

September 2026
No 740

*'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

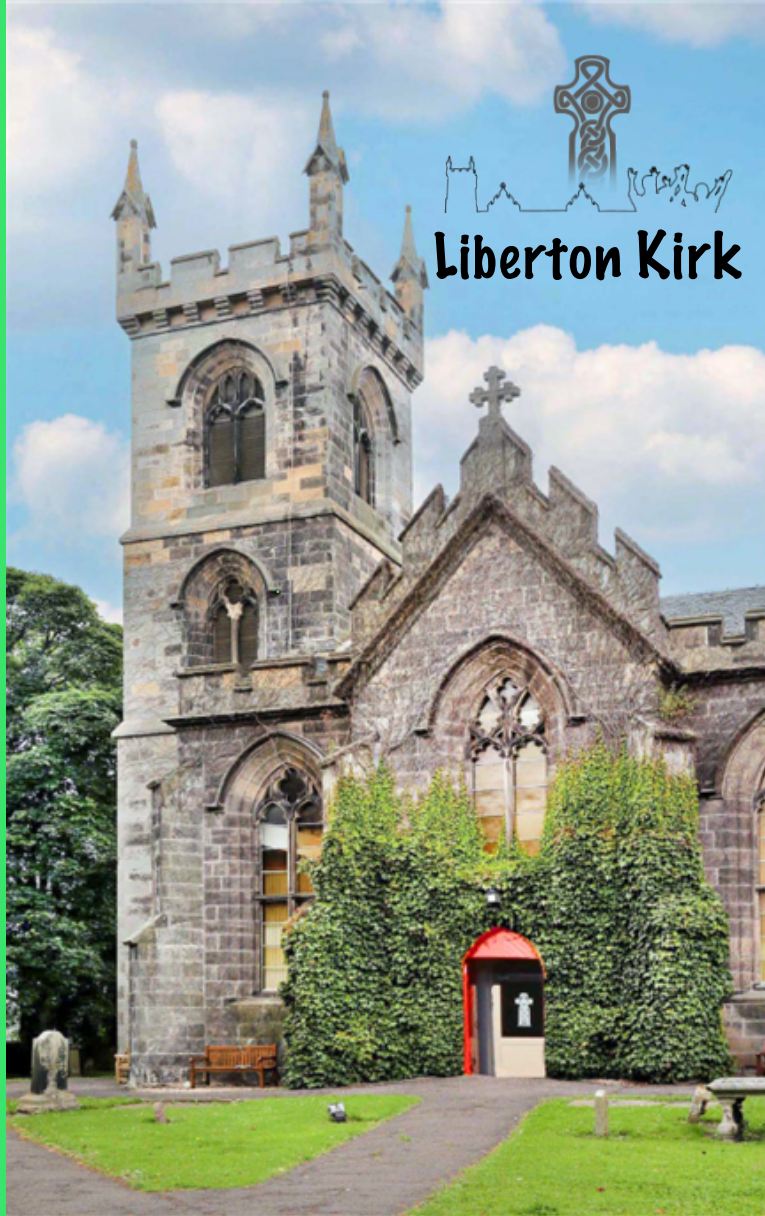
libertonkirk.net

see+cos
South East Edinburgh
Church of Scotland
with Jesus at our heart

Daily Devotions
September
Pages 31-34

Welcome to the Liberton Kirk magazine. This edition is being delivered to every home in the area as a way of keeping you connected, informed and involved.

Our Theme for 2026 is "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8)



Liberton Kirk Magazine

Early Beginnings

Liberton Kirk, located on a rise overlooking Edinburgh's southern approaches, has Christian roots reaching back to the early medieval period. Worship on this site is thought to date to at least the 12th century, when the district formed part of lands connected to Holyrood Abbey.

Liberton Kirk has continued to evolve

Expanding youth and family ministry.

Developing a busy community café and outreach work.

Supporting mission partnerships locally and internationally.

Restoring and preserving historic buildings and grounds.

The kirk has developed its traditional style, embracing new expressions of ministry in an ever-changing city.

Liberton Kirk is now one of the four worshipping communities of SEECOS, joining the communities at Liberton Northfield, Gracemount, and Tron Kirk Gilmerton and Moredun which work together as a single parish to serve South East Edinburgh.

Liberton Today

A living worshipping community of the Church of Scotland.

A historic landmark with deep parish roots.

A community hub, offering welcome, fellowship, and service.

A place of worship, prayer, and pastoral support.

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A Journey that Concludes with Gratitude



I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
[Philippians 1:3-6, NIV]

Hi Everyone,

It seems only yesterday that I stepped into Liberton Kirk for the first time at the beginning of October last year, and by God's grace, it has been a wonderful journey! I have encountered so much: Remembrance Sunday, Christmas and Advent services, Easter and Lent services, special services, joint worship, visiting people in their homes, catching up and praying with people in the Kirkgate Café, conducting blessings, participating in communion, completing a university degree... and learning how to preach without accidentally muting my own microphone (most of the time).

Looking back over the past year has helped me realise how deeply grateful I am. This gratitude comes not only from the amazing experiences and opportunities I have had, but from the many people I have had the privilege of journeying alongside. Your kind words, encouragement, love and support have been invaluable, and I will carry them with me as I continue in ministry training. I never anticipated where God would lead me at this stage, but I give thanks to him, and to every one of you, for welcoming me, encouraging me, challenging me and helping me grow. There is something particularly fitting about Paul's words to the believers in Philippi: "I thank my God every time I remember you... because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." Looking back on this past year,

those words capture much of what I feel.

Ministry is never something we do alone. It is lived out in partnership; in worship, prayer, conversations over cups of tea, visiting, laughter, joy and uncertainty. I am deeply thankful that, for this season, I have shared in that partnership with you.

Despite the uncertainty and challenges facing the Church, not just in this part of God's kingdom but across Scotland, I still see a Church passionate about the Gospel, a beacon of hope for those searching for meaning and purpose, helping people to encounter the love of Jesus Christ.

So, rather than say goodbye, I want to say thank you. Thank you for welcoming me, trusting me, and showing such kindness, patience, encouragement and friendship. Thank you for allowing me to share in the life of this congregation and for giving me memories that have shaped me and that I will carry with me for many years.

I will leave with an incredibly grateful heart, confident that the congregation's journey does not end here. The good work continuing in Christ's body and for his gospel here in South East Edinburgh will be brought to completion, not by our own strength or ability, but by the faithfulness of God who began it.

Many blessings to you now and forevermore, in Christ's name,

Elliot

Summer Buzz 2026 - The Story of Noah

This year's Summer Buzz TV theme was The Story of Noah. We had over 30 kids come along throughout the week to find out a bit more of the story that most of them will have heard when they were small.



We of course did all the usual fun things: we covered our team leaders in pegs during the challenges, each den built an ark, we made floating boats out of lolly pop sticks and ping pong balls at craft, we soaked our leaders at games. We also sang songs, danced, tested out memories with our memory verses, learned more about Noah and his story and of course foamed leaders during the Dice of Danger (dun dun dun!).

Many of the children who came along have been to Summer Buzz before but for some this was their first experience of SUMMER BUZZ TV (bzzzzzz)! They all had a lot of fun and we of course loved getting to know them. We gave away many bibles to kids who don't have one at home and they we delighted, immediately looking up the memory verses.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the leaders who volunteered, giving up a week of their Summer to spend time with some very hyper kids! The leaders work so hard with those kids and I definitely could not do it without them. Also, thank you to the 'White t-shirt team' who do all the behind-the-scenes things – admin, co-planning craft, organising snack, and generally keeping an air of calm – and providing an excellent BBQ! The 'black t-shirt team' were wonderful as ever, they are some of our younger volunteers who work behind the scenes learning the ropes and helping wherever they are needed – on tech in the church, chopping apples, getting water poured over their heads at games and being an extra pair of hands in very busy dens. They are wonderful – if a little cheeky at times !

Finally I also would like to thank Juliet for stepping up to co host with me in place of Emily. It was lovely to be up the front beside my sister in law and she was wonderful as she always is!

Laura



The Guild



The Church of Scotland Guild is a movement within the Church of Scotland open to both women and men. The Guild session at Liberton Kirk begins in October and finishes at the end of March. We meet at 7.00 pm on the first and third Mondays of the month in the Anderson Hall and at 2.00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month in the Small Hall, apart from January, when there is only one Monday and one Wednesday meeting.

Each meeting usually has a speaker, followed by a time to socialise over a cup of tea or coffee. We hold two Coffee Mornings during each session to raise money for the Guild Projects that we have chosen to support, and we enjoy an Afternoon Outing in May. You can uplift a copy of the Guild syllabus from the welcome desks in the church and from the Information Box on the left as you enter the Kirk Centre. Guild information can also be found on the church's website, on the church and Kirk Centre noticeboards and in the monthly church magazine. More details of the first meeting will be in the October magazine.



Saturday 19 September Following the success of previous Historical Walks held in September, Ruth Davies is planning to hold another one this September. We will meet in the Kirk Centre at 9.45 am and return there for tea/coffee after the walk, about 11.30 am. Open to all. Hope to see you there.

GUILD PROJECTS – UPDATE

The Church of Scotland Guild has been actively involved in various projects, with more than £224,000 raised for its four project partners over the last 12 months. This remarkable sum will help deliver a range of work both at home and overseas in the name of Jesus Christ. The Guild's strategy for 2024-2027 is "Let us Build a House" which is shaped by the themes "Sure Foundations", "Living Stones", and "Beyond the Walls". These themes encourage members to deepen their faith, strengthen their discipleship and engage actively with the world around them.

Moirra Cocksedge

Guild Annual Gathering - Saturday 12 September 2026 Perth North Church, 11am - 4pm

This is the biggest event of the Guild year, bringing over 1000 Guild members and friends together for a day of worship, celebration and fellowship. We will be joined this year by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rev Gordon Kennedy who share his thoughts on our new theme, 'Beyond the Walls'. We will also have a special guest speaker, Rev Jane Howitt, Chaplain at Heriot University and wonderful entertainment.

If you would like to go contact guild@churchofscotland.org.uk to book your seat.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 12:1-14, Luke 6:1-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see if he broke any of God's laws, or the rules they had made up to stop the laws being broken.

Jesus' disciples were hungry so they picked some wheat from a field as they walked.



The Pharisees said to Jesus



But King David broke the rules when he ate the bread that was only for the priests*



And priests are allowed to work in the temple on the Sabbath*



Don't you understand when God says 'Keeping rules doesn't make up for not having kindness'?*



If you understood, you would know my disciples did nothing wrong.



The Pharisees followed Jesus to the meeting place



The Pharisees wanted to accuse Jesus of breaking rules, so they asked him a trick question.



If your sheep fell into a ditch on the Sabbath you would lift it out.



People are worth far more than sheep, so it is right to do good on the Sabbath



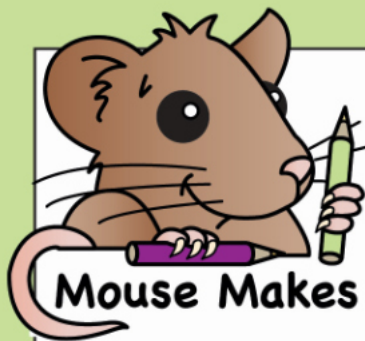
Hold out your hand.



.. and it was healed!

The Pharisees left and made plans.





THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

John 15:1

What does Jesus ask us to do?

"Go and bear

John 15:16

What happens to the branches that do not remain in the vine?

Thrown into the

and

John 15:6



READ

John 15:1-17

How many times does Jesus use the word FRUIT?

What does Jesus command?

To one another.

John 15:12,17

How many times does Jesus command us to LOVE one another?

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

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY

Congratulations Rosy



I had the enormous privilege of presenting Rosy Carmichael with a Community Hero Award.

Rosy was nominated by the public for her "tireless" work for the Liberton community. She's been closely involved with the Liberton Association and the community council, in addition to school, church and rotary groups.

She also tends to the flowers outside the pharmacy on Liberton

Gardens, which really brighten up the street. Her own garden, where I presented her with the award, is further evidence of her horticultural talents, as you can see in the photo...

Thank you Rosy for all that you do.

Ian Murray MP

Reproduced by permission from Ian Murray's June 26 e-magazine

Thank You David!

The World Mission Team would like to express their thanks and appreciation to David Lamb, for his thorough, tireless and seamless work in organising the distribution and the count of the Christian Aid Gift Aid envelopes.

After years of dedication David is now retiring from this role. A big thank you to Brenda too; we know how much she does behind the scenes.

The World Mission Team are now looking for someone new to join our team and take over this role, for which full guidance and support will be given.

The money generated this year alone from envelope deliveries was £2,170; making it a really valuable fund-raiser. If you are interested, please text/email Roslyn on 07772115978/roslyn.wilson@blueyonder.co.uk





Volunteers needed

No experience is needed, all you need is a smile and be ready to join a busy but fun team. Volunteering within the café involves a variety of jobs, from serving the customers, preparing food in the kitchen, to cleaning the dishes. If you have been thinking about it for a while or its something that you are now thinking about doing, email Jenny at kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net.



Comfort International visit to Rwanda and DR Congo, 11th-24th July

by Roslyn Wilson

Founded in 1999 and based in Cumbernauld, Comfort International's vision is "to see wholeness, purpose and unity in people and communities across the nations of the world through the powerful love and practical action of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom." The aim is to help rebuild lives devastated by poverty, genocide and conflict and they now work with partners across five countries in central Africa.

Roslyn Wilson visited Rwanda and DR Congo, from 11–24 July, as part of a Comfort International group of eleven people from Scottish churches, together with a couple from Brazil. What follows here is a brief account of her 13 days in Africa

The journey began with major disruption: a delayed flight from Edinburgh caused the group to miss the connection in Qatar, requiring travel via Nigeria and involving security alerts in Doha. On arrival in Kigali, our luggage had not arrived, leaving them without suitcases for three days. Despite this difficult start, the long journey helped the group bond closely.

Soon after arriving, half the team travelled to DR Congo, through beautiful, terraced hillsides before reaching the poorer, ash-covered area around Goma.

Much of the time was spent visiting Comfort International projects. At Hope Village, we met children, many of whom had been child soldiers or had lived on the streets, and adults connected with the Heshima rape survivors' project. The team fed the children, sang, played games, and listened to testimonies.



Photo 1 - Hope Village children

One young man, Destin, described life on the streets from age eleven, his involvement in crime and conflict, and how faith and education helped him rebuild his future. Ebambai, a rape survivor and mother of seven, shared how the project had helped her send some children to school and start a small business selling potatoes and beans.

In Goma, the team stayed in a seminary and followed a daily routine of devotions, project visits, evening meals, and reflections. We travelled by borrowed ambulance to a remote hospital that had served displaced people. The hospital had very basic equipment, unreliable electricity, no perimeter wall, and urgent needs including an oxygen concentrator and surgery kits. Many patients were women affected by sexual

violence, yet the staff were described as deeply committed and loving.

Another powerful visit was to Saki orphanage, where the team fed children inside the orphanage and many more waiting outside. Although the building was plain and comfort limited, it provided safety, shelter, love, and basic education. The team also visited a church in Congo, joining in worship, drama, singing, dancing, and preaching.



Photo 2 - Cooking area at Saki

Back in Rwanda, reunited with the rest of the group, we visited the Street Kids Rescue project in Batsinda. We served food, led games and crafts, and heard stories of transformation. Former street children had graduated, started businesses, or returned as staff and mentors. The account stresses that change is slow, as many children arrive traumatised, defensive, and unable to trust.

The team also visited the Joy Centre, where young people learn sewing and welding, and a pineapple farm in Karengera. There, genocide survivor Magdalena gave a moving testimony of forgiveness and reconciliation while living near the man who killed her



Photo 3 - Batsinda Street Kid's Rescue

family. The group briefly helped weed a pineapple field and learned how Comfort International supports local farming and community development.

God is at work at the heart of this charity. Comfort International's work brings real transformation through practical support, faith, love, and long-term commitment. I am privileged to have heard and seen so much and the people we met will live in my heart forever.

If you want to know more about the work of Comfort International or are interested in sponsoring a child or donating to one of their many projects, please visit: comfortinternational.org.

The next supporters' day for Comfort International is on Saturday 6th September at the charity's headquarters in Cumbernauld. If you are interested in coming along then please text or email: 07772115978/roslyn.wilson@blueyonder.co.uk

An expanded account of Roslyn's visit, with more photos, can be found on the Church website.

SEECOS NEWS



Since April 2024 Liberton Kirk has been part of SEECOS (South East Edinburgh Church of Scotland), along with Liberton Northfield Church, Gracemount Church and Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun). The parish is a very large geographical area, with much new housing and a diverse population.

Prior to April 2024 the four churches had been worshipping and working together on an informal basis for many years. It has been difficult, however, to work out how best to organise ourselves formally as one entity. Additionally, since John Young retired in April 2025 Liberton Kirk has been without a Minister.

THERE IS HOPE!! In the last few months there has been something of a reset! SEECOS now has:

- A new Interim Moderator (the person appointed by Presbytery to chair the Elders meetings and guide the congregation during the vacancy), the Reverend Douglas Nicol
- A new framework in which to move forward – the Basis of Union we agreed in the first place, but no additional Covenant, which is not within Church Law.
- A new Kirk Session consisting of all the elders of the four churches at the date of Union.

This new Kirk Session will meet on 15th September, which will be a crucial meeting. The Session has to agree on the structures we use to manage SEECOS in future. It also has to agree a budget and address the problem of a continuing unsustainable overspend.

We are hopeful that if these matters are tackled positively this will enable us to move forward, to recruit a minister, and to work out how best to serve the people of this very large area. **Please pray for the Kirk Session, and particularly for the meeting on 15th September, for wisdom and determination to move SEECOS forward.**



Messy Church at Tron Kirk Moredun in Craigour Gardens

CRAFTS! SONGS! STORIES! FUN! FOOD!
FRIENDS AND FELLOWSHIP! ALL FOR FREE!

5 September 3-5pm

CHILDREN MUST BE WITH AN ADULT
ADULTS MUST BE WITH A CHILD



Family Games Night

in the afternoon

**2.30 – 4pm, 26th September,
Liberton Kirk Centre**

**Contact laura@libertonkirk.net for
more info**

Pram Praise

SONGS, BIBLE STORY, PRAYER CRAFT AND SHAKERS
JUST 20 MINS

For under 3s and their carers

Wed 9th September

Wed 14th October

Wed 11th November

Wed 9th December

11am, the Small Hall

Liberton Kirk Centre

for info contact laura@libertonkirk.net



Sunday Morning Worship in Liberton Kirk

Elders' Duties September to November

		September	October	November
9.30	1 West	Alan Carmichael	Christopher McLeod	David Lamb
	2 East	Eric Brown	Christina Young	Rosy Carmichael
11.00	1 West	Mary Davidson	Linda Skinner	Marie-Louise Robb
	2 East	Christine Johnson	Janice Wilson	Claire Mayberry
	3 Gallery	Eleanor Grieve	Netta Rough	Bill Robb
	4 Front gate	Jill Niven	Chris Brandie	Derek Jardine
	5 Banker	Rink van Dijke	Stewart Heney	David Lamb

Flower Dedications in September

Donor

In Memory of

6	Mrs Jessie Burns	James Burns
13	Jill Snowdon	Great Aunt: Mary Johnston
20	Jean Wilson	Minnie Brown
27	Harvest Thanksgiving	

Flower Convenor: Jill Snowdon, 07823335585

Flower Fund Treasurer: Kim Denholm, 0131 258 2312

Liberton Kirk Gardening Team

The Gardening Team carry out many jobs in all the Kirk Gardens. You may be surprised to learn the extent of the grounds that the team cover. To begin with there is the “Centre Court” garden to the rear of the Kirk Centre. This is the main garden where many colourful plants are grown. Vegetables are also grown here, and the Kirkgate Café has already benefitted from a supply of potatoes, carrots, onions and courgettes. Furthermore, there was a bumper crop of strawberries for the Café too.



**You don't
need green
fingers to
help!**

The other areas that the team maintain are the ground around the Kirk car park, the garden in front of Kirk House, the garden in front of the Kirk Centre and the courtyard garden. The courtyard garden is another source of produce for the café where apples, tomatoes and various herbs are grown. This is the outdoor seating area for the café and colourful flowers are grown here as well.

There is a lot of work to be done in all these areas and, should you feel like joining us, we meet in the café on Tuesdays at 9 AM. Do come and make yourself known to the team.

You don't have to be an expert gardener as there are general maintenance tasks which need to be performed including grass cutting, hedge trimming and everyone's favourite WEEDING.

Should you see any of the team in action please approach them for further information.

If you prefer you can send me an email via the office at facilities@libertonkirk.net

Alasdair Niven



**We meet in the café
on Tuesdays at 9am if
you want to join us.**

September Diary

Kirkgate Café open throughout the month
Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm, Tuesday 5pm-8pm
and Wednesday 6pm-8pm.

Tue 1	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space available in Kirk House with a Gathering at 12noon for joint prayer</i>
	9.30-10.30	<i>Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room</i>
	2.30pm	<i>Service in Liberton Brae Care Home</i>
	Evening	<i>Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade</i>
Wed 2	10-12noon	<i>Toddler Group in Recreation Hall</i>
	Evening	<i>Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs & 93rdA Guides</i>
Thu 3	2-4pm	<i>Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall</i>
	Evening	<i>Scouts</i>
Fri 4	1-4.30pm	<i>Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre</i>
	Evening	<i>93rdB Rainbows</i>
	7-9.30pm	<i>Family Ceilidh (Guild Event)</i>
Sat 5	10am-4pm	<i>SEECAT Day Retreat at Liberton Northfield</i>
	3-5pm	<i>Messy Church at Tron Kirk Moredun</i>
Sun 6	Two morning services and regular Sunday Club resume	
	8am	<i>Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook</i>
	9.30am	Shorter Service
	10.20am	<i>Prayer time in the Elders' Room</i>
	11am	Service in the Kirk and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club)
		Preacher: Elliot Mitchell
		Theme: Putting into practice
Mon 7	9-12noon	<i>Art Group in Recreation Hall</i>
	12.30-2pm	<i>Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall</i>
	2-4pm	<i>Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall</i>
	Evening	<i>Explorer Scouts</i>
Tue 8	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space available in Kirk House with a Gathering at 12noon for joint prayer</i>
	9.30-10.30	<i>Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room</i>
	Evening	<i>Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade</i>
Wed 9	10-12noon	<i>Toddler Group in Recreation Hall</i>
	11am	<i>Pram Praise in the Small Hall</i>
	Evening	<i>Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93rdA Guides</i>
	7.30-9.30	<i>Gathering for Praise in the Wilson Hall</i>
Thu 10	2-4pm	<i>Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall</i>
	Evening	<i>93rd Guides, Scouts, Rangers</i>
Fri 11	1-4.30pm	<i>Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre</i>
	Evening	<i>93rdB Rainbows</i>

	3pm – Saturday 3pm	24-hour Prayer at Tron Kirk Moredun
Sat 12	10am	SEECAT Pilgrimage Walk from Bridgend Farmhouse to St. Triduana's Well, Restalrig
Sun 13	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club)
		Preacher: t.b.c.
	3pm	Special Communion in the Anderson Hall
Mon 14	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	12.30-2pm	Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
Tue 15	9am-5pm	Prayer space available in Kirk House with a Gathering at 12 noon for joint prayer
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93 rd Rainbows, 93 rd A Brownies, 93 rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7.30pm	SEECOS Kirk Session meets at The Gilmerton Hub
Wed 16	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93 rd A Guides
Thu 17	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall
	Evening	93 rd Guides, Scouts
	7-9pm	Open Evening re Bethany Care Van/Night Shelter in Kirk House
Fri 18	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sat 19	9.45am	Guild Historical Walk leaves from Liberton Kirk Centre
Sun 20	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club)
		Preacher: Rev. Elaine Hogan
	2.30pm	SEECAT Business Meeting at St. Catherine's
Mon 21	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	12.30-2pm	Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 22	9am-5pm	Prayer space available in Kirk House with a Gathering at 12noon for joint prayer
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93 rd Rainbows, 93 rd A Brownies, 93 rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7pm	World Mission Team meets in Kirk House
Wed 23	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall

	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93 rd A Guides
	7.30pm	<i>Gathering for Praise</i> in Wilson Hall
Thu 24	2-4pm	Senior Citizens/ Club in Anderson Hall
	Evening	93 rd Guides, Scouts, Rangers
Fri 25	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sat 26	Morning	Rangers
	2.30-4pm	Family Games Night (in the afternoon!) in Liberton Kirk Centre
Sun 27 HARVEST THANKSGIVING		
	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk and on Zoom (Crèche & Sunday Club)
		Preacher: Elliot Mitchell
		Theme: A time to give thanks
	12.30pm	Farewell party for Elliot
	6.30pm	SEECOS Gathering for Worship at Liberton Northfield (Refreshments 6.30pm, Worship 7pm)
Mon 28	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	12.30-2pm	Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 29	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space</i> available in Kirk House with a Gathering at 12noon for joint prayer
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	2.30pm	<i>Service in Guthrie House Care Home</i>
	Evening	Squirrels, 93 rd Rainbows, 93 rd A Brownies, 93 rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7.30-8.45	<i>Gathering for Prayer</i> in Wilson Hall <i>All Welcome</i> A time to pray and listen to God. Your presence is appreciated, participation is not demanded
Wed 30	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93 rd A Guides

October 2026

Thu 1	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club
	Evening	93 rd Guides, Scouts
Fri 2	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sat 3	3-5pm	<i>Messy Church</i> at Tron Kirk Moredun

Sun 4 COMMUNION SUNDAY

8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
9.30am	Shorter Service
10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
11am	Service in the Kirk and on Zoom (Crèche & Sunday Club)
	Preacher: t.b.c.

What's happening with Buildings?

Kirk Roof

Re-slating of the south roof continues with work progressing west to east. The final east section is now stripped and new slate-work has commenced. Some slates are re-used and the shortfall are of Scottish slate recycled from demolition or re-roofing sources by Dalkeith Roofing. Ian Jameson has visited on a number of occasions and is impressed with the re-slating craftsmanship as Scottish slates are difficult to work being thicker and rougher than other natural products. You may have noticed some weeks of inactivity during the summer, this has been due to the availability of the specialist lead worker, a sub-contractor to Dalkeith Roofing.

Condition of the timber roof has been better than anticipated, with some evidence of small areas of timber replacement that must have been undertaken at some time in the second half of last century. Timber and lead work to the skylights and the roof access hatch have fared less well and require full rebuilding. Two additional roof access hatches are being incorporated into the re-slating to give safer access to the roof areas for the future.



I would expect that the scaffolds can be removed by the end of October, Thank you for your patience.

Kirk Boiler

There has been very useful engagement with the Church of Scotland heating consultant Andrew MacOwan, and a number of options have been pursued with contractors.

The cost of a replacement installed in the basement to current regulations is in the order of £40-50k.

An option is currently being considered to install a gas boiler in the Vestry with a considerable saving of some £20k. The Architect is currently being consulted to ensure Building Regs and Listed Building constraints are complied with before tabling the option to Local Leadership Team and Kirk Session.

Kirk Manse

The condition of the manse boundary wall with the cemetery has caused a legal concern with the sale. The sale of the manse is still in the hands of lawyers at time of writing.

Dave Storey

SEECOS Buildings Convener

Little Learners Nursery

Operating Hours

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm

New early bird session 7.30am-8.00am

Ages: 0-5 years

**Funded places available
for 3-4 years**

Little Learners Nursery is a new independently run nursery in Liberton (opposite Liberton Hospital).

Our aim is to provide exceptional childcare which will lay the key foundations for each individual child to continue through a lifelong love of learning. Each child will feel safe, secure and happy in their environment.

Our vision is to create a home from home environment incorporating learning through play in a safe, happy and stimulating environment.

We look forward to welcoming you and your little one to Little Learners.

**Our nursery has 3 playrooms:
Babies, Tweenies and a self-contained Pre-school unit with free flow to our safe and secure large garden area.**

www.llnursery.co.uk

**98 Lasswade Road, Edinburgh EH16 6SU
0131 664 3434 • info@lnursery.co.uk**



Blythswood Shoe Boxes 2026

It is that time of year again when we start thinking about the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal, and the preparation of the shoe boxes. We are confident that, as in previous years, we will have a great response from everyone.

Each person who receives a box filled with gifts feels very special, and knows that someone filled it with gifts (including a hat and scarf, toothpaste and toothbrush, a small toy and some soap) which bring sunshine, laughter and colour into the children's lives.

The shoe boxes will be given to families who have to make a choice between buying either food or fuel at Christmas, and where buying presents is not the greatest priority. A lot of these families live in houses with no running water, electricity or heating, and have to live in one or two rooms.

Leaflets that have to accompany the shoe boxes will be at both church welcome desks, and in the halls. These leaflets will give you suggestions of what to put in the boxes as well as all instructions. There will also be a box in the halls for any spare wool you may have, and patterns for the hats and toys.

'Please note this box is **ONLY** for spare wool and Patterns for small items that could usefully fill another shoebox. **IT IS DEFINITELY NOT FOR JUMBLE.** We are hoping that shoeboxes have been filled already'. There will also be a box in the halls foyer for any donations which you might like to give. Any contributions will be gratefully accepted. If you have empty shoe boxes that you can contribute these would also be very welcome.

The last date for collection will be Saturday October 31st (*if any are donated after that date they will be stored until next year*).

Thank you!

Veronica Craig



*Christian care for
body and soul*

Gilmerton Singers Community Choir

Come and join us in Liberton Kirk Hall on Friday mornings from 10 till 12.

We are a community choir, and the benefits of singing to health and wellbeing are widely recognised.

Join us for a taster session - no audition necessary. Or phone Muriel on 07890854118 or Liz on 07847795448.



Scottish Country Dancing

The Scottish Country Dancing Class meets every Tuesday evening in the Anderson Hall, Liberton Kirk Centre, from 8.10 pm – 9.45 pm. The new session begins on Tuesday 6th October and classes run until the end of March. We learn some new dances but we also enjoy some of the old favourites.

We would be delighted to welcome new members to join our group. This class is not suitable for complete beginners. However, don't worry if you haven't danced for a while or if you are not very experienced - the class is very informal and we all help one another. The most important thing is that we enjoy ourselves, while giving our bodies (and our brains!) a bit of a workout.

If you wish any further information please contact Mary Davidson on 664 6789 or email: countrydancing@libertonkirk.net



Church leaders welcome new £1million listed buildings repair fund

Rt Rev Gordon Kennedy, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Bishop John Keenan, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland, said the money will provide much needed support to maintain historically significant assets at the heart of community life.

The Scotland Places of Worship Fund will open this autumn to help congregations – from any faith group or denomination - recover VAT costs associated with repair works, if they worship in a listed building.

The pilot scheme was developed in response to the closure of the previous UK-wide Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme earlier this year which sent shock waves throughout faith communities.

Previously, the UK Government scheme enabled cost savings of more than £2 million in recent years for listed Scottish places of worship.

Mr Kennedy said: "I'm very grateful for the support of HES and the Scottish Government in recognising the importance of places of worship, which are so often cherished by people beyond members of the congregation.

"We know how difficult it is for communities to lose their place of worship and support for repairs and maintenance will help keep more places warm, wind and watertight, and it makes it just a wee bit easier for local volunteers to care for these historic assets."

You read more about this on the Church of Scotland website



What's on in 2026/27 at Liberton Kirk

www.libertonkirk.net



Sunday Morning Worship at Liberton Kirk 9.30am and 11am

Everybody is most welcome at both services. The first service is a short traditional service and the second is contemporary family worship with programmes for the children. The second service is also on Zoom—for access details contact rollkeeper@libertonkirk.net
(There is one joint service at 10.30am in July/August and for two Sundays at Christmas)

Children and Young People

Children are an important part of our church from when they are born, and parents with children are welcome in church for the services. Details of the usual programmes for crèche, children of nursery school age upwards and young people are given inside. We have a Pre-School Children and Families Worker (email laura@libertonkirk.net), who is there for the young families who visit our halls.

Sunday Evening Worship

Check notices and website for details of evening worship.
On the last Sunday of the month (usually) we join with the other SEECOS churches for worship and fellowship (6.30pm refreshments, 7pm worship).
Check notices and SEECOS website for details of venues and dates.

Minister—Vacant at Present

For church enquiries and pastoral matters contact:
minister@libertonkirk.net

Any updates and changes are advertised online and on notice boards.

The congregation at Liberton Kirk, together with Liberton Northfield Church, Gracemount Church and Tron Kirk (Gilmerton & Moredun) form SEECOS, the South East Edinburgh Church of Scotland.

A TYPICAL WEEK AT LIBERTON KIRK

SUNDAY

09.30 to 10.15	Morning Service (except July and August)
10.20 to 10.50	Prayer Group (except July and August) (ER)
10.00 to 10.20	Prayer Group (July & August only) (ER)
11.00 to 12.15	Morning Service, with creche and Sunday Club (except July and August)
10.30 to 11.30	Family Service, with crèche and Summer Sunday Club (July & August Only)
18.30 to 20.00	Café Church in the Kirk Centre 18.30 fellowship, refreshments and treats for 19:00 start, (check website for dates)

MONDAY

09.00 to 12.30	Art Group (RH)
09.00 to 14.00	Kirkgate Café (F)
13.00 to 14.00	Pickleball (RH)
14.00 to 16.00	Ladies Badminton (RH)
19.30 to 22.00	Guild (See Guild syllabus for exact dates) (AH)
PM	Explorers

TUESDAY

09.00 to 17.00	'Upper Room' Prayer Space (KH)
09.00 to 14.00	Kirkgate Café (F)
10.00 to 11.00	Flexercise for seniors (RH)
10.00 to 13.30	FATOWL (SH)
17.00 to 20.00	Kirkgate Café (F) (school term time only)
20.15 to 21.45	Scottish Country Dance Group - Oct to March (AH)
PM	Squirrels (AH)
PM	Rainbows
PM	Boys Brigade
PM	Brownies

WEDNESDAY

09.00 to 14.00	Kirkgate Café (F)
09.30 to 10.30	Pilates (AH)
10.00 to 12.00	Toddlers (RH)
11.00 to 11.30	Pram Praise (once a month) (SH)
11.00 to 12.30	Cheyne Gang (fortnightly) (AH)
12.15 to 14.30	Sing and Sign (SH)
18.00 to 20.00	Kirkgate Café (F) (school term time only)
19.30 to 21.00	Gathering for Praise (alternate weeks) (WH)
PM	Beavers

PM	Brownies
PM	Cubs
PM	Guides

THURSDAY

09.00 to 14.00	Kirkgate Café (F)
09.30 to 10.45	Jo Jingles (SH)
10.30 to 11.30	Teensplus Basketball (RH)
14.00 to 16.00	Senior Citizens Club (AH)
PM	Guides
PM	Scouts
PM	Rangers (Various dates)

FRIDAY

10.00 to 11.45	Caterpillar Music (RH)
10.00 to 12.00	Gilmerton Singers (AH)
10.15 to 12.00	Friday Fellowship Link Group (MR)
13.00 to 16.30	Warm Hub and IT Clinic (F)
16.30 to 20.00	Young Life, Wyld Life Club (Halls Vary)
PM	Rainbows

SATURDAY

Variable	Occasional Guild events including Coffee Mornings (see Guild syllabus)
16.00 to 18.00	Family Events (last Saturday in month - except June, July & December) (ALL HALLS)

To find out more about any of the above, email facilities@libertonkirk.net for contact information.

Hall Abbreviations:

AH - Anderson Hall	MR - McDonald Room
EP - Ewen Pavilion	RH - Recreation Hall
ER - Elders' Room in the Church	SH - Small Hall
F- Foyer	WH - Wilson Hall (Upstairs)
KH - Kirk House	

The halls or smaller rooms can be booked for meetings, conferences, parties etc. by individuals or organisations.
Email facilities@libertonkirk.net for information or bookings.

For urgent issues, phone 07478 111 407

Other Worship Opportunities

Pram Praise for Toddlers and their Carers

Once a month in the Small Hall, timed to coincide with the toddlers' group on Wednesday mornings, 20 minutes of relaxed worship at 11am especially for the under-threes. Dates will be advertised.

Messy Church/Family Events

Messy Church is now held at Tron Kirk Moredun on the first Saturday of the month (except July, August and December) from 3pm to 5pm—a fun time of crafts, games, friendship, worship and food.

At Liberton Kirk, usually on the last Saturday of the month (except June, July and December) there is a family fun time in the Kirk Centre, different each time: games, activities or maybe just a film. Watch the website and notice boards for dates and times.

Gathering for Praise

Church musicians/singers meet on alternate Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Kirk Centre to worship God as they plan for coming Sundays. Open to all.

Monthly Services in Homes and Hospitals

Liberton Brae—First Tuesday, Guthrie House – Last Tuesday, both 2.30pm.

A Praying Church

Liberton Kirk believes in the importance and power of prayer, individually, in small groups and as a church. Prayer requests can be left in the boxes provided, and will be prayed for by the Prayer Team. There is a prayer meeting between morning services and prayer ministry after the second service. On the last Tuesday evening of most months at 7.30pm we meet to pray as a church community in the Wilson Hall or the Kirk (or sometimes on Zoom). A programme of daily devotions is online and in the magazine.

The “Upper Room”

A space is available for private prayer from 9am to 5pm on Tuesdays, with a short time of prayer with others at 12noon. This is usually in Kirk House, next to the Kirk Centre. It is closed in July and over the Christmas period.

Link Groups

Liberton Kirk believes in the importance of small groups in the life of the congregation and encourages everybody to get involved. In these groups people find companionship and support in their daily lives. All have an element of fellowship, Bible Study and prayer, and support for the church's mission. Group details and contacts are in the church magazine.



Discipleship in John A course for explorers

The symbol of the Gospel According to John is the flying eagle, and once it gets its talons into you it doesn't let go. Over the centuries, John has intrigued and inspired many Christians on their spiritual journey. In October you are invited to be part of a group exploring the Gospel under the title 'Discipleship in John,' thinking about what it might say to us today on our journey with Jesus in the context of our parish. No need to sign up, just come along, and, if you can, read the whole Gospel beforehand.

Who: For SEECOS members and anyone interested in exploring the Gospel of John; led by Jared Hay.

When: 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th of October, 7.30-9pm.

Where: Wilson Hall, Liberton Kirk.

Week 1 Invitation to discipleship. The first words of Jesus in John are, 'what are you looking for,' followed by the invitation to 'come and see.' This session invites people's perceptions of and questions about the Gospel, plus an overview of the book emphasising its purpose.

Week 2 Discipleship as witness. Using the story of the woman at the well in chapter 4 as an example of witnessing, we will ask what we can learn from her, reflecting on how we could put it into practice in our parish.

Week 3 Discipleship as 'bearing fruit.' In chapter 15 Jesus teaches that if we are to bear fruit, we need to be connected to him. But what is fruit? Looking back to Isaiah 5 we will see the importance of justice, righteousness and love as fruit, and ask how we can bear fruit in serving our community.

Week 4 Discipleship as seeking unity. In chapter 17 Jesus prays that his followers 'may be one' as Jesus and the Father are one. How can that unity be experienced among us and with other congregations in the area in order to let the world see it? What practical steps can we take to develop it?

Memorial Service – Advance Notice

On the evening of December 9th we will hold our annual Memorial Service in the Kirk. It is something we have done for a number of years, always on the second Wednesday of December. The service gives people who have been bereaved (recently or some time ago) a chance to remember their loved ones at a time of year when they are particularly missed, and to light a candle. Anyone is welcome to come along at 7pm that evening and there will be reminders nearer the time.

In the Kirkyard

You are invited to explore our lovely peaceful outdoor space, and to sit for a while on any of the benches. Feel free to walk on the grass, where there are interesting gravestones, but take care if it is damp and slippery. The Kirkyard is open from 8am to 5pm (extended during July and August to 8pm).



There is usually something to look at and read if you are walking in the Kirkyard. The Word for Today sets out in several stages a short passage from the Bible, exploring what it says to us today. It begins on the wall of the Offering House (the small building just inside the main gate) and can then be found on the benches going round the church anti-clockwise. During July and August each year it takes the form of a Peace Pathway. This September it is John 17, 20-26, which is Jesus' prayer for all believers.

The Offering House

The Offering House (*see photograph right*) has a space for collections for the Food Bank, Fresh Start, printer cartridges for recycling and spare wool, fabrics etc. for making items for charities. Please read the notices and only leave the items we can make use of. We cannot accept furniture or surplus clothing and we no longer collect bottle tops. The Offering House also has a history corner, with information about its own history, and some leaflets about the Kirk and Kirkyard, together with a reference book giving the gravestone inscriptions. There are also general leaflets and the current church magazine and there is often a display about one particular part of Liberton Kirk life. The Offering House is open during the opening hours of the Kirkyard.



Choir for Lessons and Carols Service

Would you like to sing in a four-part choir for the Lessons and Carols Service on Wednesday 16th December? There will be six weekly rehearsals in the church on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm starting on 10th November. The rehearsal on 8th December may have to be moved to Monday 7th to avoid the Kirk Session so please reserve that date as well if you can. If you are used to part-singing and reading music that will help considerably, but whatever your musical background please contact me if you enjoy singing and would like to take part.



Ruth Davies, tel. 664 3608

Pilates Classes for Beginners/Intermediates

Would you like to improve your core strength, posture, mobility and flexibility? Pilates is a gentle but challenging form of exercise, suitable for everyone. Come and join my award winning, no judgement, 1 hour long classes in Liberton Kirk Halls every Wednesday at 9.30am. Just bring your own mat and a small head cushion. If you would prefer to practise Pilates from the comfort of your own home, join my 35 minute classes every Monday and/or Tuesday at 10am on Zoom.



Classes in the Kirk Halls cost £10.00 per class if you book in for the monthly block or £11 if you want to drop in to class (payable on attendance). Zoom classes are £9.00 per session. Call 07968 862 755 or email nickypender@icloud.com if you would like further information.

**Pilates with Nicky Pender; Inaugural winner of the
South Edinburgh Business Hero Award 2026 🏆**

Bethany Open Evening

Thursday 17th September, 7pm–9pm, Kirk House



Are you looking for a meaningful new challenge — one that makes a real difference in the community? Come along to our Bethany Open Evening and discover how the Bethany Night Shelter and Bethany Evening Care Van support people who need care, warmth, practical help and a friendly face.

You'll meet members of the team, hear what volunteering is really like, and find out whether this could be the next step for you.

Join us for an informal evening of conversation, questions and encouragement.

Refreshments will be provided, and for more information contact

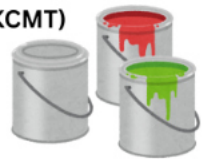
Eleanor Grieve, ellie.57@hotmail.co.uk



Thank you

During a week in July a team of volunteers worked so hard to improve the kirk centre. Two hall floors were vanished, over 20 doors painted, the walls in the corridor were painted to name but a few of the jobs. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped, all your time and effort is much appreciated and has really improved the kirk centre. Another part of the team came in to deep clean the kirk centre kitchen, they worked amazingly hard so a big thank you to them also.

Dave Storrey (Buildings) and Jenny Thomasi (KCMT)



LK Celtic Daily Devotions

In 2015, as Liberton Kirk celebrated a significant milestone, John Young and I set out a fresh way to read the Bible and pray every day.

We followed the Celtic rhythm of prayers in the morning, at midday and in the evening and the LK Daily Devotions were born!

It has been an amazing privilege – and a labour of love – to journey through the Bible books, letters, stories, characters and people over the 10 years before I passed the baton to Laura Morgan last year. She has travelled with David, God's Warrior King this year I can assure you – only because the material was well planned months and months ahead!!

The Midday prayers have been guided many months by the prayer focus supplied by Open Doors and Tearfund and I encourage you to keep praying outward as well as nearer to home.

Laura will bring her own touch to this spiritual venture across SEECOS from January and I hope that we will each and all keep on feeding and reading and praying day by day. And don't forget to look at the weekly Sunday reflection on the Verse for the Week on YouTube and Facebook! Once again, thank you, thank you for all the encouragements along the way!

Alistair Cameron

Liberton Kirk Devotions September 2026

The king then took an oath: “As surely as the Lord lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble, I will surely carry out this very day what I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel.

1 Kings 1 verses 29 and 30

During 2026 we have been looking daily at the theme of DAVID, GODLY WARRIOR KING. We have considered many of the things he did and said as well as journeying through the PSALMS.

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

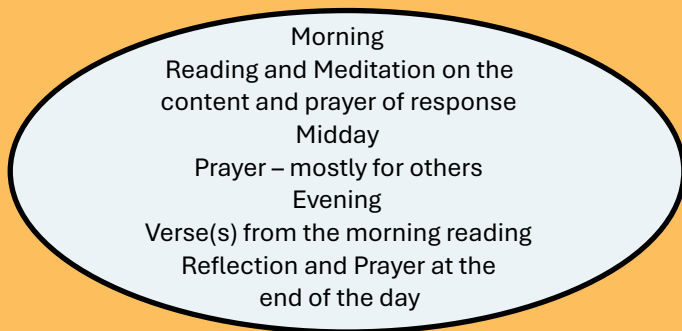
In September we continue this journey with David and the kingdom he established with his son, Solomon.



Sing to the Lord a new song
Psalm 96:1

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



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

September Daily Prayers

- Tues 1** **Morning – 2 SAMUEL 23:1-7** – Pause and listen with God this morning. Reflect on these words, then turn to Him in prayer.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on our wider SEECOS Church family.
Evening – Read the words again, reflect, and pray to the LORD our God.
- Wed 2** **Morning – 2 SAMUEL 23:8-17** – Consider these words this morning, then respond in prayer to this God, our God.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on local business and shop owners.
Evening – Read the set verses again, reflect on what is said, and then pray.
- Thurs 3** **Morning – 2 SAMUEL 23:18-39** – Pause with God and consider these words this morning, then pray in response to Him.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on staff in local medical centres.
Evening – Read these words again, take time to reflect, and pray to this God.
- Fri 4** **Morning – 2 SAMUEL 24:1-17** – Pause with Jesus and consider these words and truths afresh, then pray to this God.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on those on our church Prayer List.
Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray in response.
- Sat 5** **Morning – 2 SAMUEL 24:18-25** – Take time this morning to reflect on these words, then pray to God in response.
Midday – Pray the Lord's Prayer as your own prayer today.
Evening – Read the set words again, reflect, and pray to this God of ours.
- Sun 6** **Morning – 1 KINGS 1:1-27** – Pause with God and consider these words today, then pray in response.
Midday – Pray the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.
Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to this God.
- Mon 7** **Morning – 1 KINGS 1:28-53** – Pause with God today, consider these truths, and respond in prayer with Him.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on local nurseries and schools.
Evening – Read the words again, reflect, and pray in response to our God.
- Tues 8** **Morning – 1 KINGS 2:1-12** – Pause with God this morning. Prayerfully consider these words, then turn to Him in prayer.
Midday – Take time to listen for God: ask, seek, knock, and hear.
Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to the LORD our God.
- Wed 9** **Morning – 1 KINGS 2:13-38** – Consider this passage this morning, then respond in prayer to this God, our God.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on local funeral directors.
Evening – Read the set verses again, reflect on what is said, and pray to this God we believe in.
- Thurs 10** **Morning – 1 KINGS 2:39-46** – Pause with God and take time to consider these verses, then pray in response to Him.
Midday – We pray God's blessing on staff at Mortonhall Crematorium.
Evening – Read these words again, reflect, and pray to Father God.

- Fri 11 Morning – 1 KINGS 3:1-15** – Pause with Jesus today, consider these verses, and pray to Him.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our church Prayer List.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray in response.
- Sat 12 Morning – 1 KINGS 3:16-28** – Spend time with God this Saturday morning, reflecting on these words, then pray to Father God humbly and honestly.
 Midday – Pray the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to this God of ours as we step into a new week together with Him.
- Sun 13 Morning – 1 KINGS 4:1-19** – Pause with God and consider these words today, then pray in response.
 Midday – Pray the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to this God.
- Mon 14 Morning – 1 KINGS 4:20-28** – Pause with God and consider these words, then respond in prayer with Him.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our neighbours.
 Evening – Read the words again, reflect, and pray in response to our God.
- Tues 15 Morning – 1 KINGS 4:29-34** – Pause with God this new day. Consider these words, then turn to Him in prayer.
 Midday – Take time to listen for God: ask, seek, knock, and hear.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to the LORD our God.
- Wed 16 Morning – 1 KINGS 5** – Pause with God today, consider this passage, and respond in prayer to Jesus.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on your family members.
 Evening – Read the set verses again, reflect on all that is said, and pray to this God we believe in.
- Thurs 17 Morning – 1 KINGS 6:1-13** – Pause with God and take time to consider these words, then pray in response to Him.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on friends and colleagues.
 Evening – Read these words again, reflect, and pray to Father God.
- Fri 18 Morning – 1 KINGS 6:14-38** – Pause with Jesus, consider these words, and pray to this God.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our church Prayer List.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray in response.
- Sat 19 Morning – 1 KINGS 7:1-12** – Take time this morning to consider these words, then pray to God in response.
 Midday – Pray the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.
 Evening – Read the set words again, reflect, and pray to this God of ours.
- Sun 20 Morning – 1 KINGS 8:1-21** – Pause with God and consider these words today, then pray in response.
 Midday – Pray the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to this God.

- Mon 21 Morning – 1 KINGS 8:22-61** – Pause with God today, consider these truths, and respond in prayer with Him: asking, seeking, and knocking.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on our local councillors.
 Evening – Read the words again, reflect, and pray in response to our God.
- Tues 22 Morning – 1 KINGS 8:62-66** – Pause with God this morning. Prayerfully consider these words, then turn to Him in prayer.
 Midday – Take time to listen for God: ask, seek, knock, and hear.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to the LORD our God.
- Wed 23 Morning – 1 KINGS 9:1-9** – Consider this passage as the new day begins, then respond in prayer to this God, our God.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on someone you spoke with this week.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect on what is said, and pray to God .
- Thurs 24 Morning – 1 KINGS 9:10-28** – Pause with God and take time to consider these words, then pray in response to Him.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those waiting for a medical appointment.
 Evening – Read these words again, reflect, and pray to Father God.
- Fri 25 Morning – 1 KINGS 10:1-13** – Pause with Jesus, consider these words, and pray to this God we believe in.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on those on our church Prayer List.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray in response .
- Sat 26 Morning – 1 KINGS 10:14-29** – Take time this Saturday morning to consider these words, then pray to God in response.
 Midday – Pray the Lord’s Prayer as your own prayer today.
 Evening – Read the set words again, reflect, and pray to this God of ours.
- Sun 27 Morning – 1 KINGS 11:1-13** – Pause with God and consider these words today, then pray in response.
 Midday – Pray the Prayer for the Month as your own prayer.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to this God.
- Mon 28 Morning – 1 KINGS 11:14-25** – Pause with God today, consider these truths, and respond in prayer with Him: asking, seeking, and knocking.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on Kirkgate Cafe.
 Evening – Read the words again, reflect, and pray in response to our God.
- Tues 29 Morning – 1 KINGS 11:26-40** – Pause with God as the day begins. Prayerfully consider these words, then turn to Him in prayer.
 Midday – Take time to listen for God: ask, seek, knock, and hear.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect, and pray to the LORD our God.
- Wed 30 Morning – 1 KINGS 11:41-43** – Consider this passage as the new day begins, then respond in prayer to this God, our God.
 Midday – We pray God’s blessing on someone we are concerned about.
 Evening – Read the verses again, reflect on what is said, and pray to this God we believe in.

Kirkgate Café News

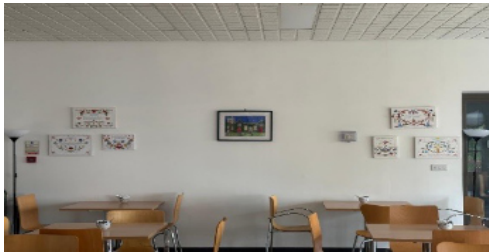


**Open Monday to Thursday 9am – 2pm
(last serve at 1.30pm)
Evening Café Term Time: Tuesday 5pm – 8pm and
Wednesday 6pm – 8pm**

What an incredibly busy Summer we have had this year thanks to all the amazing customers and our fantastic volunteer.

A massive thank you to the team of volunteers who came in and deep cleaned the café's kitchen led by Jill Niven on the week the café was closed.

Also thank you to the Kirk centre maintenance team for painting the café walls during the week in July. There are new paintings by two local artists which really do brighten the walls up.



Produce from the garden!

The café has been benefiting from the local produce from the garden just round the back in the courtyard which means it has zero-carbon footprint. The gardening team have grown strawberries, green beans, potatoes, courgettes and carrots.

Kirkgate Café needs YOU!!

As the café gets busier, we could do with some more volunteers to help in the café. Tuesday lunchtime especially could do with a few more volunteers. For more information email Jenny at the email below.

Kirkgate Evening Café

Kirkgate Evening café is now open during school term time, Tuesday 5pm – 8pm and Wednesday 6pm-8pm. The evening café takes on more of a coffee shop feel doing hot drinks, cold drinks and cakes. The evening café team would love to grow therefore a few more volunteers would be beneficial. Would you be able to help on Tuesday or Wednesday once a month? We would love to hear from you.

Best Wishes, Jenny Thomasi, Kirkgate Café Manager
Email: kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net, Phone: 07894056216

Senior Citizens Club - Thursdays 2-4pm

Hullo everyone, we're back!

Last session was great. We had fantastic musicians with much dancing and singing and fun. We celebrated members' birthdays and had several Afternoon Teas throughout the year.



We always have something special around Easter. This year, each of our tables chose a colour and each table had to decorate their table in their chosen colour and dress up in the same colour too.

Our members were fabulous! What a super production each table put out. You have no idea the number of

Easter Eggs were bought as prizes! Our Christmas Party is amazing, but you have to be there to see it!!!

Our members are such fantastic people whom we all love. We have super helpers who make everything go with a swing.

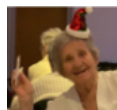
But we can do with more bus escorts. Contact Jenni (cheeses@hotmail.co.uk) if you can help.



Programme and Entertainment for September:

3	Stevie Cowan and Afternoon Tea	17	Alan Weatherhead
10	The Jabs	24	Trina Milne and Raffile

I asked one of our members, INA SUTHERLAND, what she thought of the club.



How long have you been coming to The Club? 2 years

What is it about the Club you like most? *It is the friendliest club I have attended. You feel your all part of a family – companionship. There is no nastiness whatsoever.*

Are you happy with the format on a Thursday? *I am very happy.*

Would you change anything? *No, it's so open. There's no rules.*

What do you like least about the Club? *Because there's so many people, you don't always get to know anyone at other tables.*

If you're talking to a friend who was thinking about joining, how would you describe the Club? It's been a life saver for me!

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 contact the editor at magazine@libertonkirk.net

SEECAT

As well as the four SEECOS churches (Liberton Kirk, Gracemount, Tron Kirk Gilmerton and Moredun and Liberton Northfield) there are three Roman Catholic Churches (the South Edinburgh Cluster) and one Scottish Episcopal Church in South East Edinburgh. We meet and worship and witness with them under the banner of SEECAT (South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together). We now also have an Associate Member, the Old Catholic Apostolic Church.



Through our annual programme we get to know each other better, and we find ways we can help each other in reaching out to others around us. The 2026/27 programme is available now from the Kirk Centre entrance, the Offering House or the welcome desks in church. There is a website (www.seecat.org) which has links to the churches and a quarterly newsletter **Crosstalk** which is on the website or available in churches – the August issue is available at Liberton Kirk now. Look out too for a publicity leaflet (see left) which explains who we are, what we do and why we do it. You are warmly invited to join us at any of our activities!

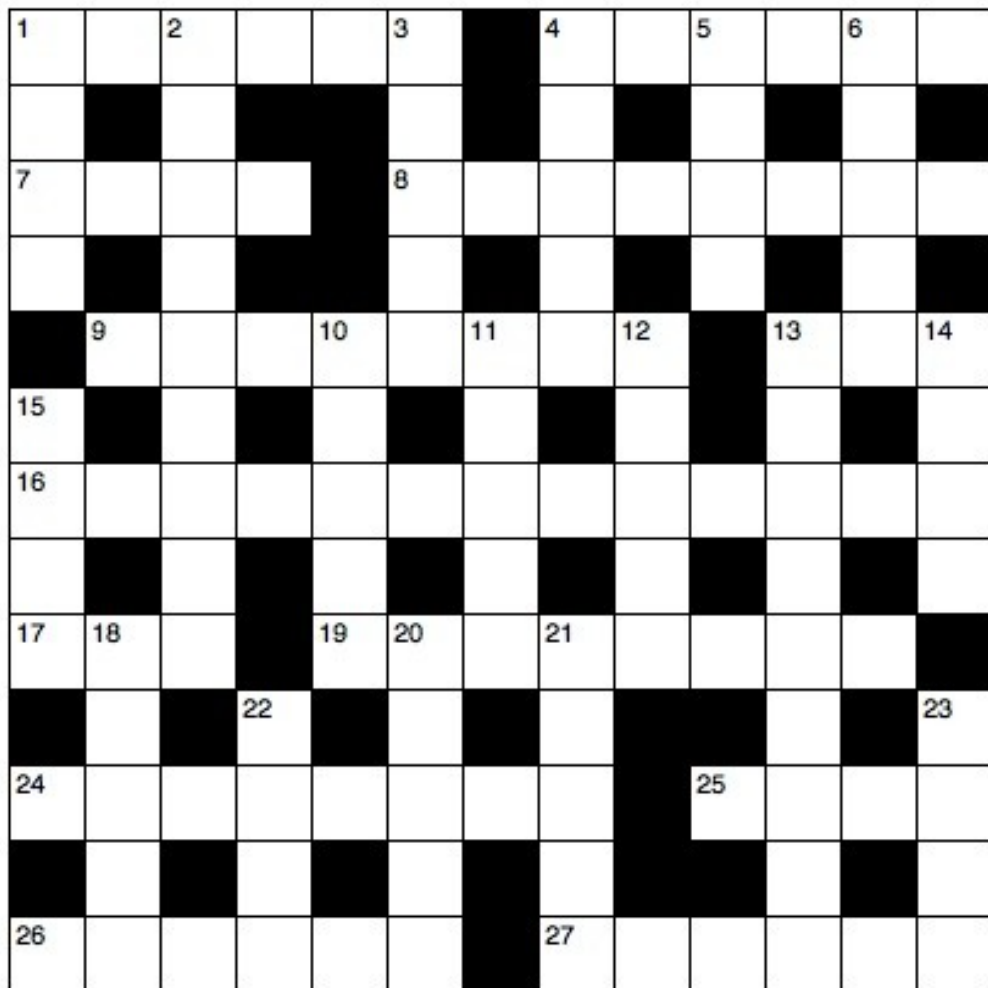
Coming up in September:

