

April 2025

No 728



Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with
boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim
your risen life and fill us
with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father

*'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

Easter Worship
on pages 14-15

April Devotions
on pages 17-20

Paul Judson



libertonkirk.net

seeCOS
South East | Edinburgh
Church of Scotland
with Jesus at our heart

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Prayer for April

*Father God, Our God
We can but offer to you
Our sacrifice of praise
For loving us
For sending Jesus
For triumphing over
The Cross
The Tomb*



*Holy Spirit
Cleanse us, fill us
Again and again
Use us, even us
To God be the glory
Great things You have
Done!
In Jesus' name*

**Our Theme for 2025 is “..as for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24.15b)**



Happy Endings

Why do we all just love a happy ending? Whether we're watching a Disney movie, a romantic comedy, or even a detective series where the two main protagonists are obviously attracted to each other but never seem to realize it, why is it that, however badly things are going for them, we still keep watching to the end?

Why is it that we start reading our way through a lengthy novel where nothing appears to be going right, but we're still determined to read to the end in the hope that things will get better?

Gavin Matthews suggests that, rather than putting this tendency down to our love of delusion and escapism, the opposite is actually the case, when he says, *"Maybe we love happy endings so much because they point to something true?"*

Later this month, we are going to be joining with Christians across the world to celebrate the unlikeliest of happy endings. The true story of a hero who came on a rescue mission for the whole of humankind and got off to a great start. But then it all starts to go wrong, and he ends up betrayed, abandoned, unjustly accused, wrongly condemned and crucified.

But then there is an unexpected happy ending, because, by his death,

Jesus wins his greatest victory – of love over hate, forgiveness over vengeance, and life over death. And three days later he defies all logic, natural bounds, and reason to rise from the dead in his glorious resurrection.

As a result, we live in a post-resurrection world, where, whatever happens, we know the best is still to come;

Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (Romans 15.55,57)

I'm well aware as I write these words that Lindsay and I are heading towards the end of what, personally speaking, has been one of the happiest phases of our lives – a life surrounded by people who love us, and working together in the service of our faithful God.

Lindsay and I, and you, the folks of Liberton and South East Edinburgh, do not know what the future holds, and it may well have its ups and downs. But, whatever happens, my advice is this: don't give up on God, for he will never give up on you, and with Him there will always be a happy ending.

Much love

John x

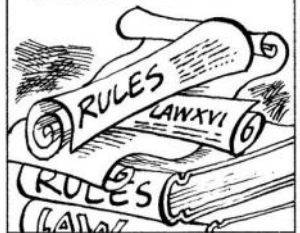


"Some tough talking"

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION JESUS BECAME VERY CROSS WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MADE LOTS OF RULES



YOU ARE BAD PEOPLE - YOU GIVE A TENTH OF YOUR HERBS, MINT, DILL AN CUMIN...



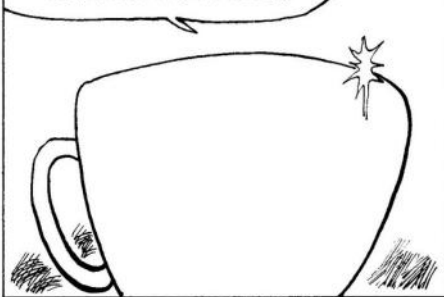
...BUT YOU FORGET ABOUT JUSTICE, MERCY AND HONESTY!



IT'S AS THOUGH YOU STRAIN AT A GNAT - BUT SWALLOW A CAMEL WHOLE!



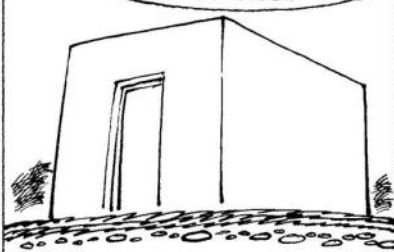
YOU ARE LIKE A CUP THAT IS CLEAN ON THE OUTSIDE...



...BUT DISGUSTINGLY FILTHY ON THE INSIDE!!



YOU ARE LIKE A WHITEWASHED TOMB - SPARKLING CLEAN ON THE OUTSIDE...

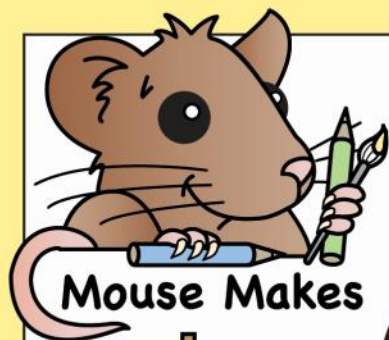


...BUT FULL OF MOULDY OLD BONES!



JESUS DID NOT LIKE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT HARD TO FOLLOW GOD.

See Matthew 23.23-27



Mouse Makes

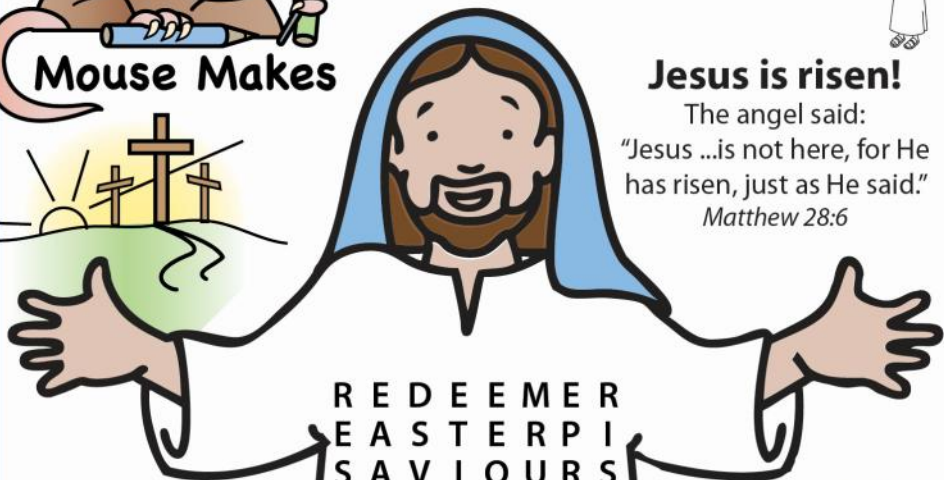


On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!



Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
"Jesus ...is not here, for He
has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6



Jesus is here

Jesus said:
"Where two or three
come together
in my name I am
there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
and **21:1-14**

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



Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back
and take you to
myself so that you
will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
RESURRECTION
PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS



MESSIAH • REDEEMER
CHRIST • SON OF GOD
HOSANNA • PRAISE
GO TELL • EASTER



April 25 Diary

- Tue 1 7.30am-7.30pm – Lent Prayer Space in **Kirk House**
9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
2.30pm – Service at Liberton Brae Care Home
- Wed 2 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
11am – *Pram Praise* in the Small Hall
- Thu 3 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
2.00pm – *Senior Citizens Club* in the Anderson Hall
7.30pm – SEECOS HR Team meeting
- Friday 4 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
-

Sunday 6 A CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS OF THE KIRKGATE CAFE

- 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 Children's programme)
Theme: 'Jesus' Choice' (*Matthew 16 21-28*)
Preacher: John Young

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room

6.30pm – Café Church in Liberton Kirk Centre

- Mon 7 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Tue 8 7.30am-7.30pm – Lent Prayer Space in **Kirk House**
9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Wed 9 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm – Praise Party in the Kirk
- Thu 10 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
No *Senior Citizens Club*
- Friday 11 1.00-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
7.30-9.00pm – Men's '*Italian Evening*' in the Kirk Centre
-

SUNDAY 13 PALM 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 and Children's programme)
Theme: 'The people's choice' (*Luke 19.28-44*)
Preacher: John Young

10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders' Room

7.00pm – Joint service at the Faith Mission (BIG Idea)

Guest Speaker: Nick Blair

- Mon 14 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.00pm – Passover meal at Liberton Kirk Centre (SEECAT)

- Tue 15 7.30am-7.30pm – Lent Prayer Space in **Kirk House** (with Communion at 12noon)
9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Wed 16 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm – ‘Stations of the Cross’ service at St Gregory’s (SEECAT)
- Thu 17 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
No *Senior Citizens Club*
7.00pm – Tenebrae service at Liberton Northfield
- Fri 18 GOOD FRIDAY**
10.00am – Prayer Walk leaves Liberton Kirk
11.00am – Joint outdoor service at Morrisons
3.00pm – Joint service at Gracemount High
7.30pm – Short service of reflection at Liberton Kirk
No *Warm Hub & IT Clinic*
- Sat 19 **2.00-4.00pm – SEECOS Toddlers Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic at Liberton Northfield**

Sunday 20 EASTER DAY

- 5.30am – Gather at Braid Hills Driving Range
6.00am – Dawn service at the Braid Hills trig point
8.00am – Sunday reflection available on Website/Facebook
9.30am – Shorter service in the Kirk
11am –All-age service in the Kirk and on zoom
Preacher: John Young
(bring a daffodil to both church services)
10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
12.30pm – Congregational Lunch in the Kirk Centre
7.30pm – RESURRECTION 2025 – Usher Hall
(book your free tickets from info@originscotland.org)
- Mon 21 NO KIRKGATE CAFÉ
- Tue 22 7.30am-7.30pm – Lent Prayer Space in **Kirk House**
9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
- Wed 23 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
7.30pm – *Praise Gathering* in the Wilson Hall
- Thu 24 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
2.00pm – *Senior Citizens* (Anderson Hall)
- Friday 25 1.00pm-4.30pm – *Warm Hub & IT Clinic* in the Kirk Centre
7.00pm-10.00pm – Ceilidh in the Kirk Centre
- Sat 26 4.00pm – 6.00pm Messy Church in the Kirk Centre**

Sunday 27 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 Clubs)
 Theme: ‘One week later’ (*John 20. 19-29*)
 Preacher: Alastair Cameron
 10.20am – Prayer time in the Elders’ Room
6.30pm – Joint SEECOS Worship at Liberton Kirk Centre

Mon 28 9.00am-2.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

Tue 29 7.30am-7.30pm – Prayer Space in the Upper Room
 9.00am-2.00pm; 5.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*
 2.30pm – Service at Guthrie House
7.30pm – Congregational Prayer Gathering in the Kirk

Wed 30 9.00am-2.00pm; 6.00pm-8.00pm – *Kirkgate Café*

WORD FOR TODAY

The current Bible passage in the Kirkyard (starting at the Offering House at the main gate) is John 15, verses 1 – 13, “I am the Vine”. This will change from 12th April to a Holy Week theme – journeying to the Cross – until Saturday 19th April only. As the weather becomes more springlike, enjoy half an hour walking round the church and reading the Bible words and the thoughts and prayers alongside.

From Easter Day for one week only there will be an Easter display including the empty tomb and the encounter Mary Magdalene had with the risen Jesus – come and read the words of the Bible, imagine yourself in the story and think how you would feel.

COVID MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Last year, on the second Sunday in May, we dedicated the Covid Memorial on the wall of the church behind the cairn.

On the first anniversary of this dedication, Sunday 11th May, we plan to give anyone who wishes the chance to leave a flower beside the memorial as we did last year (see picture), and to remember again the devastating effects of the pandemic on so many families.



Scouts Burns Supper

A huge 'thank' you to all who attended our Burns Supper on 28th Feb – rearranged from 24th January.

The evening started with the traditional 'Grace' given by our chairperson – Christine Johnson. This was followed by the entrance of the Haggis proudly presented by one of our senior scouts Adam Rowe.



Joedy Lyons then gave an amazing rendition of the "Address to a Haggis" which went down very well with the audience. Our meal was then served by a team of Scout 'waiters' who earned a well-deserved round of applause for their efforts. Behind the scenes, in the kitchen, we had Scout Leaders and ex Scout Leaders preparing and cooking the supper.

As is tradition - a tribute to Robert Burns was then given by Gill Cowie who gave us an interesting insight to the life and poetry of the Bard. This was followed by Milo Potter who did the Toast to the Lassies and Hayden, his sister, who gave the reply to the Toast to the Lassies.



We were pleased and delighted when District Lead Volunteer (District Commissioner for Scouts) made a surprise visit to present the Chief Scout's Commendation for Service to two of our leaders, Wayne and Angie Potter. The Potter family were front and centre this evening!



Our Scout Group enjoy organising and hosting our, what has become an annual, Burns Supper in Liberton Kirk and we'd just like to thank you all for your continued support over the years.

David Colley



KIRKGATE CAFÉ



Open Mon to Thu 9am – 2pm (last serve at 1.30pm)

Evening café Tuesday 5pm – 8pm & Wednesday 6pm – 8pm

In March we had a thank you outing for all the café volunteers to Angelina's Coffee Snug in Rosewell. It was lovely to have the chance for the volunteers to meet and mingle with others from different days and a nice time was had by all.



Thank you so much for by your very generous tips which

cover the cost of the outing. Tips can be given by cash in the bowl at the

till or by rounding up your card payment. We hope to have another outing in the Autumn.



As part of our 10th year celebrations the café will be having a thank you service on Sunday 6th April

at the 9.30am and 11am to celebrate the amazing achievement of being open for ten years. Keep an eye out for more celebrations throughout the year.



Kirkgate café now stocks some Fairtrade confectionary, we have Divine chocolate, Burts crips and RARE popcorn are available for purchase.

The café will be closed on Easter Monday 21 April, but open again Tuesday 22.

Follow on us Facebook@Kirkgate Café.



Jenny Thomasi, Kirkgate Café Manager
kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net, 07894056216

‘A Calling Like No Other’

The challenges of rural mission

No Spoilers

Easter Reflection from the Moderator of the General Assembly

Following God’s Call

Interview with Steven McLeish, poet, mental health and dyslexia advocate, and new Scotland Head for Leprosy Mission

A Nomadic Ministry

The Joys of Pulpit Supply

‘The Hills Are Alive’: The 60th

anniversary of The Sound of Music

A Day in the Life: New series focusing on chaplaincy

Regulars

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

Worship column by the Rev Roddy Hamilton

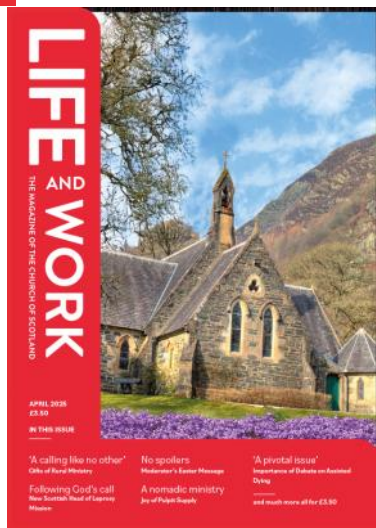
Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

Bible study by the Rev Richard Baxter

My Church: Karen Mathers of Prestwick South Parish Church

Plus: official updates from the Assembly Trustees and Faith Action

Programme, readers’ pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe.





