seecos
South East Edinburgh
Church of Scotland
with Jesus at our heart

December 2026
No 743

Liberton Kirk

libertonkirk.net



Daily Devotions
November
Pages 21-23

'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

What's On December and January
Pages 16-20

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



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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Dear Friends,

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly we get to this point in the year. One moment we are getting started on the new season of church activities following the summer and the next we are beginning choir rehearsals for the Service of Lessons and Carols, planning the Sunday Club Nativity and beginning to reflect on the year which has passed.

There have been many moments of joy in 2026 – welcoming old friends back to the kirk, beginning the new Connections service on Sunday evenings, enjoying the company and support of our church family, successfully concluding the fundraising campaign to be able to repair the heating.

There have also been challenges. We are currently sitting in an increasingly cold church as we apply for all the necessary permissions to begin work on replacing the boiler, we have lost several much-loved members of our church family and many aspects of our life as a congregation remain unclear as we await the appointment of a Transition Minister to lead us forward. As you read on in this edition of our magazine, you will find many articles giving more information about both our challenges and our joys.

Although we might feel helpless at our inability to keep on top of life's challenges, the words of Isaiah 41:10 remind us that in moments of challenge just as much as moments of joy, God is with us. He has a plan for us and is guiding us, even when we may struggle to feel his presence. As we navigate the final weeks of 2026 and look forward to all that 2027 will bring, I pray that these words will remain with us in our personal lives as well as in the life of the church. Whatever happens, we have the comfort of knowing that God is with us and that we do not need to stand in our strength alone.

> *Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God.*
>
> Isaiah 41:10

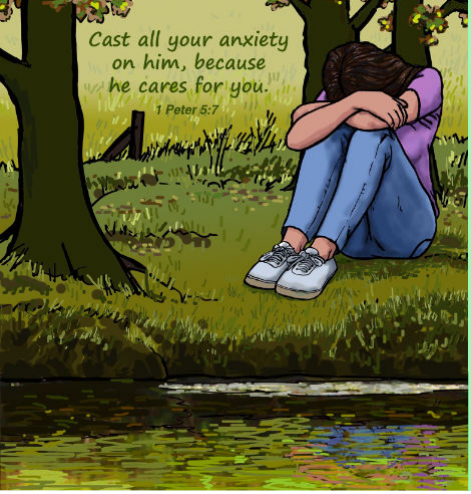
Over the next few weeks, I look forward to seeing you at some of the special events and services we have planned for Advent and Christmas. Whether you are looking forward to the new year with excited anticipation or are dreading what it will bring, I pray that we will all know God's presence and comfort in the days and weeks ahead.

Wishing you a happy and blessed Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

With love,

Chris Brandie

Clerk to Liberton Kirk Local Leadership Team



Prayer for December

Lord Jesus, this is your season.
When we celebrate your birth,
remembering that miracle
and many more that you did.
For this we praise you,
Amen.

SEECOS Christmas and New Year Services

Thursday 3rd @7pm - Blue Christmas, Tron Kirk Moredun

Wednesday 9th @7pm - Memorial Service, Liberton Kirk

Sunday 13th @6.30pm - Carols by Candlelight, Liberton Northfield

Wednesday 16th @7.30pm - Lessons and Carols, Liberton Kirk

Thursday 17th @7.30pm - Peace Light Service, Liberton Kirk Centre

Sunday 20th - Nativity Services, All Locations- see Website

Sunday 20th @7pm - Big Carol Sing, Liberton Kirk Centre

Thursday 24th @4pm - Christingle Service, Liberton Kirk

Thursday 24th @6pm - Christmas Eve, Tron Kirk Moredun

Thursday 24th @8pm - Christmas Eve, Tron Hub, Gilmerton

Thursday 24th @11.15pm - Watchnight Service, Liberton Kirk

Friday 25th @10.30am - Christmas Day, Liberton Northfield

Sunday 3rd Jan @10.30am - Joint Worship, Liberton Northfield

www.seecos.org.uk

David Lamb - An Appreciation

We were saddened to learn of the sudden and unexpected death on 5th November of David Lamb, a much-loved friend and devoted member of our congregation. By nature, David was a hugely generous and enthusiastic supporter of the church. He was an elder of long standing and for many years fulfilled the role of Depute Session Clerk. David brought his significant talents to so many different aspects of our life as a church. He supported the local foodbank and bore responsibility for organising our annual collection for Christian Aid as part of his work for the World Mission Team. David was instrumental in organising the very recent appeal to raise funds to repair the church heating.

David was a lawyer by profession, but a real polymath with a passionate and deep interest in many different areas. He was a talented performer, having begun at a young age performing "For Your Pleasure" with his mother and sister. We very much appreciated him bringing these performances of music and verse back to us much more recently, this time in the company of his children and grandchildren, of whom he was extremely proud. David was a keen member of Liberton Kirk Drama Group and shared his fine singing voice both at Sunday services and in the choir for the Service of Lessons and Carols as well as on other occasions.

A fluent Italian speaker, David took pleasure in all aspects of that culture. On his retirement, he set himself the challenge of using his newly acquired spare time to read Dante's Inferno in the original language. For many years, David was the secretary and treasurer of the Waldensian Mission Aid Society, a charity which supports the work of the Italian Protestant church. David frequently organised popular evenings to raise awareness and organised fondly remembered trips to the Waldensian Valleys in Northern Italy. Beyond church, David was an active member of the Edinburgh Italian Circle, ensuring its continued success at a time when many similar cultural associations have struggled. He supported the Edinburgh University Graduate Association as well as the Former Pupils Association of the Royal High School, his alma mater.

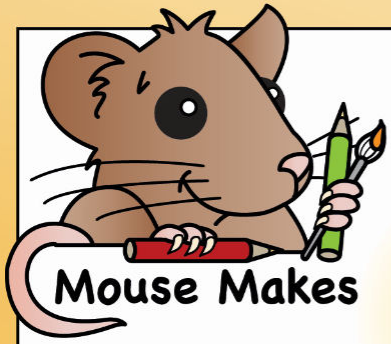
It is impossible to sum up the massive contribution David made in so many different areas. His friendship, good humour and total reliability will be greatly missed by us all. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with Brenda, his wife, and with their sons Sandy and Richard and their families at this very sad time.

The weekend before he died, David took part as usual in the SEECAT Big Read, reading from William Lorimer's translation of the Gospel of Matthew in Scots. I close this appreciation with the words of the Great Commission, the last words David read:

> "Aa authoritie hes been gíen me in heiven an on the yird. Gang ye furth, than, an mak disciples o aa the fowks o the yird, baptízin them intil the name o the Faither an the Son an the Halie Spírit, an teachin them tae keep aa the commaundments at I hae gíen ye. An, mind this weill, I am wi ye throu aa the days at is tae be till the hinnerend o the warld. (Matthew 28:18-20)

Chris Brandie

Clerk to Liberton Kirk Local Leadership Team



JESUS, LIGHT OF THE WORLD!
"The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world... to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name He gave the right to become children of God."
from John 1:9-12

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

The Orange
- the world.
John 3:16

The Fruit
- God's goodness and provision.
James 1:17

The Candle
- Christ light, Jesus, light of the world.
John 8:12

The Ribbon
- the blood of Jesus shed for us.
Matthew 26:28

The Sticks
- God's love reaches out to the four corners of the world.
Psalm 139: v7-12

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

CHRISTINGLE
CHRISTMAS
ORANGE
RIBBON
FRUIT
CANDLE
LIGHT
LIFE
GIFT
WORLD
GOOD NEWS





SAVIOUR
CHRIST
JESUS
MESSIAH
GOD
PEACE
LOVE
JOY
HOPE
REJOICE
ADVENT

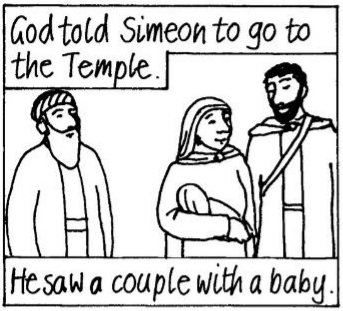
Dec26© deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

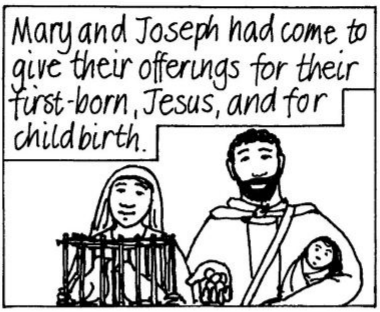
Bible Bite

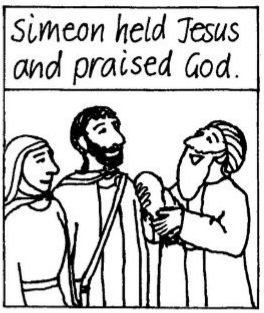
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke 2 verses 22-38

God promised the Jews that when times were bad, He would send a Leader to save them. He told Simeon it would happen in his lifetime.

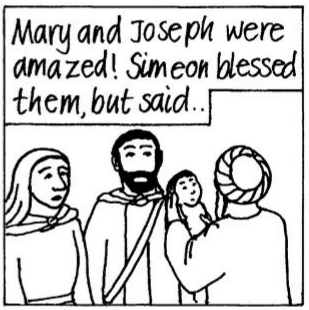












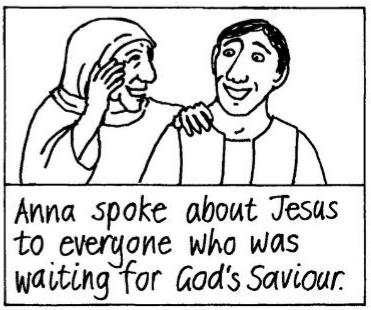












Who's Who: Margaret Padfield, SEECOS Session Clerk



Meet the person who helps keep SEECOS organised, informed and moving forward

Margaret brings a love of clear information, careful organisation and open communication to her role as Session Clerk of the SECoS charge. Behind the minutes, meetings and church procedures is a story shaped by faith, public service and a strong commitment to helping congregations work well together.

At Home and at Work

Margaret has lived in her present home for more than 20 years. Bought off-plan during the final phase of the development, it has changed considerably as family life has evolved: walls have come down, the kitchen and dining areas have grown, and the garage has been extended to provide accommodation above.

Her professional life began with statistics. After studying at university in Glasgow, she initially considered becoming a mathematics teacher. While completing her PhD, however, she worked with the NHS Information Services Division in Edinburgh—an experience that led to a permanent career in health data.

Today Margaret works full time for Public Health Scotland as a service manager in data management. Her teams support nationally important datasets covering areas such as cancer registration, congenital anomalies, health protection and infectious diseases. With staff spread across different locations, much of her work is carried out from home.

A Life of Faith and Service

Margaret grew up in a Free Church setting in Glasgow. Church was a regular part of family life, and as a teenager she became a Sunday school teacher. She also remembers the distinctive tradition of unaccompanied congregational singing.

After moving to Edinburgh, Margaret first worshipped with an Associate Presbyterian Church congregation before finding a home at Liberton Northfield. She was drawn by its strong Christian and evangelical teaching, but also by the warm welcome she received—especially from older members of the congregation.

Her involvement deepened after the birth of her daughter, Molly. Margaret helped with Sunday school, later became its coordinator, and was eventually invited to serve as an elder. Coming from a tradition in which women did not serve as elders, she was initially surprised. After reflection and prayer, she came to see the invitation not as a position to seek, but as a responsibility to serve.

Becoming Session Clerk

About two years after becoming an elder, Margaret took on the role of Session Clerk. It came with a steep learning curve: legal responsibilities, record inspections, meeting

administration and changing church procedures all had to be mastered. Her professional instincts proved useful. She values accurate information, completing tasks and being honest about what she knows—and what she still needs to find out.

Openness matters greatly to Margaret. She understands that pastoral and personal matters must remain confidential, but believes that most information from the Kirk Session should be communicated clearly and honestly. For her, good administration is not simply paperwork; it helps people trust one another and take part in the life of the church.

One Congregation, Four Worship Sites

SECoS is one congregation worshipping across four sites. Margaret recognises that the union was formed under considerable time pressure and that people did not always share the same understanding of what it would mean. Rather than dwelling on blame, she hopes the congregations can learn from the past through clearer communication, patient listening and greater openness.

Building relationships is now the priority. Visiting services at other worship sites, meeting informally and becoming friends beyond the Kirk Session can help people see the whole charge rather than only their own local concerns.

Looking Outward

Margaret is particularly conscious of Liberton Northfield's place in the local community. Its proximity to the high school supports important youth work, including Toasty Tuesday and the after-school drop-in, which together welcome more than 200 young people into the building in most weeks. These activities may not always lead immediately to formal church involvement, but they create relationships and establish the church as a trusted, welcoming presence.

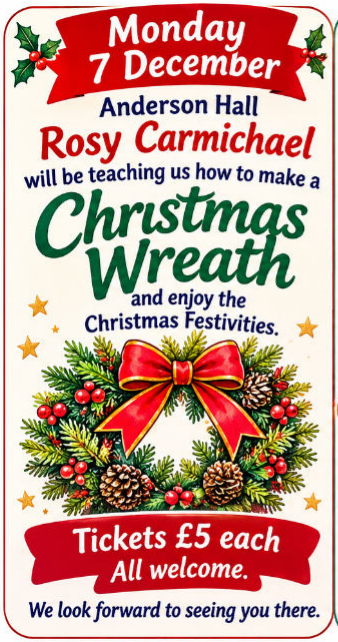
She believes decisions about church buildings should take account of more than bricks and mortar. Physical condition, financial sustainability and missional contribution all matter. At Liberton Northfield, income from other congregations using the premises—including a Ghanaian Pentecostal congregation and Light and Life Missions—also brings opportunities for practical cooperation and mutual support.

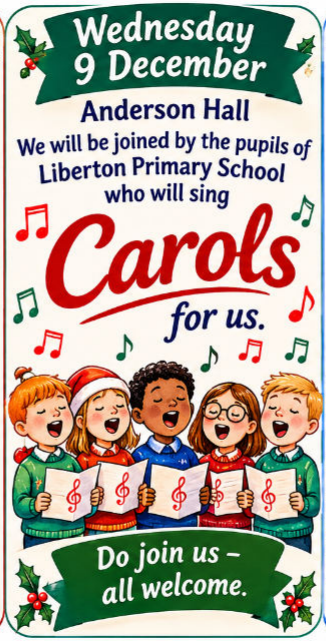
Looking Ahead

Future staffing, communication and cooperation remain important concerns. Margaret would like to see stronger links across all four worship sites, continued protection of effective youth ministry, and wider sharing of news, prayer material and stories from across SECoS. A shared magazine could grow gradually from existing publications, while email and printed material continue to reach people in different ways.

For Margaret, serving as Session Clerk is ultimately about helping the church communicate well, work faithfully together and remain focused on its mission. When I finished my interview she was off to Liberton Northfield to prepare for Toastie Tuesday and to welcome the crowds of hungry young people. *John Cowie*

Guild Meetings in December and January







IN THE KIRKYARD

The Nativity scene will be on view in the Offering House and the Kirkyard from 6th December to 2nd January.

Come and see the familiar words of the Christmas story brought to life.

Following this, Word for Today will return with thoughts and prayers on a short passage from the Bible.

The starting point as usual will be the Offering House at the main gate.



Liberton Kirk Heating Appeal

If you have been in the Kirk over recent weeks, you will be aware that the temperature has become rather bracing as a result of the boiler having come to the end of its useful life. An appeal was launched to raise the funds required for its replacement and within two weeks the target set was exceeded by a significant sum. Thank you to everyone involved for your prayers and your generosity.

At the time of writing £44,550 has been pledged with £40,150 having already been paid into the bank account. This sum will additionally allow a Gift Aid claim of approximately £10,145 to be made. As we have exceeded the amount required, we are now going to end the Heating Appeal. However, if you have been meaning to return your pledge and haven't quite managed yet, we will be allocating any surplus to work on our stonework and roof, so the money will be well used.

When the slates began to be lifted from the roof, it became obvious that there was more damage than we had realised and although we can realise assets to pay for that extra work, the money is not immediately available and will require shares to be sold. This is likely to delay immediate progress with the required work. The roofing bills have to be paid before Presbytery will give us permission to proceed with the heating. This may help to explain why we cannot just get started with the work right away.

Sensibly, Presbytery worries about congregations biting off more than they can chew. However, we have managed to submit the required paperwork in good time and through the Heating Appeal we have been able to demonstrate a solid financial position, so we are doing all we can to move things on as quickly as possible.

There have been a number of questions about why we are not receiving more support from the Church of Scotland and why the current SEECOS deficit is so high. There is sadly no simple answer to that. According to the Presbytery Plan, all of our buildings in South East Edinburgh remain what is called class B. That means that at some point the decision will have to be made as to which to keep and which to sell. Until that decision is made, we are not meant to be spending money on buildings beyond keeping them wind and watertight.

The Church of Scotland is a lot smaller in terms of the number of members than it was even 10 years ago. As a result, it is struggling with its finances. That is the main reason for the many sales of church buildings right across the country we are hearing about in the media almost daily. It is also the reason for the reducing number of ministers the church is able to afford.

Within SEECOS, because we are now one congregation, the smaller worshipping communities have to pay significantly higher rates than they did previously. We also have to have our annual accounts audited rather than independently examined which is a much more expensive process.

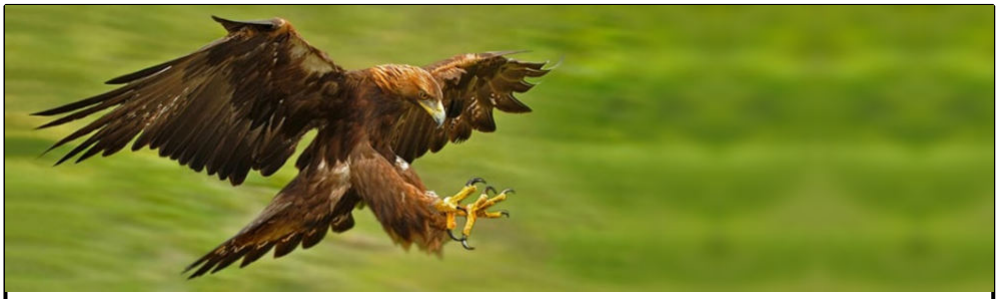
Although we are trying to limit spending as best we can, there are a number of expenses previously covered by the central church which now fall to SEECOS and which make this a very challenging task.

Thank you to Christopher McLeod, the SEECOS Finance Convener, Jenny Mackenzie, Treasurer, and the members of the Finance Team for all they are doing to improve the situation.

Now the weather is getting colder, the means we currently have to heat the church are unfortunately no longer able to keep up. From Sunday 22nd November we have decided to move the 9.30 service to the Anderson Hall with the 11 o'clock service also moving at the beginning of December. If anything, the Anderson Hall is possibly more accessible than the church. We are conscious that the path from the Kirkgate up to the church is quite long for some people. From the beginning of December until the heating is fixed, all services will be in the Anderson Hall apart from one or two we will let you know about in advance. Please continue to pray for a speedy replacement of the heating system and feel free to ask if you have any further questions.

Chris Brandie

Clerk to Liberton Kirk Local Leadership Team



Following Jesus through John's eyes

On the four Wednesday evenings of October, I ran a course on what we might learn for today's church about following Jesus, through the eyes of John's Gospel. Despite the busyness of the calendar, there were 20-30 attendees each night, with people present from every worshipping community of SEECOS (and a couple of folks from other churches).

It was a great way to bring people together and we had some really good discussions on practical ways of reaching out to our parish, the importance of finding out about the needs of our large and diverse communities, and what we might do to foster unity among the worshipping groups that make up SEECOS.

That fostering of unity was the topic for our final evening, and special emphasis was laid on the idea of bringing people together in ways and places where they could get to know one another informally as individuals, building trust and respect, so that we can make a success of our union. We also discussed the need to worship together regularly, sharing the bread and wine of Communion (not necessarily on Sundays). All in all, it was a very worthwhile course and if you have suggestions for another one in the future, please let me or the SEECOS Worship and Discipleship Committee know.

Jared Hay.



As we approach winter there are still many tasks to be undertaken. The fallen leaves in the car park seem to be a never-ending job but I think we are winning. We just need to keep on top of it. For safety reasons some of the leaves on Kirkgate and Lasswade Road have been swept up too.



The winter schedule of maintenance will involve painting and varnishing the flower /vegetable planters, flower tubs and benches as required over the winter months.

The continuing menace of the weeds also needs to be kept under control, and this time of the year is a good time to do it.

We hope that the predicted effects of the forecasted Super El Nino weather system won't cause any damage to us and to the rest of the world

Storm Boelo blew lots of apples off the tree in Courtyard garden but all was not lost, the damaged parts of the apples were cut off and apple juice was pressed from the remainder. Around 12 pints of apple juice was obtained and it received favourable reports from those who sampled it.

Crab apple jelly was made from the fruit of the tree in the Centre Court garden. There is also a plum tree there and we await it bearing fruit in the summer of next year.

The foliage from the shrubs in the various gardens have, in the past, been used in the floral displays in the Kirk. I'm not sure whether we have ivy, but we definitely have holly. There are so many things that the gardens provide.

Could it be your New Year's Resolution to join us in The Gardening Team next year?



Alasdair Niven



Sunday Morning Worship in Liberton Kirk

Elders' Duties for December, January and February

			December	January	February
9.30	1	West	Alan Carmichael	Christopher McLeod	Alan Carmichael
	2	East	Eric Brown	Christina Young	Eric Brown
11.00	1	West	Dave Storey	Jill Niven	Mary Davidson
	2	East	Helen Colley	Christine Johnson	Janice Wilson
	3	Gallery	Kim Denholm	Eleanor Grieve	Netta Rough
	4	Front gate	David Colley	Roslyn Wilson	Linda Skinner
	5	Banker	Alan Perry	Rink van Dijke	Stewart Heney

Decorating the Church for Christmas 2026

If you have an hour to spare on Saturday morning from 10 am Saturday 12th of December why not come along and help us decorate the church for Christmas.

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

As usual, Seasonal Refreshments will be provided! We look forward to seeing you.

Jill Snowdon Flower Convener 07823 335585

Collections for Foodbank/Recycling etc.

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.

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. There is a list of items accepted in the Offering House and on the notice board outside. Fresh Start cannot accept china tea sets, furniture, carpets, clothes hangers or clothing.

IMPORTANT Please note that while the Nativity display is in the Kirkyard (Saturday 5th December to Saturday 2nd January) any contributions to collections normally made in the Offering House should be left in the McDonald Room in the Kirk Centre (just on the left as you enter the main door). There will be no collections for Fresh Start during this period – please hold on to anything you have for Fresh Start until the second week of January. Please note also that the Kirk Centre will be closed much of the time in the weeks of Christmas and New Year and if you wish to bring things then you should bring them on Sunday mornings between 10am and 1pm.

N.B. We no longer collect Bottle Tops!

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

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



Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.'

31 October 2026
Mrs Jean Campbell

5 November 2026
Mr David Lamb

December Diary

Kirkgate Café open Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm till Wednesday 16 December, 9am-12noon Thursday 17. Tuesday 5pm-8pm and Wednesday 6pm-8pm on 1st and 2nd December only.

Tue 1	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
	7.30-9pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal in Wilson Hall
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 2	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs, 93rdA Guides
	7.30pm	*Gathering for Praise* in Wilson Hall
Thu 3	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club in Anderson Hall
	Evening	93rd Guides, Scouts
Fri 4	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 5	3-5pm	*Messy Church* at Tron Kirk Moredun

Nativity Scene in Offering House and Kirkyard until 2nd January

Sun 6	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. Dr. John Cowie
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer
Mon 7	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
	7.30-9pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal in Wilson Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 8	9am-5pm	*Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)*
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7.30pm	SEECOS Kirk Session in the Hub, Ravenscroft Street
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall

Wed 9	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	1.45pm	Guild (Liberton Primary School visit) in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Beavers, Cubs, 93rdA Guides
	7pm	*Memorial Service for the Bereaved*
Thu 10	Evening	93rd Guides, Scouts
Fri 11	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 12	12-12.30	SEECAT Carol Singing at Morrisons, Gilmerton Road
Sun 13	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. Elspeth Harley
	6.30pm	*Carols by Candlelight at Liberton Northfield Church*
Mon 14	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	12noon & 1pm	Booked Christmas lunches in Small Hall
	12.30-2pm	Ladies' Pickleball in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 15	9am-5pm	*Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)*
	12noon & 1pm	Booked Christmas lunches in Small Hall
	Evening	Squirrels
	7.30-9pm	Lessons & Carols Choir Rehearsal
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 16	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	12noon & 1pm	Booked Christmas lunches in Small Hall
	Evening	Beavers, Cubs
	7.30pm	*Service of Nine Lessons & Carols*
Thu 17	2-4pm	Senior Citizens Club in Anderson Hall
	7.30pm	Scouts Peace Light Service
	Evening	93rd Guides, Rangers, Scouts
Fri 18	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
	Evening	Big Idea Youth Event in the Kirk Centre
Sun 20	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	**Shorter Service in the Kirk Centre**
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	**All-age Nativity Service in the Kirk Centre and on Zoom** Preacher: Rev. Elaine Hogan
	7pm	**Big Carol Sing** in Anderson Hall
Mon 21 – Thu 24		Kirk Centre closed
Thu 24	**CHRISTMAS EVE**	
	4pm	**Christingle Service** in the Kirk
	11.15 for 11.30pm	**Watchnight Service** in the Kirk and on Zoom

Fri 25	**CHRISTMAS DAY**	
	10.30am	**All-age Service at Liberton Northfield Church**
Sun 27	**SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**	
	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	10.30am	**All-age Service in the Kirk Centre (also on Zoom)**
		Preacher: Rev. Jared Hay
Mon 28 – Tue 29		Kirk Centre closed
Tue 29	2.30pm	*Service in Guthrie House Care Home*
Wed 30	1pm	Annual Philomusica New Year's Concert
		(Mulled Wine/Mince Pie Reception from 12.30pm)

January

Kirkgate Café open from January 4th,
Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm.
And from 12th January on Tuesdays 5pm-8pm and
Wednesdays 6pm-8pm

Sun 3	**10.30am**	**SEECOS Joint Service in Liberton Northfield Church**
	7pm	**Joint New Year Service with Big Idea Churches at the Faith Mission, 548 Gilmerton Road, EH17 7JD**
Mon 4	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
Tue 5	2.30pm	*Service in Liberton Brae Care Home*
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 6	7.30pm	LK Communications Team in McDonald Room
Thu 7	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall
	7pm	World Mission Team in McDonald Room
Fri 8	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 9	3-5pm	*Messy Church* at Tron Kirk Moredun
Sun 10	8am	Sunday reflection on Website and Facebook
	9.30am	**Shorter Service in the Kirk**
	10.20am	Prayer time in the Elders' Room
	11am	**Service in the Kirk and on Zoom** (with Sunday Club and crèche)
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer
Mon 11	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 12	9am-5pm	*Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)*
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall

Wed 13	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	2pm	Guild meets in Anderson Hall
	7.30pm	*Gathering for Praise in the Wilson Hall*
	Evening	Beavers, 93rdC Brownies, Cubs
Thu 14	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club in the Anderson Hall
	Evening	93rd Guides, Scouts
Fri 15	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in the Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 16	10.30-2.30	Pastoral Care Training 3 in Anderson Hall
Sun 17	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).
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18th-25th JANUARY (WPCU)

Mon 18	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	2pm	*SEECAT Service for WPCU at St. Barnabas' Church*
	7pm	Guild Social "A Nicht Wi Burns" in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 19	9am-5pm	*Prayer space in Kirk House (joint prayer at 12noon)*
	9.30-10.30	Staff Team Meeting in McDonald Room
	Evening	Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 20	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs
Thu 21	2-4pm	Senior Citizens Club in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Scouts
Fri 22	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 23	*2pm*	*SEECAT Service for WPCU at St. Gregory's RC Church*
Sun 24	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).
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer
Mon 25	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
Tue 26	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 Guthrie House Care Home*
	Evening	Squirrels, 93rd Rainbows, 93rdA Brownies, 93rd Brownies, Boys Brigade
	7.30pm	*Gathering for Prayer* on Zoom
	8.15pm	Scottish Country Dancing in Anderson Hall
Wed 27	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs
	7.30pm	*Gathering for Praise in the Wilson Hall*
Thu 28	2-4pm	Senior Citizens' Club
	Evening	Scouts
Fri 29	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sat 30	2-4pm	Family Event in Liberton Kirk Centre
Sun 31	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).
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer (preceded by prayer for SEECOS at 6pm)

FEBRUARY 2027

Mon 1	9-12noon	Art Group in Recreation Hall
	2-4pm	Ladies' Badminton in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Explorer Scouts
	7pm	Guild meets in Anderson Hall
Tue 2	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 3	10-12noon	Toddler Group in Recreation Hall
	Evening	Beavers, 93rd C Brownies, Cubs
Thu 4	2-4pm	Senior Citizens Club in Anderson Hall
	Evening	Scouts
Fri 5	1-4.30pm	Warm Hub & IT Clinic in Liberton Kirk Centre
	Evening	93rdB Rainbows
Sun 7	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
	6.30-8pm	**Connections Evening Worship** in the Kirk Centre Foyer

Liberton Kirk Devotions

During December we start to look forward to Christmas with readings from the Prophet Isaiah, Daniel, Micah and Zechariah. Following that we read the accounts of the nativity in Matthew's and Luke's Gospel.

There are then suggestions on the next page for your Midday Devotion, prayer points of others in our SEECOS church family, our city and our world. The prayer for December is on page 4.

In January we start a new series of readings in the New Testament. The schedule is from the *Bible in a Year* so there are associated Old Testament passages. If you want to take on that larger challenge go to bibleinayearonline.com for more information. (The One Year Bible® Reading plan. Copyright© 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1996, 2004, Tyndale House Publishers. Used with permission.)

Prayer for January:

Lord God, restorer of mankind,
At the beginning of this new year,
We ask for rejuvenation,
for you to fill us anew with your Spirit.
We worship you. Amen.

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 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.

Morning
Reading and Meditation on the content and responding in prayer
Midday
Prayer for others
Evening
Verse(s) from the morning reading
Reflection and Prayer at the end of the day

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



Daily Devotions

Day/Date		Reading	Prayer Point
Tuesday	1	Isaiah 9:1-7	Integrity in our world leaders
Wednesday	2	Isaiah 52:7-12	Care relief in countries struggling with disease
Thursday	3	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Safe food delivery to countries in famine
Friday	4	Isaiah 55	Relief to those effected by natural disasters
Saturday	5	Daniel 7:1-14	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	6	Micah 5:2-5	Prayer of the Month
Monday	7	Zechariah 9:9-17	Those unemployed this Christmas
Tuesday	8	Matthew 1:17-25	Those homeless this Christmas
Wednesday	9	Matthew 2:2-12	Those making decision in our city
Thursday	10	Matthew 3	Those making our city festive this Christmas
Friday	11	Matthew 9:9-13	Those that clean our city
Saturday	12	Matthew 10:16-42	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	13	Matthew 11:25-30	Prayer of the Month
Monday	14	Matthew 12:15-58	Those new in their walk with Jesus
Tuesday	15	Matthew 13:53-58	Those struggling with the walk with Jesus
Wednesday	16	Matthew 16:13-20	Thanks for those you assist our walk with Jesus
Thursday	17	Matthew 16:21-28	For each of our family/close friends
Friday	18	Matthew 17:1-13	Loved one who do not know Jesus
Saturday	19	Matthew 18:1-14	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	20	Luke 1:26-38	Prayer of the Month
Monday	21	Luke 1:46-56	Those working this Christmas time
Tuesday	22	Luke 2:1-7	Those dealing with bereavement
Wednesday	23	Luke 2:8-21	Those waiting on treatment
Thursday	24	Luke 2:22-40	Those who are unwell, physically or mentally
Friday	25	Luke 2:41-52	Those who are alone today
Saturday	26	John 1:1-18	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	27	John 5:19-29	Prayer of the Month
Monday	28	John 5:30-47	Thanks for those who have helped us this Christmas
Tuesday	29	John 14:1-14	Those feeling overwhelmed
Wednesday	30	Hebrews 1	Those who have had a difficult 2026
Thursday	31	Revelation 1	Those wishing for a new start in the new year



Daily Devotions

Day/Date		Reading	Prayer Point
Friday	1	Matthew 1:1-2:25	Support for those looking for a renewal
Saturday	2	Matthew 2:13-3:6	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	3	Matthew 3:7-4:11	Prayer of the Month
Monday	4	Matthew 4:12-25	Continued work of SEECOS
Tuesday	5	Matthew 5:1-26	Continued work of SEECAT
Wednesday	6	Matthew 5:27-48	All churches in Edinburgh
Thursday	7	Matthew 6:1-24	Pupils and teachers in Edinburgh schools
Friday	8	Matthew 6:25-7:14	Students in Edinburgh Universities
Saturday	9	Matthew 7:15-29	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	10	Matthew 8:1-17	Prayer of the Month
Monday	11	Matthew 8:18-34	Those new in their walk with Jesus
Tuesday	12	Matthew 9:1-17	Those struggling with the walk with Jesus
Wednesday	13	Matthew 9:18-38	Thanks for those you assist our walk with Jesus
Thursday	14	Matthew 10:1-23	For each of our family/close friends
Friday	15	Matthew 10:24-11:6	Loved one who do not know Jesus
Saturday	16	Matthew 11:7-30	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	17	Matthew 12:1-21	Prayer of the Month
Monday	18	Matthew 12:22-45	Ceasefire in war-torn countries
Tuesday	19	Matthew 12:46-13:23	Integrity in our world leaders
Wednesday	20	Matthew 13:24-46	Care relief in countries struggling with disease
Thursday	21	Matthew 13:47-14:12	Safe food delivery to countries in famine
Friday	22	Matthew 14:13-36	Relief to those effected by natural disasters
Saturday	23	Matthew 15:1-28	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	24	Matthew 15:29-16:12	Prayer of the Month
Monday	25	Matthew 16:13-17:9	The homeless in our city
Tuesday	26	Matthew 17:10-27	The unemployed of our city
Wednesday	27	Matthew 18:1-20	Member of scottish parliament
Thursday	28	Matthew 18:21-19:21	Council workers in our city
Friday	29	Matthew 19:13-30	Emergency service workers
Saturday	30	Matthew 20:1-28	Lord's Prayer
Sunday	31	Matthew 20:29-21:22	Prayer of the Month

Song of Christmas Joy

Why do the bells of Christmas ring?
Why do the little children sing?
Once a lovely shining star,
Seen by shepherds from afar,
Gently moved until its light
Made a manger's cradle bright.
There a darling baby lay,
Pillowed soft upon the hay.
And its Mother sung and smiled:
'This is Christ, the holy Child!'
Therefore bells for Christmas ring,
Therefore little children sing.

By Eugene Field



PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

"Believers who do not pray with fellow Christian's are denying themselves of extraordinary blessing"

John Piper Author & Pastor

GATHERING FOR PRAYER
on
ZOOM
Tuesday 26th January 7:30pm
Tuesday 23rd February 7:30pm

Look out for reminders in the weekly notices and emails from Roll Keeper

Tuesdays – Kirk House

Kirk House is open from 0900 to 1700 as a place of peace and quiet in our busy world, to pause and spend time with God.

At 12 Noon there is a time of communal prayer.

December 1st , 8th & 15th

January from Tuesday 12th

All Welcome!

Sundays - McDonald Room

A prayer time is held in the McDonald Room from 10:20am. Timing allows for those at either service to meet and come together in prayer.

All Welcome!

When Sunday Services revert to the Kirk this prayer time will meet in the Elders Room

Kirkgate Café News

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

Café Volunteers Outing

On Saturday 7th November the café volunteers spent the afternoon at Peebles Hydro for a lovely, delicious afternoon tea. This outing was a thank you to the volunteers for all their hard work and passion to make Kirkgate café a success. The afternoon tea was made possible thanks to all our customers generous tips throughout the year.





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 and are available to buy at the till in the café.

Christmas Lunches

Christmas lunches are now on sale, consisting of soup, turkey sandwich and mincemeat treat with tea or coffee. We will host them on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th December in the Small Hall where it will be relaxed and peaceful. Tickets are priced at £15. Booking is essential, we have a limited space for each sitting so early booking will save any disappointment.

Thank you

As a thank you to everyone who helped make 2026 a success on Thursday 17th December the café will be opening 9am – 12pm for free mince pies with free tea/filter coffee, come along and help celebrate another great year with the volunteers. Please note that there will be no other menu on offer that day. Last trading day will be Wednesday 16th December.

Christmas Holidays

Kirkgate café will be closed from 12pm on Thursday 17th December, reopening on Monday 4th January 2027 at 9am. We hope you have a lovely Christmas and wish you a happy new year.

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

Senior Citizens Club - Thursdays 2-4pm

Here we are again and heading towards the Christmas Party on the third of December. Which means much laughter, music, dancing and lots of fun. That's what we're all about.

Fun from the raffle, entertainments and even more dancing.





Unfortunately, a few of our members are on long-term sickness which is very upsetting for them and us. We keep in touch to remind them they are not forgotten and Linda Wright visits. Again, I have to say that The Club is very lucky with our helpers. It's the helpers who make The Club so successful. We have welcomed a couple of new church members – Christine and Graeme Cunningham whom we're delighted to see.

Keep well everyone and enjoy the Christmas break and we'll see you back in 2027 for more and more dancing.

Future events and entertainers:

3 December	Christmas Party - Margo and Steve		
7 January	Dougie McQ	21 January	Kirk James
14 January	Alan Weatherhead	28 January	Tapselteerie

Church Flower Dedications

December	*Donor*	*In Memory of*
6	Mrs Margaret Burns	
13	Mrs J Lewis	Grandparents: Jimmy and Peggy Clarke
20	Mrs Anne Morgan and family	Margaret Barrow
27	Liberton Kirk Guild	Former Guild Members

January '27		
3	Mrs Claire Mayberry	Parents: Grace and Vic Willshire
10	Mrs Katy Harrison	Brian and David Harrison
17	Mrs Caroline Barlee	David CB Maitland
24	Keith Weston	Elsie and Judy Weston
31		

SEECAT

Carol Singing: We plan to sing carols to shoppers inside Morrisons, Gilmerton Road, at lunchtime on Saturday, 13 December, 12noon to 1pm. (the photo right is from 2025) We don't collect – just sing to cheer people up and wish them a happy Christmas. Why not come and join in?



Christian Unity Week: In the South Edinburgh area there have been good relations between the Christian denominations for some time, but that is not so everywhere. If Jesus' desire that we should all be one is to be fulfilled, then prayer is needed, and that's why every year there is a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity across the globe. This special Week is usually held in the Northern Hemisphere between 18th and 25th January. The services in our area are:

Monday 19 January 2pm at St. Barnabas' Church, 4 Moredun Park View

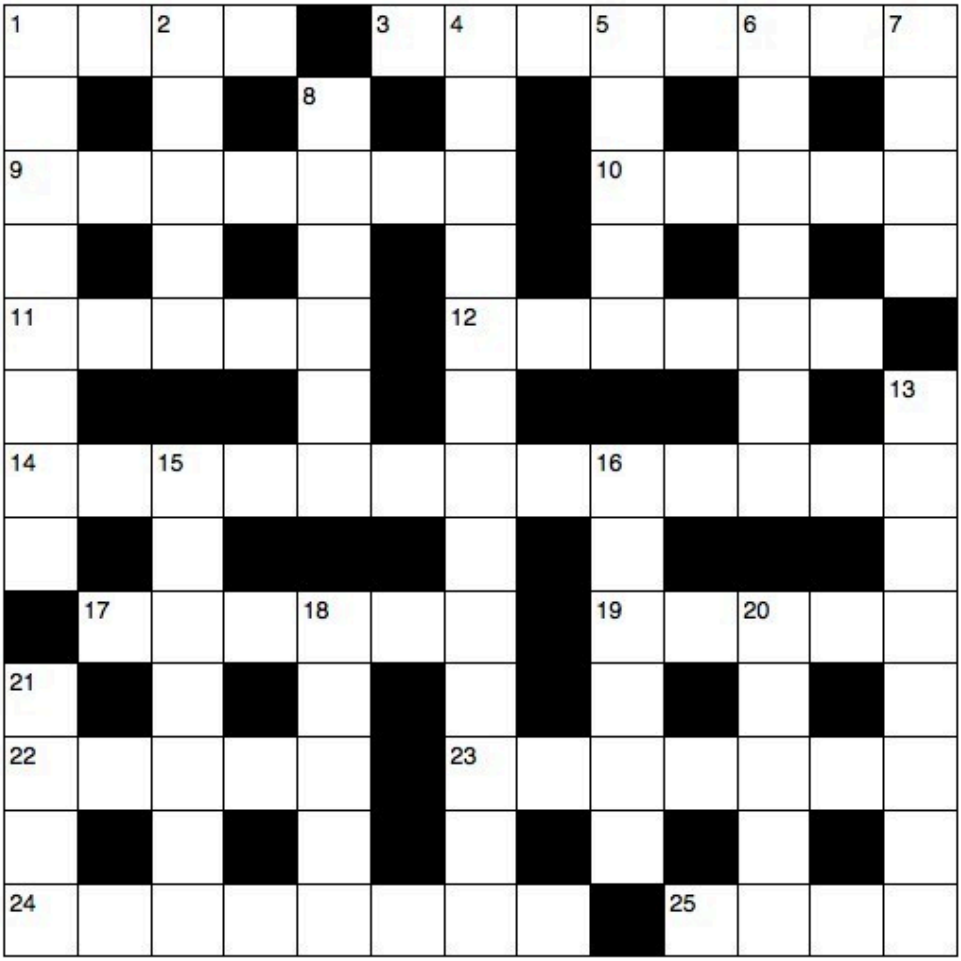
Thursday 22 January 7pm at Liberton Kirk, refreshments afterwards

If you can't go to the services, please pick up a prayer card from the Welcome Desks in January and follow the scripture readings and prayers for the week at home. The theme for the week is *"'One body, one spirit"* prepared by Christians in Armenia.

Ruth Davies



December Crossword



Across

1 ‘How long will you — your face from me?’ (Psalm 13:1) (4)
3 ‘Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the — he bore’(Hebrews 13:13) (8)
9 Posh sin (anag.) (Romans 8:15) (7)
10 Solemn pledges (Matthew 5:33) (5)
11 Italian term for full orchestra (5)

12 'For he who avenges blood remembers; he does not — the cry of the afflicted' (Psalm 9:12) (6)
14 Prescience (1 Peter 1:2) (13)
17 Where a Hindu holy man lives (6)
19 'If he found any... who belonged to the Way, whether — — women, he might take them as prisoners' (Acts 9:3) (3,2)
22 Fragrance (2 Corinthians 2:15) (5)
23 Vine hen (anag.) (Jonah 1:2) (7)
24 Precious stone decorating the twelfth foundation of the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (8)
25 'Will you keep to the old path that evil men have — ?' (Job 22:15) (4)

Down

1 'Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with — — ' (Numbers 20:11) (3,5)
2 'You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, " — — murder"' (Matthew 5:21) (2,3)
4 One of Paul's many hardships endured as a servant of God (2 Corinthians 6:5) (13)
5 'We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, — inwardly' (Romans 8:23) (5)
6 Changed (Daniel 6:8) (7)
7 'My yoke is — and my burden is light' (Matthew 11:30) (4)
8 Recoil (Revelation 12:11) (6)
13 'O Lord, you have — me and you know me' (Psalm 139:1) (8)
15 ' — to me the joy of your salvation' (Psalm 51:12) (7)
16 Express sorrow (Isaiah 16:7) (6)
18 'Then he said to Thomas, " — out your hand and put it into my side"' (John 20:27) (5)
20 'God has said, " — will I leave you; — will I forsake you"' (Hebrews 13:5) (5)
21 Son of Onam and brother of Shammai (1 Chronicles 2:28) (4)

November Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni. 16. Wait. 17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm. 29, Epistle. 30, Whitsuntide.
DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node. 6, Soprano. 7, Theological. 8, Westminster. 12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted. 25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

Two teenagers ordained as Church of Scotland elders



Two teenagers at a parish in the east end of Glasgow have become the youngest people in the recent history of the Church of Scotland to be appointed as church elders.

Erica Matteo and Luke Anderson - both 19 - were ordained as elders at a special service in Sandyhills Parish Church, Baillieston, and are now part of the Kirk Session.

That means they will be responsible for implementing the instructions of the Church's General Assembly and making sure the Sandyhills congregation adheres to them.

Sandyhills minister Rev Norman Afrin said the duo carry "maturity and wisdom", despite still being teenagers.

An internship programme for the two teenagers saw them regularly attend meetings of the Kirk Session for about 18 months.

Erica, who lives near the church and works in a shopping centre's smoothie bar, said her family and friends have been supportive of her becoming an elder.

She added: "I was quite nervous before going into my first Kirk Session meeting but when I walked in I knew everyone there and I calmed down. I've really enjoyed every meeting, finding out how the church is run.

"The biggest thing for me has been experiencing the love of my church family, that they wanted younger people to step in and see what being an elder is like."

Luke is a third year student in sports business management at the University of Stirling and is considering becoming a minister himself.

He said: "I quite like being in leadership and seeing how stuff works, and I thought I would maybe have some good ideas to contribute. "As soon as I heard Erica was the other intern elder, I knew we would work well as a team and bounce ideas off each other."

Rev Afrin was one of the Church of Scotland's youngest new ministers when he began serving there in 2018, at the age of 26.

He said the need for younger elders had often been discussed at the Kirk Session, and both Luke and Erica's names had come up. He said: "They have brought a depth and spiritual insight that was very welcome. They carried a maturity and wisdom and it has been such a joy to watch them grow into this office - they never felt like interns.

"Their contributions were always well received and they were met with warmth, love and open arms."

Sandyhills says about a third of its members are under the age of 30, at a time when church attendance is in decline and the Church of Scotland is selling off some of its historic buildings.

From the BBC News Website 27 October 2026

the PARABLE of the SOWER

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS





ONE WAS ABOUT A FARMER WHO SOWED SOME SEEDS

MOST FARMERS DIDN'T BURY THEIR SEEDS IN THE GOUND. INSTEAD THEY THREW THEM IN THE AIR!





THE FARMER HOPED THEY WOULD TAKE ROOT JUST WHERE THEY LANDED



BUT SOME SEED WAS EATEN BY BIRDS!

SOME SEED FELL ON ROCKS, BUT THE PLANTS DIED WHEN THE HOT SUN SHONE DOWN





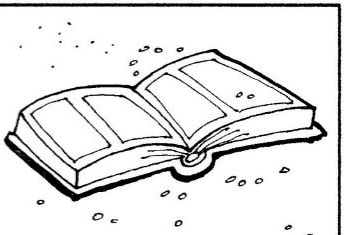
OTHER SEEDS TOOK ROOT, BUT WERE QUICKLY STRANGLED BY WEEDS



SOME SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT TOOK ROOT AND GREW AND GREW!

SOON THERE WAS A FINE FIELD OF WHEAT!

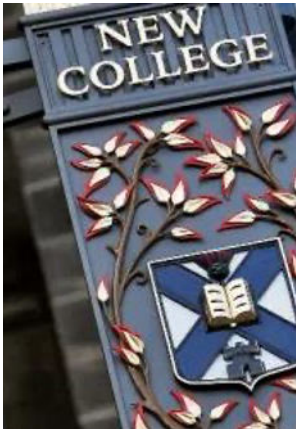




JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE SEED ARE 'WORD OF GOD' AND WE SHOULD LET THAT WORD 'GROW' IN OUR HEARTS, JUST LIKE SEEDS IN GOOD SOIL.

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 subside the cost, so do contact the Presbytery Clerk and the Session Clerk if you are keen to take this further.

A Christmas prayer



Let your goodness, Lord, appear to us, that we, made in Your image, conform ourselves to it.

In our own strength we cannot imitate Your majesty, power and wonder; nor is it fitting for us to try.

But Your mercy reaches from the heavens, through the clouds, to the earth below.

You have come to us as a small child, but You have brought us the greatest of all gifts, the gift of eternal love.

Caress us with Your tiny hands, embrace us with Your tiny arms, and pierce our hearts with Your soft, sweet cries.

By Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153}

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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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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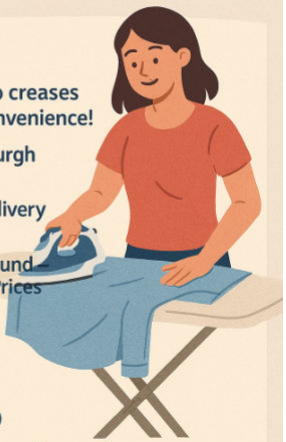
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Church Directory

SEECOS Session Clerk: Margaret Padfield, margaret.macleod@gmail.com

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

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

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

Clerk, Local Leadership Team: Christopher Brandie, 50a Kirk Brae, tel 6681850
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,
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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

C**onvener 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.

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

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 January 17 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



THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S
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Liberton Kirk is part of SEECOS
(South East Edinburgh Church of Scotland)
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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

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