



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 today by Linzi Matheson.

Order of Service – Sunday 27th July 2025 (10.30am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

(Judith Norton)

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

Call to Worship

Hymn – MP 1244 You are Holy

Hymn – Oceans - Where Feet may Fail

All Together Time

(SKC – Heather Haywood)

Song - The Sticky Song

We ask for God's help and listen for Him speaking to us

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-7 (page 694)

Ephesians 1: 3-9 and 13-14 (page 1173) (Pat Paterson)

Prayer for Others

(Rachel Meek)

Hymn – MP 1086 Light of the World

Message

We respond to God

Hymn – MP 673 There is a Redeemer

Benediction and Threefold Amen

* The words for the Lord's Prayer will appear on screen, if you find these helpful *

** *We have a Summer Kids Club and Summer Teens Club for children and young people up to S4, and a creche space 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 the service or to go out to the various Summer Clubs. Families are welcome to accompany them if they wish. There is a creche space for children under three. Today at Slamannan Ministry Centre, will be preaching.

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.

Sunday Morning Prayer and Thursday Evening Live Prayer

Join us for a time of prayer on Sunday mornings at 10.00am 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 via Zoom only (over summer). Please email: info@upperbraes.org.uk for Zoom login details.

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.

Summer Teaching Series

Over the summer weeks from 29th June, we will be exploring some of the names and attributes of God. Those chosen come from a new song we will also learn over the summer. We hope the teaching, with the aid of the song, will deepen our wonder, trust and devotion to our God and our Lord.

Muiravonside Building

We can now confirm that an offer above the asking price has been accepted by the General Trustees at 121 (Central Church Office). The offer is from a private buyer, so hopefully will proceed quickly. In time, we will be holding a closing service at Muiravonside which we hope you will join us for - more details of which will be shared in due course.

For your prayers

Please remember the family and friends of Mrs Evelyn Henderson who passed peacefully at Caledonian Care Home, Larbert, on 14th July. Evelyn's Funeral will be a private service.

The Funeral Service for the late Mrs Amelia Robertson will be held in the Slamannan Ministry Centre on Thursday 31st July at 2pm. Please remember Amelia's grandson James, family and friends in your prayers.

September Communion Card

If there are any upcoming dates for events from September onwards that should be included on the back page of the Communion Card please send them to Margaret Sim connect@upperbraes.org.uk by 3rd August.

Nomination of 2026-2027 Moderator

Presbytery have asked us to advise that the Committee to Nominate the Moderator is now accepting recommendations for the person who will be nominated as Moderator of the General Assembly in May 2026. After moderating the business of the General Assembly, the Moderator acts as the Church's ambassador during the following year, visiting Presbyteries, meeting and encouraging Church people in a variety of settings, and representing the Church at public events. You can access more information and the recommendation form (to be returned by 15th August) in the following article: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/articles/nominations-are-open-for-the-2026-27-moderator>. Please keep the Committee in your prayers.

Brightons Ministry Centre – Starting 29th June:

Early Summer Service and Summer Kids/Teens Clubs

Over the weeks the school are closed, our Summer Kids and Teens Clubs will be ON for all of our young people from age 3 up to S4. Any young person can come along – occasionally or every time. We will gather in the Brightons Ministry Centre halls from 10.15am and then go into the **earlier summer** church service for a short time at 10.30am. We will finish up at the same time as the service. If you would like any more information, please contact Heather Haywood at: summerkidsclub@brightonschurch.org.uk. **Please also note that our BMC morning prayer time will be 10.00-10.15am during the summer.**

Scott's Study and Summer Leave – 30th June to 3rd August

During this time, please contact Rev Monica MacDonald for pastoral support, or Judith Norton, our Session Clerk, for other church queries.

Alpha Course

Our Alpha course start back after the summer break. If you, or someone you know, are interested then please let Judith or Tom and Annabella Nimmo know.

Marthas Pantry Slamannan

The pantry needs more volunteers. Our existing team of volunteers do a great job, however, there are times that personal commitments, holidays, illness and caring mean people need to step back for a time. Volunteering at the pantry involves either a 90 minute session on a Monday preparing the pantry for the Wednesday. This is usually done by two volunteers from 10am to 11.30am. Or the second shift is a Wednesday from 12.45 to 3.45pm, when the pantry is open. You will greet people and help them as they select items. Full training is given. We need volunteers who can offer one shift a month or those who are happy to be called upon when we are struggling to complete the rota. Please talk to Lesley Mann or Rev. Monica MacDonald for more information. If you do not drive, we can try to arrange for you to be collected by another volunteer.

Youth Worker Half Day Training Session at Brightons Ministry Centre

If you're part of the Youth Work team at Upper Braes Parish Church or would like to be a youth worker, you're invited to a special half-day event on **Saturday 30th August** at the **Brightons Ministry Centre**, running from **9am to 1pm**. The session will be hosted by **Paul Beautyman** from Youth Work Journeys alongside **Caroline**, our Youth Development Worker. It's a chance to grow your skills, connect with others in youth ministry, and share best practice. Please let Caroline know if you'd like to attend - contact details are on the back of the Newssheet!

Forth Valley (FV) CAP - Summer Newsletter

FV CAP Debt centre have been fully booked in May, June and July and already have a booking for August. Referrals are coming in thick and fast from a range of sources. Since the Spring Newsletter, another four people have gone debt free.

A word from Fiona (Forth Valley CAP Centre Manager)

Bookings over the last 12 months have consistently increased upon previous years and we are supporting more people than ever before. We currently have 27 people working with us and some of them are on extremely low income. We've helped someone get a bed, bedding and a carpet, have redirected pre-loved clothes to a child who needed them and have done several foodbank referrals.

Thinking of taking on a challenge in the next 12 months?

If you're running a marathon, taking on a long walk or cycle or something similar, would you consider using it to raise funds for FV CAP? Approx. £8000 of our annual funding comes from one off gifts or fundraisers. CAP can provide you with a fundraiser pack and a Justgiving page. For more details on this, please speak to Roy Graham.

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

27th July – Iris O'Neill, Margaret Sim, Eileen Hope, Jim Hope.

3rd August – Monica MacDonald, George MacDonald, Jim Kerr, Janet Crosthwaite.

Flowers in Church – Brightons Ministry Centre

The Flowers in the Church this week are provided by Ann McFarlane.

Delivering the Flowers after this week's service will be Alison Cassells.

Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Nancy Lees.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways

Linzi Matheson, Neil Matheson, Jean Meek, Rachel Meek, Judith Norton, Heather O'Neill, Pat Paterson, AV Team, Organist, Praise Band, Summer Kids Club and Summer Teens Club Team, Welcome Team and Refreshment Team.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	On leave 30th June – 3rd August
Lead Pastoral Assistant	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday
Pastoral Assistant	Gayle Miller	☎: 07720 256336 gayle.miller@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 13:00 - Saturday 13:00
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 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com newssheet@upperbraes.org.uk

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 27 th July	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.30am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.30am	Sunday Kids/Teens Club	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Monday 28 th July	2.00pm	Long Covid Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 29 th July	10.00am	Bible Fun Club Planning Meeting	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Wednesday 30 th July	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 31 st July	2.00pm	Amelia Robertson Funeral Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Prayer	Zoom Only
Sunday 3 rd August	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.30am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.30am	Sunday Kids/Teens Club	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre