity Ceilidh 2024 in the Gibson Craig raised the wonderful sum of £1,184 for the charity Crohn's and Colitis UK SCO38632. Many thanks to all who attended or donated prizes. Special thanks to Betty Clark for her delicious shortbread!

All the best to everyone in 2025!

Viola and Iain MacPhail

Thank you from Fresh Start.



Through your financial donations, the charity provided 265 Christmas gifts to children, many who might have otherwise gone without. 190 Christmas Hampers to needy families and through the Cookers for Christmas appeal, £6.5k was raised to provide white goods.

Currie Kirk continues to collect your donations of bedding, curtains, towels, kitchen items, cleaning products and toiletries. These can be brought to Church or taken to the Gibson Craig Hall.

Please do not donate duvets, pillows, ornaments or bric-a-brac.

Thank you
Christine Wilson

..... And a special **THANK YOU** from ALL AT CURRIE KIRK to Christine and Martin who collect throughout the year and deliver all donations received to Fresh Start.



Currie Kirk Guild

Daffodil Tea
Saturday 22 March
2pm—4pm
Gibson Craig Halls

In aid of the Guild Project
"Crossreach"

Tickets £5—Tea/Coffee Home Baking
Daffodils will be on sale
Book Stall, Tombola



God's invitation to relationship
 An introduction to Ways of Praying

EPIPHANY GROUP
 rooted in the Ignatian tradition

A short prayer course on Zoom to support people into a deeper prayer life through tutors' input guided prayer experience & sharing

Tuesdays
 7.00 pm - 9pm
 25th Feb
 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March
 1st April

To register:
waysofpraying@epiphanygroup.org.uk

The Magic of Santa



Very early on a windy Saturday morning a party of 52 travellers checked in for the FACE's (Fighting Against Cancer Edinburgh) annual day trip to Lapland on this its 30th year.

Travelling today are 13 families who have experienced the loss of a close family member. A quick check in, then through security, and in no time we were boarding our Jet 2 flight to be welcomed by the wonderful cabin crew. As the

flight commences breakfast is served followed by the traditional FACE Carol singing bringing many children up to sing their favourite Christmas songs.

No sooner we are descending through the clouds and amazing pictures of the snow as we arrive at Enontekio airport. The cabin door is opened and you can feel the winter chill and see lots of snow, a short walk to the terminal and through passport control, where we are greeted by our friends of Canterbury Travel who look after us in Lapland.

We are issued with thermal suits, hats and gloves, a balaclava and a crash helmet. We then board a motorised sledge which takes us through the snowy forest and over a frozen lake. We are fortunate today the temperature is only minus 6 degrees but with the wind chill it is really cold.

We arrive in Santa's village and families can experience a Reindeer and Husky sleigh ride, visit an Ice Palace and prepare for a personal visit to meet Santa Claus in his cabin in the forest and all receive a special gift.

No sooner we are travelling back to the airport and board our return flight to Edinburgh for our journey home with many children asleep dreaming of the memories they have experienced in the winter snow after a very difficult year. All ready planning journey number 31 .

John Macaulay



Mission, Outreach and Fellowship updates

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone who contributed, baked and/or helped in the Tinsel Tearoom, this was a great success. We had stalls in the main hall, the back hall being used for all the children's activities. As in previous years, the Guide hut was used for the Tinsel Tearoom.

The afternoon timing 1–4pm proved a success. Overall we raised £2,046.00.

Christmas Hampers



Through the Salaam team and Edinburgh City Mission we donated £140 towards hampers for refugees living in our area. Each hamper comprises a £35 Lidl voucher, some chocolates, an information booklet on English Conversation Cafes and a Christmas Card. We collected and delivered 18 hampers.

Christmas Stockings

As is now a tradition we knitted/sewed and filled a small stocking for every child in Currie Primary schools and Nursery (both Nether Currie and Currie). We attached a small card to each stocking and received a number of cards from the children. Rev Susan Galloway delivered them to the schools.

Our Christingle and Nativity Service was held on Christmas Eve and was well attended. The service was gate-crashed, much to the delight of children and adults alike, by three reindeers



What does 2025 bring?

At our next meeting we will be making plans for the year ahead. We do know that our popular Café will be open again from May until September—more details will be in the next Kirk News.

If you have any ideas you'd like us to be involved in, or you'd like to join us, you'll be very welcome. Please contact Fiona Pigott on 07874-282480.

Thanks.

(The retiring offerings over the Christmas period were donated as follows: FACE—£298.93; and Bethany Christian Trust—£298.93—thanks to all who contributed)

Transport Fund

Do you have difficulty getting to church due to mobility issues or lack of transport? Then the transport fund is for 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. 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 or any church organised events. Church postcode is EH14 6AL.

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
Caretta Pilates	Kayleigh	07982 975260	Wednesday 5.30-6.15
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)*

Cath Gordon
Cathie Heatley
Christine Lindsay
Nan Muirhead
Elma Williams



Please pray for the families

A Special THANK YOU from the Congregation of Currie Kirk

To all the cleaners (who are sometimes overlooked) but who look after the church each week ensuring that it is clean and tidy and looking its best. You are all very much appreciated.

Thank You

February and March 2025 Flower List

February 2025

- 2 Mr A Forsyth
The Macdonald Family
- 9 Mr A Forsyth
- 16 Mr & Mrs Collins
- 23 Mr A Forsyth



March 2025

- 2 Flower Fund Donations
- 9 Mrs S Ramsay
Mrs M Falconer
- 16 Mrs M Douglas
- 23 Mrs M Fraser
- 30 Mothering Sunday—The Guild

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

