

December 2024

No 725

'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



libertonkirk.net

Daily Devotions for December and
January on pages 17-24

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Prayer for December

Jesus

Name above all names

We bow before You

Jesus

Word of Life

Come to us

Jesus

Son of God

Live with us

Jesus

Saviour and Lord

Save us

Amen and Amen!

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



Inner Peace

One of my favourite days of the week is Tuesdays. My Tuesday morning usually starts early as I get to set up the 'upper room' for prayer in the Kirk Centre. Then, mid-morning, our staff team gathers for our weekly meeting, when we can share what's going on and pray for each other.

We all take it in turns to bring a 'reflection' to this meeting, and last Tuesday it was the turn of Linda Wright, our Pastoral Worker. She began by making the following statement:

"Recently, I've found myself trying to help God out by doing a lot of worrying for him."

Worrying is something we all spend a lot of time doing, and there are certainly plenty of things to worry about if we put our minds to it. At one extreme we can worry about the state of the world and at the other we can worry about the cost of living. If we're not careful, we can end up spending our whole lives being anxious about something.

This is not the life God ever intended for us, however, and on Tuesday morning Linda drew our attention to a well known verse in Philippians chapter four :

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with

thanksgiving, present your requests to God..."

Notice the phrase 'with thanksgiving'. If you ever find yourself so weighed down with life's worries that you can't seem to ever get free of them, a good thing to do is to start listing the things you are thankful for. We did that last Tuesday morning, and it worked. Here, for example, are some of the things I'm always thankful for:

- ◆ My family and loved ones
- ◆ The family of Liberton Kirk
- ◆ The companionship of my colleagues and fellow church leaders
- ◆ Tuesday mornings
- ◆ Advent, which is one of my favourite seasons of the year

Paul's advice to us in Philippians 4.6 is followed by a wonderful promise – *7...and the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

My prayer for you all, is that you would experience this peace in your hearts – and not just during the seasons of Advent and Christmas, but during the year to come as well.

With much love

John x



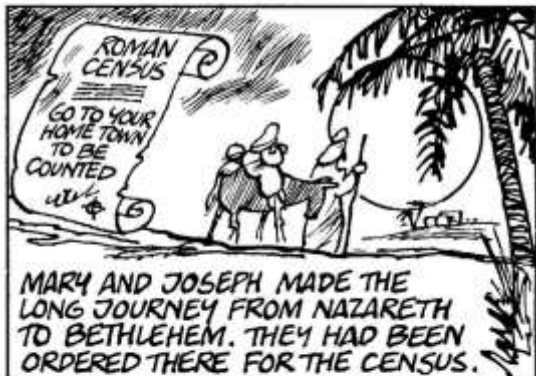
A Very Special Baby

JESUS WAS BORN ABOUT 2,000 YEARS AGO IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, NEAR JERUSALEM.



AN ANGEL HAD TOLD MARY SHE WOULD HAVE A VERY SPECIAL BABY.

...YOU MUST CALL YOUR BABY JESUS



MARY AND JOSEPH MADE THE LONG JOURNEY FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM. THEY HAD BEEN ORDERED THERE FOR THE CENSUS.

BUT THE TOWN WAS FULL



SORRY... I'VE NO ROOM!

THE ONLY SHELTER THEY COULD FIND WAS A STABLE...

...WHICH IS WHERE JESUS WAS BORN.



SHEPHERDS IN FIELDS NEARBY RACED TO SEE THE BABY.



AN ANGEL HAD TOLD THEM WHERE JESUS HAD BEEN BORN.

WISE MEN CAME FROM THE EAST. THEY TOO WANTED TO SEE JESUS. THEY HAD BEEN GUIDED BY A STAR.

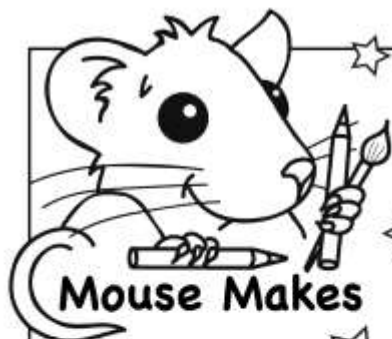


THEY BROUGHT GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH.

BUT MARY, JOSEPH AND BABY JESUS SOON HAD TO ESCAPE TO EGYPT...



...AS KING HEROD WANTED JESUS DEAD!!



Mouse Makes

"Jesus said,
I am the ___ Y
and the ___ U ___
and the ___ I ___.
No one comes to the Father
except through me."
John 14:6

"The child to be born
will be called
H ___ , the
___ of ___"
Luke 1:35

"For unto you is born
this day a
S ___
who is
___ R ___
the ___ R ___"
Luke 2:11

THE GREATEST GIFT

"She will bear a son,
and shall call his name

for he will save his
people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

"Jesus said,
I am the

and the life."
John 11:25

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

O H O L Y O R C R T U
S O N O F M A N H A R T
N L S H E P H E R D U
O Y A E P E R G I F T G
C H R I S T M A S T H S
R E S U R R E C T I O N

**JESUS
—
THE
GREATEST
GIFT
OF ALL!**

P R O P H E T I
R E D E E M E R
I E M I L I G
E M E S S I A H
S R M E G F T
T E A C H E R E

E V E R L A S T I N G
K I N G O F K I N G S
I N K I G W F D O U
S E S O N O F G O D D
S E W O C O U W O R D
C O U N S E L L O R U

EMMANUEL • MESSIAH REDEEMER • KING OF KINGS • WORD
SON OF MAN • EVERLASTING • SHEPHERD • PRIEST • PROPHET • TEACHER
LIGHT • BREAD • VINE • DOOR • COUNSELLOR • CHRISTMAS • GIFT

December 24 Diary

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
Monday 2	9.00am-2.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 7.30pm – <i>The Guild</i> meets in the Anderson Hall
Tuesday 3 ^r	7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the <i>Upper Room</i> 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 2.30pm – Service at <i>Liberton Brae Care Home</i>
Wednesday 4	9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 7.30pm – <i>Praise Gathering</i> in the Wilson Hall
Thursday 5	9.00am-2.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 2.00pm – <i>Senior Citizens Christmas Party</i> (Anderson Hall)
Friday 6	1.00-4.30pm – <i>Warm Hub & IT Clinic</i> in the Kirk Centre
Saturday 7	<i>The Nativity Scene will be in the church yard from 7 Dec. until 3 January</i> 1.00pm-3.00pm – Church open for Advent

Sunday 8	8.00am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook 9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk 11.00am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche & Sunday Club) Theme: Angel Voices (Luke 1.26-38) Preacher: John Young 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room 6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre
Monday 9	9.00am-2.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 7.30pm – <i>The Guild</i> Christmas Social in the Anderson Hall
Tuesday 10	7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the <i>Upper Room</i> 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i>
Wednesday 11	9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i> 11am – <i>Pram Praise</i> in the Small Hall 1.45pm – <i>Afternoon Guild</i> in the Small Hall 7.00pm – Annual Memorial Service in the Kirk
Thursday 12	9.00am-2.00pm – <i>Kirkgate Café</i>
Friday 13	1.00-4.30pm – <i>Warm Hub & IT Clinic</i> in the Kirk Centre
Saturday 14	9.30am – Decorating the Church for Christmas 12noon-1.00pm – Carol singing at Morrisons - tbc. (SEECAT) 1.00pm-3.00pm – Church open for Advent

SUNDAY 15 8.00am - Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche & Sunday Club)
 Theme: The Journey (Luke 1.39-56)
 Preacher: John Young
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre

Monday 16 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Tuesday 17 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.30pm – Carol Service at Guthrie House

Wednesday 18 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm – Service of Lessons and Carols in the Kirk (& on zoom)

Thursday 19^t 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Friday 20 (No Warm Hub)

Saturday 21 **1.00pm-3.00pm – Church open for Advent**

Sunday 22 8.00am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
& 11am – Christmas Nativity Service in the Kirk and on zoom
 Theme: The birth (Luke 2.1-20)
 Preacher: John Young
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
7.00pm – The BIG Carol Sing in the Anderson Hall

Monday 23^r (No Kirkgate Café)

Tuesday 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**
 (No Kirkgate Café)
4.00pm – Christingle Service in the Kirk
 (remember to bring an orange)
11.15pm – Watchnight service in the Kirk (& on zoom)

Wednesday 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
 (No Kirkgate Café)
10.30am – Christmas Day Service in the Kirk (& on zoom)
 Preacher: John Young

Thursday 26 **BOXING DAY**
 (No Kirkgate Café)

Friday 27 (No Warm Hub)

Saturday 28 Lunchtime Concert in the church with *Philomusica*

Sunday 29

8.00am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook

10.30am – Joint Service in the Kirk and on zoom

Theme: A poem for the New Year (Romans 8.31-39)

Preacher: Jared Hay

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room

No Evening Worship

Monday 30

(No Kirkgate Café)

Tuesday 31

NEW YEARS EVE

(No Kirkgate Café)

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.

January 2025

Wednesday 1

NEW YEARS DAY (No Kirkgate Café)

Thursday 2

(No Kirkgate Café)

Friday 3

(No Warm Hub)

Sunday 5

8.00am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook

10.30am – Joint Service in the Kirk and on zoom

Theme: ‘A time to choose’ (Matthew 7.13-29)

Preacher: John Young

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room

7pm Joint New Year Service in the Kirk (The Big Idea)

Monday 6

9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Tuesday 7

7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*

9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

2.30pm – Service at Liberton Brae Care Home

Wednesday 8 7.30pm – LK Finance team meeting
 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 11am – *Pram Praise* in the Small Hall

Thursday 9 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.00pm – *Senior Citizens Club* restarts in the Anderson Hall

Friday 10 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
 7.00pm – *Mens' Collective* curry night (18+ event - both men and women welcome)

SUNDAY 12 8.00am - 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: Christian Commitments I – Prayer
 Preacher: John Young
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre

Monday 13 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 (7.00pm for) 7.30pm – Local Leadership Team (Wilson Hall)

Tuesday 14 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Wednesday 15 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 7.30pm – *Praise Gathering* in the Wilson Hall

Thursday 16th 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.00pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall

Friday 17 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (WPCU)

Saturday 18 January 2025 – Saturday 25 January 2025

Sunday 19 8.00am – 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: Christian Commitments II – The Bible
 Preacher: tbc
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre

Monday 20 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.00pm – Short WPCU Service at St Barnabas' Church
 7.30pm – *Guild* musical evening in the Kirk with EHRSS

Tuesday 21 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Wednesday 22 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Thursday 23 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.00pm – *Senior Citizens* (Anderson Hall)
 7.00pm – Joint WPCU service at the Tron Kirk

Friday 24 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre

Saturday 25 **4.00pm-6.pm – MESSY CHURCH in LKC**

Sunday 26 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
 8.00am - Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
& 11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche & Sunday Club)
 Theme: World Mission
 Guest Preacher: John Duncan (SAT-7)
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
6.30pm – SEECOS worship gathering at LKC

Monday 27 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Tuesday 28 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer space available in the *Upper Room*
 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 7.30pm – Congregational Prayer Gathering (on zoom)

Wednesday 29 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 7.30pm – *Praise Gathering* in the Wilson Hall

Thursday 30 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.00pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
 7.30pm – Mission in a Post-Christian Society (SEECOS)
 With Jared Hay at Liberton Northfield Church

Friday 31 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre

February 2025

Sunday 2 8.00am - Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
11am – Service in the Kirk and on zoom (with Creche & Sunday Club)
 Theme: Christian Commitments III – Worship
 Preacher: John Young
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Service of Lessons and Carols

Join in singing some well-known hymns, listen to some lovely carols sung by the choir, and hear again the Christmas story from creation onwards in readings from the Bible. This traditional service, followed by seasonal refreshments, is on *Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm*, and on Zoom.

Family Nativity Service

The second morning service on *Sunday 22nd December, starting at 11am*, in church and on Zoom, will be an all-age service with the young people of our church family, Emily (Youth and Children's Worker) and Laura (Pre-School Children and Families Worker) involved.

Big Carol Sing

Also on *Sunday 22nd December, at 7pm*, we are in the Anderson Hall for the "Big Carol Sing". Informal, fun, and lots of favourite carols, followed by refreshments – ask friends and neighbours along!



Christingle Service

This service, at *4 o'clock on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December*, is particularly suitable for young children and families, but everyone is welcome. If you want to make a Christingle, **please bring an orange with you.**

Watchnight Service

Later on *Christmas Eve*, we'll sing carols together from 11.15pm and the *service will start at 11.30pm*, leading up to the very first chance to celebrate the day Jesus was born. This service will also be on Zoom.

Christmas Day

Our *Christmas Morning Service starts at 10.30am* in the church and on Zoom, and children are invited to bring one of their new toys.

Sunday 29th December and Sunday 5th January

One all-age morning service at 10.30am in the church and on Zoom.

KIRKGATE CAFÉ



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

2024 has gone by so quickly I can't quite believe this is the last article of the year!

Last month I had said that we had a plan to get an upgraded barista machine and I am delighted to say that the upgraded machine has now been installed and volunteers are getting used to having a more powerful machine. It is a thank you to all our customers that we needed an upgrade as it gets busier and needed a machine to keep up with demand.



Christmas lunches are now on sale, consisting of soup, turkey sandwich and mincemeat treat with tea or coffee. We will host them on Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December in the Small Hall where it will be relaxed and peaceful. Tickets are priced at £10. Booking is essential.

As a thank you to everyone who helped make 2024 a success on Thursday 19th December the café will be opening 9am – 12pm for free mince pies with free tea/filter coffee, come along and help celebrate another great year with the volunteers. Please note that there will be no other menu on offer that day. Last trading day will be Wednesday 18th December.

Kirkgate Café will be closed from 12pm on Thursday 19th December, reopening on Monday 6th January 2025 at 9am. We hope you have a lovely Christmas and wish you a happy new year.

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

PreSchool and Families

Hello all,
We are almost at Christmas now so things are getting pretty busy. So here is some info about various Christmas events we have for the kids.



Pram Praise – 11 December 11am in the Small Hall – This year’s Christmas Pram Praise is actually in December! We have a short (20min) service in the Small hall once a month for Toddlers and their carers. This year’s Christmas Pram Praise is in December unlike previous years when we were celebrating Christmas in early November. All Toddlers and Carers are welcome.

Nativity Service – 22 December 11am at Liberton Kirk - Come along and see our Sunday Club put on their annual Nativity and learn why we celebrate Christmas. This is a family service and all ages are welcome. There will be tea and coffee served across the road in the Kirk Centre after the service. This service is also on Zoom for those who are unable to come along. If you would like details about how to join us online please email rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net.

Christingle – 24 December 4pm at Liberton Kirk – Bring an orange and build your Christingle. Our annual Christingle service is one of our busiest, so if you’re planning on coming along, get there early to grab a good seat. We use real candles on our Christingles so please be aware of open flames. This is a family service and all ages are welcome.

Christmas Morning Service – 10.30am at Liberton Kirk – Come along and celebrate Jesus’ birth on Christmas morning! Bring new toy/present to tell us about! This is a family service and all ages are welcome. This service is also on Zoom for those who are not out of bed yet – again contact rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net for details.

I hope to see you there and have a lovely Christmas period!

Laura

IN THE KIRKYARD

The Nativity scene will be on view in the Offering House and the Kirkyard from 7th December to 3rd January. Come and see the familiar words of the Christmas story brought to life.

From Sunday 5th January there will be a new Word for Today for the rest of January with thoughts and prayers on a short passage from the Bible. The starting point as usual will be the Offering House at the main gate.



Decorating the Church for Christmas

If you have an hour to spare on Saturday morning from 10 am Saturday 14th of December why not come along and help us decorate the church for Christmas.

There is the tree to light and decorate and lots of other smaller jobs to do like sorting out the garlands we put up and various other decorations and wreaths which help to make the church look really festive. We look forward to seeing you.

Jill Snowdon, Flower Convener

Messy Church
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

Liberton Kirk Open for Advent

You are invited to
take time-out

Saturdays
7, 14 and 21
December

1-3pm



A place to be quiet in a busy month
Refreshments will be available

A collage of children in nativity costumes, including angels and sheep, against a dark blue background with yellow stars. A large yellow circle is overlaid in the center, containing the text: 'Liberton Kirk's Nativity Service Sunday 22nd December 11am'. At the bottom, a red banner reads: 'Service also available on ZOOM, contact rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net for details'.

Christingle

4pm Christmas Eve
at Liberton Kirk

This is a family service, all ages welcome.

Don't forget to bring an orange



*We don't sing carols no more...
you 'ave to listen to 'em off me iPod!*

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Liberton Kirk Devotions

December 24

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

*We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1 verse 14*

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

In December we celebrate the birth of a Saviour! His name is JESUS.



**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

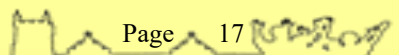
Midday

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 December 24

- Sun 1 Morning – Psalm 2** take time to pause this morning to consider these words in this psalm...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 these verses again, reflect, and then pray to God .
- Mon 2 Morning – PSALM 24** – 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 your family and friends.
Evening – Read the verses again – reflect, then pray to this God in response .
- Tue 3 Morning – PSALM 96** – as we pause with God this morning, we consider these words and truth, 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 then pray in response to our God .
- Wed 4 Morning – ISAIAH 9:1-7** – Pause and listen with God this new day. Consider what is said here... then turn to pray to Him .
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on your neighbours
Evening – read the words again, reflect and then pray to the LORD our God .
- Thu 5 Morning – ISAIAH 11:1-9** - consider these particular words this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God, our God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on local shopkeepers
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here then pray .
- Fri 6 Morning** – ISAIAH 12 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 7 Morning ISAIAH 40 :1-8** – as we pause with God we take time to consider these words as your 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 as you respond
- Sun 8 Morning ISAIAH 42:1-9** - we take time to consider these words of old 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
Evening – read these set verses again...reflect.. and then pray to God
- Mon 9 Morning – ISAIAH 52:13- 53:12** – 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 those on your Pray for 5 list
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and then pray to God in response
- Tue 10 Morning – ISAIAH chapter 55** – as we pause with God today we consider these versesand 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 11 Morning – DANIEL 7 vs 1-14** – 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 John and Lindsay

(Continued on page 19)

Liberton Kirk Devotions for December 24

- Evening** – read the verses again, reflect..and pray to the LORD our God
- Thu 12 Morning** – JOEL 2 :28-32 - consider this particular passage on this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Linda Wright
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe in
- Fri 13 Morning** – **MICAH 5:2-7** – 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 God
- Sat 14 Morning**—**ZECHARIAH 9:9-17** 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
- Sun 15 Morning** **MALACHI 4** – we take time with God to consider these words of old 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 16 Morning** – **MATTHEW 1:1-17** – as we pause with God, take time to consider these particular words afresh today...And then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Liberton Northfield church family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 17 Morning** – **MATTHEW 1:18-25** – as we pause with God today we consider these significant wordsand 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 18 Morning** – **MATTHEW 2:1-12** – Pause with God this morning. Consider the words written here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Gracemount Church family
Evening – read the verses again; reflect and then pray to the LORD our God
- Thu 19 Morning** – **MATTHEW 2:13-23** - consider this particular passage this morning and then respond in prayer to this God we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Moredun Tron Church family
Evening – read the passage again, reflect and pray in response
- Fri 20 Morning** –**MATTHEW 3:1-12** – 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 21 Morning** – **MATTHEW 3:13-17** – 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

(Continued on page 20)

Liberton Kirk Devotions for December 24

- Sun 22 Morning – JOHN 1:1-18** - we take time to consider these verses 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 passage again...reflect.. and then pray to God as we step into a new week with Him, together
- Mon 23 Morning – JOHN 1:19-28** – 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 SEECAT group of churches
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 24 Morning – JOHN 1:29-34** – as we pause with God today, we consider these particular wordsand 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 25 Morning – REVELATION 1:9-20** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and images here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Big Idea group of churches
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and pray to the LORD our God
- Thu 26 Morning – REVELATION 4**- consider this particular passage this morning and then respond in your prayer to this God we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the Church in Scotland
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe and trust
- Fri 27 Morning – REVELATION 5** – As we pause with God, take time to consider these words ... And then pray in response to this God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our Church Prayer List
Evening – read the verses again, take time to reflect and pray to Father God
- Sat 28 Morning – REVELATION 15** – as we pause with God today we take the time to consider these events and words - 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 God
- Sun 29 Morning—REVELATION 19:1-10** - we take time to consider these words 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 verses again...reflect.. and then pray to God as we step into new week with Him, together
- Mon 30 Morning – REVELATION 21:1-8** – 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 our church neighbours in Kirkgate
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to God
- Tue 31 Morning –REVELATION 22:6-21** – as we pause with God today, we consider these truthsand 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

Liberton Kirk Devotions

JANUARY 25

When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

Matthew 8 verses 1 and 2

In 2025 it's all about JESUS!

We will pause at our times of Midday Devotion to pray for others in our church family, our city and our world.

In January we look at some of the things that JESUS did.



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 2025.

Prayer of the Month for January

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
How sweet is your name
Jesus

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
How great is your name
Jesus

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
How strong is your name
Jesus

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
How precious is your name
Jesus

Amen and Amen

Liberton Kirk Devotions for January 25

- Wed 1 Morning – MATTHEW 3 vs13-17** – Pause and listen with God this new day and month. Consider what happens here...then turn to pray to Him
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on your family at the start of this year
Evening – read the words again – reflect, and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 2 Morning - MATTHEW 4:18-25** - consider these words this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God, our God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on your neighbours at the start of the year
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray.
- Fri 3 Morning – MATTHEW 8:1-17** – As we pause with God, we consider these verses 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 4 Morning – MATTHEW 8:23-27** – as we pause with God we take time to consider these few words as your 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 5 Morning – MATTHEW 9:9-13** - 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
Evening – read these set verses again...reflect.. and then pray to this God of ours .
- Mon 6 Morning – MATTHEW 12:1-14** – as we pause with God, take time to consider these particular events today.....And then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on your Pray for 5 list
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and then pray to this God in response.
- Tue 7 Morning – MATTHEW 14:1-21** – as we pause with God today we consider these versesand 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 our God.
- Wed 8 Morning – MATTHEW 14:22-36** – 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 John and Lindsay and their family in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 9 Morning – MATTHEW 17:24-27** - consider this particular passage on this new morning and then respond in prayer to this God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Linda Wright in 2025
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe in.
- Fri 10 Morning – MATTHEW 19:13-15** – As we pause with God, we take the time to consider these few 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 11 Morning – MATTHEW 21:1-17** – 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

Liberton Kirk Devotions for January 25

- Evening** – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.
- Sun 12 Morning** – **MATTHEW 26:17-30** – we take time with God to consider these words of old 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 13 Morning** – **MATTHEW 26:36-46** – as we pause with God, take time to consider these particular events today.....And then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Liberton Northfield church in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read .
- Tue 14 Morning** – **MATHEW 26:47-56** – as we pause with God today we consider these wordsand 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 our God.
- Wed 15 Morning** – **MATTHEW 27:32-56** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these events written here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Gracemount Church family in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 16 Morning** – **MATTHEW 28** - consider this particular passage afresh this morning and then respond in prayer to this Jesus we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Moredun Tron church family in 2025
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then we pray to this God we believe and trust.
- Fri 17 Morning** – **MARK 1:21-28** – 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 this God.
- Sat 18 Morning** – **MARK 1:35-45** – as we pause with God, we take time to consider these words and events - And then pray to this Jesus
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 19 Morning** – **MARK 6:7-13** - we take time to consider these verses on this Sunday morning And then we pray to this Jesus in response
Midday – pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer
Evening – read the passage again...reflect.. and then pray to this Jesus as we step into a new week with Him, together.
- Mon 20 Morning** – **MARK 8:22-26** – 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 SEECAT group of churches in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read.
- Tue 21 Morning** – **LUKE 2:41-52** – as we pause with God today, we consider these particular wordsand 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 our God.

Liberton Kirk Devotions for January 25

- Wed 22 Morning – LUKE 7:11-17** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and images here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Big Idea group of churches in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 23 Morning – LUKE 17:11-19** - consider this particular passage this
Morning and then respond in your prayer to this God we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the Church in SE Edinburgh in 2025
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe and trust.
- Fri 24 Morning – LUKE 19:1-10** – As we pause with God, take time to consider these words ... And then pray in response to this 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 25 Morning – JOHN 2:1-11** – as we pause with God today we take the time to consider these events - And then pray to this Jesus
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 26^t Morning – JOHN 7:1-13** - we take time to consider these words on this Sunday morning And then we pray to this Jesus in response
Midday – pray the words of the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer
Evening – read the verses again...reflect.. and then pray to this God of ours as we step into a new week with Him, together.
- Mon 27 Morning – JOHN 8:1-11** – as we pause with God, we take the time to consider these particular words today.....And then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our church neighbours in Kirkgate for 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response to what you read .
- Tue 28 Morning – JOHN 11:1-44** – as we pause with God today, we consider these amazing eventsand then respond in prayer with Him
Midday – take time to listen for God to speak with you – ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and then pray in response to our God.
- Wed 29 Morning – JOHN 13:1-17** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and events written here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Big Idea group of churches in 2025
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and then pray to the LORD our God.
- Thu 30 Morning – JOHN 17:1-5** - consider this particular passage this morning and then respond in your prayer to this God we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the Church in Scotland in 2025
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe and trust.
- Fri 31 Morning – JOHN 21** – As we pause with God, take time to consider these words ... And then pray in response to this 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.



Senior Citizens Club 2024/25

*Celebrating Seniors
Liberton Kirk's Senior Citizens*



Our Senior Citizen's Club is looking forward to our only meeting in December. The famous Christmas Party! The tickets are FREE for members & £8 for friends. The **5th of December** is where all our members & friends dress up in their sparkly finery. We'll have music provided by Margo & Stevie, a visit from Frosty or is he Olaf from Frozen? Maybe, just maybe a visit from the man in the red suit who brings a wee present for each person. The food is being provided by the Bridgend Farmhouse Cafe.

We're having 4 weeks off over the Christmas holidays & return on

January 9 with Alan Weatherhead and his keyboard.

This is followed by

January 16 Dougie McQ

January 23 Tapsalteerie for Burns & monthly RAFFLE

January 30 Kirsty Duncan all the way from the Weege

For further details about the Senior Citizens meeting including info about transport contact 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 seniorslk@gmail.com

Jenni and all her 'Elves' (volunteers) wish every single member of our Club a wonderful Christmas and a healthy & happy 2025

December Birthdays

- 5 Marion Rhodes
- 8 Pearl Kelly - one of our wee Elves celebrating a new decade
- 10 Alison Robb
- 17 Evelyn Eadie and Ann McCann
- 18 Ann Woodward
- 22 Pat Geddes
- 25 Cathy Muir is our Christmas Baby

January Birthdays

- 1 Lia Gibson
- 5 Bessie Keith and Lillian Trace
- 12 Effie McGrath
- 17 Elisabeth Soutar celebrating a very special decade
- 19 Jack Abbot and Ina Sutherland
- 20 Ann Knox
- 23 Bill Mercer
- 31 Shirley Dawson celebrating a new decade

Ideas for a Christmas Bookshelf

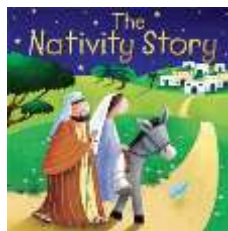
Busy Family Devotional - 52 Short Devotions from Genesis to Revelation **By Lucy Rycroft, SPCK, £9.99**



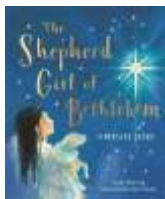
The Busy Family Devotional is a short and simple way of leading your children through Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation. It is a resource that can help them grow in relationship with the God who created and loves them. Each of the 52 devotionals include a Bible reading, some questions to consider, a prayer and a Bible verse to memorise.

The Nativity Story **By Juliet David, SPCK, £4.99**

This sturdy and colourful little board book is just right for little ones starting to learn about Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, the shepherds and the wise men who came to meet Baby Jesus. It would make a good stocking filler.



The Shepherd Girl of Bethlehem - a Nativity story **By Carey Morning, SPCK £5.99**



A little shepherd girl loves her father greatly, and adores spending time with him on the hillside, tending his flocks. But one night, he is called away and she can't find him. She anxiously searches high and low, eventually finding him at a stable in Bethlehem, where her journey ends with a most glorious discovery.

Wow! Christmas - Creatively explore stories in the Bible **By Martha Shrimpton. SPCK £10.99**

Here is a well designed and colourful Christmas activity book for children. The stories cover the birth of Jesus, the shepherds, the journey of the Wise Men, and the giving of gifts. With each story there is a prayer, a craft, and a chance to act out the story, followed by a time for reflection, discussion, and creative praise.



We are going to print before the advance information about Life and Work December issue is available. But don't forget to look out for it. Get information about your church, readers' pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe.



Liberton Kirk Men's Collective
Invite you to
A Curry & Beer Night
FOR ALL (18+)
Friday 10th January + BYOB
7-9.30pm Kirk Centre

£5 on the evening - 100 spaces available
Sign up before event or see David Colley, Dave Storey or
Alastair Cameron



Buy a pizza and support a friend!

Every penny spent on pizza is taken off the cost of camp!
So, if your friends and family spend £50 on pizza? Well,
that £50 comes directly off the cost of camp for you!

Saturday 23rd November
5.30pm - 8.00pm

Handmade Pizza - Delivered to your door! 3 mile radius of Liberton Kirk

The Flower Lady

After very many years of faithful service our Flower Convenor Jean Gray has decided it is time to hang up her secateurs and pass on the 'flower arranging' to Jill Snowdon.

We would like to say thank you to Jean for all her years as Church Flower Convenor.

Just in case you don't know. flowers are given every week in memory of a loved one. We enjoy the flowers in the church and then after the Sunday Service they are delivered to members of the congregation who are not able to come due to illness, infirmity, or who have suffered a recent bereavement. Always with a prayerful dedication from your Friends at Liberton Kirk.



If you would like to give flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact Jill Snowdon on 07823 335585.

Church Flower Dedications in December 24

In memory of

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | Mrs Margaret Burns | |
| 8 | Mrs Dorothy Parr | Grandma G and James and Jane Whyman |
| 15 | Mrs Ann Morgan & family | Margaret Barrow |
| 22 | Mrs Jill Snowdon | Auntie Margaret', Margaret Tweedie Clarke |

Church Flower Dedications in January 25

In memory of

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5 | Mrs Claire Mayberry | Her parents, Grace and Vic Willshire |
| 12 | Mrs Katy Harrison | Brian and David Harrison |
| 19 | Mrs Caroline Barlee | David C B Maitland |
| 26 | Mrs Judy Weston | Elsie Weston |

Congregational News

A Huge Thank You



When God nudged me at the healing service at the end of September a ceilidh in aid of the staff in the Oncology Department at the Western did I know what to expect. There were some very good reasons why we should delay this until the spring but the message had been to act now and I am so glad that I insisted that we did that. All my fellow cancer sufferers and their families worked tirelessly and, despite some hiccups including initially struggling to find a ceilidh band, within 2 weeks all was in place to start selling tickets.

The response from the congregation has amazed us all and shows not only the power of our God but also what a wonderful supportive family exists at Liberton Kirk. I was repeatedly told today that last night was one of best ceilidhs the church has ever run. We have still to finalise the total raised but it will be in excess of £3,500, far beyond our wildest dreams.

Thank you so much to all of you who helped with the organising and running of this and to those of you who attended as without you all this would never have happened.

Roger Barlee

Elders' Duties for December & January

		Dec 24	Jan 25
9.30 am	1 West	Christina Young	Alan Carmichael
	2 East	Eric Brown	Tom Baxendale
11am	1 West	Ruth Davies	Chris Brandie
	2 East	Derek Jardine	Janice Wilson
	3 Gallery	Eleanor Grieve	Claire Mayberry
	4 Front gate	Mary Davidson	Roslyn Wilson
	5 Banker	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.



South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together

Advent Reflections

There will be four Advent Reflections on Wednesday evenings from 27th November to 18th December at St. Gregory's Church, Walter Scott Avenue from 7.30-8.30pm, followed by refreshments. Organised by the RC Cluster Alpha Team, these will include scripture, poetry and art, prayer and singing together. Everyone is welcome to join for one or all of the evenings.

Carol Singing

We hope to sing carols to shoppers in Morrisons, Gilmerton Road, at lunchtime on Saturday, 14th December, but this is not yet confirmed – please check the details in the weekly notice sheet (also on the church website) and come and join in!

Christian Unity Week

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is usually held across Britain and Ireland between 18th and 25th January. The services in our area are:

Monday 20th January (short service)

2pm at St. Barnabas' Church, 4 Moredun Park View

Thursday 23rd January (main service followed by refreshments)

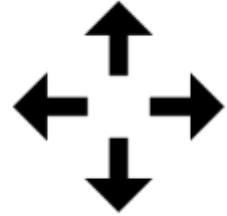
7pm at Tron Kirk Moredun, 6 Craigour Gardens

If you can't go to the services, please pick up a prayer card from the Welcome Desks in January and follow the scripture readings and prayers for the week at home. The theme for the week is "*Do you believe this? 'Yes, Lord, I believe you are the Christ'*" (John 11: 17-27)

Full Programme

The full programme is on the website www.seecat.org or printed copies on green card are available from the welcome desks, the Offering House or the Kirk Centre entrance.

Ruth Davies (tel. 664 3608)



Mission in Today's World

A four-week course for anyone who wants to reach out to the people of South-East Edinburgh

What we'll do:

Teaching, discussion,
guest interviews, refreshments and
trying out ideas

Where: Liberton Northfield Church

When: 30th January and
6th, 13th and 20th February 2025
7:30 – 9pm

Themes: Where mission begins
Incarnational mission
Using our gifts in mission
Mission strategies

Meditation on the Incarnation

*After the bright beam of annunciation
fused heaven with dark earth
His searing sharply-focused light
went out for a while
eclipsed in amniotic gloom:
His cool immensity of splendour
His universal grace
small-folded in a warm dim
female space*

This extract from Luci Shaw's poem *Made Flesh* captures something of the wonder of the moment when the second person of the Trinity became an embryo.

How does a single cell turn into an infant, and what does that process say about us – and God? These are the questions that Professor Jeff Hardin, a developmental biologist, asks himself. Having studied theology as well as science, he has a unique perspective on embryonic development.

A new-born baby is made of around five trillion cells. These cells come in hundreds of different types, each of which must be in the correct place for the child's body to function properly. Every new life is the result of intricate and highly ordered processes. Three things must happen as an embryo develops.

The first important process is for cells to take on their identity as types of muscle, bone, nerves, and so on. The second is when each cell learns which part of the body it belongs to. Third, those cells are moved around to form the different tissues and organs. These three are not discrete stages, but they all happen at around the same time, building up gradually like the different aspects of a picture coming into focus.

All three of these processes are driven forward by the movement of cells, the connections between them, and the signals they pass to each other. Jeff studies a sort of cellular glue which is involved in joining cells together. Making and breaking these adhesions can affect how cells move and signal to each other, their identity in the body, how they are organised as groups, and ultimately their survival. This glue is found on the surface of cells throughout the animal kingdom, including the small worms Jeff's lab studies.

(Continued on page 33)

Hello SEECOS!



My name is Gordon Pennykid and I am the new Diaconal Minister in Liberton Northfield.

My wife Jennifer and I have been married some 27 years and we have two grown children- Rebecca and Iain.

We have lived in West Lothian since getting married and now reside in East Calder (16 miles west of LNK). We have a nine month old puppy 'Fudge' a Border Collie who enjoys long walks and herding anything that moves!

I am a keen Hearts fan and season ticket holder at Tynecastle. If Hearts are playing then don't invite me to a meeting! Following Hearts around Scotland and Europe has been a passion longer than I care to remember. Good or bad I will be

(Continued from page 32)

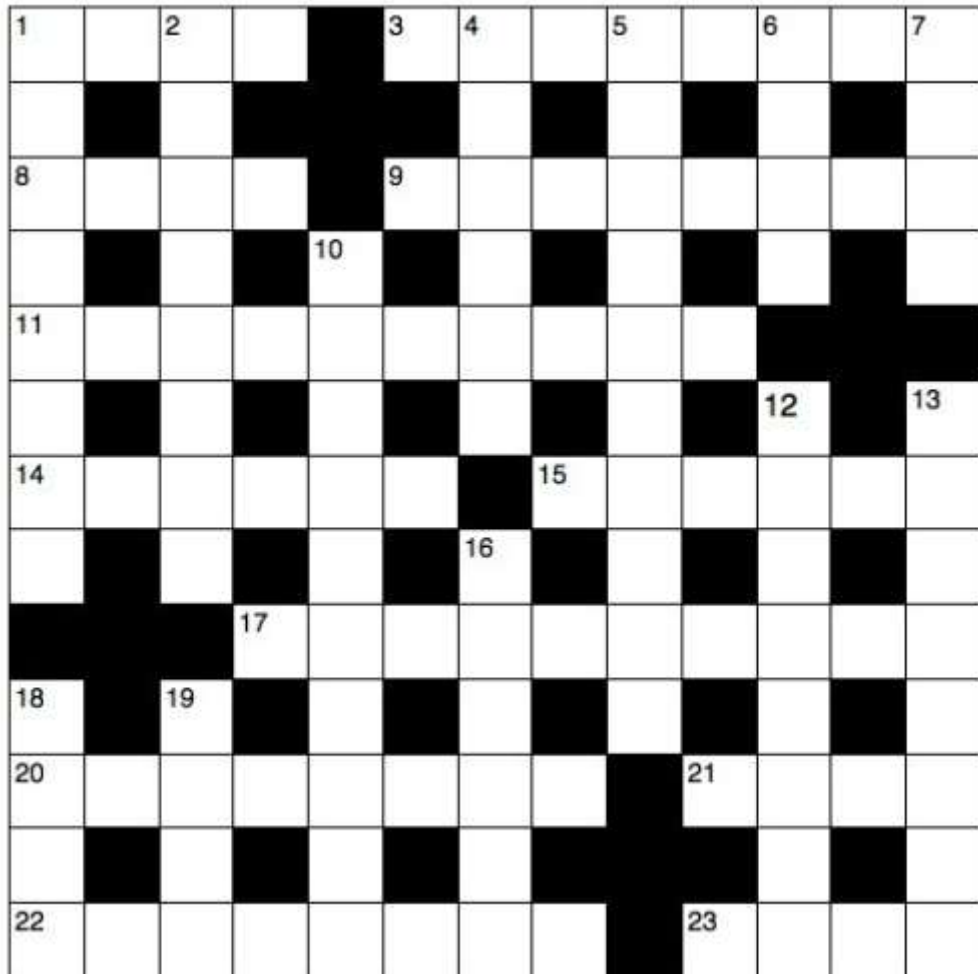
For Jeff, peering down a microscope at tiny worm embryos can be an act of worship. It is also an exercise in art appreciation, as he learns to appreciate the created order. Understanding the complexities of development, while also being aware that God knows that process intimately both as Creator and created, fills Jeff with a profound sense of awe, wonder and worship.

Does the minute scale of our early development, compared to the incomprehensibly vast and ancient universe, give us a sense of insignificance? Psalm 8 says, "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?"

For Jeff and the Psalmist, such feelings can be a positive experience if they serve as a reminder to be humble in the face of a universe that is vastly complicated but also deeply meaningful, made by a God who loves each one of us.

Written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

December Crossword



Across

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the — walk' (Luke 7:22) (4)
- 3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)
- 8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)
- 9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)
- 11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)
- 14 'Now the serpent was more — than any of the wild animals the Lord God

- had made' (Genesis 3:1) (6)
 15 'Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot — God' (Romans 8:8) (6)
 17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)
 20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)
 21 Rite (anag.) (4)
 22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)
 23 'The eye cannot say to the — , "I don't need you"' (1 Cor. 12:21) (4)

Down

- 1 'Flee for your lives! Don't — — , and don't stop anywhere in the plain!' (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)
 2 Principal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)
 4 'The tax collector... beat his — and said, "God have mercy on me, a sinner"' (Luke 18:13) (6)
 5 'The zeal of the Lord Almighty will — this' (2 Kings 19:31) (10)
 6 'The day of the Lord is — for all nations' (Obadiah 15) (4)
 7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)
 10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)
 12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)
 13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)
 16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as 'powerful in speech and — ' (Acts 7:22) (6)
 18 'Although he did not remove the high places, — heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life' (1 Kings 15:14) (4)
 19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

The solution to November's Crossword is on page 36

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



The story is told of a farmer who didn't believe in Jesus. One snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their children to a service at their local church. He refused to come saying: *'Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!'* So, they left him at home.

During the evening the winds grew stronger, and the snow turned to a blizzard. He heard a series of loud thumps on the window. In the field near his house he saw a flock of wild geese. They had been migrating south when they got caught in the snowstorm. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter.

The man wanted to help the geese and so he opened the doors of the barn, hoping they would go inside for shelter. But the geese didn't do anything, despite the man's efforts to move them. He made a breadcrumb trail leading to the barn and tried to shoo them toward the barn, but they only got more scared and scattered.

Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn: *'Why don't they follow me?!'* Then he realised: *'If only I were a goose and become one of them, then I could save them.'* Finally, he understood the heart of the Christmas message. God has become one of us in Jesus. The eternal creator God has entered time and space as a baby, to show us who God is and how we can know Him.

This Christmas, let's celebrate again this amazing truth that we have a God who knows and can meet our needs in Jesus. *'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel, which means 'God with us''.* Matthew 1:23.

The Guild in December



Monday 2 December

George Anderson (of Beechgrove Garden fame) will talk to us about “Nature Closely Observed”

We look forward to seeing you there.

Monday 9 December

Our Christmas Social Evening - Join us for a fun evening with **Jill Snowdon**.

|All welcome.

We look forward to seeing you.



Wednesday 11 December

at 1.45 in the Anderson Hall

We will be joined by pupils from Liberton Primary School. This is always a joyful afternoon. All welcome. We look forward to seeing you.



Monday 20 January

Entertainment from **The Highland Reel & Strathspey Society**. Have you got your ticket to join us for a “braw nicht”?

We hope to see you there.



Moira Cocksedge (Secretary)
Tel 662 0692

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Paul McLafferty: 07811 216671

Email: p.mclafferty@sky.com

November Crossword Solution



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.'

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.

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

The inclusion of an advert in this Magazine does not imply a recommendation.
Contacts made with advertisers are done at your own risk and no liability will be accepted by Liberton Kirk.

Editor's note

Material for the February Issue can be sent at any time; but **no later** than Sunday January 12.
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
Council Special Uplift	0131 529 3030
Council House Repairs	0131 200 2345
Scottish Government	0131 556 8400
First Edinburgh - Buses	08708 72 72 71
Lothian Buses	0131 555 6363
Train Times / Enquiries	08457 48 49 50

Liberton Kirk - names and addresses

Minister: Rev JOHN N YOUNG, PhD MA BD (Hons), Liberton Manse,
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

Deputy Session Clerk: Rink Van Dijke, 21 Kirk Park, EH16 6HZ
tel 664 2178, email: rink@talktalk.net

Treasurer: Jenny MacKenzie, Craiglockart Financial Services, 10 Craiglockhart
Road, Edinburgh EH14 1HL, tel. 07899 006 006,
email treasurer@seecos.org.uk.

Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Treasurer: E J Brown, 14 Liberton Drive, EH16 6NN.
tel 664 5008

Rollkeeper: Gary Ross tel 672 1314, email rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net

Magazine Editor: email: magazine@libertonkirk.net

Organist: Calum Gubby, 19 North Gyle Terrace, EH12 8JT
tel 07952 902 292. email: calumgubby@blueyonder.co.uk

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

Cornerstone—Wednesday evening in 176 Alnwickhill Road
Elizabeth (lizsnedden@gmail.com) & Robert Snedden
(robertsnedden1950@gmail.com), 664 1720

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 a group (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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