



# UPPER BRAES PARISH CHURCH

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

**Welcome! We join in the sanctuary to worship God in the Name of Jesus Christ. Our service to God is led today by Rev Monica MacDonald.**

**Order of Service – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (11.00am)**

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

Welcome & Intimations

Call to Worship

**Hymn MP 1008 - The Lord's my Shepherd**

Prayer of Approach & Thanksgiving

**Hymn MP 1087 - Lord, I come before Your throne of grace**

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:3 –14 (Kelly Templeman)

**Hymn MP 414 - Let us praise God together, let us praise (v1-3)**

Message

**Hymn MP 64 - Break thou the bread of life (v1,2, 4)**

Holy Communion

**Hymn MP 1210 - My life flows on in endless song**

Benediction and Threefold Amen

**Doxology with Oh may the God of heaven above \*** (Tune: Auld Lang Syne)

*\* the short songs at the beginning and end are copied within the news sheet, and during these we stand as the Bible is brought in and taken out.*

*New items in the newssheet are highlighted with ➤.*



### **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.

### **Sunday Morning 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.

### **➤ Retiral Offering – This Morning’s Communion Service**

The Retiral Offering from this today’s Communion Services will go to our Missionary Partners, the Duncan’s in South Africa. All donations are gratefully received.

### **A New Season for Thursday Evening Live Prayer**

Thursday Live Prayer will be in its usual format (online via Zoom, YouTube and Facebook; 8.15-9pm roughly) for the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month only. Please email: [info@upperbraes.org.uk](mailto:info@upperbraes.org.uk) for Zoom login details. This will allow us from Thursday 11th September to meet in person on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 8-9pm, in the small hall. The focus of the prayer times will be more local and draw upon a structure and rhythm from the Local House of Prayer movement. The doors will open from 7.45pm and we’d encourage everyone to arrive a bit sharp and be ready for an 8pm start.

### **Financial Contributions from September 2025 Onwards**

In June, a letter was circulated from the Kirk Session to highlight the year-on-year deficit we have as a congregation. Copies of this letter are available at the front doors. To help fund this deficit, the Elders are asking everyone to reassess their giving to the church funds and where possible to increase your personal contributions from this September by £20 per month per adult. If you have questions, please speak with Scott, Judith or any of the Elders.

### **Please Remember in your Prayers**

Please remember Pauline O’Rorke and her daughter Lynn in your prayers at this time following the passing of Jim. Jim’s funeral service will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 10.45am in Falkirk Crematorium.

## Upcoming events



### **➤ Senior’s Lunch Club**

This will be at 12.30pm this coming Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September, at the Slamannan Ministry Centre. Lunch costs just £5 and booking is essential for catering purposes. This can be done by phoning Linda McGarry on 01324-851840 by not later than Tuesday lunchtime, or by emailing Rev Monica MacDonald by that time also at [monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk)

➤ **UBPC Church Conference – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> Oct to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2025**  
**Building our future together**

We invite you to join us over the weekend to eat, talk, pray and share together as we reflect on what has been and what is to come. This is our responsibility; our opportunity to talk about our way forward as we discern God's path for the Upper Braes. So, we'd love to see you there! You can sign up and get your tickets from Maggy Dick at the rear door each Sunday after the service. To contribute towards catering costs we're asking, if you're able, for a suggested donation of £10 per adult / £5 per child (15 and under) for the whole weekend, or £6 per adult / £3 per child for either the Friday or Saturday only. Further details can be found in the conference flyer. We'll also need some help during the weekend, so please complete the volunteer sheet at the back door if you'd like to get involved! If you have any questions please see Scott, Judith or Jean Meek.

**Closing Service for Muiravonside Building – TODAY at 3pm**

With the sale of the Muiravonside building drawing closer, a closing service will be held TODAY at 3pm. There will also be an open morning on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 10am-12noon, where church and community members are welcome to view items within the building and take home those which might be meaningful or beneficial to a good home.

➤ **Would you welcome a pilgrim?**

Rev Grant Barclay will be on pilgrimage from Culross to Glasgow Cathedral and stopping at Brightons on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. As part of his overnight stop here, he will lead short times of reflection and prayer in the Brightons Ministry Centre at 8pm on the Friday and 8am on the Saturday. If you are free, come extend a warm welcome. <https://grantbarclay.wordpress.com/walks/st-mungo-way>

➤ **Art Group**

The first meeting of the Autumn will take place in Brightons Ministry Centre on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm. All those interested are very welcome

**Upper Braes Guild**

The new session of the Guild starts on Monday, 15th September at 2.00 p.m. in the Rankine Hall of the Brightons Ministry Centre. We look forward to seeing everyone again and would warmly welcome any new members.

**Men's Breakfast - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am**

Sign-up sheets for the next men's breakfast are at the front and rear doors - please add your name if you plan to attend to help plan for catering. We look forward to a time of encouragement together!

## **World Day of Prayer Gathering – Saturday 20th September**

The World Day of Prayer Gathering this year will be held on Saturday 20th Sept at Park Church, Stirling from 10.30 - 3.30. The Theme is United in Prayer. It is an opportunity to join in Christian Fellowship, to look back on this year's service from the Cook Islands and to look forward to next year's WDP by the women from Nigeria in March 2026. Posters advising of the programme of events will be displayed in both ministry centres. An indication of numbers wishing to attend is required **by the end of August**, so if you are intending to go along, please write your name on the sign-up sheet next to the poster.

## **Volunteering opportunities**



### ➤ **Volunteer needed for Braes High School Pupil Support**

The Braes High School has asked if there is a female volunteer (or two) who could help a pupil with additional support needs to get the bus to/from Falkirk College on a Friday. The pupil needs to be at college for 10am and finishes 2pm. This could be shared with other church volunteers for a fortnightly commitment, or for one to cover travel to college and one from college. Anyone interested to contact Scott please.

### **YWAM Trip – Programme Planning**

If you have an idea for the YWAM team to get involved with our church family and mission, or a request for them to visit your group/area of ministry, then contact Jonathan and Miriam Greenaway on [ywam@upperbraes.org.uk](mailto:ywam@upperbraes.org.uk).

### **YWAM Trip – Meal Hosting and/or Provision**

We are also looking for individuals and families to sign up to provide lunch or dinner for the YWAM team - this is a great way to hear their stories and be inspired, as well as support and encourage the team as they help us share Jesus with the community! You are welcome to have 3 or 4 members of the team, or all 7, and you could have them to your home, out to a cafe/restaurant, or bring in lunch to the ministry centres. All offers to be involved can be sent to Heather McManus in person or via [ywammeals@upperbraes.org.uk](mailto:ywammeals@upperbraes.org.uk). Dates/times to be confirmed in late October, but please put forward offers now to help us plan ahead.

## Gathering Moment

As we are gathered, Jesus is here  
one with each other, Jesus is here;  
joined by the Spirit, washed in His blood,  
part of the body, the Church of God.  
As we are gathered, Jesus is here,  
one with each other, Jesus is here.

## Doxology

Oh may the God of heaven above  
walk with us every day. May God  
the Father, Spirit, Son, shower  
Blessings on our way. And may we,  
hand in hand with Him our gifts with  
others share. Rejoicing in the love  
we've found in God's com-pan-y  
and care.

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday 16:00 - Saturday 16:00</b>
<b>Lead Pastoral Assistant</b>	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Gayle Miller	☎: 07720 256336 gayle.miller@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday 16:00 - Saturday 16:00</b>
<b>Youth Development Worker</b>	Caroline Whittit	☎: 07848 480801 cwhittit@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Saturday</b>
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 sessionclerk@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Safeguarding Coordinator</b>	Eileen Hope	safeguarding@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Church Office</b>	☎: 713855	info@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Church Website</b>		www.upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Newsheet Notices</b>	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com newsheet@upperbraes.org.uk

## The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
TODAY Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	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	Youth Church Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	3.00pm	Muiravonside Closing Service	Muiravonside Building
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	7.00pm	A Nimmo Fellowship Group	Off Site Event
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am	Pre 5s Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	A Nimmo Fellowship Group	Off Site Event
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	10.00am	Wednesday Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Seniors Lunch Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	5.15pm	Bible Fun Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	GB Juniors and Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Alpha Course	Off Site Event
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Pastoral Care Team Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Live Prayer (in-person)	Brightons Ministry Centre
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	5.30pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	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	Youth Church Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	St Margaret's Service	St Margaret's Care Home