

November 2026
No 742



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

libertonkirk.net



Daily Devotions
November
Pages **

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 Gilmeron 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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'Finding ourselves in the right place!'



Dear Friends,
One of my relaxations in retirement is volunteering at Edinburgh Zoo, and I'm writing this letter on returning from a day

supporting the Zoo's celebration of World Sloth Bear Day! I was at a stall where we engaged with families on the challenges facing bears in different habitats, ran competitions, and invited youngsters to commit themselves to do one new action to protect our environment. I returned home with a great sense of fulfilment!

There is now a marked Autumnal touch to the city and countryside around, and comments about 'nights are fair drawing in!' will soon be overtaken by the change in our clocks which signal the arrival of Winter days ... and before we know it, the Festive Season will be upon us!

In all the busyness at this time of year, let's still try to step aside to review our commitments in life. Time is a precious commodity ... once a day passes by it never returns! So let's pause and reflect on the way we are using the time we have each been given in life ... asking if there are

commitments in community, church, personal life and to the environment that we should take up or strengthen or wind down.

Fulfilment in life is grounded on finding ourselves in the right place, as Michel Quoist puts into the words of his prayer:

The Brick

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement.

Then, with a precise stroke of his trowel spread another layer

And without a by-you-leave, laid on another brick.

The foundations grew visibly,

The building rose, tall and strong, to shelter people.

I thought, Lord, of that brick buried in the darkness at the base of the big building.

No one sees it, but it accomplishes its task, and the other bricks need it.

Lord, what difference whether I am on the roof-top or in the foundations of your building, as long as I stand faithfully at the right place?

May you know God's fulfilment and peace this Autumn and always.

Douglas Nicol

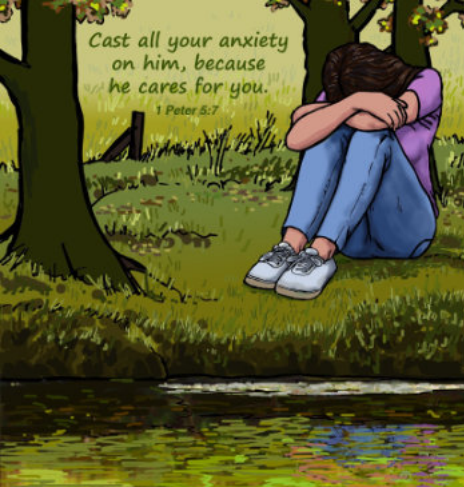
From the editor:

November is a busy month; from All Saints Day on the first, through Remembrance, to Advent Sunday. That's the story of this month's front cover. Inside there are other stories, of Liberton Kirk and the communities of SEECOS. As well as the usual reports about Liberton Kirk activities I hope to introduce readers to people and activities from our sister congregations.

In this magazine, Gordon Pennykid writes about the work of the congregation at Liberton Northfield. Rona Lawson introduces the Space for Growth Garden, also based at Liberton Northfield, and reports on the Afternoon Tea held in support of the SEECOS Foodbank at The Tron Kirk Moredun. Together, these articles begin to reflect the people and mission we share through SEECOS, and I hope to include many more.

I would also value your comments and suggestions, particularly ideas for topics you would like future magazines to explore. If you have a story you would like to share, I would be delighted to hear from you.

John Cowie



Prayer for November

Lord in heaven,
Our rock and stronghold.
We look to you for guidance,
strength and resilience,
to withstand the hardships of this world.
With you in our hearts,
our joy abounds.



Lest we forget..

There will be two opportunities to remember those who have given their lives in wars and to pray for peace. On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, the second service begins at 10.45am, and there will be an Act of Remembrance and the two-minute silence at 11 o'clock. This service will be followed by a short time of remembrance at around 12 noon at the war memorial in the cemetery.

On Armistice Day, Wednesday 11th November, there will be a short time of reflection and prayer in Kirk House at 10.45am, including the two-minute silence at 11am. Kirk House will be open from 10am if you wish to come earlier and you are welcome to stay on for a while afterwards. Cups of tea or coffee will be available and members of the Prayer Team will be around.

CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Once a year we invite anybody who would like to sing to join our four-part choir for the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, which this year is on Wednesday 16th December at 7.30pm.

Rehearsals take place on the six preceding Tuesdays, starting on Tuesday 10th November, from 7.30pm to 9pm. If you would like to sing please get in touch (telephone number below).

Being able to read music is a big help, particularly if you want to sing the alto, tenor or bass parts, and you will need a pencil with you at rehearsals to make notes on the music. If you can't come on the 10th but would like to join the choir from the following week please let me know.

Everybody is welcome to come along to the service and hear the results of the six weeks of hard work, as well as joining in with Advent and Christmas hymns and hearing the well-loved readings. Ruth Davies, tel. 664 3608





We have been keeping the flowers going by continuous deadheading and planting some collected seeds for next year. The vegetables are now coming to an end bar some leeks which will be ready in the next few weeks.

We have extended one of the raised beds and we have used some of the composted leaves from the Kirkyard to start filling it but will need top soil to finish it off. We have also collected runners from the strawberries and have planted some of them to create new strawberry plants for next year.

One of the raised beds was not very productive this year and we discovered that roots from one of the trees had travelled under the stones into the bed. We have cut the root, dug out the bed and removed all traces of root. It should be much more productive.

Over this year we have started composting by using grass cuttings, leaves and materials from the garden mixed with straw and horse manure. This will be used next year to improve the fertility of the soil and create better water retention.

Slow progress is being made at the bin store fence by applying wood preservative, but it is a tedious task.

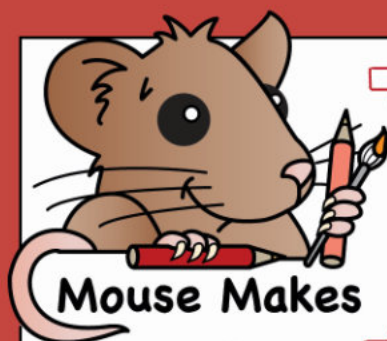
We have also made great inroads in tidying up the ornamental garden in front of the Kirk Centre. It had got a bit out of hand but we're on top of it now, ably assisted by our little robin redbreast friend.

If you are able to spend some time with the gardening team you will be more than welcome.

You can contact me by email via :-
facilities@libertonkirk.net

Alasdair Niven





Mouse Makes

Remember

the words Jesus said:
*"It is more blessed to give
than to receive."*

Colossians 3:25

Remembrance Sunday is the day
we remember the sacrifice of those
who gave their lives so that we
could live in peace, it mirrors what
Christ did for us when he gave his life
so that we could live in peace with God.

Jesus said:

*"No one can have
greater love than
to give his life for
his friends."*

John 15:13

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

REMEMBRANCE • PROTECT • DEFEND • SACRIFICE • SELFLESS • SERVICE
BRAVERY • VALOUR • HONOUR • COURAGE • HEROISM • LOYAL • REGARD
RESPECT • THANKFUL • MEMORIAL • TRIBUTE • COMMEND • ARMISTICE • PEACE

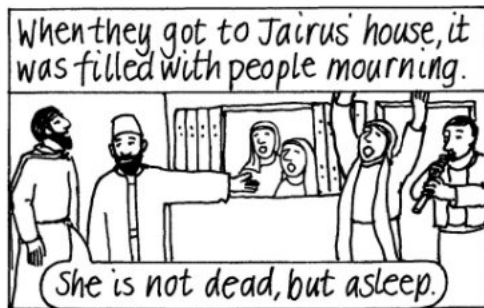
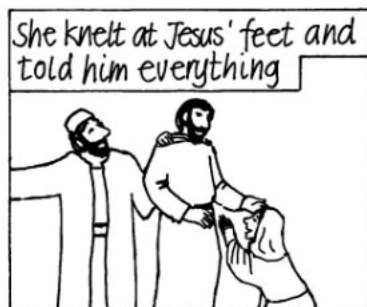
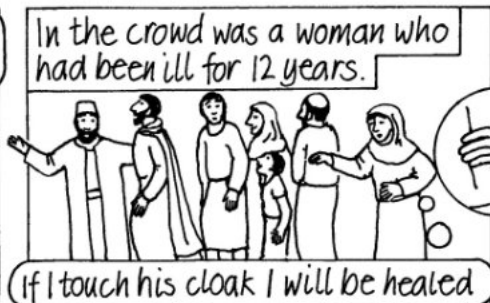


Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 8:40-56, Mt 9:18-26, Mk 5:21-43

Jairus, a town leader, had a 12 year old daughter who was ill and about to die. He came to Jesus and knelt at his feet...



Colour me Purple! Did you know that this year October 24 was World Polio Day?

Every year Rotary International uses World Polio Day to highlight the global campaign to eradicate Polio. It is nearly 40 years ago Rotary started the campaign, a time when over 1000 children were paralysed with Polio every day.

This year following years of worldwide vaccinations only 9 cases of Polio have been identified and these are in isolated areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan.



Rotary and their colleagues in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative want to complete the job of eradication of this awful disease and through our End Polio Now campaign donations are tripled (£1 donated becomes £3!).

The colour purple symbolises the purple dye used by vaccinators on the pinkie fingers of vaccinated children and this should explain why many buildings across Edinburgh (including Liberton Kirk) were illuminated Purple in the week leading up to World Polio Day.

The Thriving Church Lab

Curious about what God is doing through churches in Scotland?

A new filmed podcast helps people build cultures of church growth. The Thriving Church Lab showcases creative Church of Scotland congregations and how they achieved change.

Each episode shows how one congregation made progress in areas such as youth ministry, intergenerational worship and engaging young families. Learning resources highlight themes for kirk sessions, leadership teams and small groups to apply in their own contexts.

The five-part series launched on 6 October, with episodes every two weeks. A second series is planned for early 2027.

Thriving Church Lab is available on major podcast platforms, including Spotify and Apple Podcasts, and on YouTube.

Host Hannah Sanderson, the Church of Scotland's Church Growth and Innovation Champion, said: "Thriving Church Lab is for anyone interested in what God is doing across Scotland, the Church's future and how thriving churches are emerging in different places. By sharing real stories—including experiments, mistakes and lessons—the series encourages us to notice what God is doing, ask better questions and take next steps."

The first episode features leaders from St Andrews, Lhanbryde and Urquhart (SALU) Parish Church in Moray. Val, and Grant explain how a team approach to ministry and a knitting club connected the church with its community.

"We're a small church, but we're going somewhere," says Grant. Learn more at *The Thriving Church Lab* at www.churchofscotland.org.uk.



The Guild Annual Walk



On 19 September members of the Guild at Liberton Kirk met with friends for our annual walk exploring the fascinating history on our doorstep.

Despite somewhat mixed weather, spirits were high as we made our way past Margiotta's towards Malbet and along the Via Regis, a path well trodden by monks in centuries past.

We walked down towards Ellen's Glen, formerly known as Stenhouse. Ruth told us about the Stenhouse Burn and the old mill that once stood there.

She explained that Ellen's Glen was named after Ellen, the sister of landowner Robert Alexander, and showed us one of the houses bearing the name "Ellen's Glen" above its lintel.

Ruth showed us the former tollhouse from Mayfield Road, which was brought to Ellen's Glen and rebuilt stone by stone when tolls were abolished.



We then returned up the Brae to learn about Liberton Free Church which was built near Ellen's Glen Road in 1847. The building was later used as a school and then as a grain store but, sadly, no longer survives. Ruth pointed out where the original church doorway had been, outlined in the stonework. The congregation moved to Gilmerton Road in 1896, where Liberton Northfield Church now stands.

As we continued up Ellen's Glen towards Lasswade Road, we saw the original Robin's Nest, now a beautiful family home. We also learned about Southfield House, a large baronial house designed in 1875 by renowned Scottish architect John Chesser for the Croall family. It later became a hospital and has since been converted into flats, retaining many of its architectural features.

Our walk took us to Liberton Hospital and Nivelles Cottage, situated in the hospital grounds on Lasswade Road. The house was built and owned by Captain Thornton, a veteran of the Battle of Waterloo who was severely wounded at the Battle of Nivelles in 1813. A bachelor, Captain Thornton lived there with his housekeeper and butler, to whom he left the house in his will. He is buried in Liberton Kirk Graveyard. En route to Captain Thornton's grave, we paused to admire the architecture of Mount Alvernia, which was once the Convent of the Poor Clares. Our final stop was the Kirk Centre where we enjoyed welcome refreshments and a chat.

It was a lovely morning of walking, friendship and discovering more about our local heritage. Many thanks to Ruth for sharing her knowledge and bringing the history of Stenhouse and Ellen's Glen to life, and to Eleanor for providing the welcoming hot drinks and biscuits on our return.



The Guild



The Guild would like to thank Moira Cocksedge for her devoted service – as the Syllabus Secretary and twice as the Secretary. Moira will now be able to sit back and enjoy the meetings. Appreciation was shown at the Dedication Service.

The Guild raised £350 for Mary's Meals. Thank you to everyone who donated.

November Meetings

Monday 2 November at 7.00 pm in the Anderson Hall

Chris Rush will be telling us about St Monan's 1944: A Childhood Remembered. With a touch of Halloween. We look forward to seeing you there.

Wednesday 11 November at 2.00 pm in the Small Hall

Christine Wilson is going to speak about Guide Dogs for the Blind. We look forward to seeing you there.

Monday 16 November at 7.00 pm in the Anderson Hall

Joyce Cavaye will be telling us how donations of underwear to Smalls for All are turned into dignity. Donations of new pants and used bras in good condition can be left in the Offering House. Hope to see you there.

Saturday 28 November 10 am-12 noon

Guild Christmas Coffee Morning There will be baking, stalls and lots of Christmas cheer. We look forward to seeing you there.

Project Totals to Date

Crossreach, Playful Beginnings (Scotland)	£ 84,584.34
Scottish Bible Society, Bibles for Bairns (Scotland)	£72,239.12
Release International, Operation Hope (Egypt)	£58,896.85
Bear Necessities, Build My Church (Bulgaria)	<u>£59,867.67</u>
	£275,587.98

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.



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

07961 608996



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 for November, December and January

		November	December	January
9.30	1 West	David Lamb	Alan Carmichael	Christopher McLeod
	2 East	Rosy Carmichael	Eric Brown	Christina Young
11.00	1 West	Marie-Louise Robb	Dave Storey	Jill Niven
	2 East	Claire Mayberry	Helen Colley	Christine Johnson
	3 Gallery	Bill Robb	Kim Denholm	Eleanor Grieve
	4 Front gate	Derek Jardine	David Colley	Roslyn Wilson
	5 Banker	David Lamb	Alan Perry	Rink van Dijke

Memorial Service

Our annual memorial service will be held on Wednesday 9th December at 7pm. This service is especially for people who find the thought of Christmas celebrations difficult without a loved one who has died, or for those whose memories of long-lost loved ones can be painful at this time of year. There will be flyers available from mid-November to give to anyone you know who might find this service comforting. Everyone is welcome. There will be a cup of tea or coffee afterwards for anyone who wishes to stay

Liberton Kirk Buildings update

Roof

The good news is that by the time you are reading this, the south roof will be finished and scaffold should be down. Timber to all the sky lights and access hatch were found to be rotten under the old leadwork and required full rebuilding. Additional access hatches are installed to give proper access to each section of the south roof, allowing much safer access for routine maintenance to the rainwater outlets going forward. Dalkeith Roofing have done an excellent job, the Architect Ian Jameson has been most helpful during the project and visited on several occasions.

Boiler

Installing a gas combi boiler in the vestry has proved to be the cheapest and quickest route to resolving the issue after the boiler in the basement was condemned at Annual Inspection. Edinburgh Council Building Control have accepted plans drawn up by the Architect. We await reply from Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for approval of the flue sited on the external north wall. HES are required to reply by early November at the latest, and on this basis a new boiler will be installed in mid November.

I thank you all for your patience with the disruption both items have caused over the months

Dave Storey
SEECOS Buildings Convener

Can you help?

We collect Printer Cartridges for recycling. Original HP and Canon inkjet Cartridges only (not refills) can be placed in the box in the Offering House.

South East Edinburgh Food Bank Collection. Donations boxes are in the Offering House or contact David Lamb - 01316643059 david@lamb.co.uk

Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal. Donations of used stamps or stamp collections can be left in the box in the Kirk Centre Foyer. Or contact David Lamb (see above).

Fresh Start Donations are always needed to help people set up home after being homeless. Donations are taken weekly to their HQ and can be left in the Offering House, at the gates of Liberton Kirk. It is helpful if all donations are either in boxes or bags. This makes it easier for transportation. There is a list of items accepted in the Offering House and on the notice board outside. N.B Fresh Start do not accepted china tea sets, furniture, carpets, clothes hangers or clothing.

If you wish any information or would like to help with the transport of the donations to Fresh Start HQ contact Eleanor Grieve, ellie.57@hotmail.co.uk

November Diary

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

Sun 1 ALL SAINTS DAY/CROSSREACH SUNDAY

- 8am Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
9.30am Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre
 10.20am Prayer time in the Elders' Room
11am Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club). Preacher: Rev. Douglas Nicol
6.30-8pm Connections Evening Worship in the Kirk Centre Foyer

Mon 2

- 9-12noon Art Group in Recreation Hall
 12.30-2pm Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
 2-4pm Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
 7pm Pastoral Care Training 1 (General) in Small Hall
 7pm Guild Meeting in Anderson Hall
 Evening Explorer Scouts

Tue 3

- 9am-5pm *Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)*
 9.30-10.30 Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
 2.30pm *Service in Liberton Brae Care Home*
 Evening Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
 8.15pm Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall

Wed 4

- 10-12noon Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
 Evening Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs
 7.30pm *Gathering for Praise in the Wilson Hall*

Thu 5

- 2-4pm Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall
 Evening Scouts

Fri 6

- 1-4.30pm Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre
 Evening 93rdB Rainbows

Sat 7

- 3-5pm *Messy Church* at Tron Kirk Moredun

Sun 8 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

- 8am Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
9.30am Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre
 10.20am Prayer time in the Elders' Room
10.45am Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom (with crèche)
 Preacher: Rev. Dr. John Cowie
 12noon approx. Short time of remembrance at the Cenotaph
 12.30pm approx. Lunch for uniformed organisations and their families in Liberton Kirk Centre
6.30-8pm Connections Evening Worship in the Kirk Centre Foyer

Mon 9	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 10	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)</i>
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93 rd Rainbows, 93 rd A Brownies, 93 rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7.30-9pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal in Wilson Hall
Wed 11	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	10.45am	<i>Armistice Day Prayers</i> in Kirk House (space open in Kirk House 10am-12noon)
	11am	<i>Pram Praise</i> in the Small Hall
Thu 12	2pm	Guild meets in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93 rd A Guides
	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall
	Evening	93 rd Guides, Scouts, Rangers
Fri 13	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre
	3pm – Sat 14 th	3pm, 24-hour Prayer at Tron Kirk Moredun
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sun 15	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club). Preacher: Rev. Jared Hay
	2.30pm	SEECAT Business Meeting in the Foyer
Mon 16	6.30-8pm	Connections Evening Worship in the Kirk Centre Foyer
	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	12.30-2pm	Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	7pm	Guild meets in Anderson Hall
Tue 17	Evening	Explorer Scouts
	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)</i>
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93 rd Rainbows, 93 rd A Brownies, 93 rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
Wed 18	7.30-9pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal in Wilson Hall
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs
Thu 19	7.30pm	<i>Gathering for Praise in the Wilson Hall</i>
	2-4pm	Senior Citizens Club in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Scouts

Fri 20	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sat 21	11am-1pm	Christmas Fayre at Tron Kirk Moredun
	2.30pm	Bruce Davies Concert in Foyer (World Mission event)
Sun 22	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club). Preacher: Rev. Elaine Hogan
	6.30-8pm	Connections Evening Worship in the Kirk Centre Foyer
Mon 23	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 24	9am-5pm	<i>Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)</i>
	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
	7.30pm	<i>Gathering for Prayer on Zoom</i>
	7.30pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal in Wilson Hall
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 25	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93 rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93 rd A Guides
Thu 26	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club
	Evening	93 rd Guides, Scouts
Fri 27	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93 rd B Rainbows
Sat 28	10-12noon	Guild Christmas Coffee Morning in the Kirk Centre
	2-4pm	Family Event in Liberton Kirk Centre
Sun 29	ADVENT SUNDAY/GIFT SUNDAY	
	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom (with Crèche and Sunday Club). Preacher: Rev. Stephen Manners
	6.30-8pm	Connections Evening Worship in the Kirk Centre Foyer (preceded by prayer for SEECOS at 6pm)
Mon 30	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
	7pm	Pastoral Care Training 2 (Dementia Awareness)

Bruce Davies in Concert

Saturday 21 November
2.30 pm in the Kirk Centre

We are delighted to welcome Bruce back to Liberton Kirk. He is now semi-retired, but is still performing around 200 gigs annually, including the Spirit of Scotland Show summer season in Edinburgh and sold-out shows at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Those of you who have been at his previous concerts in Liberton Kirk will know what a wonderful entertainer he is. He is a talented musician whose melodious singing and captivating storytelling have earned him friends across four continents. He has received high praise from his songwriting hero Tom Paxton, who called him 'one of Scotland's best singers'. Country superstar Kenny Rogers also commended him on his 'great work'.

Tickets, with suggested donation of £10 (refreshments included), will be available after services in November or by contacting Mary Davidson on 0131 664 6789. The proceeds from the concert will go to support the work of the World Mission Team.

Mary Davidson (*on behalf of the World Mission Team*)



YOUTH DROP IN



FREE

TUESDAY 3:30–5 PM
Liberton Northfield Church

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

OSCR
Scottish Charity Regulator
www.oscr.org.uk

Registered
Charity
SC011602

THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S
LUNCHTIME CONCERT
AT LIBERTON KIRK

Philomusica of Edinburgh

at 50

A Golden Jubilee of Music

WEDNESDAY

30TH
DEC

1 P.M.

An anniversary concert featuring
favourites from the first fifty years

Mulled wine and mince pie reception from 12.30 p.m.
Tickets available at the door for the suggested donation
of eight pounds per person in aid of World Mission Fund

Liberton Kirk is part of SEECOS
(South East Edinburgh Church of Scotland)
Registered Scottish Charity SC011602

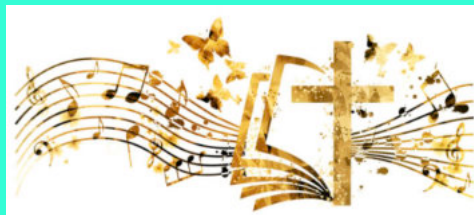
Liberton Kirk Devotions

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 each day at the theme of DAVID, GODLY WARRIOR KING. We considered many of the things he did and said, through reading the PSALMS.

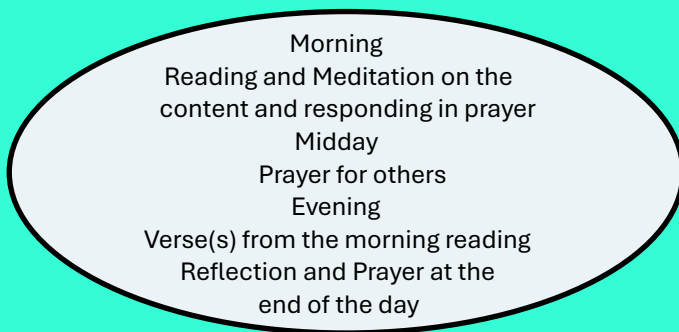
Our readings now turn to some of the historical books of the people of Israel. There are also suggestions on the next page for your Midday Devotion, prayer points of others in our SEECOS church family, our city and our world.



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 and in the evening. It helps us remember that we live in his presence throughout the day, and in the company of others praying at the same times.

You can also find these devotions on the Church website and Facebook page (even on a handy mobile). You will see that the format has changed but you can still follow the pattern traditions we started as a church family in 2015. You are invited to begin each day with a bible reading and time for prayer. Then at lunchtime we pray for others in our church family, our city and our world, with suggestions in the list on the next page. Finally in the evening we return to the bible reading and reflect on the day in prayer.



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

Daily Devotion - November

Day/Date	Reading	Prayer Point
Sunday 1	1 Samuel 8	Prayer of the Month (page 4)
Monday 2	1 Samuel 16	Those who struggle with physical health
Tuesday 3	1 Samuel 17	Those who struggle with mental health
Wednesday 4	1 Samuel 20	Those who are carers for others
Thursday 5	1 Samuel 24	Those who work in the armed services
Friday 6	1 Samuel 29	Those who are suffering due to war
Saturday 7	2 Samuel 2.1-7	Lord's Prayer
Sunday 8	Psalms 23	Prayer of the Month (page 4)
Monday 9	2 Samuel 5	Ceasefire in war-torn countries
Tuesday 10	2 Samuel 6	Integrity in our world leaders
Wednesday 11	2 Samuel 7	Care relief in countries struggling with disease
Thursday 12	2 Samuel 9	Safe food delivery to countries in famine
Friday 13	2 Samuel 11	Relief to those effected by natural disasters
Saturday 14	2 Samuel 21	Lord's Prayer
Sunday 15	Psalms 51	Prayer of the Month (page 4)
Monday 16	2 Samuel 14	The unemployed in our city
Tuesday 17	2 Samuel 18	The homeless in our city
Wednesday 18	2 Samuel 19.1-18	Our local councilors
Thursday 19	2 Samuel 19.19-39	Our local districts advocates
Friday 20	2 Samuel 22.1-25	Those that clean our city
Saturday 21	2 Samuel 22.26-46	Lord's Prayer
Sunday 22	2 Samuel 22.47-51	Prayer of the Month (page 4)
Monday 23	2 Samuel 23.1-7	Those new in their walk with Jesus
Tuesday 24	1 Kings 1	Those struggling with the walk with Jesus
Wednesday 25	1 Kings 2.1-12	Thanks for those you assist our walk with Jesus
Thursday 26	1 Kings 3.1-15	For each of our family/close friends
Friday 27	1 Kings 4.20-34	Loved one who do not know Jesus
Saturday 28	Psalms 65	Lord's Prayer
Sunday 29	Psalms 67	Prayer of the Month (page 4)
Monday 30	Matthew 1.1-17	Peace in the lead-up to Christmas

Kirkgate Café News



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

Tuesday 5pm – 8pm and Wednesday 6pm – 8pm

Seasonal Drinks

As the weather is definitely feeling more like autumn it is the best time to bring in a selection of nice warm seasonal drinks. Next time you're in why not try our new pumpkin spiced latte topped with cream and finished off with a sprinkle of cinnamon, or our coconut hot chocolate made with lovely coconut milk.

Gift Vouchers

We have now updated our gift vouchers so that they are more flexible by choosing the amount you would like gift. These would make ideal Christmas presents or amazing thank you gifts. Buy them at the till the next time you are in the café.

Christmas Lunches

As in previous years the Café will be offering Christmas lunches consisting of soup, turkey sandwich and mincemeat treat with tea or coffee. We plan to hold them on Monday 14th, 15th and Wednesday 16th December in the Small Hall where it will be relaxed and peaceful. Tickets will go on sale from Monday 23rd November and will be priced at £15. Booking is essential.



Jenny Thomasi , Kirkgate Café Manager
kirkgatecafe@libertonkirk.net
07961 608996

Gathering for Prayer on ZOOM

**Gathering for Prayer will be on ZOOM on the following dates
Look out for reminders in the weekly notices and emails from Roll Keeper**

zoom

Tuesday 24th November 7:30pm

Tuesday 26th January 2027 7:30pm

Tuesday 23rd February 2027 7:30pm

Always be joyful

Never stop praying

Be thankful

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Senior Citizens Club - Thursdays 2-4pm

Hullo Everybody! I am delighted to say the club is very healthy and all our members leave very happy.

As usual at this time of year, many of our members are catching colds, etc with many 'get well' cards being send out. But for those who are in the hall, there is lots of cake, dancing and music.



We are now branching out and introducing new entertainers: Angela Duncan, Trina Milne, and Kenny Smith.

We're already looking forward to the Christmas Party in December, which should be great fun.



The November Entertainers are:

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 5 | Castaways |
| 12 | Alan Weatherhead |
| 19 | Goudie McQ |
| 26 | Stevie Cowan |



Church Flower Dedications in November

Donor

- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | Gladys Montgomery |
| 8 | Remembrance Sunday |
| 15 | Mr W Penman |
| 22 | Ms Rosemary Leask |
| 29 | Jill Snowdon |

In Memory of

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| Robert & Ethel Hamilton, & son Robert |
| Isobel Penman |
| Laura Leask |
| Aunt Margaret Tweedie Clarke |

Flower Convenor: Jill Snowdon, 07823335585

Flower Fund Treasurer: Kim Denholm, 0131 258 2312

SEECAT PROGRAMME

Our grouping of local churches of all denominations has a varied programme of services and events in the year 2026/27. We have already had a Saturday Retreat, a Pilgrimage Walk from Bridgend to St. Triduana's Well in Restalrig and we are reading St. Matthew's Gospel aloud at the Big Read at St. Barnabas' Church, 4 Moredun Park View, on Saturday 31st October (10am start).



We are looking forward to carol singing in December and all the events planned for 2026. Pick up one of the programmes on yellow card from any of the local churches or the Liberton Kirk Centre or Offering House or have a look at the website www.seecat.org. The November edition of the quarterly newsletter Crosstalk will be available from mid-November, both on the website and in print. Look out for copies in the usual places.

Ruth Davies

SEECOS@Liberton Northfield



Our SouthEast Edinburgh Church of Scotland Life at Liberton Northfield thrives around 2 activities- our Sunday Worship and youth events on a Tuesday.

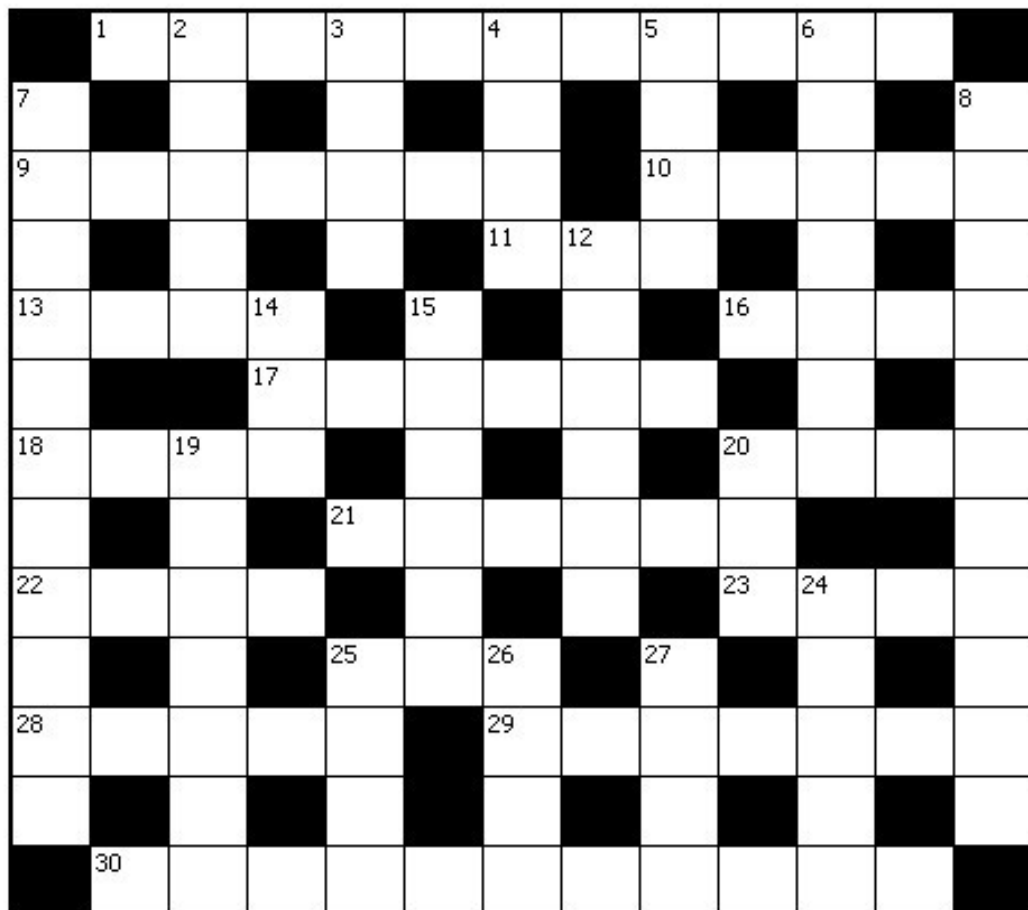
I never cease to be amazed at how many people just appear and join us for worship on a Sunday morning. People who pass the church and wander in, or those who are drawn in by the weekly events. Our worship is traditional and we use a variety of styles of music. We follow the lectionary with occasional distractions for festivals. Post service we enjoy a good coffee and blether as we encourage the community. The Wednesday lunchtime Fellowship group and Bible Study flows from this time and often reflects on the Sunday sermon.

Tuesdays see the church and hall used by around 300 teenagers from Liberton High School. Toastie Tuesday has been going for some 10 years and provides a lunch at reasonable cost to around 220-250 children over a 30 minute period - quite the operation!

This is followed up by an after school Drop-in when around 50 teens enjoy our hospitality, space and invitation to join us for games. This weekly time has enabled us to build on the initial relationship we are making with Toasties. The fact that they are comfortable and safe allows us to invite others and encourage the sharing of information to ours and others wider Christian events.

Gordon Pennykid

November Crossword



Across

1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all _, Lord of all _, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy'(11,3)

9 Moses' question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?' (Exodus 2:13) (7)

10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline _ (2,3)

11 'At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)

- 13 A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4)
 16 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4)
 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
 18 Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must _ God rather than men!' (Acts 5:29) (4)
 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4)
 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
 22 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat _ _' (Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
 25 Tree (3)
 28 'No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you' (Job 33:7) (5)
 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)
 30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11)

Down

- 2 'O Jerusalem _ how _ I have longed to gather your children together' Matthew 23:37) (5)
 3 Way out (4)
 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
 5 Done (anag.) (4)
 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
 14 Frozen (3)
 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
 19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
 20 See 1 Across
 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
 25 Time (anag.) (4)
 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
 27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Romans 6:23) (4)

October Crossword Solution

ACROSS

1 dare; 3 cherubim; 9 son Tohu; 10 yield; 11 ranch; 12 enlist; 14 Baalah of Judah; 17 Edward; 19 Sheol; 22 media; 23 open air; 24 apostasy; 25 Eton

DOWN

1 describe; 2 run in; 4 household gods; 5 royal; 6 blessed; 7 MIDI; 8 Joshua; 13 children; 15 added to; 16 Jasper; 18 await; 20 exalt; 21 YMCA

Charity Afternoon Tea for the SEECOS Foodbank organised by Space for Growth Garden

The *Space for Growth Garden* based at Liberton Northfield has run for 5 years now. It was set up following the Covid pandemic to offer a space for people to garden in a small group. Gardening has well known health benefits, both for physical and mental health. We benefit from being in the outdoors, and also from working together in a group.



There are gardening activities for people of all ability levels; light jobs like sowing seeds in pots, watering, and weeding in raised beds and more strenuous activities like digging for those who feel able. We grow vegetables, fruit and flowers. The produce is grown without chemicals, and is shared with the congregation on Sundays through the growing season. We have had successful church lunches using produce from the garden for soup, salads, cakes and crumbles.

On Friday the 9th of October we held a successful afternoon tea in the Northfield church hall which had a nice range of tasty treats and a produce stall with fruit, vegetables, jams and chutneys made from the produce of the garden. It was well attended by people from across the SEECOS congregations and raised over £300.00. The money raised will go to the SEECOS foodbank.



As a side hustle the team have helped to tidy up the planters by the shops in the Inch and we were delighted that some of the local shopkeepers offered to get involved in looking after the flowers once the planters had been cleared of weeds and litter.



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



GIFT SERVICE

Sunday 29th November

Sunday 29th November is our annual Gift Service when we invite members of the congregation to bring gifts (unwrapped) to pass on to children in our community who do not receive much at Christmas. All donations for children or teenagers are much appreciated.



Bring an unwrapped gift

for a child or teenager in our community.

Training for Leading Worship in a Local Context

An eight-session course led by Professor Alison Jack and Professor Susan Hardman Moore

This course is for anyone who would like to explore leading worship in their local church. We'll look at the history, theology and structure of worship in a range of styles, helping you connect today's practice with the bigger picture. We'll cover every part of a church service, mixing discussion with practical activities. You'll also have the chance to prepare and share prayers, sermons and all-age worship, and to put together meaningful orders of service in a friendly, supportive setting.

Course organiser: Professor Alison Jack
(a.jack@ed.ac.uk).



Professor Susan Hardman Moore will also share the teaching on the course.

Classes will take place on the following dates, with the Thursday sessions online and the Saturday afternoon sessions in person at New College:

Session	Date and time	Location
1	Thursday 14 January, 6pm to 7:30pm	Online
2	Thursday 21 January, 6pm to 7:30pm	Online
3	Saturday 6 February, 1.30pm to 4:30pm	In-person at New College
4	Thursday 11 February, 6pm to 7:30pm	Online
5	Thursday 25 February, 6pm to 7:30pm	Online
6	Saturday , 6 March 1:30pm pm 4:30pm	In-person at New College
7	Thursday 11 March, 6pm to 7.30pm	Online
8	Thursday 18 March, 6pm to 7.30pm	Online

The course may be taken for credit (10 credits at SQA level 7), with a short assessed exercise at the end of the session.

Entry is open to all.

Application Deadline: 9am Wednesday 6 January 2027

The cost of the course is £210.

Presbytery and the Kirk Session may be willing to subsidise the cost, so do contact the Presbytery Clerk and the Session Clerk if you are keen to take this further.

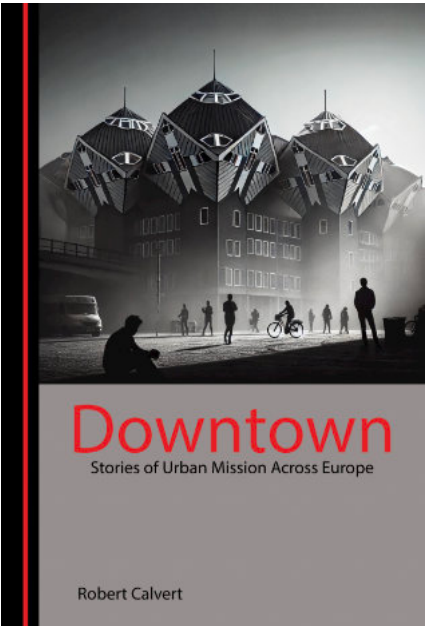
Downtown

Robert Calvert ministered in Drumchapel, Rotterdam and Dundee. In his recently published book, *Downtown*, he explores how ministry is shaped by the places people inhabit. He reminisces over his ministry and emphasises that although the three settings in which he worked have significant structural differences, the central task of ministry remains learning people's stories, understanding their experiences, and building relationships over time.

At the recent launch of the book in Dundee Robert emphasised that mission begins with presence: listening to people's stories, acknowledging pain and joy, and helping communities reconnect. Context matters, but compassion, relationship, and faithful participation remain central in every setting. Recommended reading.

Published by the Handsell Press it is available direct from them and from booksellers.

John Cowie



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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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 Craigour Gardens

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

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Liberton Kirk - names and addresses

Interim Moderator: Reverend Douglas Nicol,

Douglas.Nicol@churchofscotland.org.uk

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: Jenny Thomasi tel 07961 608996, 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

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

Material for the next issue are invited from organisations and individuals and can be sent at any time, but **no later** than Sunday November 15 to : **magazine@libertonkirk.net**

Printed copies can be obtained at church or the office. Copies of the magazine (and also past issues) are available on the website to view or download.

Note that 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

The gardener and the Vine



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE HE TOLD HIS FRIENDS ALL
ABOUT A GARDENER.

THE GARDENER'S JOB WAS
TO CARE FOR THE VINES



HE WOULD LOOK AT EACH
BRANCH CAREFULLY..

... AND IF IT WAS PRODUCING
GOOD FRUIT, HE WOULD CARE
FOR IT AND NOURISH IT.



IF IT WAS PRODUCING BAD
FRUIT...

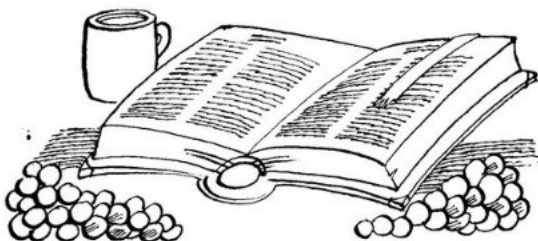


...OR NO FRUIT AT
ALL....



...THEN THE GARDENER WOULD
CHOP IT OFF, AND BURN IT IN
THE FIRE!!

JESUS WANTED HIS FRIENDS TO SHARE
THE GOOD NEWS - THAT'S LIKE THE
VINE BEARING GOOD FRUIT.



YOU CAN READ THIS SPECIAL PARABLE IN JOHN'S
GOSPEL, CHAPTER 15.



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.



libertonkirk.net



seecos.org.uk

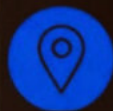
CONNECTIONS EVENING WORSHIP



- Informal
- Music
- Coffee & Cake
- Discussions
- All welcome



Sundays 6:30–8pm



Liberton Kirk Centre



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