PENICUIK NORTH KIRK
PARISH PROFILE

95 John Street
Penicuik
Midlothian
EH26 8AG

Our Mission Statement:
Know Christ and demonstrate God’s love

Our Vision:
To be a growing Church-open to change-known in the community through our care and compassion
## CONTENTS

| 1. Introduction                         | 3 |
| 2. Our Church Buildings                | 4 |
| 3. The Premises                        | 6 |
| 4. Congregation                        | 7 |
| 5. Kirk Session                        | 7 |
| 6. Worship                             | 8 |
| 7. Young Kirk                          | 9 |
| 8. Pastoral                            | 9 |
| 9. Finance                             | 10 |
| 10. Stewardship                        | 10 |
| 11. Fundraising Events                 | 11 |
| 12. World Church                       | 12 |
| 13. History of Penicuik North Kirk     | 12 |
| 14. Community                          | 13 |
| 15. Further Information                | 14 |
1. INTRODUCTION

Penicuik North Kirk is a congregation of the Church of Scotland and is a member of Lothian Presbytery. The parish covered by PNK, as the kirk is affectionately known, lies in the north part of the town of Penicuik.

We are seeking a new minister following the translation of our previous Minister to Logie Parish Church, Stirling. The Presbytery of Lothian has given Penicuik North Kirk permission to call a minister without restriction.

We are looking for someone to share and develop our vision of mission and outreach and help us to encourage more young families and young people to be part of our North Kirk Family.

-- COME AND JOIN OUR NORTH KIRK FAMILY! --

We offer our new Minister:

- Friendship, fellowship and adaptability in carrying out God’s work.
- Commitment to working together to build the church and serve the community.
- Practical and active support.
- A committed group of regular worshippers.

We seek from our new Minister:

- Collaborative leadership.
- Good communication skills.
- Someone who is open- minded and a good listener.
- Challenging and relevant worship to appeal to all ages.
- Someone who will share and develop our vision of mission and outreach to the community and beyond.
- Someone who will work with us to engage with families and young people.
- A commitment to working together with other churches in the area.
2. OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS

The refurbishment in 2001 allowed the Sanctuary to become multi-functional and seats 160 people. Therefore there is good disabled access and areas suitable for wheelchairs. Due to the removable chairs the Sanctuary has also been used for concerts, ceilidhs, exhibitions and craft fairs.

Together with the Sanctuary there is also a rear hall and a working kitchen which are attached to the main building. When entering the Church there is a Quiet Room in the Welcome Area for prayer and reflection. The Open Door Café, which is staffed by volunteers, is also situated in the Welcome Area and is open five mornings and two afternoons per week.

Adjacent to the Sanctuary is a 40 year old timber hall (the North Hall) and a small garden which is available to users as required. An office equipped with modern computing, printing and photocopying equipment is located in the North Hall building together with a newly refurbished Godly Play Room which is used by the Young Kirk.

Dedicated parking for our minister is provided next to the North Hall.
3. **THE PREMISES**

The premises are extensively used by church groups and the wider community as detailed below:

Marchburn Playgroup, PNK Children’s Music Group, Zumba Class, Extend Exercise Class, Scottish Slimmers, Baby Massage, Barreﬂoor exercise class, Boys Brigade, Brownies, Rainbows, Senior Guides, Community Choir, Fun with Flowers, Arts and Crafts, Kellock Club, PiNKies, Listen Well Scotland.

The diary for the above lets is maintained, managed, and published on the website by the Lets Convener.

We have a paid caretaker who is responsible for opening, closing and setting up the premises during working hours.

Lothian Presbytery completed a structural survey of all church buildings within the bounds some three years ago. Penicuik North Kirk has now completed the repairs speciﬁed, including complete redecoration of the sanctuary following remedial work to the ceiling in 2017.

The manse is situated at Eskbridge, 1.5 miles from the Church. It is a nine year old detached villa with a single garage and four double bedrooms (one en suite). It is a modern house with a low maintenance garden.

All Properties are in good repair and are regularly inspected and maintained by the Property Team.
4. **CONGREGATION**

The number on the roll as at March 2018 was 404 members which includes four adherents. We aim to be a friendly and welcoming church known as the ‘North Kirk family’.

The congregation’s vision when the refurbishment was completed in 2001 was that the door would be open to all - open for the Community to come **in** (Lets, concerts, café etc.). We also wanted to go **out** through the door to the community as we have a Foodstore, Shopping Service, ‘What’s Cooking?’ and ‘No Kid Goes Hungry’ - all of which are aimed at helping the most needy in the community. We also support Christian Aid and the Church of Scotland’s HIV programme and collect clothing and household goods for refugees in our MidAid project.

5. **KIRK SESSION**

The Kirk Session currently has 30 elders, the most recent being ordained in 2015. There are 18 women and 12 men – ages ranging from 37-80 approximately. In May 2015 Penicuik North Kirk adopted the Unitary Constitution with the following committees:

- Business Committee (Agenda setting team)
- Ministries
- Outreach
- Resources
- Each elder is a member of either Ministries, Outreach or Resources

At present, meetings of the Kirk Session are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and we meet a minimum of six times a year and the three committees meet twice a year. The Stated Annual Meeting is usually held after worship on the last Sunday in March.

The Kirk Session has voted to depart from the historic and current doctrine of the Church of Scotland in relation to human sexuality and its application to ministers and deacons of the church.
6. **WORSHIP**

Sunday morning worship takes place at 11am with an average of 80 people attending and is followed by a time of fellowship over a cup of tea/coffee in the Back Hall. On the last Sunday of the month, a soup, bread and cheese lunch is shared to raise money for Church funds.

Members of the congregation are involved with Bible readings and in leading prayers. Communion is celebrated quarterly and an early morning communion service is held on the first Sunday of most months at 9.30am.

We also hold regular prayer meetings and prayer breakfasts led by members of the congregation and/or the Minister. There are also a variety of Bible Study groups who meet on a regular basis.

At present we have an acting organist who plays the Norwich electric organ or the digital piano and singers who help lead worship. Audio visual systems and a loop system for the hard of hearing are installed.

We join with other local congregations for Holy Week and Easter Services and also help to provide worship services in care homes within the community.

The priorities in our worship life are to ensure that God is praised and glorified, and that all who enter through our church doors are made to feel welcome.
7. YOUNG KIRK

Our young people usually attend the first part of morning worship before moving to the North Hall for ‘Young Kirk’. The first Sunday of the month is dedicated to music and singing, one Sunday is focused on Godly Play and on the other Sundays Church of Scotland ‘Spill the Beans’ resources are used. We are also fortunate in that Young Kirk have also taken on the work of our Eco team, and are working towards our next award from Eco Congregation Scotland.

8. PASTORAL

We have a Pastoral Care Team who visit all members over the age of 75 once a year. The Pastoral Care Team and the Flower Team also ensure that members are visited on special birthdays, anniversaries, occasions of illness and bereavement, and liaise with the Minister as required.

Each Elder has a district whose members are visited at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest. The minister also receives a visit at these times.
9. **FINANCE**

**Ministry and Mission**: Penicuik North Kirk continues to support fully the wider work of the Church of Scotland and contributes to the National Stipend Fund. In 2017 the North Kirk congregation contributed £46,067 to the Ministries and Mission account and will be called upon to contribute £45,144 during 2018.

**Income**
Our income is funded from regular giving, fundraising, commercial lets and donations from users of the premises. Our annual income versus expenditure generally breaks even and we also carry a small reserve for emergencies. In recent times, whenever a specific requirement has arisen either for Penicuik North or the community, the congregation has risen to the challenge.

The 2017 Financial Accounts are available on request.

10. **STEWARDSHIP**

The congregation participates in the Eco-Congregation Award programme which is led by the Young Kirk. Other aspects of Stewardship are ongoing, and a fuller programme will be considered after the current vacancy is filled.
11. **FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

Annual 2 day craft fayre

Windows of Christmas- floral demonstration

Wedding dress exhibition

Monthly coffee mornings
12. **WORLD CHURCH**

We support:
- Christian Aid - door to door envelope collection in May each year and a soup lunch (held in a different church each year). Young Kirk donates annually through ‘Present Aid’.
- Leprosy Mission – supported jointly with other congregations.
- Girls Hostel in Sialkot, Pakistan - stamps collected.
- Church of Scotland’s HIV programme - Souper Sunday service led by Elders and members of the congregation to raise awareness and raise money.
- Fairtrade - purchase of coffee and tea for the Open Door Café.

13. **A HISTORY OF PENICUIK NORTH KIRK**

The congregation was established in 1784 at Bridgend, Penicuik as a congregation of the Associate Synod. In 1847 it became part of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, following the union of several secession churches. In 1901 it became part of the United Free Church, following the union of the Free and the United Presbyterian Churches. Then in 1931 it became part of the Church of Scotland, following the union of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church in 1929. The congregation has been in the present building since 1867 and in 2001, a major refurbishment was carried out – the ‘Open Door Project’. The concept behind this project was to create a church for both congregational and community use seven days a week.
14. **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

Penicuik is the largest town in Midlothian which contains private nurseries, one playgroup, five primary schools (all of which have nursery provision) and two high schools. Edinburgh, which is only 13 miles away from Penicuik, hosts four universities, with the University of Edinburgh being one of the top 20 in the world.

There are two leisure/community centres within the town which provide facilities for many types of exercise and fitness classes, swimming, football training etc. Penicuik also has its own YMCA/YWCA building which is well used by the community.

There are many activities in the town including Scottish country dancing, junior football, rugby teams, bridge clubs and an Arts Centre to name but a few. The town has two health centres and a community hospital in nearby Bonnyrigg. It is a developing town with many new houses being built in and around Penicuik. Our previous Minister served as Chaplain to Strathesk Primary School, Penicuik High School and the local YMCA.

The Pentland Hills are only a few miles outside the town and provide an excellent area for hill walking or just a leisurely stroll.
15. **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/penicuiknorthkirk

**Our Parish Profile can be downloaded from our Website**
www.penicuiknorthkirk.org

Informal enquiries can be made to the Interim Moderator:

**Rev David Graham  DGraham@churchofscotland.org.uk**

For further information, please contact the Clerk to the Nominating Committee:

**Mrs Irene Burnett  irene.burnett@btinternet.com**

To whom applications should be sent along with a covering letter and CV.

Penicuik: North Parish Church (Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity No SC010902