A Retreat at Liberton Northfield Church, 280 Gilmerton Road, on Saturday 5th September from 10am to 4pm, led by Gerry Mulvenna on the theme “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you”. No need to book; just come along on the day and bring a packed lunch; tea/coffee will be provided. There will be a mixture of prayer, worship, sharing (for those who wish to), short talks from Gerry and time for reflecting. Hopefully there will be something for everybody, and everybody is welcome.

A Pilgrimage Walk from the Bridgend Farmhouse Peace Garden (EH16 4TE) to St.Triduana’s Well in Restalrig (EH7 6LF) on Saturday 12th September, starting from Bridgend at 10am. This is about 6 miles. Bring a packed lunch and look forward to appreciating God’s creation, to the chat and the company. There will be prayer, listening, silence, possibly reflections, and a symbolic act of worship at the end. More details on the SEECAT website – any queries email pilgrim@seecat.org You can note your interest at this email address too and receive any updates if you wish, or just turn up at Bridgend on the day – all will be welcome.

Ruth Davies, tel. 664 3608

September Crossword



Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)

- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
 19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8)
 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)
 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
 2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
 3 O raid (anag.) (5)
 4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)
 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
 13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
 14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)
 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
 18 'But I am afraid that just — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)
 21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
 22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)
 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)

Summer Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

DOWN: 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils, 20, Give.

Reflections on Faith and Artistic Expression

The Rev Professor David Fergusson preached at the opening event of the Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts Festival in St Giles' Cathedral on August 16th. He offered a thoughtful reflection on the relationship between Christian faith, storytelling, beauty and artistic expression. Beginning with Jesus as teacher and storyteller, he focused on the parable often known as the *Prodigal Son*, noting that it may also be called the story of the *Two Brothers* or the *Forgiving Father*. This variety of titles highlighted one of the sermon's central themes: that biblical stories speak from several angles and continue to provoke reflection across generations.

The parable was presented not simply as a story of repentance and forgiveness, but as a rich exploration of mercy, justice and family relationships. The younger son's return and the father's generous welcome were interpreted as a sign of God's mercy towards those who turn back in penitence. Yet the preacher also drew attention to the elder brother, whose resentment raises difficult questions about fairness, recognition and the cost of forgiveness. By considering the absent mother, and recalling a friend's reflections on loss of her son, the sermon widened the familiar story into a more complex meditation on grief, love and divine compassion.

From there, the sermon moved to the place of art in religion. Jesus' parables were described as artistic works in themselves: simple in form, yet deep in meaning, capable of disturbing, comforting and transforming those who hear them. The preacher argued that art is not merely something religion borrows for decoration or communication; rather, faith naturally expresses itself through artistic form. The Psalms were offered as evidence of this, giving worshippers images and phrases with which to pray, praise and encounter the beauty and glory of God.

St Giles' Cathedral provided a powerful setting for this theme. The preacher pointed to the building's vaulted ceiling, colour, light, space, banners, preaching, prayer and music as expressions of sacred art. While acknowledging the Protestant tradition's historic suspicion of visual images, the sermon also celebrated the recovery of beauty through stained glass, especially Douglas Strachan's depiction of Christ walking on the water and stilling the storm. Music was also honoured as central to worship, with hymns described as able to sustain faith even in grief.

In conclusion, the sermon marked the opening of the Sacred Arts Festival by affirming the continuing bond between faith and creativity. It celebrated the festival as a sign that Christian worship and imagination remain vitally connected through music, writing, painting and other forms. Returning to the psalm's call for all creation to praise God and the parable's image of a homecoming feast, the sermon invited the congregation to recognise sacred art as a way of celebrating God's mercy, beauty and generous welcome.

John Cowie

Now in its 9th year, the Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts brings a distinctive spiritual dimension to the wonderful mix of shows and performances that make up Edinburgh's famous Fringe. For two millennia, the Christian religion has stimulated a wealth of music, painting, poetry, drama, sculpture and architecture, as well as tapestry, embroidery and floral art.

David Fergusson is Regius Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge. He studied philosophy and theology in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Oxford. He took up his Oxford post in April 2021 after Professorships in Aberdeen and Edinburgh. He serves as Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland and Dean of the Order of the Thistle.

Volunteers needed

For the Kirk Centre

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- Periodic deep cleaning



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SEECOS

South East Edinburgh Church of Scotland Service times

Liberton Kirk, Kirkgate
9.30 and 11am

Liberton Northfield, 11am
280 Gilmerton Road

Tron Kirk Moredon, 10.30am
6 Craighour Gardens

Gracemount, 11am
Gracemount Primary School,
45 Gracemount House Drive,

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It's either an appeal to youth
culture or a reminder that the
boiler hasn't been replaced yet.

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

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Leaf Clearing
Weed control
Garden Makeovers
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Landscaping

Liberton Kirk - names and addresses

Locum: Elliot Mitchell

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

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

Youth and Children's Worker: vacant

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

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

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

Treasurer: Jenny MacKenzie, Craiglockhart 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: John Cowie, email: magazine@libertonkirk.net

Organist: Calum Gubby, 104 Bughtlin Park, EH12 8UT
tel 07952 902 292. email: calumgubby@protonmail.com

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

Convener of Visitors to the Elderly: Contact Linda Wright, (see above)
for church notices. email: churchsecretary@libertonkirk.net

Neighbourhood Scheme

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

Sunday Services : 9.30am, 11am & 6.30pm

Except during July/August and for two weeks at Christmas when there is only one morning service, starting at 10:30am. More details can be found on the diary pages.

The 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 the Church office.

Useful Websites

SEECOS	www.seecos.org.uk
Liberton Kirk	www.libertonkirk.net
Church of Scotland	www.churchofscotland.org.uk
SEECAT	www.seecat.org
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

Editor's note

My thanks to all the contributors for this month's magazine. Material for the next issue is welcome and can be sent at any time, but **no later** than Sunday October 13.

Information should be sent to **magazine@libertonkirk.net**

The magazine is distributed throughout the area and to members of the congregation. Printed copies can be obtained at church or from the office. The magazine is also available on the website to view or download.

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

John Cowie

Useful numbers

BT Faults	0800 800 151
Virgin Mediafaults	0845 454 1111
	(151 from a Virgin landline)
Electricity - power loss	0800 092 9290
GasEmergency	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 (RoadFaults)	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



Link Groups

Weekly Groups

Friday Fellowship—Friday morning in the Kirk Centre
Ruth Davies, 664 3608
The Young Adults—is taking a break.

Fortnightly Groups

Pathfinders—Tuesday evening in various homes
Veronica Craig, veronicacraig41@gmail.com
Thrive—Thrive - Wednesday evening in various homes
Andrea Wilson, andrea.doeschl@gmail.com,
07910 471174
New Habits—Wednesday evening in various homes
Barbara Cameron, 07594195084
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

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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