



# 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 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (11.00am)**

*We offer ourselves to God in worship*

**Gathering Moment ; Jesus Christ is risen today**

Easter Greeting: Minister - Christ is risen!

Everyone - Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Scripture Reading: Mark 16

**Hymn : See what a morning**

Welcome and Notices

**Hymn : Jesus is Lord, creation's voice proclaims it**

Prayer of Approach and Confession with Lord's Prayer

**Hymn : Here is love**

All Together Time

*We listen to God and ask for His help*

**Hymn: Easter Jubilation**

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:22-41 (NIVUK)

(Janette Craig)

Message

**Hymn : I will sing the wondrous story**

Prayer for Others

(Jim Hope)

*We respond to God*

**Hymn: Thine be the glory**

Benediction and Threefold Amen

\* the words to the short songs at the beginning and end will be on screen and copies are available in large print if needed. During these we stand as the Bible is brought in and taken out.

## Welcome and general updates



### 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.

### Well-Being Update and Holidays for Scott

Due to his ongoing chronic leg pain, Scott is on reduced hours from 16<sup>th</sup> March for 8 weeks, including a period of annual leave from Wed 8<sup>th</sup> to Tue 21<sup>st</sup> April inclusive. During his leave please contact Monica or Gayle for pastoral assistance. For wider church business contact Judith. Once back from holiday we will still see Scott at some parts of church-life, including Sundays. Your prayers for Scott’s healing during this time would be appreciated.

#### ➤ Please Remember in Your Prayers

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Marie McCormack on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Please remember John and the wider family in your prayers at this time. The Funeral service will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 10.45am at Falkirk Crematorium.

#### ➤ The Daffodil Tea

Held in the Slamannan Ministry Centre on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March raised £505.00 for church funds. The church was beautifully set out and the home baking of a high standard. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this such a happy event.

#### ➤ Teens - Meet with a Mentor!

Our mentoring scheme gives teens a space to talk, reflect and receive honest guidance from a supportive adult. It’s free, flexible, and designed to help young people grow in confidence, faith and life skills. If you are or you know a young person who’d benefit, just let Caroline know.

### Connect Summer 2026

Please send your articles (roughly 300 to 350 words) for the summer edition of Connect to [connect@upperbraes.org.uk](mailto:connect@upperbraes.org.uk) before the deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Many thanks, Mike Ferguson.

#### ➤ Newsletter from Duncans in South Africa

The latest Newsletter from the Duncans in South Africa is now available. Copies are at the doors of the Church. There is also a copy on the notice board.

## Volunteering opportunities



### **Helping Slamannan Thrive - Can You Help?**

Following the two Thrive Sundays at SMC, we've identified a few actions to progress. Firstly, we invite community members to complete the survey via the printed form or this link <https://tinyurl.com/marthaspantrysurvey25> Secondly, do you have a Christian (auto)biography you can donate to our lending library? Please leave in vestry. Thirdly, we might start a local toddler group, but need a setup team and refreshment team - can you help on a rota basis? Please let Scott, or one of the office bearers or Elders know.

## Upcoming events



### **Thrive Sunday - 26<sup>th</sup> April (Brightons Ministry Centre)**

We will have a Thrive Sunday on 26<sup>th</sup> April at our Brightons Ministry Centre where we'll hear feedback on the community audit project and take time over lunch and afterwards to discuss the way forward together. Please put this date in the diary too and come with a packed lunch. We will explore how to make the time all-age accessible and to finish by 2pm.

### **Faith in the Public Square Conference – 24th April 2026**

Two tickets for this conference have been funded to enable two church members to attend at a discounted cost of £10. The keynote speaker is Tim Farron MP. For more info contact Scott, Brent Haywood or see <https://tinyurl.com/Logos2026>. Two discounted tickets for students are also available.

### **Thursday Evening In-person Live Prayer – Come and Pray for Peace**

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm, for one hour, we are inviting you, your friends, your neighbours to join us in person in the Small Hall in Brighton's Ministry Centre as we dare to believe that Jesus is still Prince of Peace. These are not ordinary times. Conflict and instability continue to shake the nations adding fresh urgency to our prayers. In response, we are providing this contemplative and focussed time to pray intentionally for our world. You don't need to know how or what to pray, the time will be guided and sensitive. Come, and seek God's peace and mercy for the world.

#### ➤ **Senior's Lunch Club – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Slamannan Ministry Centre**

The next Seniors Lunch Club is on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Lunch is served at 12.30pm and costs £5. For catering purposes, we ask that anyone planning to attend contact Monica MacDonald (telephone 01324-832782) or Linda McGarry (telephone 01324-851840)

#### ➤ **Alpha Course**

We have an Alpha Course scheduled to begin on Thursday, April 23rd at 6:00 pm. Alpha, as well as being an introduction to the Christian faith, is also an ideal "refresher" for those a bit further on the Christian journey. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be, please fill in one of the Alpha cards at the front and rear of the church or talk to one of the elders. If Thursday is not suitable, please see Tom or Annabella Nimmo for alternative arrangements.

# Sermon Notes

key verses:

Since we have some space this week, why not take a note of the things in the sermon or service that speak to your heart?

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<b>Minister</b>	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Annual leave Wed 8th to Tue 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant (lead)</b>	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Gayle McLachlan	☎: 07720 256336 gayle@upperbraes.org.uk <b>Study leave till 6/04; Sabbath Fri 6pm-Sat 4pm</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 session clerk@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



TODAY Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service (also online)	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.00am	Wednesday Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Seniors Lunch Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	7.00pm	Alpha Course	Shop at the Cross
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Live Prayer (In Person)	Brightons Parish Church
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service (also online)	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre

### Gathering Moment

Jesus Christ is risen today,  
hallelujah!  
our triumphant holy day,  
hallelujah!  
who did once, upon the cross,  
hallelujah!  
suffer to redeem our loss  
hallelujah!

### Doxology

*(words will be on screen)*