



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 all-age service to God is led today by Rev Scott Burton.

Order of Service – Sunday 14th December 2025 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

Gathering Moment with Advent Wreath

The Choir: ‘See Him lying on a bed of straw’

Call to Worship

Hymn MP-491 O come all you faithful

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

Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer*

(Megan)

Youth Church Nativity

Youth Church Nativity Video

Hymn MP-47 Away in a manger

All Age Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP-393 Joy to the world

Benediction and Threefold Amen

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

****Our service is all-age today, but we have a creche space available in the Small Hall for those under 3.****

Refreshments are served after the service in the Heriot Hall.

➤ New items in the newssheet are marked with this icon.

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 Youth Church groups. Families are welcome to accompany them if they wish.

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.

➤ **Please remember in your Prayers**

Margaret Gray, formerly of Slamannan, but latterly a resident at Bankview Care Home, died on 1st December 2025 at the age of 93. Funeral service will be at Falkirk Crematorium on Monday 15th December at 1pm. Please remember Margaret’s extended family in your prayers.

Please remember in your Prayers

Please remember the family of Alistair Young who passed away. The funeral service will take place at Brightons Ministry Centre on Tuesday 16th December at 12 noon.

Please remember in your Prayers

Please remember the family of Doreen Henderson who passed away on 25th November. Her funeral will take place at 1.45pm on Monday 22nd December at Falkirk Crematorium.

Prison Outreach at Christmas

As in previous years, we seek to send a symbol of God’s loving care to the women and young men who reside in HMP/YOI at Polmont. We send a Christmas card together with a chocolate bar to all the inmates. A suggested donation of £1.50 would be helpful for the approximately 600 individuals. A donation box will be placed at the front vestibule to accept cash donations and card donations will also be accepted at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Free Will Offering Envelopes

Members who use envelopes for their giving can collect 2026 envelopes from the rear vestibule at Brightons Ministry Centre. Envelopes are arranged alphabetically. Please take your own envelope and/or envelopes for friends and neighbours.

➤ **Newsheet Rota Updates**

Please note that with effect from January, we will no longer include the Flower rota and the Tea and Coffee rota in the Newsheet. The flower rotas will be placed on the notice board at the front of the Brightons Ministry Centre and the Tea and Coffee rota will be placed on the notice board nearest the kitchen.

Upcoming events



Men's Book Group

The next Men's Book Group will be on Monday 15th December at 7.30pm in the Vestry at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Friendship Plus Christmas Lunch

The Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday 17th December at the Claremont Inn at 12.00 noon for 12.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

➤ Nativity Fun Day Sat 20th December - 3.00pm – 5.00pm

We will be running our popular outreach event for families with young children this Saturday, at Brightons Ministry Centre, but we are needing more helpers. If you have some time to help by chatting, supervising craft or making tea then please contact Rachel Gilmour on 07931170127 . Flyers are available at the doors so please invite friends and neighbours - everyone is welcome for tea even if you don't have young children. Thank you.

➤ Hogmanay 2025

Please note that the back of this year's Christmas card mentions a Hogmanay Ceilidh. This was an error as there is no Hogmanay Ceilidh this year. Hopefully you enjoyed the two ceilidhs earlier in the term!

➤ Save the Date

We're delighted to be holding our 2nd Prayer Weekend at Upper Braes Parish Church, building on the encouragement and good response from the first in September. Get ready to join us for 48 hours of prayer from 6th - 8th February, so please take a note of the date as we'd love to have you with us if you can.

Volunteering opportunities



Martha's Pantry

We need volunteers who can offer one shift a month or those who are happy to be called upon on occasion when we are struggling to complete the rota.

Volunteering involves either a short session on a Monday preparing for the Wednesday, which is usually done by two volunteers from 10-11am or earlier. The second shift is a Wednesday 12:45-3:45pm, when the pantry is open, where you would greet people and help them as they select items. Full training is given.

Newsheet

Our weekly newsheet (both Ministry Centres) is very important in providing information to our congregation and we are looking for some additional help in printing this. It would require approx. 1.5-2 hours on a Friday or Saturday to print up to 200 copies on the church printer. Full training will be given and with a team of 2-4 people we could set up a rota. If you could consider helping with this task, please speak to Heather O'Neill or James Falconer.

Rotas, thanks and contact details

Tea and Coffee- Brightons Ministry Centre

14th December – Norma Thompson, Sandra Smillie, Bill Smillie, Alison Cassells.

21st December – Catherine McIntosh, Jamie McIntosh, Jim Kerr, Agnes Bruce.

Flowers in Church – Brightons Ministry Centre

The Flowers in the Church this week are provided by Nancy Lees.

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

Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Pat Paterson.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways

Jean Meek, Heather O'Neill, AV Team, Organist, Praise Band, Welcome Team and Refreshment team.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 16:00 - Saturday 16:00
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 16:00 - Saturday 16:00
Youth Development Worker	Caroline Whittit	☎: 07848 480801 cwhittit@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Saturday
Session Clerk	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 session clerk@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 newsheet@upperbraes.org.uk

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

TODAY Sunday 14 th December	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	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	3.00pm	Caledonia Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 15 th December	7.30pm	Men's Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 16 th December	9.30am	Pre 5s Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.00pm	Alistair Young Funeral Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 17 th December	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.00pm	Friendship Plus Christmas Lunch	Off Site Event
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 18 th December	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 19 th December	5.30pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Saturday 20 th December	3.00pm	Nativity Fun Day	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 21 st December	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	All-Age Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre