

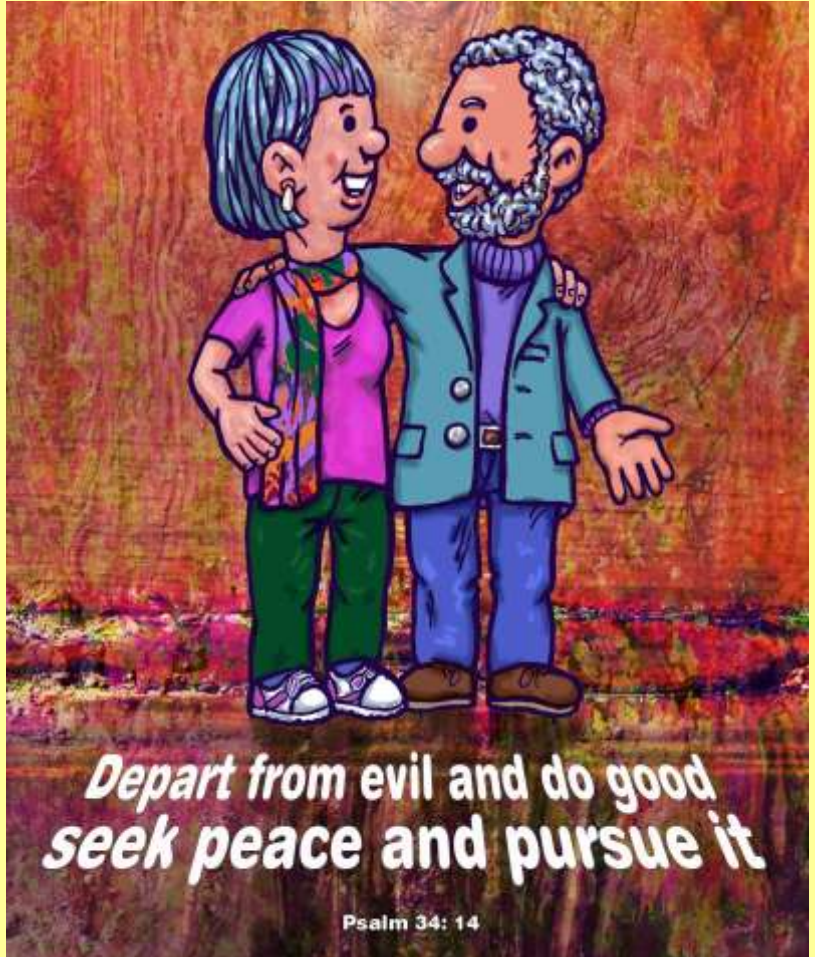
November 2024

No 724



'Our aim is to draw closer to God and to each other, so that, through us, He can make known to all people the joys and challenges of following Jesus'

Vision Statement



Daily Devotions
pages 19 to 22

Special : Focus on Young People pages 15-19

libertonkirk.net

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Prayer for November

O LORD our God
 The God of Hosea and Joel
 The God of Amos and Jonah
 Journey with us
 In the good and the bad times.

O Spirit of our God
 The God of Hosea and Joel
 The God of Amos and Jonah
 Forgive us
 Restore and Renew us.

O Living LORD our God
 The God of Hosea and Joel
 The God of Amos and Jonah
 Have mercy upon us
 Teach us Your ways of justice

O LORD our God
 The God of Hosea and Joel
 The God of Amos and Jonah
 Be Patient with us
 Use even us. Amen and Amen!

Our Theme for 2024 is 'Be dressed and ready for service, and keep your lamps burning.' (Luke 12.35)



It's good to remember

Lindsay was going through some of her mum's stuff last week when she came across a box of photographs. Some of them were very old – pictures from her childhood, while others were a lot more recent, with the grandchildren and great grandchildren in evidence. All of them evoked memories, and, with the memories, a mixture of feelings – both happy and sad.

It's not just old photos that have the power to do this to us. We hear a snatch of a familiar song, and all the memories and feelings associated with it resurface as if it were yesterday. That's why ministers have to be very careful when it comes to choosing hymns - woe betide anyone who dares to change the words.

Something else that can have a similar impact is a family tradition, and this applies to the church as much as to individual families. This is one of the reasons why we all love Christmas (even if we pretend not to!), and we all look forward to celebrating it together at special events and in special ways. It's good to repeat something every year, because it helps us to remember years gone past.

There is one Sunday in November when our whole nation unites in remembrance of all those who have

lost their lives in times of war. Of course, in this case, the memories are not always good ones. Listening to people in my parent's generation sharing memories of the camaraderie of wartime Britain can sometimes give the impression that it was all great fun, but we know it wasn't.

And yet it's still good to remember. This is something we did in a big way back in 2018, as we marked the 100th year since the signing of the armistice that ended the First World War. This picture is a reminder of what the church looked like at the time, and the inset is a photo of the verse from scripture that adorned the front of the Kirk.

All of which is a reminder that remembrance lies at the heart of our faith. Every time we celebrate communion together we remember the love of God revealed in his death for us on a cross. It's good to remember – that God loved us so much that he gave his only son, what whoever believes in him might not die, but might have everlasting life.

With much love
John x



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 9:9-13, Mk 2:13-15, Lk 5:27-32

The Roman invaders had given the job of collecting their taxes to local Jews who also overcharged, so they were doubly hated.



Matthew had his tax office by Lake Galilee.

Jesus walked past, and said



Follow me

Matthew left everything and went with Jesus.

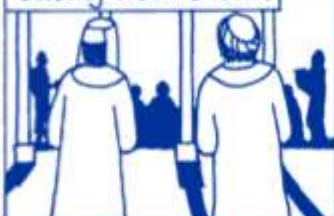


Matthew held a big feast and invited his friends so they could meet Jesus.



They were other tax collectors and bad people

The Pharisees saw Jesus eating with them.



They grumbled to Jesus' disciples.



Why is your teacher eating with all those bad people?

Jesus heard them and said



Who needs a doctor, healthy people or the sick?

Try reading 'keeping rules doesn't make up for not having kindness.'*



*Hosea 6:6

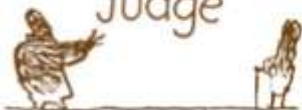
Hosea was talking about people who looked like they were following God's rules but were bad inside.



I have come for the people who need my help.



The
Tale of the
**The Widow
and the
Judge**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT A PROUD JUDGE...



THE WIDOW NEEDED HELP
FROM THE JUDGE.



BUT THE WIDOW
WOULD NOT GIVE UP



PLEASE COME AND SORT OUT
MY LEGAL PROBLEMS



AT LAST THE JUDGE
GAVE IN - AND WENT
TO HELP THE WOMAN



I'M ONLY DOING THIS BECAUSE
YOU KEPT PESTERING ME!



JESUS EXPLAINED - 'GOD IS
MUCH KINDER THAN THE JUDGE
- WE DON'T HAVE TO PESTER
GOD...



...HE HEARS OUR PRAYERS
WITHOUT OUR NAGGING HIM!

November 24 Diary

Friday 1 1pm-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
Saturday 2 10.30am SEECAT Big Read of St. John's Gospel in LKC
7pm "The Road to the Isles" – WMT Scottish Evening in LKC

Sunday 3 8am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
& 11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche and Sunday Club)
Theme: Jesus meets Zacchaeus (Luke 19.1-10)
Preacher: John Urquhart

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
12.30pm – Prayer Team lunch in the Small Hall
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre
Monday 4 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.15pm – 9pm 'Equipping for Leadership' course at Liberton Northfield

Tuesday 5 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
9am-2pm & 5pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
2.30pm – Service at *Liberton Brae Care Home*

Wednesday 6 9am-2pm & 6pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm – *Praise Gathering* in the Wilson Hall

Thursday 7 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
2pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
Friday 8 1-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
Saturday 9 9.30am-2pm SEECOS Annual Conference at the Faith Mission Auditorium

Sunday 10 REMEMBRANCE Sunday
8am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
10.45am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche & Sunday Club)
Theme: Jesus meets some Pharisees and Sadducees
Preacher: John Young

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
12noon – Act of remembrance at the War Memorial
12.30am – Lunch for Uniformed Organisations
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre
Monday 11 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
10.45am Short Service of Prayer for Armistice Day (including an Act of Remembrance)

7pm – LK Building Team
Tuesday 12 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
9am-2pm; 5pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm First Rehearsal for Lessons & Carols Choir in the Kirk
7.30pm SEECOS United KS at the Gilmerton Hub

- Wednesday 13 9am-2pm & 6pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 11am – *Pram Praise* in the Small Hall
- Thursday 14 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
- Friday 15 1-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
 7-9.30pm Men's Curry & Beer Night + Quiz in LKC

- SUNDAY 17** 8am —Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
& 11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche and Sunday Club)
 Guest Preacher: Gethin Russell-Jones
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
 2.30pm – SEECAT planning meeting at Liberton Northfield
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre
- Monday 18 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Tuesday 19 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9am-2pm & 5pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Wednesday 20 9am-2pm & 6pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 7.30pm – *Praise Gathering* in the Wilson Hall
- Thursday 21 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
- Friday 22 1-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
- Saturday 23 10am-12noon Guild Christmas Coffee Morning in LKC

- Sunday 24** **GIFT SUNDAY**
 8am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche and Sunday Club)
 Theme: Jesus meets Pilate
 Preacher: John Young
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
 'Just Gifts' stall in the Kirk Centre after both services
6.30pm – SEECOS worship gathering at Gilmerton Hub
(Ravenscroft street)
- Monday 25 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 10am-2pm – 'Just Gifts' stall in the McDonald Room
 7.30pm – The Book Group meets in the McDonald Room
- Tuesday 26 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9am-2pm & 5pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.30pm – Service at *Guthrie House* Care Home
 7.30pm – Gathering for Prayer (on Zoom)
- Wednesday 27 9am-2pm & 6pm-8pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Thursday 28 9am-2pm – *Kirkgate Café*

2pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
7.30pm – LK Executive
Friday 29 1-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
Saturday 30 4pm – 6pm – **Messy Church for Advent at LKC**

December 2024

Sunday 1

ADVENT SUNDAY

8am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook

9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk

11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche and Sunday Club)

Theme: tbc

Preacher: John Young

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room

6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre



Calling all singers!

Once a year we invite anybody who would like to join our four-part choir for the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, on Wednesday 18 December at 7.30pm. Rehearsals take place on the six preceding Tuesdays, starting on Tuesday 12th November, from 7.30pm to 9pm in the church. If you would like to sing come along on 12 November – nobody has to audition! Being able to read music is a big help, particularly if you want to sing the alto, tenor or bass parts, and you will need a pencil to make notes on the music. If you can't come on the 12th but would like to join the choir from the following week please let me know.

Everybody is welcome to come along to the service and hear the results of the six weeks of hard work, to join in the Advent and Christmas hymns and hear the well-loved readings.

Ruth Davies, tel. 664 3608

Try the Big Read experience!

By David Storey



I am a terrible reader, skip reading is my thing. And that's not good when reading the Bible. And our reading of the bible is further diluted in that we stick to our favourite passages, and even those we skip read, gaining no further wisdom. We often miss so much.

In 2023 I saw the SEECAT Big Read advert, and I pondered that I probably had never read a sizeable book of the Bible non-stop in one go. The Big read offered the chance and I went along.

A dozen or so people gathered, a welcome, a coffee, a chocolate croissant. What's not to like.

Low key, no pressure to read, you can listen or participate – your choice. We're invited to pick our favourite chapter to read if we want. Leaves me wondering - do I have a favourite chapter of Mark? Maybe I should, it's the story of Jesus after all. I go for a random chapter number.

Before we start there's a prayer "for what we are about to receive make us truly thankful". Sounds more like grace at the start of a meal. Then the realisation hits—we're about to feast on living bread.

And so we commence. Out loud, line by line- no chance given to skip. We get up a rhythm, a new voice for each chapter, a variety of translations around the table keeps the mind active too.

We're at Mark chapter 10, a new voice and a different translation, and a suddenly new spin on a familiar story of James and John asking for places of honour. (it's The Message - I check later). "“Arrange it” they saidthat one of us sit on the left and the other on

the right”

The Word of God pierces into my mind. Does that typify the attitude of my prayer life? Do I start my prayers with “ arrange it Lord...” it's a challenge to the heart, but the reader hasn't stopped for my musings, they are already some verses further on. I mark the spot in my Bible – I need to return later.

And so it continues almost pedestrian then suddenly we're at Peter's denial and it becomes personal, because it's no longer about Peter, but about us and our failure and our denials. Suddenly too the story ramps up – the cross is approaching.

We stand as we read the crucifixion story, so brief in Mark's Gospel, but vivid enough and it's sacred ground on this morning, it feels appropriate to take a different posture.

And Mark is brief too at the resurrection and ascension. Blink or skip read. and you could miss something important.

And so it's done, line by line out loud. An hour and three quarters. That's all.

There's a time of silence as we absorb what emotions run through our minds, anger at how someone so loving, kind and gentle could be so badly treated, there's thanks, recognition we have been on holy ground, grateful that we came and unquestionably agreement around the table that we have received.

The Bid Read is to be recommended.

And the next Big Read is on 2nd November 10am, Wilson Hall above the Café . Time well spent. Guaranteed.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

There will be a number of opportunities to remember those who have given their lives in wars in the 20th century and since then, and to pray for peace.

On **Remembrance Sunday**, November 10, the second service will begin at 10.45am, and there will an Act of Remembrance and the two-minute silence at 11 o'clock.

This service will be followed by a short time of remembrance at around 12 noon at the war memorial in the cemetery.

On **Armistice Day**, Monday November 11, there will be a short time of reflection and prayer in the church at 10.45am, including the two-minute silence at 11am.



ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE



Our annual Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday December 11 at 7pm. This service is especially for people who find the thought of Christmas celebrations difficult without a loved one who has died, or for those whose memories of long-lost loved ones can be painful at this time of year. There will be flyers available from mid-November to give to anyone you know who might find this service comforting. Everyone is welcome. There will be a cup of tea or coffee afterwards for anyone who wishes to stay.



CEILIDH

9th NOVEMBER 9

From 6 until 9pm

IN AID OF THE STAFF AT THE
ONCOLOGY DEPT WESTERN GENERAL HOSPITAL
Adults £10 & Teenagers £5 (younger children free)

Tickets on sale after Sunday Morning Services,
from the Kirkgate Café or contact Roger Barlee on 07963 190878



KIRKGATE CAFÉ



Open Monday to Thursday 9am – 2pm (last serve at 1.30pm)

I have been loving all the autumnal colours that surround the café during this season. Can you believe it was a year ago that the flooring was replaced?? Doesn't time fly?

What a very testing time all our customers have had over the last month trying to get to and from the café with the roadworks, I would just like to say a massive thank you to each and everyone of you for persevering during this unpredictable time. It is all you amazing customers who keep the café operating and remaining successful.

With the café getting busier it has meant myself and the café board are now planning on getting our barista coffee machine upgraded to ensure you still get your lovely lattes and cappuccino.

As it is now October it reminds us that Christmas is not far away. As in previous years the Café will be offering Christmas lunches consisting of soup, turkey sandwich and mincemeat treat with tea or coffee. We plan to hold them on Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December in the Small Hall where it will be relaxed and peaceful. Tickets will go on sale from Monday 18th November and will be priced at £10. Booking is essential.



Follow on us Facebook @ Kirkgate Café
Jenny Thomasi
Kirkgate Café Manager
kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net 07894056216

Focus on our young people

Greetings from
Laura



Hi all,

We have had a busy few months in the Preschool and Families world.

Messy Church is back for the new school year, running on the last Saturday of each month. We have seen some new faces and some familiar faces too. We have also gained a handful of new volunteers as well.

Toddlers is as busy as ever – we have few spaces remaining for the term but please get in touch via the email address below before coming along. Wednesdays 10am-11.30am.

Pram Praise is also back for the term on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11am in the Small Hall. No sign up is required for this just come along.

We are always looking for a few more volunteers to get involved with our young people, specifically at our Toddler Group so as our current volunteers are able to take holidays without worrying about us. If you think this is something you would like to get involved with, please get in touch.



Pram Praise!
For under-threes and their carers – just 20 minutes!

Songs, Bible story, simple crafts, prayer, shakers, noise and fun!

Wednesday 13th November
11am in the Small Hall

for info email: laura@libertonkirk.net



Youth work at Liberton

There is no step-by-step guide to making a believer out of a young person, everyone has their own journey to faith and only God knows how and when we will come to know him. That being said, we do have a plan on how to reach young people in Southeast Edinburgh with the gospel and disciple the young believers we know of.

There are a few different analogies you may have heard of that help to explain the plan the method behind the madness of outreach – There's the trellis, each

event or group being a different way for people to climb up the trellis. Or maybe you've heard of the funnel/trumpet as we have a wide

outreach and slowly people move through the funnel/trumpet into closer discipleship with one another and God.

The main idea is that we start by meeting people, introducing them to us on their terms (Which usually means serving them in some way) – This can look like Toastie Tuesday, Quizzes in the Liberton High School Library, Fischy Music concerts etc.

After sowing seeds and making relationships, we then will invite

them somewhere they can hear about God if they seem interested.

These are things like Young Life Club, Wyld Life Club, Messy Church, Summer Buzz, Stage n Slam etc. Often an invite to some food or some games and an opportunity to hear a gospel message. So that young people can hear for possibly the first time that Jesus knows them, loves them and died for them.

The next step would be inviting them into a space where we could go a bit

deeper, answering any questions they might have about faith and giving them the opportunity to explore what they think of Jesus. We have groups like

Sunday Clubs, Sunday evening café worship and YL Connection groups available to come into a community of believers to discuss the bible and God in more depth. These are also great places to help us disciple and grow the young people we know with faith. For example, each month we have a serving Sunday for our teenagers at our morning service where they find different ways to get involved with the church service, maybe helping with teas and



coffees or the tech desk, or serving in creche – We do this to help them meet other people within the church and show them what it is to take part in a service, not just attend.

So much of Youth work is about the relationships the young people make with youth leaders and other believers who care about reaching them with the truth of the gospel. I, myself am a product of the local youth mission working! It is because of the relationships with leaders and events within the local church and Young Life that I heard about Jesus' love for me and I am grateful for the



years of ministry before me that have brought me into the role of Youth Worker at Liberton Kirk.

There are times that we meet kids who we love and we feel like we are following all the right steps just for them to age out of the groups and still not make any proclamation of faith. It's important for us to know that even if we never see a young person again, God loves and cares for them deeply and even though we may never find out if they are saved, we can trust that the Lord will use the work of our hands for His good.

Emily Kerrigan
Youth and Children's Worker



Come and see the Fischy Music Band perform live at the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh on Sunday 17 November 2024 at 3pm, with songs and sing-along fun for all the family. Watch the trailer and book your tickets now: www.thequeenshall.net/whats-on/fischy-music-show

Fischy Music, based in Edinburgh, performs regularly for schoolchildren in Liberton Kirk. The group has over 25 years' experience of writing songs with and for children to nurture their mental health and wellbeing. Thousands of children sing Fischy Music songs every day in primary schools and nurseries throughout Scotland.

Two books written for Young People by Helen Parker

Among the many beautifully retold Bible stories for small children and the inspiring fantasies for young people, where are the novels featuring 'normal' heroes and heroines living contemporary lives? I couldn't find many, so I endeavoured to write one! Two, in fact.

In *Hide and Secret*, Ruth and her pal Christopher befriend a traumatised refugee, teach him English and introduce him to Edinburgh. They are obliged to keep him a secret until he is well, so he won't be sent away. But how do you keep a secret without telling lies?



In *Island Treasure*, Christopher is devastated when his family moves from Edinburgh to a Hebridean island and he struggles to settle in. But Ruth visits and they make new friends – Nabila and her brother Mounir. They fall foul of the local bully and Nabila almost drowns until Christopher and Ruth come to the rescue.



In each book, the young people aim to live out their Christian faith, both in everyday situations and in the adventures and crises that come their way.

Available from Amazon, Waterstones or locally from the author herself. A Christmas present idea, perhaps? For 11-14 year olds.



Christmas

Liberton Kirk
Centre

Saturday 30th November
4-6(ish)pm

Crafts, Games, Nativity Story, PIZZA, & Cake

No charge - donations welcome

No child admitted without an adult, no adult admitted without a child

THE GUILD



Many thanks to everyone who came along to the Knitted Gospel on a recent Saturday afternoon in the Kirk Centre. It was a delightful afternoon. We were able to appreciate the display of twelve Bible scenes from the four Gospels while Irene Malcolm with her husband, David, explained how she has used her knitting skills and love of writing poetry to tell people about God.



DAVID & Irene MALCOLM

The project took longer than expected to complete due to Irene having a series of health issues which affected her mobility, memory and loss of sight. However, her energy and enthusiasm was not diminished and encouraged her friends to join her to complete the project and allow others to appreciate it too.



Our thanks goes to Moira and the team who provided delicious home baking and served refreshments. A sum of £163 was raised in donations. Irene has asked that £80 be given to the Street Pastors and the remaining amount will be used for our Guild Projects.

Thank you again for your support.

The Guild Convener, Gladys Montgomery, and the Guild Committee extend a warm welcome to you to join the Guild this session. There is a charge of £3 per meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Moira Cocksedge (Secretary), Tel. 662 0692



Liberton Kirk Men's Collective

Invites all men to

A Curry and Beer Night + Quiz Friday 15th November

7.00-9.30pm in the Kirk Centre

(Bring Your Own Bottle)

£5 or £10pp donation to TEARFUND

Sign up by 10th November – or contact
David Colley, Dave Storey or Alastair Cameron
(70 spaces available!)

Remembrance

Islands Under Occupation: the wartime experience of a Channel Islands church

Remembrance Prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly

‘Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things’

The Guild’s Annual Gathering

Presbytery Focus

Clèir Eilean Ì, the Presbytery of the Highlands and Hebrides

Care for Buildings

The Rev Scott Rennie of the General Trustees offers some tips on care for buildings in winter.

Walking the Camino

Anne Edwards describes the experience and lessons of a Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage.

‘No Room for Comfort and Joy’

The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Regulars

The Moderator of the General Assembly on Remembrance

Worship column by the Rev Roddy Hamilton

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

Bible study by the Rev Richard Baxter

My Church: Gillian McLean of Corby, Northamptonshire

Youth: Joe Liddall looks back on his experience as a summer intern at an Edinburgh church

Plus: official update from the Assembly Trustees, readers’ pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe.



The Word for Today

The October Word for Today (the Parable of the Prodigal Son) will be in the Kirkyard until 31st October. The November Word for Today (Jesus’ Encounter with the rich ruler in Luke 18:18-30) will be there from Saturday 2nd November, starting from the Offering House at the gate as usual and following the story, with thoughts and prayers, around the church building.



Liberton Kirk Devotions

NOVEMBER 24

“The people say, “Let’s return to the LORD....”

Hosea 6:1

In 2024 we are considering *BEFORE THE GOOD NEWS – GOD’S PLAN BEGINS* as we step back into the Old Testament, and pause at our times of Midday Devotion to pray for others in our church family, our city and our world.

In November we journey with the prophets HOSEA, JOEL, AMOS and JONAH. We are all invited to listen for God’s voice and make our response as we journey together daily in our ‘rhythm of devotion’ in 2024.



These Devotions are but one way to feed on God’s Word in the morning, at midday, in the evening to pray with Him continually through the day and even to share with others the treasures or hurdles you discover.

The Church website and Facebook page (even on a handy mobile) provide a fuller daily devotional page. However it all follows the pattern below into which the information provided fits, based on the Kirk’s origins of the Celtic and Northumbrian traditions which we started as a church family in 2015.

Morning

Reading and Meditation on the content and prayer of response

Midday

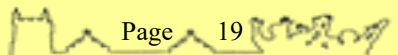
Prayer – mostly for others

Evening

Verse(s) from the morning reading

Reflection and Prayer at the end of the day

Please use this pattern if you are unable to access the internet, or contact Alastair Cameron who can print the daily pattern for you.



Liberton Kirk Devotions for November 24

- Fri 1 Morning – HOSEA 1** – As we pause with God, we take the time to consider these people – then pray in response to Father God.
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our Prayer List.
Evening – Read these words again, take time to reflect and pray to God.
- Sat 2 Morning – HOSEA 2** – As we pause with God this morning we pause and consider these words and events And then pray to Him as the day starts.
Midday – Pray the words of the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.
Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.
- Sun 3 Morning – HOSEA 3** - Take time to pause this morning to consider these words in this short chapter...And then pray to this God in response today.
Midday – Pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.
Evening – Read this verses again...reflect...and then pray to this God of ours.
- Mon 4 Morning – HOSEA 4** – As we pause with God, we take time to consider these words today - and then pray to Him in response.
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Afghanistan
Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and then pray to God in response.
- Tue 5 Morning – HOSEA 5** – As we pause with God this morning, we consider these words and events...and then respond in prayer with this God we believe in.
Midday – Take time to listen for God to speak to you, ask, seek, knock hear!
Evening – Read the words again – reflect and then pray in response to God.
- Wed 6 Morning – HOSEA 6:1-7:2** – Pause and listen with God this new morning. Consider what is said here... then turn to pray to Him.
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Sudan.
Evening – Read the words again, reflect and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 7 Morning – HOSEA 7:3-16** - consider these particular words this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God, our God.
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Mozambique.
Evening – Read the set verses again – reflect on what is written, then pray.
- Fri 8 Morning – HOSEA 8** – As we pause with God, we consider these truths this morning...And then pray in response to Him.
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our church Prayer List.
Evening – Read these words again, take time to reflect and pray to this God.
- Sat 9 Morning – HOSEA 9:1-16** – As we pause with God we take time to consider these words and events as the day starts- And then pray to this God.
Midday – Pray the words of the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.
Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.
- Sun 10 Morning – HOSEA 9:17 – 10:15** - We take time to consider these words this new morning And then we pray to this God in response.
Midday – Pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.

(Continued on page 21)

Liberton Kirk Devotions for November 24

Evening – Read these set verses again...reflect and then pray to God.

Mon 11 Morning – HOSEA 11:1-11 – As we pause with God, take time to consider these particular words today...and then pray in response.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Malawi.

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and then pray to God in response.

Tue 12 Morning – HOSEA 11:12 – 12:14 – As we pause with God today we consider these verses ...and then respond in prayer with Him.

Midday – Take time to listen for God to speak with you, ask, seek, knock – hear!

Evening – Read the words again – reflect and then pray in response to God.

Wed 13 Morning – HOSEA 13 – Pause with God this new morning. Consider these words written here...and then turn to pray to God.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Kenya.

Evening – Read the verses again—reflect—then pray to the LORD our God.

Thu 14 Morning – HOSEA 14 - Consider this particular passage on this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God

Midday – We pray God’s blessing believers in Cameroon.

Evening – Read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe in.

Fri 15 Morning – JOEL 1 – As we pause with God, we take the time to consider these words...and then pray in response to Father God.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our Church Prayer List.

Evening – Read these verses again, take time to reflect and pray to Father God

Sat 16 Morning – JOEL 2:1-17 – as we pause with God today we take the time to consider these verses - And then pray to this God.

Midday – Pray the words of the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.

Sun 17 Morning – JOEL 2:18-32 – We take time with God to consider these Words of promise on this Sunday....and then we pray to this God in response.

Midday – Pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.

Evening – Read these verses again...reflect and then pray to this God of ours as we step into a new week – together – with Him.

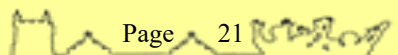
Mon 18 Morning – JOEL 3:1-15 – As we pause with God, take the time to consider these particular words today and then pray in response.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Niger.

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.

Tue 19 Morning – JOEL 3:16-21 – As we pause with God today we consider these words of blessing...and then respond in prayer with Him.

(Continued on page 22)



Liberton Kirk Devotions for November 24

Midday – Take time to listen for God to speak with you – ask, seek, knock – hear!

Evening – Read the words again – reflect and then pray in response to God.

Wed 20 Morning – AMOS 1:1-2:5 – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words written here...and then turn to pray to God.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Indonesia

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect...then pray to the LORD our God.

Thu 21 Morning – AMOS 2:6-3:8 - Consider this passage this morning and then respond in prayer to this God we believe in.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in North Korea.

Evening – Read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then we pray to this God we believe and trust.

Fri 22 Morning – AMOS 4:4-13 – As we pause with God, we consider these words this morning...and then pray in response to God.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our church Prayer List.

Evening – Read these words again, take time to reflect and pray to God.

Sat 23 Morning – AMOS 5 – As we pause with God, we take time to consider these words and truths...and then pray to this God.

Midday – Pray the words of the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.

Evening – Read the passage again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.

Sun 24 Morning – AMOS 7 - we take time to consider these visions on this Sunday morning And then we pray to this God in response.

Midday – Pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.

Evening – Read the chapter again...reflect and then pray to this God of ours as we step into a new week with Him, together.

Mon 25 Morning – AMOS 8 – as we pause with God, take the time to consider these particular words today.....And then pray in response.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on believers in Egypt.

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.

Tue 26 Morning – AMOS 9 – As we pause with God today, we consider these truths ... and then respond in prayer with Him.

Midday – Take time to listen for God to speak to you – ask, seek, knock – hear!

Evening – Read the words again – reflect and then pray in response to God.

Wed 27 Morning – JONAH 1 – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and events here...and then turn to pray to God.

Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on your personal prayer list.

Evening – Read the verses again – reflect then pray to the LORD our God.

Thu 28 Morning – JONAH 2 - consider this prayer this morning and then respond in your prayer to this God we believe in.

Reading with Max Lucado through 2025

During this year, several people will be sharing their comments here on one of the many books written by pastor, preacher and writer Max Lucado. We hope you will be encouraged and challenged...and maybe add one of the books to your Christian reading list!

Let me introduce you to the first book I read of his....Just Like Jesus. 'God loves you just the way you are, but he refuses to leave you that way. He wants you to be.....just like Jesus.'

This is not an easy book to read in one sense. But...it is the book I have re-read the most (after the Bible of course!).

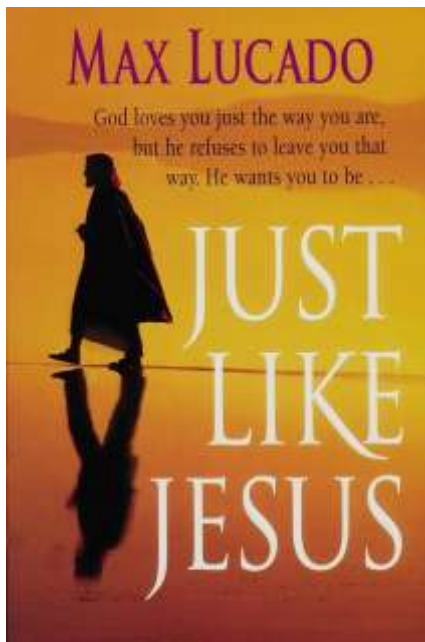
It reminded me I am certainly not like Him so very often, even if I think I am.

It challenged me to look at the way I live daily....would Jesus do or say that? But it encouraged me that I am God's child and He is making me more like Jesus....even if it isn't as quickly as I would sometimes like!

I cannot recommend this book enough. It has changed my Christian walk with Jesus and I hope it would help you also to walk closer with Jesus, imperfect as we are.

And yes....you can borrow my copy!

Alastair Cameron



Change of Plans

The **Road to the Isles—A Scottish Evening** advertised in the October Newsletter has had to be postponed till 2025. The new date will be publicized in a future magazine.



Senior Citizens Club 2024/25

*Celebrating Seniors
Liberton Kirk's Senior Citizens*



Our Senior Citizen's Club is in fine fettle, we've welcomed new members which is always lovely especially when they keep coming back. We also welcomed back some members who have been ill, & Jenni asks us to pray for our sick members.

Our entertainers this month bring a variety of talents, we have Kirsty our newish friend from the Weege, an old pal Alan Weatherhead brings his keyboard to join us for lots of old songs and newish songs. The Slosh comes to mind! There will be a surprise for the 21st & The JABs for a bit of in-house mayhem! With a Raffle thrown in for good measure!

For further details about the Senior Citizens meeting including info about transport contact Jenni.

President – Jenni Ryalls – 0131 258 0764 or 0741 533 5889

Pastoral Support Worker – Linda Wright – 0785 041 1596

Louise Ogilvy can be contacted by email at seniorstk@gmail.com

See our programme details on the next page

WELCOME TO THE WORLD & THE SENIORS

**We'd love to introduce you to our newest
member of our Club Shhhhhh!**

LEWIS JAKE MORTIMER

**born to one of our lovely volunteers
Heather on Monday 30th September 2024
at 10.05am.**

**We wish mummy Heather, Daddy Chris
and baby Lewis a wonderful life from
every single member**



And in November....



- 10 Meryl Astles
- 18 Sheila Pritchard. Our Sheila is celebrating her decade beginning with 9.
- 22 Jean Buchanan. Celebrating her decade beginning with 8
- 23 Cathie Ainslie
- 24 Sheila McBryde, one of our lovely volunteers
- 29 Douglas Paul, celebrating his 85th

Entertainers

- 7 Kirsty Duncan our friend from the Weege
- 14 Alan Weatherhead our old pal Alan and his keyboard is back
- 21 Surprise!
- 28 The JABs in-house mayhem! & RAFFLE

You are invited to join us!



Sale of Christmas Cards and Fairtrade Gifts



***Sunday 24 November in the Kirk Centre Foyer
after both services and
Monday 25 November in the McDonald Room in the
Kirk Centre from 10 am - 2 pm***

*Why not take this opportunity to do some Christmas shopping at our annual sale of cards and gifts. **Just Gifts** is an eclectic mix of ethically sourced handcrafted gifts from skilled artisans around the world. You can be sure that each item purchased has not involved child labour or any forced or exploitative labour. Every sale is of real benefit to these artisans from developing countries who are working their way out of poverty and into a more stable life. So do come along and support a good cause while making a start on your Christmas shopping. Thank you.*

Liberton Kirk World Mission Team

Congregational News



Recent Weddings Congratulations !



Billie Lonie and Calum French
Saturday 27 July 2024



Stephanie Colley and Simon Tough
Friday, 13 September 2024

Elders' Duties for November, December & January

		Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25
9.30 am	1 West	Rosy Carmichael	Christina Young	Alan Carmichael
	2 East	David Lamb	Eric Brown	Tom Baxendale
11am	1 West	Jill Niven	Ruth Davies	Chris Brandie
	2 East	Helen Colley	Derek Jardine	Janice Wilson
	3 Gallery	Kim Denholm	Eleanor Grieve	Claire Mayberry
	4 Front gate	David Colley	Mary Davidson	Roslyn Wilson
	5 Banker	David Lamb	Stewart Heney	Rink van Dijke

If you have any items of interest about members, or their friends, that you would like to share, please pass details to the Editor, for inclusion in the Congregational News section of the Magazine.

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South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together

PROGRAMME

The year 2024/2025 started off with a Pilgrimage Walk from Roslin to the Balmwell on 21st September, in the “Season of Creation”. There were pauses on the way to appreciate in different ways God’s wonderful creation, to think about it and our place in it. More to come in *Crosstalk* in mid-November.

On Saturday 2nd November, starting at 10am in the Wilson Hall in Liberton Kirk Centre, there will be a “Big Read” of St. John’s Gospel in its entirety read aloud. [see Please come along with your own Bible (any translation), or there will be spares available. You can volunteer to read a chapter, or just listen. There will be refreshments available.



Also in November a series of Advent Reflections is planned at St. Gregory’s, Walter Scott Avenue, from Wednesday 27th – watch out for details in the notice sheets.

Please pick up a programme card (green) from the Welcome Desks, Offering House, or Kirk Centre Entrance to see what’s happening in conjunction with other churches (including Episcopal and Roman Catholic) in South East Edinburgh. It is also on the website www.seecat.org, along with the quarterly newsletter *Crosstalk* which will also be available to pick up from mid-November.

Ruth Davies, tel. 664 3608

Church Flower Dedications



	<i>In memory of</i>
November 3 Gladys Montgomery	Robert & Ethel Hamilton and their son Robert
November 10	Remembrance Sunday
November 17 William Penman	Isobel Penman
October 24 Rosemary Leask	Laura Leask

South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together **The Big Read**

On Saturday 2nd November at 10.30am in Liberton Kirk Centre you are invited to join SEECAT's "Big Read" of St. John's Gospel. St. John's Gospel will be read from start to finish, with people taking turns (if they wish) to read a chapter. Please come along with your own Bible (any translation) – there will be Bibles available if you forget!

Watch out during October for the SEECAT programme for the year through to next summer – it will appear in all the usual places and you are welcome to take a copy and come along to any of the events.



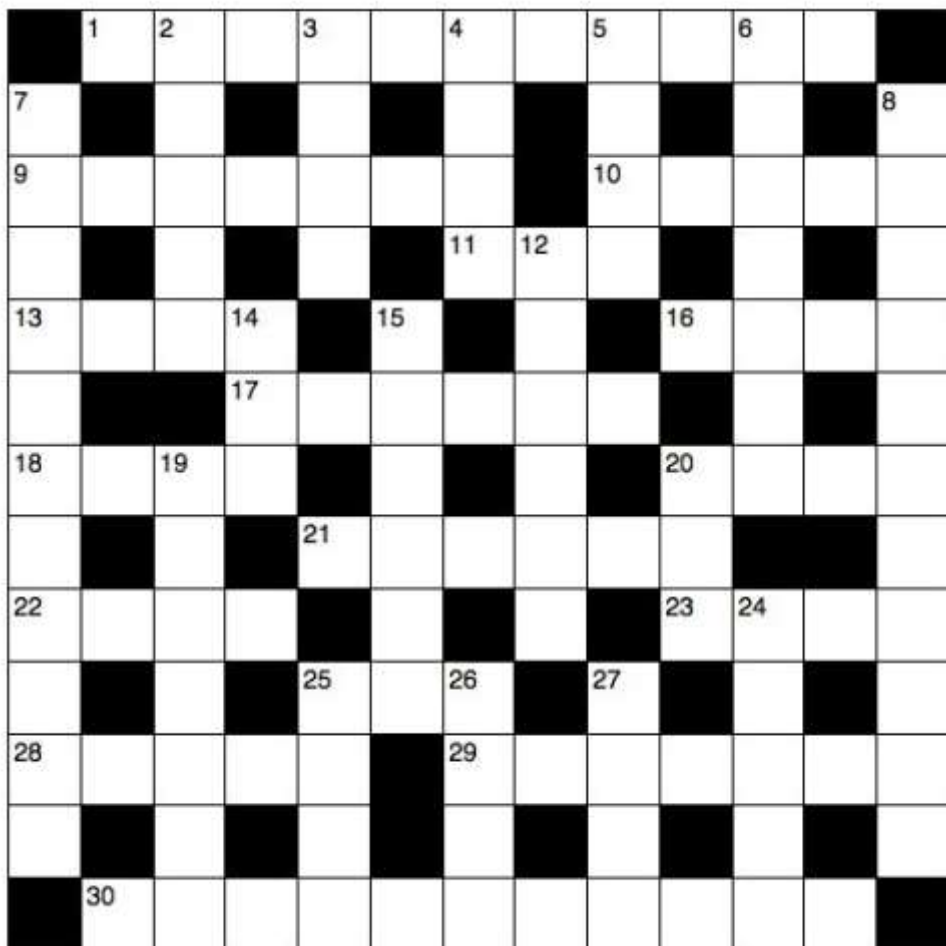
Do you know anyone who might be interested in advertising in Liberton Kirk Magazine? Current rates are £16-50 per half page, except for the parish wide issue in September when the cost is £27-50 per half page..

If you are interested please contact the editor at magazine@libertonkirk.net

Neighbourhood Scheme

If you need help with shopping or small jobs, please contact Linda Wright
on 07850 411596, who will try to find someone to help.

November Crossword



Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)

- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)
 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)

The solution to October's Crossword is on page 36



seecos Annual Conference

Saturday 9th November 2024—9.30am-2pm

at The Faith Mission, 548 Gilmerton Road

**'How do we share the Good News
in a post-Christian society?'**

Guest speaker: Rev Ian MacDonald (Wester Hailes CofS)

All are invited!

£10 pp suggested donation, includes a buffet lunch

Sign-up soon at church or contact Alastair Cameron

Growing Together

Andrei Rublev's icon of the Trinity depicts the three mysterious strangers who visited Abraham (Genesis 18:1-15). It speaks powerfully of the relationship between the three persons of Godhead. 'God as Being exists in community.'



Therefore, small groups provide an important place where we can grow as whole-life disciples, hence the significance of the number 3. As Paul writes: 'So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.' (Colossians 2: 6,7). Small groups provide a healthy environment which encourages spiritual growth, as relationships are made and a sense of belonging established.

Groups go by different names: home groups, cell groups, care groups, discipleship groups etc. Whatever the name, the focus should be the same: a gathering of people committed to spiritual growth. Unfortunately, it's easy for them to become inward looking and cliquey. So where do the challenges lie?

Small groups are places for growth: Groups are not simply places to share information about ourselves and the Bible, etc. They are places of formation, where we can learn to grow Christ-like character i.e. developing the fruit of the Spirit, and then exploring the Spirit's gifts in a safe place of experimenting and making mistakes.

Small groups are places for accountability: In a group we're not on our own, but we share the Christian journey with those who can encourage us on the way. These are the people who can hold us to account about how things are going: 'what is God doing in my life and how do I need to grow?'

Small groups are places for mission: Small groups also provide a place where we can voice the story of how God has been at work in our lives and is using us. This gives us the confidence that we need to share our story with work colleagues, friends and family, as we speak of our faith in Christ.

One lady told how she took her granddaughter to church for the first time. As they knelt in the tall-sided pew, the little girl whispered, 'Who are we hiding from?' It is harder to hide from ourselves or from one another in the smaller group, than in the crowd.

**Julie Bell, FdA BA
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October Crossword Solution



Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9.30, or the 11 o'clock?"

Change of Address

Church Members: If you have moved house, or are about to move, please fill in the address slip below and hand it to your elder, or mail it to the Roll Keeper: Gary Ross, Liberton Kirk Office, 30 Kirkgate, Edinburgh, EH16 6RY. Thank you.

Name (s)

OLD Address

NEW Address

NEW Telephone

Moving date

You can also email your details to rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net



Liberton Kirk is part of the union of Church of Scotland congregations in south east Edinburgh. We are working together as a single parish to serve a wide area. Rather than being united in the 'traditional' sense, with one building and one minister, we act as a 'federation' of individual local congregations, each with their own leader and mission base, sharing their resources and working together in the service of Jesus.

The congregations of SEECOS are Gracemount Church (serving Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse) Liberton Kirk (serving Liberton), Liberton Northfield Church (serving the Inch), and Tron Kirk (serving Gilmerton and Moredun). We are bound together by a 'Covenant of Trust.'

More information is on the website at seecos.org.uk.

Useful Websites

SEECOS	www.seecos.org.uk
Liberton Kirk	www.libertonkirk.net
Church of Scotland	www.churchofscotland.org.uk
Bethany	www.bethanychristiantrust.com
Fresh Start	www.freshstartweb.org.uk
Healing Rooms	www.healingrooms-scotland.com
City Council	www.edinburgh.gov.uk
What's on in Edinburgh	eventsedinburgh.org.uk
Edinburgh Leisure	www.edinburghleisure.co.uk
Scottish Executive	www.scotland.gov.uk
Liberton & District Community Council	libertondcc.wordpress.com
Liberton Association	libertonassociation.co.uk
Train times	www.nationalrail.co.uk
Bus times	lothianbuses.com
Airport arrivals	www.edinburghairport.com
Weather information	www.metcheck.com/V40/UK/HOME
Road traffic information	www.trafficscotland.org

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Editor's note

Material for the end of year, November/December, issue can be sent at any time; but **no later** than Sunday November 10.

Information should be sent to magazine@libertonkirk.net

**Liberton Kirk is
part of SEECOS**
www.seecos.org.uk

Useful numbers

BT Faults	0800 800 151
Virgin Media faults	0845 454 1111 (151 from a Virgin landline)
Electricity - power loss	0800 092 9290
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Scottish Water	0800 0778 778
Police .non-emergency calls	> > > 101
Police HQ	0131 311 3131
Royal Infirmary (all depts)	0131 536 1000
Sick Children's Hospital	0131 536 0000
NHS24 - free number	> > > 111
Edinburgh City Council	0131 200 2323
Clarence (Road Faults)	0800 23 23 23
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Scottish Government	0131 556 8400
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Lothian Buses	0131 555 6363
Train Times / Enquiries	08457 48 49 50

Liberton Kirk - names and addresses

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7 Kirk Park, EH16 6HZ. tel 664 3067. email: JYoung@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Visitor: Linda Wright, tel 07850 411 596, Lwright@libertonkirk.net

Preschool Children & Families Outreach Support: Laura Skinner,
email: laura@libertonkirk.net

Youth and Children's Worker: Emily Kerrigan,
email: youthandchildrensworker@libertonkirk.net

Facilities: tel 07478 111 407. Booking enquiries: facilities@libertonkirk.net

Session Clerk: Christopher Brandie, 50a Kirk Brae, tel 668 1850
email: sessionclerk@libertonkirk.net

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tel 664 2178, email: rink@talktalk.net

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Sunday Club Secretary: Margaret Brandie, 50a Kirk Brae tel 668 1850

Kirkgate Café: Jenni Thomasi tel 07894 056 216, kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net

Flower Convenor: Jill Snowdon 29/3 Greenpark EH17 7TB, tel 07823 335585

Convenor of Visitors to the Elderly: Contact Linda Wright, (see above)
for church notices. email: churchsecretary@libertonkirk.net
Please note that there is a letterbox at the Office door,

Normal Hours of Services : 9-30am, 11am & 6-30pm Please see diary pages for details of our services

Services are recorded from time to time for distribution to the housebound.
It may be possible to record a service on a one-off basis please contact John
Young if you have a special request. Contact can be made with the minister,
by telephone, at the above number, but please note that he is **not** available
through the day on Fridays.



Link Groups

Weekly Groups

Friday Fellowship – Friday morning in the Kirk Centre
Ruth Davies, r.davies335@btinternet.com, 664 3608

Young Adults—Thursday evenings in Blackford Avenue
Erik Storey, 07583309531, erik-ze-viking@hotmail.com

Fortnightly Groups

Pathfinders – Tuesday evening in various homes
Veronica Craig, veronicacraig41@gmail.com

Thrive – Wednesday evening in the Kirk Centre
Andrea Wilson, andrea.doeschl@gmail.com,
07910 471174

New Habits – Wednesday evening in various homes
Alastair Cameron, alastairfree@hotmail.com, 440 3090

The Cornerstone Group - Wednesday evenings in various homes
Fiona Devoy , Fiona.devoy@yahoo.co.uk

Vista Group – Thursday evening, Kirk Park
Rink van Dijke, rink@talktalk.net, 664 2178

Linked to the Lord – Thursday evening in Liberton Grange.
Linda Brown mammab176@gmail.com, 07516 811854, or
Laura Crooke lauraec83@gmail.com, 07566 265816.

If you would like to join one of these groups (where we meet to grow upwardly, inwardly and outwardly), or want more information, contact:
Rink van Dijke (rink@talktalk.net)
or Caroline Barlee (barlee@blueyonder.co.uk)
or the Group you are interested in.



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