

THE KIRK NEWS

JULY/AUGUST 2026



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Calendar Overview—JULY—AUGUST

July

- 5 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson
- 12 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—followed by a Prayer Tree Service—Rev Roy Henderson
- 19 Joint Service in Balerno Parish Church at 10 am—Rev Roy Henderson
- 26 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson with Informal Communion

August

- 2 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson
- 9 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—followed by a Prayer Tree Service—Rev Roy Henderson
- 10 Currie Kirk Session Meeting—7 pm—Gibson Craig Hall
- 16 Joint Service in Currie Kirk at 10 am—Rev Roy Henderson
- 23 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson
- 24 Joint Session Meeting—7 pm—Gibson Craig Hall
- 30 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson with Informal Communion

THE COFFEE STOP

2–4 PM

EVERY SATURDAY @ THE KIRK



PALM Dementia café

The PALM cafe is held on the last Tuesday of the month from 3.00—4.30pm in the St Joseph's Centre, Balerno. The cafe serves the communities of Currie, Balerno and Juniper Green providing a space for people with dementia and their carers to meet others for support and social contact. For more information please contact Clare Dow on palmcafebalerno@gmail.com

WhatsApp—we have created a Currie Kirk WhatsApp group where we can quickly send out information on Services and any changes. If you'd like to be part of this please send your mobile number to the office (admin@curriekirk.co.uk), or Fiona Pigott (fpigott19@gmail.com).



Balerno linked with Currie

A Message from Roy, our Interim Minister



What Language Shall we Borrow?

What do you think these words mean: ‘God’, ‘Church’, ‘Prayer’, ‘Scripture’, ‘Hymn’?

As a minister, such words are ‘bread and butter’. I say things such as, ‘Let us worship God, singing hymn number 123’ or ‘Today’s Bible reading is from Genesis chapter 1, verse 1’ and so on.

These are very meaningful inside the church. I wonder what they mean to other people today??

‘God’, what or who is that? The deity of Christianity, Judaism or Islam? A distant creator? An unbelievable concept? Our Heavenly Father?

Does ‘church’ mean something good? What do people associate with the term? Faith? Hypocrisy? Goodness? Self-righteousness? A place of worship? Somewhere to turn to in hard times?

‘Prayer’, a superstitious practice held over from times past? A personal lifeline to the divine? A shared action where a community reaches out in deep concern for others?

‘Scripture’. God’s Word? A literary artefact from the past but of great cultural and historical value? A hangover from times when people believed in fairy tales?

Precious, life-enhancing words that you learned by heart many years ago?

‘Hymn’. A religious song? Something you remember singing at a wedding or a funeral? A way of preserving valuable music?

For me whose bread and butter such language is, I have to face the awkward possibility that some of these words don’t mean much to some people now. If that is right, how might we bridge the gap between the community we call ‘the church’ and today’s culture? How do we have a conversation about the meaning of it all?

I can think of people of my age who are not believers but who know the words of hymns, can remember passages of the Bible and who could attend a Christian funeral and join in the singing—because they understand the shape and content of the service. They have a grasp of the shared framework even if they don’t share it. That shared framework is breaking down. Today, many people are unaware of it, the framework provided by all those peculiar ‘churchy’ words. For me they are more than ‘bread and butter’ they point to the meaning of life and my connection with life’s author. But I would say that wouldn’t I? How would you say out loud what gives your life purpose?

An old hymn asks Jesus: ‘What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest Friend?’

Today we are also looking for a shared, common language to converse with one another about the deepest things in in life.

Interim Minister, Rev Roy Henderson—contact details:
Landline Tel: 0131 449 3830; Mobile Tel : 07961 736061
E-mail: RHenderson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Steering Group

While the Steering Group continues to meet fortnightly, in view of the volume of work/issues which require to be addressed an Away Day was held on 8 June at Heriot Watt Chaplaincy Centre prior to bringing a report to the Joint Kirk Session meeting on 10 June with normal fortnightly meetings beginning again on 17 June.

Creating a Vision for the United Charge:

A high-level Vision statement 'Christ's Church serving our community' is being developed, but as we have had several suggestions regarding vision, further work will be undertaken on how best to take this important issue forward.



Logo:

While our interim logo is an excellent example, a new logo will be needed, and ideas will be sought from the congregations and local school children.

Elders:

In the approach to Union, elders are invited to contact the Session Clerks stating their intention:

- to continue to serve as ruling elders in the new church;
- to step back and become elders emeritus/emera;
- to request a 'sabbatical'.

Committees:

The steering group has identified six provisional committees of Kirk Session:-

- Property/Fabric and Health & Safety
- Finance
- Worship
- Pastoral Care and Safeguarding
- Fellowship and Mission & Outreach
- Communications (inc. Magazines and Websites, Facebook, Instagram, Podcasts, live streaming of services.)

The 'Eco Congregation' theme applies to all Committees, and they will be resourced by elders and church members.

Basis of Union Document:

Both Kirk Sessions having agreed in broad terms the Basis of Union, the document is now being considered by the relevant Presbytery Committee, the Principal Clerk of the Church of Scotland and the Law Department, after which the document will be voted upon by the respective Kirk Sessions and church members.

Magazines:

The intention is to keep both Kirk News and Balerno Blether. Kirk News will contain pastoral and congregational matters while Balerno Blether will contain more community information.

Employees:

In the united charge all employees will require to be issued with new contracts of employment and discussions will take place with all affected.

Surgeries:

In view of the level of change taking place, members of both congregations will be offered the opportunity to meet with members of the Steering Group to discuss these in due course.

Grant Gordon
Member of the Steering Group

Hospital Transport

Do you have appointments at the hospital and are struggling to get there? Did you know we have a Hospital Transport Coordinator who can help you and organise transport for you. Please get in touch with Liz Potter (07769 684029)

Summer Holiday Club

Who is Jesus?

Join us for activities, snacks, games and stories about who Jesus is

Friday 2pm - 4pm at Gibson Craig Hall
 Sunday 2pm-4pm at Ogston hall, Balerno Parish Church

Join us every Friday and Sunday afternoon!
 Beginning Friday 24th July for 8 weeks finishing on Sunday 13th September

free for the whole family, all ages welcome

Balerno Parish Church Address:
 2 Main St, Balerno EH14 7EH

Gibson Craig Hall Address:
 158 Lanark Road West EH14 5NV

For more information, contact us via email at bcp-admin@balernochurch.org.uk
admin@curriekirk.co.uk

If you are able to help on Friday afternoons can you please get in touch with Fiona or the Kirk Office



Hi, my name is Hannah and I'm going to be working with both Balerno Parish Church and Currie Kirk over the summer, putting on a summer holiday club for kids and families in the community. I've lived in Edinburgh my whole life, and currently attend the University of Edinburgh where I'm about to go into my third year studying Chemistry. I grew up in a Church of Scotland church, St Stephens Comely Bank where I did the summer worker scheme last year, putting on similar events as outreach for the whole community. I now attend St Pauls and St Georges church in the centre of town, where I am also involved in their children's ministry. I love knitting, reading, tap dancing and crocheting in my free time, and can't wait to get started with our Summer Holiday Club! We're going to be having two sessions a week, one in Currie and one in Balerno starting on the 24th of July. It's free to attend, and we will have lots of fun, crafts, games, activities, refreshments and stories looking at who Jesus is. Aimed at Primary aged children and younger, with parents, grandparents and carers all welcome to join in the fun. I can't wait to get started. We hope to see you at one of our sessions soon!



Currie Kirk Guild



Members and friends of the Currie and Balerno Guilds had an enjoyable summer outing to Pitlochry. The picture was taken in the restaurant at the Green Hotel, Kinross.

The Guild resumes on Tuesday 1 September at 10 am in the Gibson Craig Hall where our speaker is the Rev Roy Henderson and we look forward to seeing you and any friends you wish to bring with you.



Moira McDonald
21 November 1946—5 May 2026

Moira was a stalwart of Currie Guild. A great organiser—for years Moira organised our Summer Outings and also the Kirk’s travels to Iona. Moira also ensured that our Christmas lunch was well organised. She happily enjoyed arranging walks for the Kirk’s Walking Group. The Guild and the Kirk will miss her smiling face.

Kirk Walking Group



We meet the last Sunday of each month, walking approx 4 miles. Looking for some new members. We generally do local walks but in better weather go further afield either in cars or buses.

Check the Order of Service for walks.



Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2026

Summer is fast approaching and also the time to start collecting for the Christmas Shoeboxes!

This year we are taking a slightly different approach, along the lines of a Secret Santa. This is a way of ensuring that there is enough to complete the boxes.

A box has been placed in the Link building containing slips of paper requesting items required, *eg.* Toy (aged 4–7), Underwear (man) etc... You can then choose a slip or slips then buy these items. Purchased items can be put in the box in the Link building. If you don't want to buy the required item then just put the slip back and choose another slip.

Alternatively cash donations are very welcome. Monies donated help to purchase extra items and also pay the haulage fees.

Requested slips can be collected as and when, between June and September.

Last year we completed and sent 60 boxes. This couldn't be done without your generous support.

Should anyone wish to complete their own boxes and need a form, please contact the Kirk Office.

June Deuchars, (Mission & Outreach Fellowship)

Wine Tasting and Quiz Night



A very successful wine tasting and quiz night was held on 29 May as a joint social event between Balerno and Currie.

Malcolm Ogilvie had picked four different wines from across the world and gave a very good talk on each of them before we were allowed to sample them. Thanks to Malcolm and his team of sommeliers. Between each wine we all enjoyed a

team quiz and some excellent food. Thanks to the MOF team and Tesco for providing all the biscuits, cheeses and many extras!



The Joint Fellowship look forward to organising the next social event—if you have any ideas, please get in touch via Currie Kirk office (admin@curriekirk.co.uk) and Balerno Church office (bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk)



Looking to the Future Together

The longest day is with us and hopefully we will have some good weather ahead, and time to relax and reflect and recharge our batteries.

In Jeremiah 29:11 we read '*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future*'.

Plans for you:

How can we as a congregation reach out to you? Elders and others within the congregation already call on those we know of who appreciate a visit and enjoy the company and the opportunity to share whatever is on their mind. In the long process of Union, you, our members remain our priority. If you would like the Minister or one of our pastoral care team to visit you, please contact the Church office and someone will get in touch. There is also a transport fund which may help you to attend Church, again speak to the folks in the Church office.

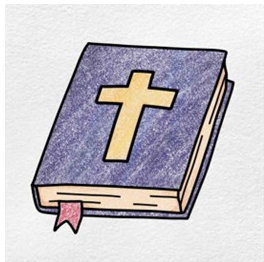
Plans for the Churches of Currie and Balerno:

The worship services will remain the same over the summer, but times may be adjusted come September and the joint services could move to the last Sunday of the month, with the sharing of Communion included.

The next Joint service will be held in Balerno on Sunday the 19 July at 10am.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Church office (Balerno: bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk or Currie: admin@curriekirk.co.uk) if you would like a visit from the Minister or one of the Pastoral Care Team.

Have a wonderful summer.



The Good Book Group

The Good Book Group has been established, meeting in the Shepherd Room, Balerno on a Monday from 11-12noon and in the Gibson Craig Halls on a Tuesday evening from 7-8pm. An opportunity for fellowship as we explore our faith and the Bible together. The group will initially be looking at the book of Esther. All welcome.



Fresh start would appreciate cleaning materials—such as dish cloths, drying cloths, sponges, Brillo pads etc. Any item that makes a clean kitchen.

These items are included in the Fresh Start starter for clients receiving a home.



Can you help?

65th Edinburgh Company—The Boys' Brigade

After an active session the 65th has ended the session for the Summer.

The Company Boys again enjoyed a successful time in the national chess and table tennis competitions. Once again they acquitted themselves really well before missing out in very close ties.

The Company paraded the Colours at the annual Remembrance Service at the Kirk in November with Lt Duncan Cameron playing the pipes.

The highlight for me was our first Kings Badge presentation. Tony Cheung was presented with his Kings Badge by Honorary Captain James Webber at the Kirk in April. Before the minister Roy Henderson presented him with his Discharge Bible. Tony now goes off to university and we wish him every success going forward. At the same service Isobel Webber presented Conrad Cheung with his Presidents Badge.



The Company closed for the Summer with a film night at the Gibson Craig Hall with pizza and fish and chips.



The Anchors and Juniors finished their session with a trip to the 10 pin bowling at Chesser. A great night was enjoyed by all with Diane and Joanne praising the Boys for their efforts throughout the year. We wish everyone a great Summer and look forward to seeing them back for the new session in September.

In conclusion, I met with a member of the Scottish Development Group to discuss how we can promote the BB in Currie, Balerno and the surrounding area and I hope that this will bear fruit going forward.

Bill Brown
Captain

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.

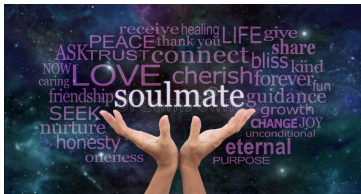


Family News

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

5 May 2026 Mrs Moira McDonald, Juniper Green
11 May 2026 Charlie Fleming, Currie
15 May 2026 Mrs Margaret Muirhead, ex Currie

Please pray for the families



Soulmates

This is a monthly reflective Prayer Group. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Lounge at the Gibson Craig Halls from 2.00—3.00pm.

Prayers



A very important part of our church life is prayer. We have a Prayer Covenant group who regularly pray for others who are in a situation where prayers can be helpful. If you, or someone you know, would like prayed for please pass their name to the office (email prayer@curriekirk.co.uk) in strict confidence and this will be passed on to the Prayer group.

It is important that you seek permission from the person first.

Flower List—July—August 2026

July

5 Mrs E Patton

12 Mrs B Dow

19 Service in Balerno

26 Mr A Forsyth



August

2 Flower Fund Donations

9 Mr & Mrs R Barr

16 Flower Fund Donation

23 Mrs W McLauchlan

30 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 the office

admin@curriekirk.co.uk

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

Details are available on the website—curriekirk.org

	Contact name	Tel/email	Day
Balanced Life (Steady Steps)	By referral		Thursday 9.30—11.00 am
Balerno Bridge Club	Anne Lovett	07999 528524	Monday 1.30—4.30 pm
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	Euan Reid	euanigreid@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 9.30 - 10.30am
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	tomlowe69@hotmail.co.uk	Thursday 10.15 —11.15 am.

CD Ministry



Are you sitting reading this Kirk News and would like to listen to our Sunday Service? We record each Sunday's service and deliver them to anyone who'd like to receive a copy. If this is you, please contact the office on (0131) 451 5141 or email admin@curriekirk.co.uk



Donations for "Community for Food" can be dropped off at the Gibson Craig Halls, Kirk Office throughout the year.

Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday—9.30—12.30

Coffee and Conversation

Currie Library every Friday from 11 am



WHO'S WHO



NAME	CONTACT	EMAIL CONTACT/TIMES	TELEPHONE NO
Interim Minister South and East Region	Rev Roy J M Henderson 3 Johnsburn Road, Balerno, EH14 7DN	RHenderson@churchofscotland.org.uk	0131 449 3830 07961 736061
Currie Kirk Church Office (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)	Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West, Currie, EH14 5NY Email: Admin@curriekirk.co.uk	Wednesday 9.30 am—12.30 pm Thursday 9.30 am—12.30 pm Saturday 9.30 am—12.30 pm	451 5141
Session Clerk	Louise Lamont	elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk	466 3472
Treasurer	Eddie Pigott	pigottsef@icloud.com	07891 613360
Offerings & Gift Aid Treasurer	Eunice Stewart	eunicestewart48@gmail.com	07547 653 449
Data Protection Officer	Vanessa Martins	vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com	
Weddings/Funerals	Contact Church Office	Admin@curriekirk.co.uk	451 5141
Organist	Michael Wilson	Admin@curriekirk.co.uk	451 5141
Mission & Outreach Coordinator	Fiona Pigott	fpigott19@gmail.com	07874-282480
Gibson Craig Halls Bookings	Viola MacPhail	gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com	07806 806920
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Liz Potter		07769 684029
Kirk Flowers	Isobel Webber	isobelwebber1@gmail.com	07702 784186
Magazine Distributor	Currie Kirk Office	Admin@curriekirk.co.uk	451 5141
Boys' Brigade Captain	Bill Brown Anchors/Juniors	Thursday 6.00-7.30 pm	449 4905 07878377897
Fresh Start	Christine Wilson		538 2567
Pastoral Visitors	Contact church office		451 5141
Currie Kirk Singers	Gordon Cranford	Various	07572 861123
Guild	Isobel Webber	1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.	07702 784186
Walking Group	Elizabeth Wood	Last Sunday of each month.	0131 538 0363

The Kirk News



Can now be found on the Currie Kirk Website with one click to <http://www.curriekirk.org/Kirknews>.
Articles for the September issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber1@gmail.com/fpigott19@gmail.com by **Sunday 23 August**
Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.

