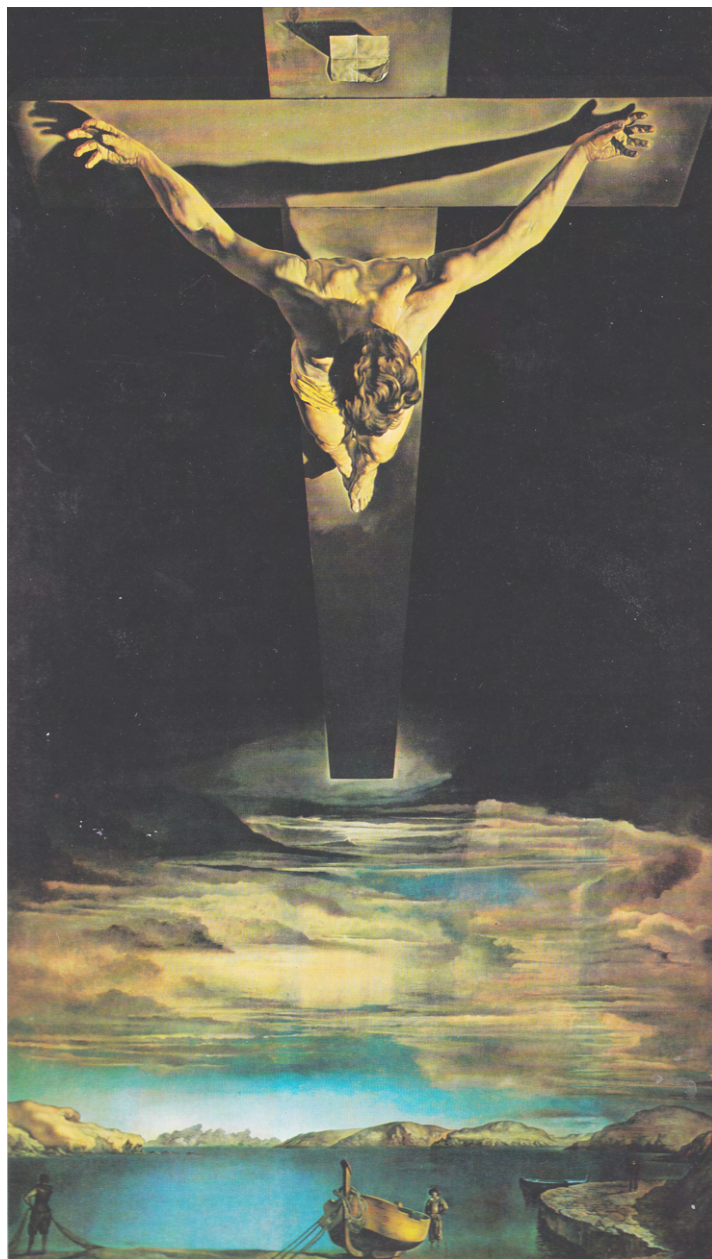


Kirk of Calder

Church Magazine

Easter 2026



Church Directory

Web site address:- www.kirkofcalder.com

Scottish Charity :- SCO13461

Mission Statement

We in Kirk of Calder seek with God's help to encourage and give opportunity to all to grow together in faith and service.

Services

Sundays at 10.30am in the Church.

Sunday Club

For children aged 3 to 11 years.

Meet in Church 10.30am then on to Glenalmond Hall for other activities until 11.30am.

Kirk of Calder Guild

Held on 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month between 2pm and 4pm in the Glenalmond Hall.

Highlights Community Choir.

**Rehearsals Sunday 11.45-12.45 and
Wednesday 7.30-8.45pm**

Letter from the Manse



KIRK OF CALDER MINISTERS

Dear Friends

As I sit at the computer writing my letter for the Easter magazine, I can hardly believe that I have been with you for a full year! It was my first anniversary as minister of Kirk of Calder last week. Where has the time gone? To me it only seems like a few months!

