

THE KIRK NEWS

APRIL 2026



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Calendar Overview—April 2026

- 2 Maundy Thursday— Joint Worship in Currie Kirk at 7 pm followed by Communion.
- 3 Good Friday—Walk of Witness—11 am Balerno to Currie where refreshments will be served
Good Friday Service—Joint Worship in Balerno Parish Church at 7 pm.
- 4 Easter Saturday Pop-Up Coffee & Craft Morning with Treasure Hunt and refreshments for all ages!
Gibson Craig Hall—10 am to 12 Noon.
- 5 Easter Day Joint Service in Balerno Parish Church at 10 am *. No Service in Currie Kirk
- 7 Guild, 10am. Occupational Therapy. Speaker— Pauline Halliday
- 12 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15am—followed by a Prayer Tree Service—Rev Roy Henderson
- 19 Joint Worship in Currie Kirk at 10am—Rev Roy Henderson
- 21 Guild, 2pm. AGM with tea/coffee and scones
- 26 Worship in Currie Kirk at 11.15—Rev Roy Henderson. Presentation of King’s Award to Tony Cheung.

*** Please remember we have a Transport fund for anyone who would like to join the Easter Day Service at 10am in Balerno Parish Church. Please order a taxi and ask for a receipt. The Session Clerk (or any Elder) will organise the refund.**

Walk of Witness—Good Friday

Meet at Balerno Church at 11 am and walk to Currie Kirk—refreshments will be served to all walkers in the Gibson Craig Hall.



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



Hello and greetings from the manse of 'Balerno linked with Currie Church of Scotland'. The two churches in the linked charge are to form a union, making 'one' out of 'two'. How this will look is still to be worked out. The Kirk Sessions of Balerno and Currie have set up a 'Strategy Group', made up of Elders and members of each congregation. The first thing the group has done is to rechristen itself more modestly as the 'Steering Group'. Steering things forward is a delicate task. Please

remember them and the task we share with them in your prayers.

Where do we turn for comfort in these unsettling times in church and wider world? What has Easter to offer, in all of its shadow and light?

From Palm Sunday, through Holy Week, we watch disciples desert and deny Jesus, crowds welcome and vilify him. We witness 'Powers that Be', as they plot, sentence and execute him. We see tender love and cruel hate revealed. Humanity at its best and worst are unveiled. More than watch on, we *participate* in the story. The Easter story is the opposite of a comfort blanket. It is a wake-up call.

In '*Murder at the Cathedral*', T.S. Eliot wrote:

*We do not wish anything to happen.
Seven years we have lived quietly,
Succeeded in avoiding notice,
Living and partly living.
There have been oppression and luxury,
There has been poverty and licence,
There has been minor injustice.
Yet we have gone on living,
Living and partly living.*

In the words of John V Taylor, '*Quietly avoiding notice, and quietly avoiding having to take notice, is a recipe making an irresponsible community in which nobody matters because nobody cares.*'

The combination of the Easter story combined with current events and the work to be done in our churches is a wakeup call. This is a deeper kind of comfort. Not a deadening of pain but a deepening of commitment, a strengthening of resolve. God calling a responsible community, marked by dying and rising into life. Church.

*O living God,
we who are partly living,
scarcely hoping,
and fitfully caring,
pray to you now to make us fully alive.
Give us the vitality, awareness and commitment
that we see in Jesus Christ,
through the power of his death and resurrection.
we ask this in his name. Amen
(John V Taylor – A Matter of Life and Death)*

Interim Minister, Rev Roy Henderson—contact details:

Mobile Tel : 07961 736061

E-mail: RHenderson@churchofscotland.org.uk



Currie Kirk Guild

The Guild is now reaching the end of its year. We have had good speakers. Roy Johnstone making us laugh when he talked about Life in Scotland in the Good Old Days and Sue Caton speaking on the Life of Eric Liddell—Sue being Eric's niece. This was followed by Jackie Grant and her amazing tapestry work with "Golden Threads". St Margaret's Chapel Guild and those who loved history and delving into the past was a great subject with the speaker surprising us that she and Isobel had been in the same class at school—memories! The Daffodil Tea was a great successful afternoon with friends meeting up. The total amount raised for our project 'Operation Hope' was £710.00.

