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 service to God is led by Rev. Scott Burton

Order of Service – Sunday 30th March 2025 (11.00am)

Welcome and Notices

Gathering Moment (GB Explorers)

Choir: 'Give me oil in my lamp'

Call to Worship

Hymn – Living hope

Hymn MP-1024 All my days

Prayer and Lord's Prayer (GB Brigaders)

Scripture Reading: John 19:12-18, 25-27 (pages 1087-1088) (GB Juniors)

Hymn – God's love is the best love

All Age Message

Hymn – Heavenly Father, we're just children

Prayer of Response

Hymn MP-445 Lord the light of Your love is shining

Benediction & Threefold Amen

The National Anthem

Colour Party Leaves – please remain standing

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

We have Sunday groups for children and young people up to P7 only, as well as a creche space available for those under 3.

Refreshments served afterward in the Heriot Hall.

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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. ** Today, we have Sunday School groups available for children between three years old and primary 4, and all children in this age range are welcome to join the groups or to remain in the service. 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.

Teaching Series up to Easter

From 23rd March, we will be exploring the 7 sentences of Jesus as He hung upon the cross and then His risen words on Easter Sunday. We pray that this series will help us appreciate the Cross afresh and prepare our hearts as we journey towards Easter. At Slamannan today, Judith Norton will be preaching.

Easter Cards - Volunteer deliverers required

The Easter Cards are in the hall vestibule in bundles of about 10-15 homes in close proximity for ease of delivery. A small number are scattered and would be easier by car. Your help would be a blessing. Thank you.

Betty Scott

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of one of our members, Mrs Betty Scott, of Lawers Crescent, Polmont on 10th March. Betty's funeral will be held at 10.45am on 31st March at Falkirk Crematorium. Please keep Betty's three sons and wider family in your prayers.

Thank you from Bonnie

Scott and Linda McFarlane and Ann would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and kind gifts on the birth of Bonnie. We are truly blessed.

The Guild

The next meeting of the Guild will take place on Monday, 7th April at 2.00 p.m. Entertainment that afternoon will be provided by the Caledonian Choir. All welcome.

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Daily Bible Reading Notes

The Daily Bread Nible Reading Notes are now available for April – June at £5.99 each. Please e mail Heather O'Neill if you would like a copy. E mail address is on the back of the Newssheet. These are a great tool to help with your daily devotions.

Lent Retreat Opportunity

Our placement candidate, Gayle Miller, is attending a Lent Retreat at Braehead House in the Clyde Valley on Saturday 12th April, 9.30-4pm. If anyone would like to attend with Gayle, then please speak with her for more info and/or car sharing/lifts. The cost is £30, including light lunch and refreshments. The Retreat will give space for reflection, prayer, short walks, and conversation – come be refreshed!

Easter Cards

Easter Cards from Faith Mission Bookshop are now available to buy from the card stall in the Heriot Hall after Sunday services in the Brightons Ministry Centre. Please note that there will be no Easter Cards on the stall on 30th March but they will be available again after that.

Prison Outreach at Easter

At Easter, Upper Braes Parish Church community give an Easter Card, together with a small Easter egg to all the inmates at the local HMP/YOI Polmont. We have received an update regarding the number of inmates - at present there are around 600. Consequently, the cost of gifting eggs would now be approximately £350. As part of community outreach, we invite you, our church family, to consider making a donation towards the cost of buying the chocolate eggs.

Should you wish to make a contribution, a collection box will be available for cash donations. Card donations may also be made. Card machine and collection box will be found in the front vestibule at Brightons Ministry Centre. Donations also accepted at "After church Cuppa" in Herriot Hall.

As always, we are blessed with the spirit of generosity from our church family. The Lord loves a cheerful giver!

Articles for Connect

Please can you send articles for the summer edition of Connect to Margaret Sim at connect@upperbraes.org.uk by Sunday 20th April. Look forward to hearing from all the teams. Thank you.

Tea and Coffee Rota

If you would like to be part of the Refreshment Team. Please speak to Maralyn Stirling. Your help would be very much appreciated. A great way to get to know more of your church family! Also, all donations given for your after church cuppa will go to Tearfund.

Pastoral Visitors Needed

The Pastoral Care Team is looking for THREE 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.

Volunteers for Creche

We are looking to restart the crèche in the small hall as we did prior to COVID times to let parents return to the service. This would be on a 4 weekly rota basis to help with the care of our under 3s. I am looking for at least 8 helpers to accommodate this. We are also looking for an additional helper for the junior section (P2 to p4). If you hear god calling you to either of these posts please get in touch with Alie Drackford at sundayschool@upperbraes.org.uk

Jesus Said “Let the Little Children Come to Me (Matthew 19:14 NIV)

Many of you will already have contributed to recent collections for the Scottish Bible Society and the Guild supporting their “Bibles for Bairns” project where the vision is to reach every baby born in Scotland each year by sending them books of Bible stories every birthday from 1 year to 5 years old. The books are designed to be read to the Children by their parent/s. The 2 books being sent as 2nd birthday gifts are ”Numbers: A Nativity Story” and “Colours: A Noah’s Ark Story”. You can still register a baby born in 2024 until 31st March 2025. Registration for Babies born in 2025 will open later this year. Spread the word to all the new Parents you know and ask their permission to register. Please pray for the growth of “The Bibles for Bairns” project. Register a baby at bible.scot/bfb. Further information is in the Bible Society Magazine “Transform”.

Friends of Jesus Group Fundraiser

Please put Wednesday, 14th May, 7pm in your calendar. Friends of Jesus group would love you to join them for an evening of fun and entertainment with 'the People's Puppets'. It will be a show suitable for adults and children of all ages. Entry will be by donation and all proceeds will go to support the work of Prospects Across Scotland. Thanks.

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Golf Outing

The next church golf outing will be held at Binny Golf Club, Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian, EH52 6NL on Thursday 29th May. Please contact Billy Rankine if you're interested in playing. Billyrankine@btinternet.com or 07860527899.

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

30th March – June Arkless, Peter Arkless, Jane Bell, Maralyn Stirling.
6th April – Eileen McArdle, Janet Crosthwaite, Christine Hastings and Yvonne Anderson.

Flowers in Church

The Flowers in Church today have been provided by Fiona McLuckie.
Delivering the Flowers after today's service will be Pat Paterson.
Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Shona Forrest.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways

Jean Meek, Judith Norton, Heather O'Neill, the Praise Band and Organist, the AV Team, the Choir, the Welcome Team and all from and connected to the Girls' Brigade Company.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk **Sabbath on Friday 13:30 - Saturday 13:30**
Pastoral Assistant	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk **Sabbath on Friday**
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
Newssheet Notices	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 newssheet@upperbraes.org.uk heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

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The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 30th March	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.30pm	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (T)	Off Site Event
Monday 31st March	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (A1)	Off Site Event
	7.45pm	Fellowship Group (K)	Off Site Event
Tuesday 1st April	9.30am	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (A2)	Off Site Event
	7.30pm	Safeguarding Panel Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 2nd April	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	5.15pm	Bible Fun Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.30pm	GB End of Session	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 3rd April	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.45pm	Friends of Jesus Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 4th April	1.00pm	Long Covid Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	ASN Support Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 6th April	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Young Adults Group	UBPC Manse

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