

## Church Contact List

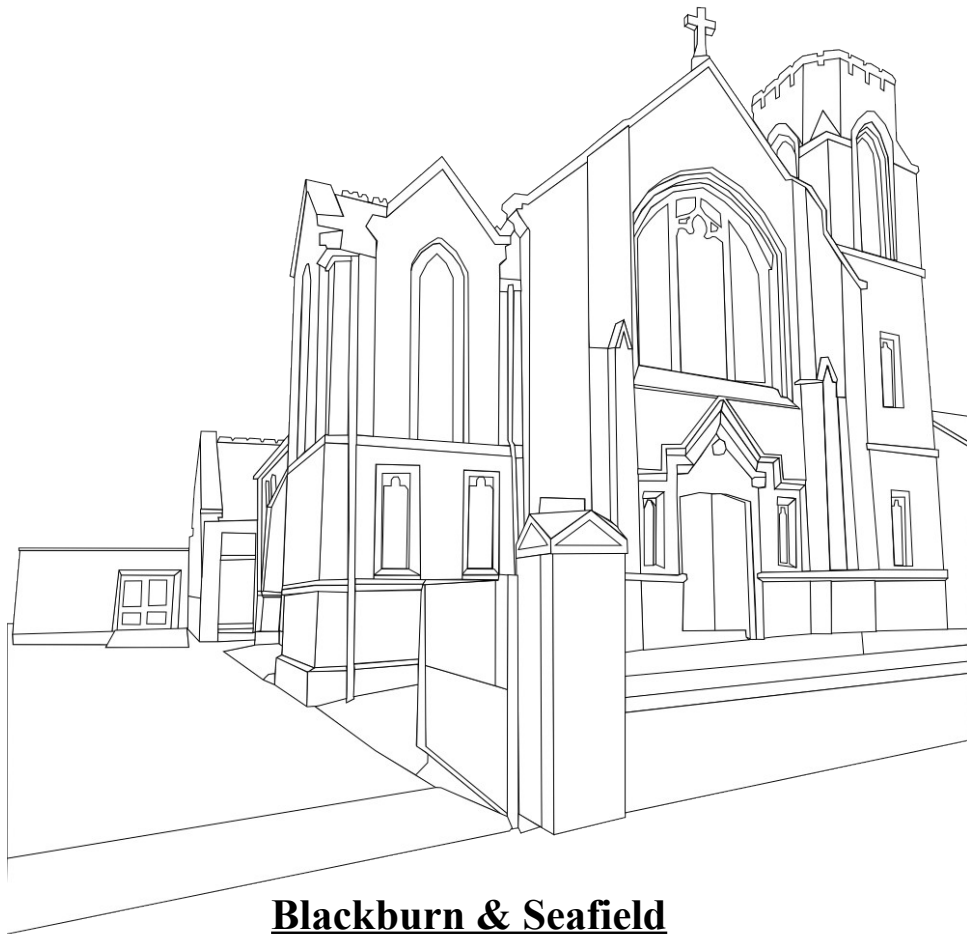
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*Blackburn and Seafield Church of Scotland*  
*Scottish Charity No. SCO 24154*  
[www.blackburnandseafieldchurch.co.uk](http://www.blackburnandseafieldchurch.co.uk)

## Church Organisation Contact List

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Any contributions intended for the December Tally Lamp may be passed to the Editor, via email, at [carne.mcculloch@sky.com](mailto:carne.mcculloch@sky.com) by Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2017.



**Blackburn & Seafield**  
**Church of Scotland**  
**Parish News**

*November 2017*

Dear Friends,

Last month much of the world was remembering Martin Luther and what is regarded as the start of the reformation. His challenges to the church, were to make the church think about its current practices, many of which Luther regarded as corrupt or plain wrong. His ideas spread quickly and many others including such as John Calvin, and John Knox also sought to re-form the church into holding to Biblical standards, and Biblical truths.

Particularly regarding the truth of Salvation through Christ alone, i.e. no offering we give, or work we do could earn our salvation. Giving and working for God is a response to his love, not a means of acquiring it.

Today our churches are still called to be reforming, if they have erred away from Biblical truth. Re-forming means, getting themselves back to New Testament standards and beliefs, rather than following the cultural changes of the world. How we present the gospel might change, - holiday clubs, messy church, new hymns etc, but the gospel does not change.

Modern cultural changes are frequently in opposition to a true church. Be encouraged to hold to think through all that happens around you, and if it is against Biblical truth be brave to stand against it.

Luther when challenged to recant by the authorities responded "here I stand, I can do no other", that can be our stance also, and if we need to re-form let us be willing to do so.

Blessings

Robert Malloch

**Elder's Rota**

**5<sup>th</sup> Nov** – A. Gilfillan, I. Brown, I. Milne, J. Robertson, C. McCulloch

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov** – R. Dunlop, A. Simpson, M. Brown, F. McLennan, K. Burnett

**19<sup>th</sup> Nov** – J. Muir, A. Muir, D. Anderson, T. Stockman, M. Savage, M. Mason

**26<sup>th</sup> Nov** – J. Lumsden, J. McAloon, J. Ewart, G. Todd, C. Naylor

### **Tea Rota**

**5<sup>th</sup> Nov** – E. Stockman, K. Younger, M. Brown, S. McGowan

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov** – A. Gilfillan, C. McCulloch, M. Mason, S. Merry

**19<sup>th</sup> Nov** – G. Anderson, E. Brown, M. Millar, M. Todd, M. Boyd

**26<sup>th</sup> Nov** – I. Culpin, S. Milligan, S. Stevenson, I. Henderson, M. Shields

### **Flowers for the Sanctuary**

**5<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Mrs. H. Paterson

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Mrs. M. Stewart

**19<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Mrs. M. Shields

**26<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Mrs. N. Gardiner

**Thank You**



A big Thank You from Zoe & family to you all!

God richly bless you all for your prayers, nice presents and support.

Lots of love from  
Sampson, Mabel, Keila, Othniel and baby Zoe  
XXX

**Malcolm Shields**

May, Linda and Lorna would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and prayers received during their recent sad loss of Malcolm.

Thanks also to our friend Sadie for a lovely and uplifting service, to Thomas Grieve and Son for efficient funeral services, and to Agnes McKay for her excellent catering at the Bowling Club.

The amount of £620 which was collected in Malcolm's memory has been donated to the Tippethill League of Friends.

We have been overwhelmed by your kindness – thank you.

God Bless

As we look around us we see God's hand at work in the changing seasons with autumn colours abounding the woodlands and that nice feeling as you walk through piles of leaves that have fallen from the trees.

The central heating is on or about to be put on as the chill begins to bite. The nights draw in with the clocks changing for the winter.

I marvel as God's work through nature, we can't see God but it is evident all around us of his hand at work.

We have been here before the trees shedding their leaves, the nights drawing in and the chill on our faces as the sun moves south for the winter.

However, we know these changes in the seasons are all part of life's circle and know from past experience in time new life will dawn, the days lengthen and the sun returns north to bring us warmth once more.



**1<sup>st</sup> Blackburn Girls' Brigade**  
**01506 631833**



Hello everyone.

Time is certainly marching on and we have already had a holiday.

The Explorers are continuing their focus on seasons, doing all sorts of crafts relating to Autumn including making windmills, cards with leaves, and learning about the natural world.

The Juniors have finished their Noah's Ark and I'm sure you'll agree it looks great on the wall. They have also decorated masks to wear to the West Lothian Division masked disco, joining other companies for a fun afternoon.

The Brigaders continue to help with the younger girls thankfully, and have finished their topic of bioethics.

All the girls brought in items for the shoebox appeal and the Brigaders covered the boxes, and we managed to fill three.

Best wishes from all at 1<sup>st</sup> Blackburn.

## **Prayer**

Father, for those who are hurting today give them a fresh

perspective, fill their hearts with your love and your compassion, your patience and your Grace.

For those who are needing physical tangible help in their lives. We ask that you will send people to come and stand beside them and be your hands and feet.

For those who need a place to stay please provide, for those who need a friend in the midst of their loneliness. We thank you for being there so we are never truly alone but please send someone to those who need to feel a human touch for those who have been left high and dry or who are now left dealing with problems that are not of their own doing.

Please make a way where there seems to be no way Lord.

Amen

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## Revelation 21 –4

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

In God's word contained in our Bibles we can be assured that God does keep His promises and we can look forward in hope to all that He will bring to us.

It is on these cold winter nights as we looked to the clear skies we can imagine God taking Abraham from his tent and showing him the array of stars in the sky and promising to him, a man who at this stage had no children and he and his wife were well on in years, that his descendants would be as great as the number he could see.

Let us move forward in hope that God will bless our congregation with a new leader to take us forward in the work of the Lord.

I urge you to join us regularly on a Sunday morning to support and encourage one another, and to pray without ceasing that God will call a new leader to the fold.

God Bless



# November 2017

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Elaine Wood

Dear friends of Stepping Stones,

We have had lots of fun, wee stories and craft making since we returned after summer, it's been lovely! We add photos of what we have been up to on Facebook each week; go have a look if you can!

Thank you too, to all the brilliant helpers at Stepping Stones too, your help is invaluable.

Over the next few months, we look forward to Remembrance Sunday and hope to come up with a wee something for our Christmas service.

It would be great to see some more children at Stepping Stones and if you know of anyone who would like to come along, please encourage them as they will be made most welcome

God bless, Tracy

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## November Stepping Stones Rota

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November - Agnes Muir

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Moira Brown

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November - Elma Stockman