Thank you to all who attended the meetings and supported the Daffodil Tea. The speakers were all amazed that the Guild had so many members. We are now looking forward to Pauline Halliday on Occupational Therapy and, of course, our AGM which will take a different format this year. We hope you enjoy coming along in the afternoon and enjoying an afternoon tea with your friends. No pressure to join the Committee—enjoy the fellowship, that is, The Guild.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 7 April at 10 am Occupational Therapy—Speaker: Pauline Halliday

Tuesday 21 April at 2 pm AGM with tea/coffee and scones

Thursday 14 May—Summer Outing to Pitlochry

Summer Outing

We will leave Gibson Craig at 10 am, travel to Bankfoot where we will have our morning stop for tea/coffee with scones and time to look and shop.

Onwards to Pitlochry and admire the Perthshire countryside.

Arriving at Pitlochry where we will spend some time, either shopping or if you are able to walk to the salmon ladder.

Onwards to our stop for our meal which is at Kinross Golf Club

Returning to the Gibson Craig around 6.30 pm.

The cost being £38—thanks to the Transport Fund for the generous donation towards the cost of the transport.

Please get in touch with Shona if you wish to join the Guild on the outing.



Mission, Outreach and Fellowship News



Blythswood

**SHOE BOX
APPEAL**

Shoebox Appeal 2026!

Although it's a (very!) long time until the Shoeboxes are packed and sent to Blythswood for distribution in Eastern Europe, MOF have been discussing the many ways we can make this a little easier for everyone so we've come up with a few options:

We are always short of mens' underwear (medium size), gloves, toiletries and small DIY kits. When buying items to donate please buy a small set for one rather than bulk buy—we get left with a lot of children's underwear but no hats, gloves to match the ages. The essential items are toothbrush and toothpaste, bar of soap, underwear, socks/tights, scarf/hat/gloves, toy or gift, sweets (not chocolate) If you'd like to donate financially there will be boxes in the Kirk and Kirk office for any spare change.

Coffee Stop!

We're back! Every Saturday, 2—4pm, from 3rd May until end of September. We're looking forward to catching up with old friends and making new friends! Prices will be £2 per piece of cake and £1 for each cup of coffee/tea. We're always grateful to any bakers who would be willing to bake for us—if you are willing to help please contact any of the MOF team or the Kirk office will put you in touch with one of us.

Joint events coming soon!!

Mission, Outreach and Fellowship teams from Currie and Balerno met to discuss some future fellowship events. So far we can look forward to a Wine Tasting and quiz night in Gibson Craig Hall at the end of May, a Dinner and Discussion evening in Balerno and a family Quiz night in Currie in the autumn. If you have any thoughts or ideas of events which you'd be happy to take part in please contact Fiona Pigott (fpigott19@gmail.com)

**Easter Saturday
Pop-Up Coffee and Craft morning
Gibson Craig Hall,
Saturday 4th April, 10 - 12.
Teas, Coffees, Juice and treats!
All Welcome! Come and join us!**





Currie Kirk welcomed The Heriot Watt University on 1 February 2026 to celebrate 60 years of its Royal Charter. The service was led by Rev Jane M Howitt, University Chaplain and the Guest Preacher was Professor Russell Cowburn FRS. Also joining in the celebrations was the Heriot Watt University Chamber Choir whose Anthem "Sailing By" written by Bob Chilcott was warmly received by the congregation.



The cake cutting ceremony was performed by Ruth Moir, University Secretary and Vice Principal, Professor Chris Turney, Deputy Principal (Research) and Professor Richard W Williams CBE, Principal and Vice-Chancellor.



The cake was much enjoyed students and congregation alike!

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.



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)



Kirk Walking Group



We meet on 3rd 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. Please get in touch with Moira if you wish further information. Mob: 07853 228751



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

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.

For more information please contact Margaret Gordon



Thinking of a spring clean at home?

Fresh start would appreciate any unwanted household items which are in good reusable condition.

Dishes and cutlery, pots and pans, bed linen and towels/tea towels, small electrical items and cleaning materials.

These items are included in the Fresh Start Packs for clients moving into a home.

Can you help?

Donations for Frsh Strat can be made on Wed, Thurs and Sat, 9.30—12.30

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.



Christian Aid Week 10—16th May 2026.

This year Christian Aid is raising funds for their global work and sharing stories from their partners in Kenya. In Kenya, Christian Aid's partner Beacon of Hope is supporting people to use even small spaces to grow food. Hardship often leads to hunger, but for some urban farmers, gardens grow hope. There will be envelopes in Currie Kirk each Sunday during May for any donations. If you're unable to come to the Kirk and would like to make a donation, there will be some envelopes in the Kirk office, or donate directly through Christian Aid's website—caid.org.uk/gathering26.



We are delighted that Tony Cheung will receive his King's Badge at Currie Kirk on Sunday 26th April, 11.15am. It would be good to see a good turnout at the Service, especially from those who have the Queen's Award from other youth organisations to form the

traditional Guard of Honour. As part of his King's Badge, Tony volunteered with the AV team so will be known to many of you.

Please pass this on to any ex 65th members you are in contact with.

Thanks,
Bill Brown
Captain, 65th BB Company.

Children Learn What They Live By Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D.

Although this is about children, it could easily apply to adults!

- If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.
- If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.
- If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.
- If children live with pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.
- If children live with ridicule, they learn to feel shy.
- If children live with jealousy, they learn to feel envy.
- If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.
- If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.
- If children live with tolerance, they learn patience.
- If children live with praise, they learn appreciation.
- If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.
- If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.
- If children live with recognition, they learn it is good to have a goal.
- If children live with sharing, they learn generosity.
- If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.
- If children live with fairness, they learn justice.
- If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.
- If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and in those around them.
- If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.

Thanks to Anne Milne for sending this in.

Apple Messy Church on Friday the 27th of February 2026.

The theme for the day was turning something old into something new.

The session started with the children using old recycling materials and making them into something new.

During our time with the children, we told the story of Johnny Appleseed (Chapman).

Johnny Appleseed was a real American pioneer, who like Jesus, made a difference to the people he met.

They both changed people from their old ways or habits into living life in a new way.

A bit like using old, used bits and pieces and making something new.

Early in his life, Johnny learnt how to grow things, particularly apple trees. He went on to develop orchards across America.

Johnny travelled widely across the States, often walking bare foot, shabby dressed, with a tin pot on his head and a Bible in his hand. He must have looked a little strange or at least different.

However, he managed to establish lots of orchards with apple trees across America, simply by sowing apple seeds and helping people to grow their own fruit. Many of these apple tree orchards can still be seen today. Johnny not only sowed seeds, but he was also a friend to many, a kind man who believed in God and spread that love and kindness wherever he went, you could say he planted seeds of love in peoples' hearts and perhaps changed how they lived.

Jesus was also different and he went about telling stories.

One of the stories he tells is about a farmer who planted seeds, the farmer in Jesus' story is spreading the seeds of God's love. Some seeds fell on hard ground, where people did not listen to God and so the seeds did not grow. Some seeds fell on rocky ground, but when trouble came folks gave up on God. Other seeds fell on thorny ground where the worries of this world took folks focus away from God. However, some fell on good soil, and those folks grew in God's love and told others about Him.

Today it is our hope that we will all know God's love and like Johnny Appleseed and Jesus, we will sow seeds of love and kindness, and care for each other.



Some of the Craft work from Messy Church, Spring 2026

Thanks to all the volunteers from Currie Kirk and Balerno Parish Church—we had a fun afternoon!

Family News

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

27 December 2025	Mrs Heather Sinclair, Edinburgh
21 January 2026	Martha Donaldson, Currie
January 2026	Gordon Donaldson, Currie
28 January 2026	Mr Walter Rogers, Currie
28 January 2026	Mr George Preston, Currie
February 2026	Isobel Ramsay, ex Currie
1 March 2026	Thomasina (Ina) Greig, Currie



Please pray for the families.

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—April 2026

April

5 Mrs J Caffrey
Mrs Jean Dick

12 Mrs M Ritchie



19 Mrs M Malcolm
Mrs F Pigott
Mrs J Robertson

26 Mr A Murray
Mrs Jean Wright
Mrs N Hogg

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 am—11 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	euanjgreid@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	449 6832
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	lizpotter66@virginmedia.com	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 Company/Seniors	Thursday 6.00-7.30 pm Friday 7.00—8.30 pm Sunday 6.30-8.30 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	Moira 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>.
Articles for the May/June issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to
fpigott19@gmail.com by Friday 24 April 2026
Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.

