

# Belhaven and Spott Gift Day 2024



**Thank you in advance  
for your support of  
our Gift Day this year!**



**Come to our open day and find  
out more about what we do**

**Belhaven Church  
Saturday 22 June  
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

*“A welcoming family that seeks  
through the love of God to help all  
people grow in faith and service,  
living out the gospel as part of the  
community”*

Saturday 22  
June, right?



Correct – from  
10:00 to 12:30.



Will there be  
coffee and  
cakes?



Yep – be there  
or be square!



## From the Interim Moderator: Join Our Giving Joy

This has been a momentous year in the life of our church. The union between Belhaven and Spott churches has been successfully achieved and now represents a vibrant amalgamation of urban and rural congregations, dedicated to the work of Christ. We also celebrate the creation of our deferred union with Dunglass.

The process to seek a new Minister to lead the congregation is well under way. Our old Manse has been sold, and a new, modern Manse has been purchased. This will allow the selection of a new Minister to proceed.

To underpin these positive developments, it is important to improve and sustain the finances of the church. The generosity of members of the congregation towards giving has been a hallmark of both the original churches. However, in a climate of rising prices and the increased costs of maintaining our buildings, the need to bolster our finances is now even more essential.

The spirit of Giving Day on 22 June is therefore to help improve our finances and to ask you all to consider increasing your giving or, particularly for those new to the church, to consider giving for the first time. We need everyone – members and friends of the congregation – to pull together to enhance the work of our Lord. There remains much to be done.

The Giving Day offers an opportunity to meet friends, old and new, and to discover more about Belhaven's, Spott's and Dunglass' institutions and explore ways in which you can help us move forward. Our team will be on hand to help you decide what method of planned financial support suits you best, and to facilitate you in making a one-off donation to help meet our immediate needs.

Please do join us between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on 22 June – we look forward to seeing you.

*Thanks, Brian*

## How Are We Doing?

In an ideal world, Belhaven & Spott should be self-sufficient. But the reality is that we need money to pay for people costs, heating and repairs, as well as contributions to the Church of Scotland for its wider work. Projecting our budget costs and income, the hard fact is that we expect to run a deficit this year of around £6,000.

Whilst not critical, it is better to live within our means if at all possible, and our calculations are that a 7% increase in overall offerings would help significantly. What we ask is that you review your own giving and, where possible, increase your contributions – even a modest increase would be very helpful to us. Every extra contribution will improve our church's ability to improve the lives of others.

From 2018 to 2022, Belhaven's accounts were mostly in deficit, while Spott mostly broke even. In 2023, the combined Belhaven & Spott union produced a modest surplus of £10,000, but with a deficit projected for the united church in 2024, we are attempting to minimise that deficit by again asking everyone to review your contributions.

Meanwhile, the Finance Committee is doing everything in our power to increase income and decrease expenditure, and we would welcome any ideas to this end from members of the congregation.

