



UPPER BRAES PARISH CHURCH

We seek to invite,
encourage and
enable people to
follow Jesus Christ.

Welcome! We join in the sanctuary and online to worship God in the Name of Jesus Christ. Our joint all-age service to God is led by Rev Scott Burton.

Order of Service – Sunday 16th February 2025 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

Gathering Moment with **MP-38 As we are gathered**

The Choir: **'Walk in the light'**

Call to Worship

Hymn MP-1267 Come people of the risen King

Hymn MP-272 I have decided to follow Jesus

All Age Prayer and Lord's Prayer

(Gayle Miller)

We listen for God speaking to us

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13, 16-17; 4:1-4 (page 967)

(Pat Paterson)

Hymn MP-494 O for a closer walk with God (v1-2, 4, 6)

All-Age Message

We respond to God and ask for His help

Hymn – Jesus, You are here with me

Prayer of Response

Hymn MP-1004 Send the fire (v1, 3-4)

Benediction and Threefold Amen

**The words to the Lord's Prayer will appear on screen.*

We a creche room available for those under 3.

Refreshments served afterward in the Heriot Hall.

Welcome to Worship

Church is not a building – it is the family of God’s people, and we are delighted that you are able to join us today. ** All children are welcome either to stay during service or to go out to the various Sunday School groups. Families are welcome to accompany them if they wish. There is a creche room for children under three, where the service is live streamed.

Service Activity Sheet for All

Whether you are visiting or regularly sharing in worship, at the front and rear doors we have an activity sheet that seeks to help individuals follow the flow and theme of the service. This might be especially useful for those with additional support needs, but anyone is welcome to take one if it would be helpful.

Keep in Touch and Informed

We are on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube as well as our church website www.upperbraes.org.uk. You can download material from the website, see the calendar and news, as well as revisit previous sermons.

Sunday Morning Prayer and Thursday Evening Live Prayer

Join us for a time of prayer on Sunday mornings 10.15 to 10.30am in the small hall of our Brightons Ministry Centre, or 10.40am in our Slamannan Ministry Centre, or online on Thursday evenings at 8.15pm (on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube). Please email: info@upperbraes.org.uk for Zoom login details.

Period of Sick Leave for Pastoral Assistant

Monica has the shingles and so will be on leave until able to return. Please keep her in your prayers and also respect her need for rest and recuperation.

Governance Policies

The Kirk Session have reviewed and updated our congregational governance policies. Most include minor changes from those previously in place, a couple contain more significant changes (Bribery & Procurement includes detail of budget management; Health and Safety now covers all four locations) and a final two are new policies (Vehicle Use & Lone Working). Please read the latter two if you use your own vehicle for church business or if you routinely work alone (either inside or outwith church premises). All policies are available on the Governance page of our website and policy booklets are available in both Ministry Centres should you wish to borrow and read a hardcopy. Copies can also be obtained by contacting the session Clerk.

Eleanor Blyth

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Eleanor Blyth on 2nd February. Eleanor’s Funeral will take place on Wednesday 19th February at Falkirk Crematorium at 2.30pm. Please keep Eleanor’s family on your prayers at this time.

Thank You

Frances Cross would like to thank everyone for their kind phone calls and cards following her recent fall.

Pastoral Visitors Needed

The Pastoral Care Team is looking for six people who would be willing to do occasional visits in Slamannan and surrounding area to folk in the congregation who are mostly shut in. Volunteers would be “partnered up” with a specific person/family. If this could be you, please speak to our Pastoral Assistant Rev Monica MacDonald, or to Rev Scott Burton – contact details for both on the back of the news sheet.

Youth Mentors Needed

We need at least 6 volunteers for a new mentoring program for our young people. You will meet with a young person for 1 hour every fortnight for 12 weeks, with an option to share your skills (e.g., music, reading, running, chatting with coffee!) with them and talk about our Christian faith following a relaxed guide. Dates and times are flexible to suit you and young person. **Register your interest using the sign-up sheets found on pews or at the front of the church.** For more info, contact Caroline via WhatsApp/email/phone call or in person (contact details on the back of the notices).

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team have placed copies of the following books in the Church Library next to the Rankine Hall. Please feel free to borrow, read and return.

- “When someone you love has Cancer” by Cecil Murphy
- “The path not chosen” by Wendy Bray
- “Insight into Bereavement” by Wendy Bray & Diana Priest
- “Facing Death” Bible Readings by Rachel Boulding
- “Ill Health” Bible Readings by Wendy Bray
- “What Dementia teaches us about Love” by Nicci Gerrard

Men’s Book Group

The next Meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th February in the Vestry at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Friendship Plus

The next Friendship Plus meeting will be at 2pm on Wednesday 19th February in Brightons Ministry Centre. Braes High School will be visiting. All are welcome.

International Women’s Day 2025

The Gender-Based Violence Team are bringing together some input for a Sunday service near International Women’s Day. In the pews are reply slips asking you to describe a woman who has inspired you at some point in your life. Return to the boxes at the doors by end of February.

Kirk Session

Please note that the next Kirk Session Meeting will held on Tuesday 25th February at 7.15pm in the Small Hall at Brightons Ministry Centre.

1st Polmont Girls' Brigade- 100th Anniversary Afternoon Tea

We will be holding an afternoon tea on Saturday 8th March 2025 at 2pm - 4pm celebrating our 100th Anniversary. Tickets can be purchased from GB staff at the price of Adults £6.00, Children £4.00. A selection of memorabilia from over the years will be on display.

Help us connect even more with our local community - Community Audit

Over March to October this year, training will be given to help us engage, listen to and connect afresh with our local communities across the whole of the Upper Braes parish. The hope is that this will clarify where we as a new congregation can best get involved, so as to embody the love and kingdom of God in our communities. Over these months, there will be 6 training sessions led by Cinnamon Network. The first is on Saturday 1st March, 9.30am-12.30pm, at the Brightons Ministry Centre (the rest will be on Tuesday evenings). Sign-up sheets are at the door(s). We need as many of the congregation to be involved as possible - there will be work to do between training sessions, but it's really worth it, as it can lead to transformation for both us and our communities.

World Day of Prayer 2025

The World Day of Prayer this year will be held at Wallacestone Methodist Church on the 7th March 2025 at 7.00 p.m. and will be led by the Rev Adam J Stevenson. The theme this year is "I Made You Wonderful" written by the Christian women of the Cook Islands. All are welcome.

E-news and Prayer Updates

For our large congregation we sometimes communicate reminders and updates electronically, although any electronic communication is always added to the news sheet. If you would like the e-news, please consider signing-up by using the following link <https://upperbraes.org.uk/enews>

An Evening with Graham Kendrick

Graham Kendrick will be appearing at Falkirk Trinity Church at 7.00pm on Friday 28th March. Tickets at £18 each and are available from the Office or online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/falkirk-trinity-church/t-norklxx>

Link from the Message

In the all-age message today, Scott will briefly mention the “five love languages”. If you would like to explore more, here’s one link you could utilise (it can apply to all relationships, not only marriages):

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-life/are-the-5-love-languages-in-a-marriage-biblical.html>

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

16th February – Roy Graham, Marion Graham, Janet Crosthwaite and Maralyn Stirling.

23rd February – Janet Crosthwaite, Christine Hastings, Jennifer Gallivan and Jim Kerr.

Flowers in Church

The Flowers in Church today have been provided by The Choir.

Delivering the Flowers after today’s service will be Ray Heeps.

Delivering the Flowers after next week’s service will be Sandra Anderson.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways to today’s service

Gayle Miller, Jean Meek, Heather O’Neill, Pat Paterson, the Audio-Visual Team, the Praise Band, the Choir and the Welcome Team.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 13:30 - Saturday 13:30
Pastoral Assistant	Rev Monica MacDonald	On sick leave
Youth Development Worker	Caroline Whittit	☎: 07848 480801 cwhittit@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Saturday
Session Clerk	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 sessionclerk@upperbraes.org.uk
Safeguarding Coordinator	Eileen Hope	safeguarding@upperbraes.org.uk
Church Office	☎: 713855	info@upperbraes.org.uk
Church Website		www.upperbraes.org.uk
Newsheet Notices	Heather O’Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 16 th February	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	All Age Joint Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Pastoral Visitors Lunch	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Young Adults Group	UBPC Manse
Monday 17 th February	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Fellowship Group K	Offsite Event
Tuesday 18 th February	9.30am	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Men's Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 19 th February	10.00am	Muiravonside Prayer Time	Muiravonside Building
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	1.30pm	Guild	Shieldhill Building
	2.00pm	Friendship Plus	Brightons Ministry Centre
	5.15pm	Bible Fun Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	GB Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	GB Juniors	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Preaching Team Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 20 th February	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.45pm	Friends of Jesus Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 21 st February	2.00pm	Long Covid Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 23 rd February	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre