

The Link



The magazine for the linked congregations and communities of the West Kirk of Calder and Polbeth Harwood.

www.west-kirk-polbeth-harwood.co.uk

Minister

Rev Dr Jonanda Groenewald

3 Johnsburn Road Balerno EH14 7DN

Phone: 0131 261 7977 Mobile: 07846 539841

Email: minister@west-kirk-polbeth-harwood.co.uk

Ordained Local Minister

Rev Alison Quilter Mobile: 07741 985597

Email: AQuilter@churchofscotland.org.uk

West Kirk	Polbeth Harwood
Session Clerk	
Stewart MacRae	Marian Kinsman
23 Westmuir Road	12 Langside Crescent
West Calder	Polbeth
EH55 8EX	EH55 8UW
01506 872486	01506 871125
sessionclerk@westkirkofcalder.co.uk Marian.kinsman@polbethharwood.co.uk	
Treasurer	
Karen Elliot	Sandra McCabe
01506 418049	01506 872593
treasurer@westkirkofcalder.co.uk	
Safeguarding Coordinator	
Kathy Black	Eleanor Davidson
01506 871802	01506 873590
West Kirk of Calder (Church of Scotland)	Polbeth Parish Church of Scotland
Charity SC004703 Congregation 020161	Charity SC017373 Congregation 020156
Copyright Licence No. 218743	
Newsletter Editor : Sandra.dixon71@gmail.com	

May 2022



Dear Congregations

I love this time of year when the colours on the trees seem brighter and the lovely blossom blooms in fullness of colours. These past weeks as I travel to work, early in the morning, I have been amazed by the richness of nature and peacefully watching the sun rise welcoming the day. Pheasants in the fields, deer ambling along and the wondrous colours of the rows and rows of trees – the many different shades of green, yellow and even browns. Suddenly trees and shrubs that had looked drab and ordinary now transformed into things of beauty which fill me, and us, with joy. And in the sky the sun seems brighter too! There is no doubt the sun shining brightens up our lives, making everything somehow feel better. The sun, without its life-giving energy this earth of ours would be barren and lifeless, devoid of the wonders we take for granted.

As Christians, we celebrate a rising of a different kind: not of the sun but of the Son. We celebrate the victory of Christ over death, of light over darkness and love over hatred. We exult in the empty tomb and the message of the resurrection – wonderful good news that changed not just history but the destiny of us all forever. We celebrate this rising that shapes everything we are and do; makes life not only feel better but actually be better, for it is able to transform lives, including our own. The risen Son offers us all a new dawn. Let him nurture our faith, nourish our discipleship and grant in the fullness of time buds may burst into bloom and bear living fruit for Christ's service. Rejoice and give thanks every day in what he has done for you and for us all.

Shalom

Alison

Reflection

by Rev Dr Nanda Groenewald

*Matthew 19:14: Jesus said,
‘Let the little children come to me, and do not
hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these.’*



Isn't this picture just adorable? It brings the expression: "With the innocence of a child" to mind. Without realising that it is a statue, the wee boy saw that a rabbit needed help – and without any hesitation he went straight there to give the rabbit a hand. Small children don't overthink things, they very often just know what the right thing is to do and then go do it. Maybe that is one of the reasons why Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven belongs to children. As we grow older we so often overthink things. If we see someone who is upset, we wonder: "Should I go over and ask if everything is okay? But of course, it's not, otherwise the person wouldn't have been upset in the first place. What if she didn't want others to see her upset? What if I upset her even more? What will I even say to her?" And while we reason with ourselves like that, we ignore our gut feeling and don't go console someone who probably desperately needed to know that someone cares. As Christians we know what the right thing is to do. Let's not ignore it, but always just go do it – like any child would...

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for giving us the ability to make life better for those around us. Please help us to do this at every opportunity we get, and not only when it doesn't make us feel uncomfortable. Help us to love you like children do. Amen

Reminiscing Part 1

By Margaret Hogg

Towards the end of last year, I was clearing out things as I was moving to a new house and you know what it's like. You come across some photographs or birthday cards etc and an hour later you are still down Memory Lane.

I had come across a hotel booking and some photographs from 20 years ago when, for his 60th birthday in May, I had booked a holiday on the Isle of Mull for my husband and I. Somewhere he had always wanted to visit.

The hotel was lovely. Good food, evening entertainment and lots of lovely places to visit and explore during the day.

On the Sunday we booked to go by coach from the hotel to Fionnphort where we would cross by ferry to Iona. We had a walk around and visited the graveyard where the late Labour leader, John Smith, is buried. We then went into the Abbey for one of the services where Church of Scotland minister, Rev. John Bell, member of the Iona Community and Hymn writer, was taking the service. At that time, he looked kind of like an Apostle with a bit of Billy Connolly thrown in with long curly hair and a beard. His service that day featured lots of young people including singers and guitarists which made for a very happy, jolly service. What fascinated me more than anything was his multicoloured waistcoat worn with jeans under his ministerial robe and the brightest pair of red Doc Marten boots I had ever seen.

Fast forward to a few weeks after finding those photographs. I sat down to have a coffee, switched on the TV and was just in time for the start of Songs of Praise and was surprised to find it was coming from Iona. The presenter interviewed and spoke with several people who are involved with the community throughout the week and provide guided tours and refreshments after the services. Just before the final Hymn she introduced and spoke with a now grey haired, more mature, Rev. John Bell. After thanking him for speaking to her and announcing the final Hymn, the camera panned out and there was the shortest glimpse of Rev. John Bell's feet and guess what? He had on a pair of not too bright but dark red Doc Marten boots!!! Obviously still vey trendy.



TeenTime

Primary 7 upwards

What are you doing on the evening of Sunday 15 May? The TeenTime group are going out for the evening. We will meet at the West Kirk Hall for 6pm and then travel to a local small holding.

Our TeenTime group have been invited to come and meet the coolest little Irish Cob in the whole of Scotland? She's cheeky and fun and loves a rub. She'd be very happy for you to come and visit her in her field and stable. She'll show you her gigantic black eyelashes, amazing two-tone eyes and her fancy feathered legs and you can give her a groom, tack her up and even have a little ride if you fancy it.

And...if you want to make a very good friend...bring along a carrot or two!

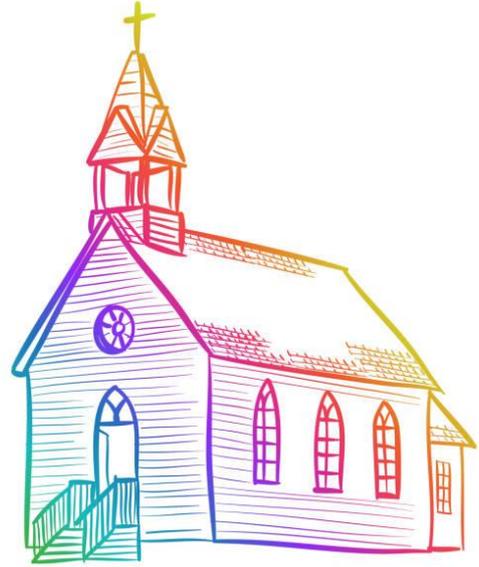
To assist with travel arrangements and to let our host know the numbers to make final preparations for the evening, (including snacks), please let Nanda or I know if you would like to come along. It should be a great evening and there will be other things to see as well.....

Alison

Giving to the Church

What can we do?

1. Members and adherents of the Church of Scotland help fund the Church's work through their giving to local congregations. If you wish to contribute to your local congregation, please contact the Treasurer (details at the front of this Link Magazine) or minister.
2. Both the West Kirk of Calder and Polbeth Parish Harwood Church are very grateful for all freewill offerings, both regular and one-off/ad hoc that we received, and these donations help to keep our Church doors open as well as to support our communities and the wider community.



Contributing directly (Church of Scotland):

3. If you wish to contribute to support the national work of the Church of Scotland, or to an aspect of this work, please send your donation to the General Treasurer, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Church of Scotland'. You can also donate online by visiting the Church of Scotland website.

Gift Aid:

4. The Gift Aid scheme is good news for the Church because:
 1. It increases our giving by 25%
 2. No minimum contribution is required
 3. No specific donation amount has to be promised
 4. There is no fixed term during which contributions must be made
 5. Tax may be recovered retrospectively.
5. For donations to qualify, the donor must pay UK income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount of tax being reclaimed.
6. For more information, please contact the Treasurer or complete a GA Declaration Form (available at either Church or online on our website).

A gift to the Church in your Will

7. The work of the Church has been assisted greatly by many generous gifts in the Wills of members, adherents and supporters.
8. These gifts serve as a lasting legacy, allowing work to be taken forward that might otherwise be unaffordable.
9. If you wish to make a gift in your Will to support the work of the Church, it can be directed to your local congregation or the work of the Church of Scotland in general.
10. A gift to the Church in your Will is exempt from Inheritance Tax.
11. The General Treasurer (Church of Scotland) and the Solicitor of the Church (Church of Scotland) are always willing to provide information about the work of the Church to anyone interested in making a gift in their Will. To find out more about leaving a legacy in your Will, please see the "Leaving a Lasting Legacy" page on the Church of Scotland website.

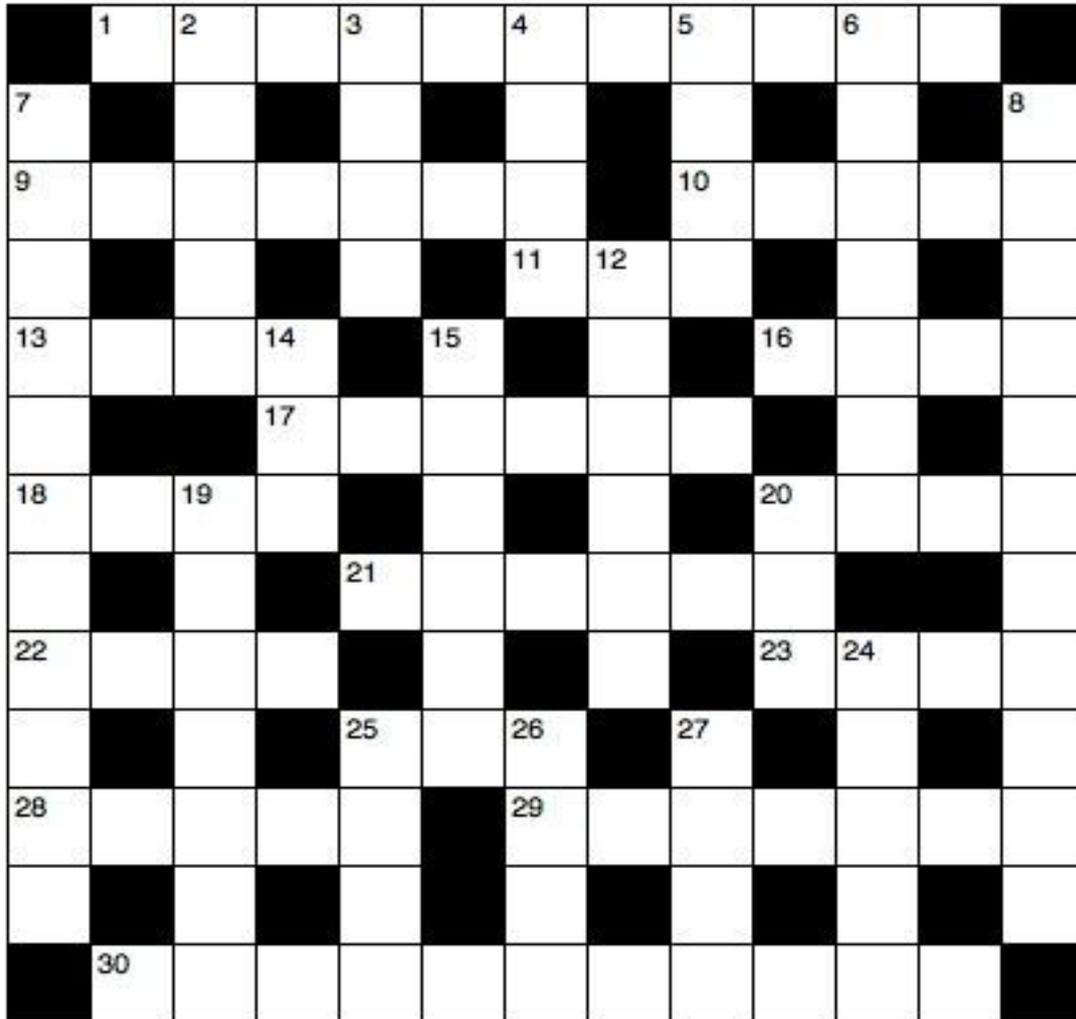
Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side'(Exodus32:27)(5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)
- 16 'Anyone,then,who knows the good he ought——and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke(Acts13:50)(6)
- 18 Burden(Luke11:46)(4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—,so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign(Luke23:38)(6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has(anag.)(3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem,Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
- 8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
- 12 Acquire(2Timothy2:10)(6)
- 14 Container cover(Numbers19:15)(3)
- 15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on——!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
- 19 Refrain(1Peter2:11)(7)
- 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'(Luke7:38)(3)
- 24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva(5)
- 25 'Give to everyone who—you'(Luke6:30)(4)
- 26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)

27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)



APRIL CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Womb. 3, Agnostic. 9, Long ago. 10, Fleet. 11, Horeb. 12, Yellow. 14, Deceitfulness. 17, Banish. 19, Towel. 22, Boils. 23, Inferno. 24, Eternity. 25, Defy.

DOWN: 1, Will hide. 2, Minor. 4, Glory of Christ. 5, Offal. 6, The Robe. 7, City. 8, Zabbai. 13, Psalmody. 15, Chalice. 16, Let off. 18, If son. 20, Worse. 21, Able.

POLBETH HARWOOD CHURCH MAY FAYRE

SATURDAY 21ST MAY 2PM

Come along and grab a bargain from our various stalls. Try your luck at our tombola and raffle. Great prizes to be won.

Once you have covered the stalls, enjoy afternoon tea with friends and family. You will hopefully catch up with folk you may not have seen in a while!

Donations greatly appreciated (no electrical goods please). These can be handed into the church on Friday 20th May from 6.00-7.30pm or on Saturday 21st May between 11am and 12 noon.

If you are able to help, you would be made most welcome. Please contact Linda Eardley on 07772 854242 to let her know you are available.

It's been two years since we have been able to have our May Fayre so please spread the word and make this a fabulous event.





GUESS WHO IS 60?

Polbeth Harwood Church is celebrating 60 years on 31st May.

To mark this special date, we are holding a garden party on Saturday 28th May. This is open to everyone in the community and surrounding areas.

Get dressed up in your finest attire or just come as you are. The important thing is we want to see as many people there as possible.

Doors will be open from 2pm to 4.30pm and we have arranged some fabulous entertainment from the groups who use our facilities.

There will be some great footage of some of the historic events that have happened in the church over the years as well.

A celebration would be nothing without cake so there will be tea, coffee and cake available. All of the entertainment and above refreshments will be FREE!

If you want something to eat prior to enjoying your cake, a barbecue will be available to purchase burgers and hotdogs.

Spread the word and look out for our programme of events on our Facebook page. More information will be available on the day of the May Fayre.

Royal Family Residences Castles & Palaces

Word search



O W A C I C T S H G G O D C N N T N F I T A
O O I L E W N R N M V F S E M A O N E H I A
H G B L W A M I U E B O A E A T A T R O S R
E E M I I I N T R O U N O C G G A J T I E E
T R S P N O I O L D C I I N T E S R H D E D
L H A M D E M A B U K N I S B H F L I E S D
C C M S S G U S D S I S O B A A T E L T E T
L H I S O S B O U R N E I T A N L O J I N N
A S O R R L A N C E G F H A P L A A H N A N
R Y F O E H E N K O H A O N E M M O R T P I
E H F I I Y T E I O A H O E S E A O E T N H
N E E H F E C N D N M H T H S D M H R R T R
C H A D T T T M A H G N I R D N A S S A R S
E S U O H D O O R Y L O H T D U N H S P L T
W U E H L E L H E E H A A S N S O S S R T E
T Y U M O I T R E A T K D M N N H H O R O V

BALMORAL
BUCKINGHAM
CLARENCE
FROGMORE
HAMPTONCOURT

HOLYROODHOUSE
KENSINGTON
OSBOURNE
SANDRINGHAM
STJAMES
WINDSOR

SHOWSTOPPERS!

Many of you may recognise this logo as it was the name of our first ever holiday club back in 2013. We really had so much fun with the theme, and we all made so many new friends both young and young at heart in our parish. So much so that we have decided to revisit the programme this year again.

“SHOWSTOPPERS“ Holiday club with some up to date changes, is our action-packed week in “Polbeth theatre” where we will also share some of our favourite bible stories with the children who are able to join us. Our club will run from Monday 1st – Friday 5th of August 2022. Our helpers’ day starts at 9:10am and ends just after 12:30pm so you can still make plans for the rest of your day!

We already have quite a few people who have put forward their names to be part of our cast, but we still have space for budding actors for our daily drama (10 mins of daily slapstick fun). No experience required, just a good sense of fun and humour. Registration: this lasts for around 20mins every morning from 9:45- 10:10am, or perhaps you just want to be there as an extra pair of hands to help the wee ones with the crafts?? We would love to welcome you along to join us this summer at Showstoppers! Come, see just what you have been missing!

We are holding two training meetings where we will share our plans for the week in August. Both meetings will be held in the West Kirk of Calder and anyone who would like to be part of the team or to hear more about what we do please come along and join us or speak to Nanda or Lorna.

Meetings will last around an hour and will be on Tuesday 17th May at 7:30pm and Wednesday 15th of June at 7:30pm.

A friend of mine got sacked as a set designer for not producing anything. He didn't make a scene.

An actor I know fell through the floor recently. It's just a stage he was going through!

Just
for
laughs

Couple of friends have decided to put theatre style seats in their house. It will end in tiers!



My friend and I are going to see a movie. As we enter the theatre, we see a sign that says, "no food or drink permitted." Quietly I say, "I have a way to get around this." To which he says, "How? It's not like we have a purse or huge pockets to hide things in." I replied, "I've got a couple of Twix up my sleeves."



Save the date!

On Sunday the 5th of June we will have a joint Service at the West Kirk of Calder to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee, and this will be followed by a special celebration – a party fit for a queen!

(Our next celebration of Holy Communion will be on Sunday 4 September.)

Did you know?

May 1st - May Day is an ancient spring festival, traditionally celebrated with maypole dancing. *Mmm? Children's address idea?!*

2nd May to 8th May is **Screen free week!**

Annual event to encourage us to unplug from digital entertainment and spend all that free time playing, reading, daydreaming, creating, exploring, and connecting with family and friends.

We could go on and on listing all the special themed dates that have been passed down through history or invented for a good cause, and now that things are getting back to the new normal, our diaries are filling up fast with special events and holidays that have been rescheduled or long awaited.



With all this in mind please remember to leave time for our Churches. We are so lucky to still be open for worship every Sunday.

We also have a great variety of clubs and groups for children and young people. Not to mention our fantastic ministers Nanda and Alison.

Your church needs you and a very warm welcome awaits everyone.

Do you enjoy singing?



***Would you perhaps like
to become part of a
singing group at our
churches?***

***Or can you play a
musical instrument?***

***Catriona – our organist – would love to start up a singing
group and maybe include more musical instruments in
worship on Sundays, so please speak to her if you would be
interested.***

Youth Group

*On Friday 27 May from 7-9pm all the youngsters
who are at High School are invited to a Movable
Feast! Come hungry...
(Details to follow on WhatsApp)*



Bible Class

*Every first Sunday of the month high school pupils
are invited to attend Bible Class at the West Kirk of
Calder, during worship, after the Kids' Talk.*

EVERYTHING you've always wanted to know about your **ELDERS...**

This month we hear from Beryl Henderson

from the West Kirk of Calder



1 Where did you grow up? I grew up in Aberdeen.

2 How many siblings to you have? I have a twin sister in Aberdeen who is 20 minutes younger than me.

3 How long have you been a member of the Church of Scotland? 61 years (Beechgrove Church, Aberdeen)

4 When and where did you get ordained as an elder? In the West Kirk in 1981.

5 What do you like most about being an elder? It's been a privilege meeting people who I probably would never have known and making new friends along the way.

6 What is your favourite Bible passage? John:15 v17 (This is my command: love each other.)

7 Tell us a little about your family. Mike and I married in Aberdeen in 1969 and spent almost 3 years working in South West Africa, now known

as Namibia. We returned home and settled in West Calder. We have 2 children, Shona who lives in Aberdeen and Stuart in Edinburgh.

8 Where do/did you work? I was in nursing for over 40 years. Hospital based for over 20 years then as a practice nurse in West Calder surgery.

9 What is your favourite colour? Probably shades of greens and browns.

10 Do you have any hobbies/interests? I enjoy cooking, baking, reading, crafts and gardening. I also walk and get out and about on my e-bike as much as possible. Best of all, I get involved in looking after my grandchildren, Eva, Charlie and Brodie as required.

11 What is your favourite food? Mince, tatties and peas with Aberdeen mealie pudding.

12 What is your favourite film/TV-series/book? I don't watch many films but enjoy reading a good crime book and watching documentaries on TV.

13 Are you a morning person or a night owl? Morning person.

14 Name one thing you have always dreamt of doing. Opening a café locally serving home bakes. Too late now!

15 Any words of wisdom you would like to share? I don't think we can go far wrong by striving to keep the Brownie Guide Promise and Law.

PLEASE HAVE ANY ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE LINK TO SANDRA DIXON BY THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. THIS CAN ENABLE US TO GET THE MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTED AS CLOSE TO 1ST MONTHLY AS POSSIBLE. THANKS

Church Calendar

Events: May 2022

Sunday	1 st	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15
		Bible Class	West Kirk	09.45
Thursday	5 th	Board & Session	West Kirk	19.00
Sunday	8 th	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15
		Teen Time	West Kirk	18.30
Sunday	15 th	Christian Aid	West Kirk	09.45
		Sunday Service	Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Saturday	21 st	May Fayre	Polbeth Harwood	14.00
Sunday	22 nd	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Friday	27 th	Youth Group	West Kirk	19.00
Sunday	29 th	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15

EVENTS: JUNE

Thursday	2 nd	Board & Session	West Kirk	19.00
Sunday	5 th	United Platinum Jubilee Service	West Kirk	10.00
Sunday	12 th	United Worship	Polbeth Harwood	10.00
		Annual Summer Outing to Aberdour	leaving Polbeth	11.15
		Teen Time	West Kirk	18.30

Parish Record

Weddings

2nd April at West Kirk, Alana Bennet and Robert Sives

Deaths

Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life."

To all who have lost a loved one we extend our sincere sympathies and prayers.

God of compassion,

Whose own son experienced life as a refugee,

we remember those fleeing from danger,

hungry and afraid, with nowhere to call home.

God, give them warmth, security, food and peace.

God of hope,

We thank you for those who are working to bring relief

and comfort to those displaced,

showing glimpses of grace in the darkness of despair.

God, give them strength.

Amen

TWO FABULOUS EVENTS TO HELP THE UKRANIAN PEOPLE
PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND HAVE TWO GREAT NIGHTS OUT



**Ukraine Refugee fund
raising concert**
Friday 10 June
7.30
Kirk of Calder
Highlights Choir
West Calder Brass Band
Sunflower L...age 7
an evening of light and entertaining music
Tickets £5 refreshments incl.
john.rankine@lineone.net / or tickets at the door



Concert for the Dnipro Kids
at
The West Kirk of Calder
17 June 22 at 7pm
Amy Hawthorn
Jessica Smith
Sophie Finlavson and Alasdair Adams
Tickets £10 adults, £5 children