Nevertheless, we have journeyed through the whole of the Christian year together, starting in Lent, through to Holy Week to the joy and hope of the Resurrection. Then we had Pentecost, closely followed with the Sunday Club prizegiving, which included the premier of the "Wee Calder Bells". There were two services to mark VE and VJ Day along with remembrance Sunday (which was made even more meaningful by the music provided by the Ukrainian musicians), then Advent and all the Christmas services. We also held Spring, Summer and Christmas fayres, and many concerts.

All in all, it has been an amazing year, with many encouraging signs of growth (8 new members have joined us over the last 12 months) and the numbers attending the services have increased to an average of 80 each week. Over the month of December, we had around 1750 people through the church, either for the services or concerts or the primary school service. Throughout this exciting year, we have travelled together as a church family with everyone taking their part, using their gifts, and doing their bit.

There have been times of rejoicing and times of sadness when we have said goodbye to loved ones who passed away, but through it all we have been there as a community of God's people, "rejoicing with those who rejoice, and weeping with those who weep". This is at the heart of what makes us a strong community, when we have love and understanding and a welcome for all, it is what makes us light in dark places, and Easter resurrection people.

So as we start our second Lenten journey together, let us go forward in faith and trust, for we know God is walking with us, and will lead us on to yet more new things. This is what the resurrection of Jesus points us to, new life and new growth when we walk with him as his people of love.

I invite you all to walk with us as we journey through Lent and Holy Week towards Easter. Join in with the positive vibe that others are feeling in and around the church community, and let's continue to grow in faith and love together. I look forward to seeing you over the Easter period, whether you are at church every Sunday or haven't been for a while, a warm welcome awaits

Happy Easter

William



Guild

NEWS

The Guild is back in full swing after our winter break. At our first meeting we had a very interesting talk from Tom Harrison about how the New Town of Edinburgh came to be built. The next meeting on 26th February will be totally different as we all try our hands at decorating ceramic coasters under the guidance of the folk from the Potter Around studio.

March is going to be a very busy month. On 12th March we again welcome our minister, William, to our meeting, but this time he will be entertaining us with music from his keyboard. This will be a great treat and all are welcome. The following meeting will see the annual inter Guild quiz when we will be competing for the Alice Linden Trophy against visiting teams. Then on Saturday 28th March, we will be holding our annual Daffodil Tea. This is one of our major fundraising events for Guild projects and we would be delighted to see you there.

In April our meetings take a historic turn. On 9th April we have a talk on Robert Kirk, the 17th century minister who was an expert on Scottish folklore, fairies and the “second sight”. At the following meeting we will be hearing about the Lost Villages of West Lothian from local historian, Sybil Cavanagh.

Watch this space or the Sunday Intimation Sheet for more information on our projects and coming activities or – better still – come along and join us in the Glenalmond Hall on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 2pm."

WHO IS GOD TO YOU?

Former National Convener Marian McIntyre shares with us who God is to her.

Faced by this question, a song from the 1960's, written by Ralph Carmichael leapt into my mind. Its recurring question is 'What is that to me?'



In the stars His handiwork I see
On the wind He speaks with majesty
Though He ruleth over land and sea
What is that to me?

... God as Creator

I will celebrate Nativity
For it has a place in history
Sure, He came to set His people free
What is that to me?

*... the humanity of God seen in
Jesus*

... a God of justice and peace

Till by faith I met Him face to face
And I felt the wonder of His grace,
Then I knew that He was more than just
A God who didn't care
That lived away out there
And now He walks beside me day by day
Ever watching o'er me lest I stray
Helping me to find that narrow way
He's Everything to me.

*... a God who desires a personal
commitment*

... a God who is present in others

*... God's guiding Spirit keeping me
on target*



Guild coffee morning 29/11/25

Guild Christmas visit to Cunnigar House



Sunday Club News

'Taxi for Joseph' was the title of the Kirk of Calder Nativity 2025. It was a fun take on the traditional story, which featured an Uber donkey service. Rev. William had a starring roll as the leader of the Uber donkey team. A full church watched as, once again, Mary and Joseph made it to Bethlehem and Jesus was safely born.

During the Christmas break the Sunday Club met up for a showing of Zootropolis 2 at The Vue cinema. After that we all had lunch at a famous fast- food outlet nearby.

We resumed on the 11th of January 2026 and since then our Sunday morning themes have included the baptism of Jesus, World Religion day, Robert Burns and Candlemas.

On our Lenten journey towards Easter we'll be learning through stories, music, arts and crafts and many more interesting and fun activities about the events in the bible which led to the crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus.

All children aged 4 and over are welcome to join us. We usually meet in the church at 10.30. Contact Susan Adams if you know of any children or young people who are interested.

susanmjadams@aol.com

Mob. No. 07392483725



Nativity Christmas 2025





Sunday Club outings



Spooky Cinema 2/11/25

Zootropolis 2 in December



Bibles for Bairns

A Bible for Every Child

Do you know any babies born in 2024 – why not register them for a free Bible before March 2025?

Anyone can register a Scottish-born baby with Bibles for Bairns:

bible.scot/bfb

Our vision is to offer every child in Scotland a Share a Story Bible and other Bible-related birthday gifts each year until they are five. **Join Bibles for Bairns and help whole families gather around the Bible.**



REGISTER NOW!

Services for Holy Week

**Sunday 29th March 10.30am Palm Sunday
morning worship Kirk of Calder.**

**Monday 30th March 7pm joint Holy Week
Service Livingston Old Parish Church.**

**Tuesday 31st March 7pm Joint Holy Week
Service Kirk of Calder.**

**Wednesday 1st April 7pm Joint Holy Week
Livingston United Parish Church.**

**Thursday 2nd April 7pm Maundy Thursday
Service of Holy Communion Kirk of Calder.**

**Friday 3rd April 7pm Evening Service for
Good Friday. Kirk of Calder.**

**Sunday 5th April 8.30am Early Easter
Morning Joint service including Easter egg
Rolling. Howden Park. Service followed with
Breakfast in the Glenalmond Hall.**

**10.30am Easter Sunday worship with
. Holy Communion Kirk of Calder.**

Message from Session Clerk

Hello

I thought it might be useful at this time to introduce myself. My name is Jan Ingram, and I have recently taken on the role of Session Clerk.

So far, I have found this role to be very busy, but also interesting and rewarding. We are fortunate that we have John Jamieson and Kenneth Wilson as Deputy Session Clerks to complete the team. The wealth of experience that they both bring is proving invaluable.

Over the next few weeks, you may find that your district elder has changed. We have new elders in the team, and some districts have changed over time, so we took this opportunity to revise them.

The Church feels vibrant, with both existing and new members getting involved. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the near future.

Wishing you all a happy Easter.

Jan



Kirk of Calder Accounts 2025

Governance and Stewardship:

- Finance Reports are presented to the Kirk Session (Trustees) at regular meetings throughout the year
- Full year 2025 Accounts have been approved by the Trustees on 18th February 2026 and the review by Independent Examiner is underway (approval anticipated by 16th March 2026)
- Accounts will be available at the Church door or via the Kirk of Calder website under Accounts & Donations
- Accounts will be filed at OSCR(public domain) once attested by the Presbytery of Edinburgh & West Lothian

How did we do in 2025?

Receipts or income

The total was £109,095 (2024: £90,200).

£77,384 or 71% (2024: £68,633 or 76%) of this came from:

- Freewill Offering Envelopes & Standing Orders £51,718 (2024: £49,236)
- Gift Aid (Tax reclaimed from the Government) £13,612 (2024: £12,783)
- Open Plate donations on a Sunday £5,775 (2024: £4,148)
- Other donations £6,279 (2024: £2,466)

£2,641 or 2% of this came from hall hires (2024: £2,368 or 3%)

£4,550 or 4% of this came from Grants (2024: NIL or 0%)

£2,742 or 3% of this came from others (2024: £2,397 or 3%)

£21,778 or 20% came from activities for generating funds REGEN2025 and other (2024: 16,802 or 18%)

Payments or Expenditure

The total was £98,690 (2024: £92,149).

Monies were spent as follows:

- £38,133 or 39% was for Giving to Grow/Ministry (2024: £44,743 or 48%) – see Note ***
- £10,245 or 10% on staff salaries (2024: £9,591 or 10%)
- £24,498 or 25% for fabric costs (2024: 15,544 or 17%)
 - 2025: Church £20,299, Manse £2,014 and Hall £2,185
 - 2024: Church £1,370, Manse £13,814 and Hall £NIL
- £2,548 or 2% on Council Tax (2024: £NIL or 0%)
- £9,460 or 10% on energy (2024: £12,783 or 14%)
- £4,844 or 5% on insurance (2024 £4,337 or 5%)
- £8,962 or 9% on other costs (2024: £5,151 or 6%)

Excess of Receipts over Payments

Surplus of £10,405 [2024: Deficit (£1,949)]

Note: *** Timing only – Giving to Grow refund of £9,308 relating to 2024 was received & recognised in 2025

Ian Wallace
Treasurer

I to the Hills.

Watersheds! There was a hill outside Jerusalem — “a green hill far away” we called it when we were bairns, and it too has become a great watershed in human experience. The contrasting reactions of men to the great event that transpired there, has set the course of their lives for good or ill. I was very much struck, reading the record of the death of Christ, by the way in which it seemed to separate people into two distinct groups. It was Luke’s account I was reading (Chapter 23).

The religious leaders of the Jewish people taunted Jesus with the word “He saved others, Himself he cannot save.” The soldiers mocked Him. One of the thieves dying at his side railed on Jesus demanding that He “save thyself and us.” But one of the Leaders, Joseph by name, came out boldly against the counsel of the others; and the officer in charge of the soldiers said “Certainly this was a righteous man.” The other thief said “Lord, remember me when thou comest in thy Kingdom,” and Christ gave him the assurance of hope. Read the story again and watch how the Cross of Christ literally became the watershed, directing the lives of all who saw it. It is the same today.

XXX

“I TO THE HILLS” is a selection of articles and verse from the pen of Quartus. William Landles who wrote a column in The Hawick News called “Thought for the week”

SOMETHING OF VALUE

*We met and we married a long time ago,
We worked for long hours when wages were low,
No TV, no wireless, no bath, times were hard,
Just a cold water tap and a walk in the yard.*

*No holidays abroad, no carpets on the floors,
We had coal on the fire and we didn't lock doors,
Our children arrived, no pill in those days,
We brought them up without any state aids.*

*They were safe going to play in the park,
And old folks could go for a walk in the dark,
No Valium, no drugs and no LSD,
We cured most of our ills with a good cup of tea.*

*No vandals, no mugging, there was nothing to rob,
We felt we were rich with a couple of bob.
People were happier in those far off days,
Kinder and caring in so many ways.*

*Milkmen and paperboys would whistle and sing,
A night at the pictures was one mad fling,
We all get our share of trouble and strife,
We just have to face it, it's the pattern of life.*

*Now I'm alone I look back through the years,
And don't think of the bad times, the trouble and tears,
I remember the blessings, our home and our love,
And for what we shared then ,and thank God above.*

Laura

ClothesBank

Clothing for those in need

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Our clothing bank continues to bring in money for our church Funds and on average we are raising £40 a month. All good items are distributed to those in need and the rest is made into rags.

However, can I remind you that it does not accept duvets, pillows or towels. Also, if the bank is full, I would be grateful if you do not leave any bags lying on the ground beside the clothing bank. Also, if your bags are too big to go into the drawer, I ask that you decant them into smaller bags.

Please drop me an email or send me a message when the bank is full and I will arrange for it to be emptied.

Thanks for helping us to raise much needed funds for Kirk of Calder and those in need.

Eleanor Blair

07823328609 email eblair892@btinternet.com



Place your donations under the table at the main door .(left hand side)

Over 90%of the food distributed by foodbanks in the Russell Trust network is donated by the Public--that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

GIVE HELP

DONATE FOOD

Our foodbank relies on your goodwill and support

Coffee 
AND 
FRIENDS
Make the perfect
BLEND 

Visit the 'Pop in Cafe'

**Every Tuesday morning
10am to 12noon**

in the Glenalmond Hall.

Tea/coffee, home baking.

Baby & toddlers play area.

Free car parking.

Job Vacancies

The Tuesday Cafe is seeking volunteers to help in the running of this important Church group.

The cafe runs every Tuesday from 10 am to 12 noon and you would be on duty once a month. Full training will be given if you don't know how to pour a cup of coffee or a cup of tea.

No "Costa" or "Starbucks" experience is required.

For more information contact Ann McWhir on mobile. 07753 362500 or in Church any Sunday.

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Applications are being sought for the post of safeguarding coordinator. Any one interested should contact the Session Clerk for details. This is a voluntary post and requires the applicant to undergo training and PVG clearance.

Highlights Choir

We do enjoy our social life in the choir. We had a lovely get together night out in the Oatridge hotel at Christmas with a real Santa and Elf .

At the moment we are working on a programme of songs for the Summer Concert planned for Friday 5th June in the Kirk. This is always a highlight in the year and lots of fun performing alongside our long time friends and musicians the West Calder Brass Band.

We are always looking for new members in our relaxed and friendly choir. Contact John at johnrankine.music@gmail.com or after Sunday service.





West Calder Brass Band

Cantilena Ladies Choir





DUO Fiona and John Entertainments. It's been a busy start to the year and a very satisfying one. We never like to be typecast so our repertoire is really varied and dependant on the venue. The Care Homes are always a pleasure to do ,to see the smiles on faces and even getting some of the folks up on their feet and dancing.

The Wee Concerts we do and organise regularly in the Glenalmond Hall have a variety of partner musicians, including W.C.Brass Ensemble ,C.R. Stompers jazz band for example and sometimes informative talks and demonstrations. All are veery welcome to come to these informal social events, so do come along and enjoy. See the posters for updates and information .Hopefully we will again have Cantilena Choir join us in the Kirk later in the year.

As ever we are happy to consider taking part to help in any charityor other Events.

Contact for more information. John johnrankine.music@gmail.com

Christmas Fayre 2025

I am amazed at how happy everyone looks after all the hard work setting up the stalls and decorating the Church.







The Minister with Bohdan and Kateryna two talented Ukrainian musicians who impressed us with their musical ability playing at our Remembrance Service in November.

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My thanks to Peter Adams for all the Photographs in this Easter Kirk of Calder Magazine.



HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE 10.30AM

We are now serving Fortified Wine as well as Grape Juice at all our Communion Services and there will also be Gluten-Free Bread available.

The wine will be served in silver cups and the grape juice will be in the clear glasses.

Gluten-Free bread will be served in small glass dishes on each plate of bread.

There will also be an opportunity for those that wish to take up the wine in Common Cup. If you would like to do this please sit where the white ribbons are on the pew ends.

We look forward to welcoming you all to our communion service.

Parish Register

Baptisms

“ babies are bits of stardust blown from the hand of God”

Abel Jack Alexander Robson

1st February 2026

Deaths

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”

Anne Wiseman

November 2025

Gillian Carol Smith

November 2025

James Williams

November 2025

Roslind Hallman

December 2025

Elizabeth Wyllie

January 2026

Thomas Laird

January 2026

Agnes O'Hagan

January 2026

Jane Hagart

January 2026

Janet Finlay

January 2026

Andrew Turnbull

February 2026

Office Bearers

Session Clerk

Jan Ingram
Janingram@icloud.com
07990651406

Church Officer

Mrs Eleanor Blair
07823328609

Treasurer

Mr Ian Wallace
01506 400620

Safeguarding
Co-ordinators

Yasmin Akyeampong
Norman Laing

Details of Standing Orders and Gift Aid are available on our website

www.kirkofcaldeer.com

Account Name Kirk of Calder General Account

Account No 10047047 Sort Code 82-66-22 Virgin Money

If you require services of the minister or any other enquiries, please
contact:

Minister: Rev. William Watt 07950617560

Email wwatt@churchofscotland.org.uk

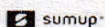
Session Clerk: Jan Ingram 07990651406

Email janingram@icloud.com

Church Officer: Eleanor Blair 07823328609

Email eleanorblair17@gmail.com

Articles for inclusion in the intimations should be with Eleanor Blair by
a Wednesday evening by email to eleanorblair17@gmail.com



Kirk of Calder



Church shining brightly for Christmas tree lighting



Scottish Charity SCO13461