



Cairneyhill Church Newsletter



Minister retiring after 35 years

Rev Norman M Grant first came to Cairneyhill and Limekilns churches in October 1990 after he was selected from a long list of applicants to succeed Rev Bob Henderson. Norman moved into the manse in Limekilns with wife Karen and their three young children and the family soon put down roots in the community. Norman's ministry has brought him into contact with our primary and high schools, youth organisations and other community groups and businesses. He has held prominent roles in Presbytery serving the wider area. All in addition to officiating at baptisms, weddings and funerals and preaching every Sunday in both Cairneyhill and Limekilns. A ministry of 35 years is longer than most these years but Cairneyhill has had a tradition of long service and Mr Grant has been only the 11th minister to serve Cairneyhill since the church was built in 1752. Known for his sense of humour our photo shows off a t-shirt presented to Norman in appreciation of his habit of quoting a certain Two Ronnies sketch every time the 4th Sunday in Advent (when four candles are lit) came around!

We are sure that the whole village will join with the congregation in wishing Norman and Karen a long and happy retirement. Norman's last Sunday Service will take place on 19th April.



Not the normal Sunday look!



Easter Services

Monday	30 th	8:00pm	Gathering for Reflection	Cairneyhill Church*
Tuesday	31 st	8:00pm	Gathering for Reflection	Cairneyhill Church*
Wednesday	1 st	8:00pm	Gathering for Reflection	Cairneyhill Church*
Thursday	2 nd	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Supper	Limekilns Church
Friday	3 rd	8:00 pm	Good Friday Communion	Cairneyhill Church
Sunday	5 th	7:30 am	Dawn Service [#]	Limekilns Pier
Sunday	5 th	11:30 am	Easter Communion~	Cairneyhill Church

* Irene Paterson Room # Breakfast available afterwards ~Sunday service available on Zoom



Message from the Minister

Dear friends,
this will be a very special Easter for me. As most of you will know, we have set a retirement date for later in April, so this will be my last Easter as your minister. That said, Easter is always a very special celebration in the life of the Church. Easter Sunday is my favourite day, and has been for all of my Christian life. There is nothing that can compare with celebrating Easter – the Day of Resurrection.

Holy Week, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, also contains very special celebrations. Communion as part of a Maundy Thursday meal shared with our friends in Limekilns is very special, as is Good Friday Communion in the quiet of Cairneyhill church. Holy Week 'Time for Reflection' gives us time for contemplation. At the heart of our faith is Jesus, crucified and risen.

I would like to wish you all of God's blessings as we celebrate Easter 2026.

Yours, Norman



Did you know?

There is an online worshipping community based right here in Scotland?

Sanctuary First provides resources for individuals and groups including daily readings and online worship, through their website and a mobile app.

See www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk

Looking to the future

The future for Cairneyhill Church is set out in the Mission Plan of Fife Presbytery within the Church of Scotland. All our church buildings are to be retained.

We have been in talks with our link partners in Limekilns and the congregation at Culross & Torryburn about a union or merger which will be formed after Culross Abbey has been sold. The abbey building has been on the market since July 2025 and talks are ongoing with prospective purchasers.

The Kirk Sessions and the congregations of the three churches will vote on these plans once we are able to proceed and if agreed there will be a new name for the union and one Kirk Session to take forward the life of the church in our area.

Until the union can happen we will not have a minister but Sunday services and other activities will continue. The worship teams of elders in Cairneyhill and Limekilns will organise joint services and there will be guest ministers on some Sundays.

from MAY 2026

Sunday Services will be at 10:30 am in Cairneyhill on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

There will be services in Limekilns Church at 10:30 am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Where there is a 5th Sunday services will be in either Cairneyhill or Limekilns alternately

On occasions such as Christmas, Easter and Remembrance special arrangements will apply

Plans afoot

News from Fabric Convener Doug Hay



Cairneyhill Church

The lime-wash on the church requires re-coating. Quotations to implement the work have been received and grants been awarded by National Churches Trust and the Benefact Trust. It is intended for the work to be done this year before September.

The Sanctuary Cinema and Fife Warm Welcome initiative was again run successfully from November 2025 to the end of March 2026. Thanks to all who helped with setting up the film equipment and providing teas, coffees and biscuits and those that came along to see the films and donated to the Church so generously.

The Church is being used by various groups, for Yoga, Brownies etc. during the week but there is spare capacity. If you have a group that requires a meeting space please contact the Session Clerks to find out the availability of either the Church or the Manse meeting rooms.

Church Meeting Rooms – (former Manse)

Our original scheme for the conversion of the building to a community hub was costed but found to be beyond any realistic fundraising level. A reduced scheme was drawn up but also proved too expensive.

We now have a plan for refurbishment that will provide downstairs accessible toilets and an enlarged kitchen area, new windows and doors, and enhanced insulation plus decoration throughout the building. The external appearance of the building will be enhanced, the donkey house will be largely removed and a conservatory/veranda attached to the south elevation.

The budget for the project is £200,000 of which £145,000 is secured, and grants for the remaining amount have been applied for. We await responses in March / April.

Any help and suggestions for fund raising or donations for the project would be welcome.

The formation of a separate community group has been suspended for the time being now that the future of the Church and church buildings is clearer with plans in hand for the proposed union of the three parishes.

Manse & Church Garden / Car Park areas.

Our community garden project will go ahead in April/May with help from Grow West Fife and “Grant the gardener”. An area to the south of the garden has been cleared and prepared for planting our first season’s crops. Anyone in the village interested in lending a hand to look after the plants should make contact with the church. It is hoped a regular band of volunteers will be formed to take this venture forward and regular “gardening and chatter” days will be arranged.



Our Compassion Kids

Cairneyhill Church has been sponsoring Shammah and Mireya for 11 years and Kerry for 9 years.

Shammah will soon be 18 years old. He lives in Kenya. He likes playing football and has been studying life skills. This year he has been promoted to the next grade, which will mean he will be engaged in many exams. He hopes to surpass the target he has set himself. His goal is to become an engineer

Mireya is now 17 years old. She lives in Peru. She likes music, reading and singing. She wants to share with us that she will go to university to study nursing and she plans to study pediatric nursing, hoping that all goes well.

Kerry is now 14 years old. He lives in Haiti and has recently had to move to a different area. He likes running and marbles. He is in grade 9 and his favourite subject is languages. He tells us that he is taking a tiling course. He is working through his "My Plan for the Future". Through a series of group lessons and one-to-one mentoring sessions with his tutor, Kerry will be given the tools and resources to identify his skills and interests, set future career goals and be helped to create a step – by – step plan so that he can achieve these.

The love and support we continue to offer will help these children to grow and develop.

The financial contribution of a sponsor makes a huge impact and changes lives, but our letters are also very important. It is through these letters that the relationship is built between the sponsor and the child and gives some insight into their lives. A unique relationship is created which helps to give the children hope and bring about positive change. They know that someone cares for them.



Through the church you can help by:

- Sponsoring a child for a specific month – Sponsorship is £32 per child per month. Contact Elaine Morris for information.
- Putting a donation in the box in the Vestibule.
- Putting a donation in an envelope marked "Harry Westwood Disadvantaged Child Fund" and put it in with the Collection.
- Making a bank transfer referencing "HWF".
- Pray that the children in the Projects know how much God loves them and their families. All the children ask us to pray for them.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3)



Church Activity Groups

Why not contact us via Facebook or the website for information on:

- Lego Club
- Banner Group
- Book Club
- Cycling Club
- Walking Group
- Discussion Group

Find us on
Facebook