Senior Citizens Club 2024/25



Celebrating Seniors
SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB MARCH 2025

Hallo Ladies and Gentlemen! Hope you are all well and enjoying the Spring and the kinder weather.

Lovely to see so many of you at our Thursday meetings, enjoying the company, the chat and the music. And if somebody is kind enough to have a special birthday, there's cake as well!

At the end of February, we had an extremely enjoyable afternoon meal out for our 15 Elves at Café Andaluz. This was a special treat from our Club to say thank you to these terrific ladies plus Chris Boyle for being such wonderful volunteer helpers. Without them, the Club wouldn't work. Chris would be more than happy to let you know what each of us had to eat. Bryan was there too but can't remember!!

Other news is that President Jenni has decided we can invite new members again until we get too full. Then we'll get a row!!

We have something special happening in April and no, it's not an Easter Bonnet competition!! It's a surprise!!

President—Jenni Ryalls—0131 258 0764 or 0741 533 5889
Pastoral Support Worker—Linda Wright—0785 041 1596
Admin Lou can be contacted by email at seniorslk@gmail.com

ENTERTAINERS

April 3 – Dougie McQ, our gifted musical impresario!

April 10 – April 17 Easter break. Club closed

April 24 – Stevie Cowan, very popular, hugely versatile (*Raffle*)

Birthdays this month

April 2 George McDougall

April 22 Jessie Burns (Jessie is 99!)

April 12 Margo Crawford

April 27 Fiona Scott

P.S. Hope you managed to get to church on Sunday 23rd March for our SENIORS SPECIAL SERVICE.

John has been a very special minister in so many ways, not least in his undying affection and support for our club. He looks in nearly every Thursday without fail, is undoubtedly the biggest fan the Club has ever had, and was an inspiration and founder member of our very own JABS!

Dear Reverend John, you are our legend! You are loved by all of us, Thank you.

**CELEBRATE
RECOVERY®**



Could your church run a Celebrate recovery group and bring the healing power of Jesus Christ to all those who are hurting in your church family and community?

WHERE

Tron Kirk

Moredun

6 Craigour

Gardens,

EH17 7NX

WHEN

10am - 4:15pm

Saturday 10th May

Book through: eventbrite.co.uk

Worship in Holy Week

Come and join in the special services and events in Holy Week. From Palm Sunday to Easter Day, the most important week in our church calendar. As well as worship in our own church we will join at different times with the other SEECOS congregations (Liberton Northfield, Tron Kirk Moredun and Gracemount) as well as Ferniehill Evangelical Church, St. Barnabas' Scottish Episcopal Church, and St. Gregory's.

Palm Sunday 13 April

9.30am Shorter service in Liberton Kirk

11am Service in Liberton Kirk and on zoom

(with Creche and Children's programme)

7pm Joint Evening Worship with other Big Idea Churches

in the Faith Mission Auditorium, EH17 7JD (just north of Gilmerton crossroads). The speaker is Nick Blair.



Monday 14 April

7pm Passover Meal in Liberton Kirk Centre

We remember Jesus celebrating the Passover with his disciples just before his death and the history behind it. Tickets are essential for this event, as numbers are limited. (SEECAT event)

Wednesday 16 April

7.30pm An ecumenical Stations of the Cross Service

in St. Gregory's Church, Walter Scott Avenue, EH16 5TD

We follow the journey of Jesus towards the cross and it is a very moving service. Refreshments afterwards in the Church Hall.

Maundy Thursday April 17

7pm Tenebrae Service (Service of Shadows)

in Liberton Northfield Church.

Good Friday April 18

10am Prayer Walk starting at Liberton Kirk

11am Open Air Service at Morrisons

We set off on our Prayer Walk at 10am, meeting up with Liberton Northfield and St. Gregory's at Liberton Northfield Church, and



then walk to Morrisons in Gilmerton Road. We will stop at various points on the way where people gather (schools, residential homes etc.) to pray for our community.

The speaker at the service will be Alistair Chalmers of Ferniehill Evangelical Church. We will be joined by others who have walked from Moredun (Tron Kirk, St. John Vianney's and St. Barnabas') and from Gracemount (St. Catherine's and Gracemount Church), as well as by others not able to do the walk but wanting to be part of the service. Morrisons café is a good place for after-service refreshments!

3pm Joint Service at Gracemount High School at 3 o'clock

Members from all the SEECAT churches will meet again, remembering just what the cross means for us. The speaker will be John Young. There is a cup of tea and hot cross buns after the service, which gives us a chance to chat with people from the other churches we don't see very often.

7.30pm Service of Worship and Reflection in Liberton Kirk.



Saturday April 19

2-4pm Toddlers' Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic

at Liberton Northfield Church (a SEECOS event).

EASTER DAY APRIL 20

6am Dawn Service at the Braid Hills Trig Point

We leave from the Golf Driving Range at 5.30am

9.30am The shorter traditional service

11am All Age Easter Day Service

You are invited to bring a daffodil to decorate the cross at both the 9.30 and 11am services.



Finally in the evening Origin Scotland lead **“Resurrection 2024”** in the **Usher Hall at 7.30pm**. Entrance is free but ticketed (donation optional). Details on their website www.originscotland.org

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2025

11 TO 17 MAY—7 days to make a difference

As last year, we will use the “return-only” envelopes, delivered to a number of areas of the parish, with return places close to the deliveries. It would be great to have more volunteers to assist with delivering envelopes, in order to increase our coverage of the Parish.

I would be glad to discuss with anyone interested. I emphasise it is simply the **delivery** of envelopes, no **house-to-house calls** are now made.

In addition, **Christian Aid Envelopes** will be available in the Kirk Centre and in the boxes at the gates of the Kirk and the Kirk Centre, for return to the Boxes in the Kirk or to me.

The **BIG BREKKIE** event is on Saturday 10 May in the Kirk Café. Further details from Ros Wilson, roslyn.wilson@blueyonder.co.uk

David Lamb, 36 Liberton Drive, 664 3059, david@dlamb.co.uk



WHY NOT TRY BOWLS

For free



OPEN DAYS: Saturday 26th April & Sunday 27th April

11:00 am – 3:00pm

or contact below to make special arrangements.

Free refreshments will be provided, along with a cash bar.

Please wear flat soled shoes. Bowls and some coaching on play will be provided.

www.libertonbc.co.uk

Liberton Bowling Club, 26 Kirkgate, Edinburgh EH16 6RY

Enquiries: Charlie Duncan: 07840 127119 – email: charlieduncan1951@gmail.com

Enquiries: Clare Duncan: 07796 594466 – email: clareduncan31@gmail.com

LIBERTON KIRK DEVOTIONS

“Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

1 Corinthians 15 verse 55

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 April we journey through Lent and Easter-time.



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

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 April 25

- Tues 1 Morning– GALATIANS 1:1-5** – as we pause with Jesus we consider these wordsand then respond in prayer with Him
Midday – take time to listen for God to speak – ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the words again, reflect, then pray in response to God
- Wed 2 Morning– GALATIANS 1:6-11**– Pause with God this new morning. Consider these words written here...And then turn to pray to this Jesus
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the SEECOS Session members
Evening – read the verses again – reflect, then pray to the LORD our God
- Thu 3 Morning– GALATIANS 1:12-24**- consider this particular passage on this new morning and then respond in prayer to this Jesus
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the Tron Moredun Church Family
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect, then pray to Father God
- Fri 4 Morning– GALATIANS 2 :1-10**– As we pause with God, we take time to consider these words ... And then pray in response to this Jesus.
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 5 Morning– GALATIANS 2:11-21**– as we pause with God today we take time to consider these verses - 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
- Sun 6 Morning– GALATIANS 3:1-14** – we take time with God to consider these words this Sunday in Lent.....and then pray in response to Him
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 Jesus as we step into a new week – together – with Him
- Mon 7 Morning– GALATIANS 3:15-25** – 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 the Liberton Northfield Church Family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 8 Morning– GALATIANS 3:26 - 4 :7** – 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– ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the words again – reflect, then pray in response to God
- Wed 9 Morning– GALATIANS 4:8-20** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words written here...And then turn to pray to this Jesus
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on the Gracemount Church Family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect..and then pray to our God
- Thu 10 Morning– GALATIANS 4:21-31** - 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 all churches in SE Edinburgh
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect and then we pray to this God

Liberton Kirk Devotions for April 25

- Fri 11 Morning– GALATIANS 5:1-15** – 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 Jesus
- Sat 12 Morning– GALATIANS 5:16-21** – as we pause with God, we take time to consider these words - 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
- Sun 13 Morning– GALATIANS 5:2-26** - take time to consider these verses on this Sunday in Lent 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 14 Morning– GALATIANS 6:1-6** – 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 Gordon and his family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 15 Morning– GALATIANS 6:7-10** – 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 – ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the words again – reflect, then pray in response to God
- Wed 16 Morning– GALATIANS 6:11-17** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and truths here...And then turn to pray to God
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Cammy and his family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect, then pray to the LORD our God
- Thu 17 Morning– GALATIANS 6:18** - consider this passage this new morning and then respond in your prayer to this God we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Dougie and his family
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this Jesus we believe and trust
- Fri 18 Morning– ISAIAH 52 :3 – 53 :9** – Good Friday - As we pause with God, take time to consider these words ... then pray in response to Jesus
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our Pray for 5 list
Evening – read these verses again, take time to reflect and pray to God
- Sat 19 Morning– ISAIAH 53:10-12** – as we pause with God today we take time to consider these words - 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, then pray in response
- Sun 20 Morning– ISAIAH chapter 55** - we take time to consider these words on this EASTER Sunday morning And then we pray to this God of grace
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

Liberton Kirk Devotions for April 25

- Mon 21 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11** – as we pause with God, we take the time to consider these words today.....And then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on John and Lindsay and their plans
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 22 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-19** – as we pause with God today, we consider these amazing words, and then respond in prayer with Him
Midday – take time to listen for God to speak – ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the verses again – reflect, then pray in response to Jesus
- Wed 23 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-28** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words and truths written here...then turn to pray to Him
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Chris and Margaret Brandie
Evening – read the verses again – reflect.. then pray to God
- Thu 24 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:29-34** - consider this particular passage this morning and then respond in your prayer to this Jesus we believe in
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our Kirk Executive
Evening – read the set verses again – reflect on what is said here and then pray to this God we believe and trust in
- Fri 25 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-41** – 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 God
- Sat 26 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:42+43** – as we pause with God, we take time to consider these words this morning - And then pray to 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
- Sun 27 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:44-49** - we take time to consider these verses on this Sunday morning And then we pray to 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 Jesus as we step into a new week with Him, together
- Mon 28 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-54** – as we pause with God, take the time to consider these particular words today.....then pray in response
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on John and Lindsay’s family
Evening – read the verses again – reflect and pray in response
- Tue 29 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15:55-57** – as we pause with God today, we consider these amazing words then respond in prayer with Him
Midday – take time to listen for God to speak– ask, seek, knock – hear!
Evening – read the verses again – reflect, then pray in response to God!
- Wed 30 Morning– 1 CORINTHIANS 15 verse 58** – Pause with God this morning. Consider these words written here...And then pray to Him for others
Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our Pray for 5
Evening – read the verse again – reflect..and then pray to God as we step into a new month together – with Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Contemplating Calvary

Trying to stretch up and take a breath
But splinters and bark rub open flesh
The weight of life is on his chest
Hanging as he stares at the dusts of death
With sweat that came dripping from his head
Thoughts of such pain brought sorrow and dread
Breaking his body, now served as our bread
Encircled by packs of ravenous dogs
Beaten to his knees before he was flogged.
The image of his face was spat on and mocked
Great pain he sustained for the sheep in his flock
Silently suffered the stripes that he bore
Scorned by the wicked, crowned by the thorns.
An unbearable weight was pressed on his back
no drugs or drink to numb or distract
Iron nails tore his flesh
as hands and feet were impaled
Silent the voice that commanded storms and gales
As scourging revealed his internal entrails
Until at the last his beating heart failed.
In his hands we are forever engraved
The one who made us from mud and clay
Walked on earth to show the heavenly way
Bore our punishment so all were saved
Bore his suffering to free us from sin
Betrayed by those he chose to love.
Offer rejected to be cleansed by his blood
The greatest sacrifices thrown in his face
Unable to accept the gift of his grace.

Joedy Lyons

Coming Home to Liberton Kirk

Coming back from university and going to church on a Sunday is when I truly feel at home and part of such a big family. The best feeling is being able to slot right back into the life and community of the church, which can be so hard to find elsewhere.

The welcome from all ages of the congregation and the care and love felt from all immediately makes coming home truly comforting. From being so involved in the church for the majority of my life to then leaving for university was a challenge, but the joy of returning and feeling so loved by everyone in the congregation is very special and something Liberton Kirk does so well.

Getting to know a variety of people from the community through service week in the summer allows me to really feel known and a part of the family of Liberton Kirk, even when I'm usually home for such short periods of time. Being shown what it looks like to wholeheartedly help out and learn what servant-heartedness looks like practically was one of the most valuable skills I have ever learnt and has benefitted me in so many aspects of my life so far. By having this care instilled in me makes me want to come back and serve in any way I can, whether that be in the summer, helping with youth, doing the readings or helping out behind the scenes.

Seeing the willingness in the congregation to help and serve the community really shows how this family is part of the Kingdom of God here in Edinburgh. This continued love and care for the community I grew up in makes me excited to come back and feel known and accepted by so many. It is so exciting to see how much positive change is happening and how much the church has grown in the past few years, which is one of the special things about coming home every few months.

Even as the family of Liberton Kirk continues to grow I am sure that it will continue to be just as welcoming and joyful to be a part of for many more years to come.

Helen Shepherd

Elders' Duties for April–June '25

		April	May	June
9.30 am	1 West	Alan Carmichael	Rosy Carmichael	Tom Baxendale
	2 East	Christina Young	Eric Brown	David Lamb
11am	1 West	Ruth Davies	Chris Brandie	Alastair Cameron
	2 East	Christine Johnson	Derek Jardine	Janice Wilson
	3 Gallery	Kim Denholm	Eleanor Grieve	Claire Mayberry
	4 Front gate	Mary Davidson	Roslyn Wilson	Linda Skinner
	5 Banker	Rink van Dijke	Alan Perry	David Lamb

April Books

Max Lucado's book, **'He Chose the Nails'**, is a contemplation of Christ's pain and sacrifice at the Crucifixion, and considers Jesus' suffering anew. Much has been said about the cross, but Lucado asks, 'What about the other gifts?' What of the nails, the crown of thorns, the garments taken by the soldiers or the blood and water?

Lucado states that God was never more sovereign than on that day, that nothing happened by accident. Also, why did Jesus choose to endure such suffering?

So begins Lucado's examination; nails fix broken things; they join together things that are separated. Because Christ 'couldn't bear eternity without us, He chose the nails'.

Scripture often describes our behaviour as the clothes we wear, and like His character, Jesus' robe was seamless; uninterrupted, woven in one piece from top to bottom. Then, there were the two crosses next to Jesus that day; with Jesus in the centre. The two crosses symbolize one of God's greatest gifts; the gift of choice. Then, Pilate chose the sign, 'This is the King of the Jews', and through doing so became God's instrument. Because of that sign the thief's soul was saved.

God chose the path; He selected the nails. The last moments of Jesus' death were all intentional. Through contemplation of the Cross, and every detail of the Crucifixion something of the nature of God is revealed. Lucado's book invites reflection, a heart-connection and thoughtfulness, and a deeper revelation of the unbearable sacrifice of Jesus.

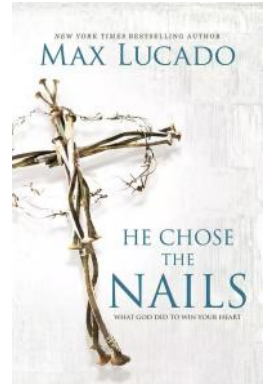
'Family Matters,' is the third stand-alone sequel for teens by local author Helen Parker. After 'Hide and Secret,' in which Ruth and Christopher hide an asylum seeker and teach him English, and 'Island Treasure,' where Christopher saves a young refugee from drowning, readers meet these two friends again, a year older.

Ruth has always tried to be a good friend to Lucy. So when Lucy's mum gets a good-looking, generous new boyfriend, Ruth wants to be pleased for her, but something doesn't feel right.

Growing in her Christian faith, Ruth knows gossip and slander are wrong. But what if the disturbing rumours she has heard are true? And after what happens at the school play, will Lucy ever tell her what's really happening at home?

Christopher will be arriving soon for the summer holidays, and Ruth will need all his help if she is to support Lucy and keep her out of danger!

Available from Amazon, the Faith Mission bookshop, or from the author locally.





Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Christians from more than 170 countries have taken part in praying so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

This praying together has been across diversity and differences, as every person, household and church are encouraged to pray in their own way.

Lighting up learning in Malawi

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Dr Shaw Paterson has challenged people to support an initiative that has the potential to transform students' lives in Malawi.

The idea was sparked during Dr Paterson's visit to Malawi in the autumn. He was struck by the determination of the people there, and particularly within the Church, to ensure education at all levels becomes available and accessible to all. But without lights in their homes children could not study after dark.

Simple solar lights allow extra time for children to learn in villages with no electricity and so it is dark at 6.30pm. Solar lights for light libraries, cost around £10 per light and can be bought locally in Malawi. To find out more go to the Church of Scotland website. Or donate directly:

Cheque:

Church of Scotland
121 George Street
Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
Ref: 'Moderator's Challenge'

Bank Transfer:

Church of Scotland
Account No.: 00134859
Sort code: 83-06-08
Ref: Moderator's Challenge



Liberton Kirk Men's Collective

Invite all men to events in 2025!

A Men's Italian Evening

Friday 11th April + BYOB
7-9.30pm Kirk Centre
£5 on the evening

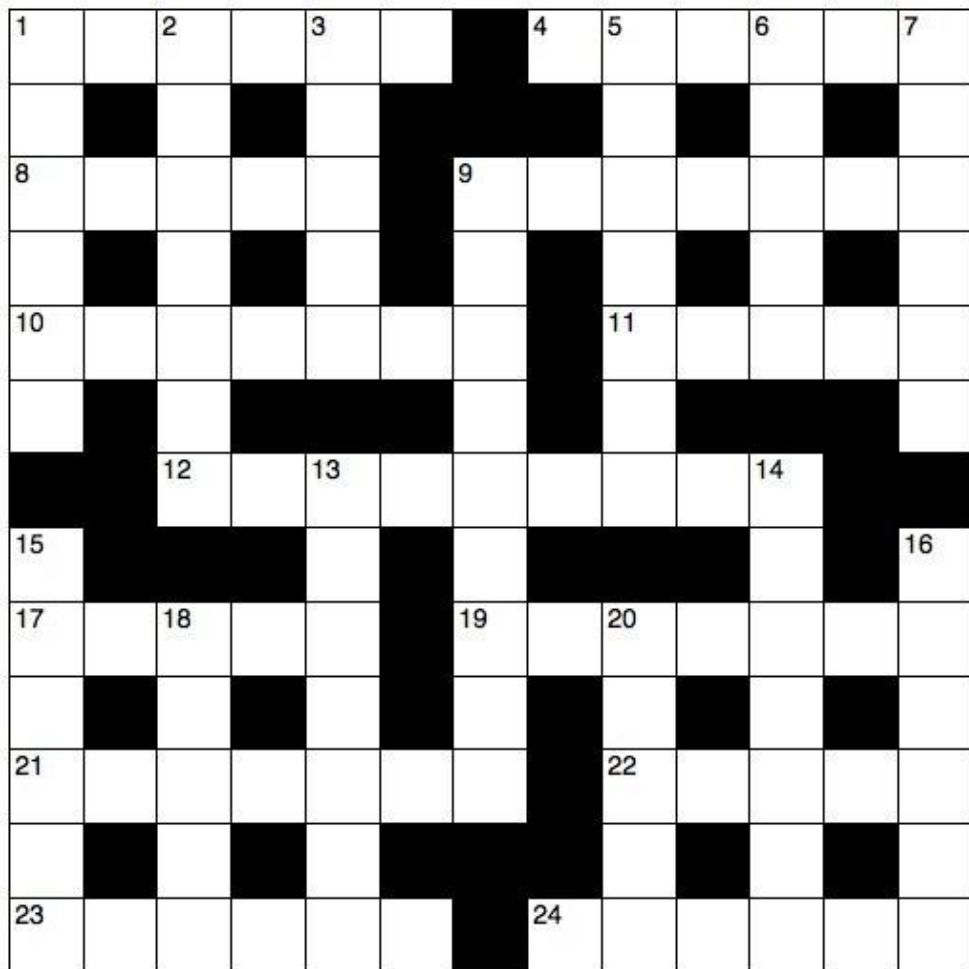
A Men's BBQ

Friday 20th June + BYOB
7-9.30pm Kirk Gardens
£5 on the day

Sign up before each event!



April Crossword



Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)

- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome
 (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken
 with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts
 1:26) (6)
 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit
 me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her
 treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much
 wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
 15 The human mind or soul (6)
 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase;
 their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

The solution to the March Crossword is on page 32

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 Guild



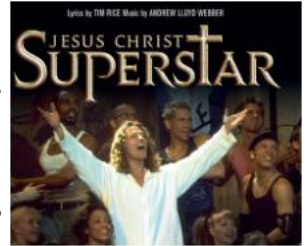
On Friday 7 March Liberton Kirk Guild hosted the World Day of Prayer for South East Edinburgh. The Service was well attended and we enjoyed fellowship together.

The Service was prepared by the ladies of the Cook Islands and their theme was “*I Made You Wonderful*” Psalm 139:14

ANNUAL OUTING

On Saturday 10 May we will end the Guild year with a trip to the Festival Theatre for a matinee performance of “*Jesus Christ Superstar*”.

Moira Cocksedge, Secretary 0131 662 0692



Thank you, once again!

Last summer you were very generous in the gift you gave me following my resignation as Liberton Kirk Treasurer. I decided I would like to use it for something which would remind me of my Liberton Kirk family.

I attach a photo of a pendent and earrings set which I have had made, the pendent is in the shape of the Celtic cross on the church and halls glass doors. The wearing of this set will be a lovely momento of Liberton and you may see me wearing it to church on Sundays (as well other times)!



Flower Rota

Church Flower Dedications in April

April 2025 Convenor Audrey Church 07503 349727

In memory of

6	Jackie Switzer	Edith Jones on her 100th birthday
13	Mrs Veronica Craig	Geoffrey Craig
20	Mrs Ann Weir	Allison Weir
27	David Robertson	Margo Robertson

Flower Convenor: Jill Snowdon, 07823 335585

Flower Fund Treasurer: Kim Denholm, 0131 258 2321





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March Crossword Solution

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

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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 April Issue can be sent at any time; but **no later** than Sunday April 13.
Information should be sent to magazine@libertonkirk.net

**Liberton Kirk is
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www.seecos.org.uk

Useful numbers

BT Faults	0800 800 151
Virgin Media faults	0845 454 1111 (151 from a Virgin landline)
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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
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

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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 162 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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