



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 Sandra Mathers.**

Order of Service – Sunday 19th April 2026 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Gathering Moment with MP-38 As we are gathered*

Welcome and Notices

(Linda McGarry)

Call to Worship

Hymn MP 564 – Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

All Together Time

Hymn MP 488 – Oh Breath of Life

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

Scripture Readings: Mark 12:41-44
John 13:1-17

(Bobby Robertson)

Hymn MP 162 – From Heaven you came

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others

(Linzi Matheson)

Hymn MP 50 – Be Still

Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP 708 – To God be the glory! great things He hath done

Benediction and Threefold Amen

Doxology with May the God of peace go with us* (Tune: Ae fond kiss)

* 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.

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.

New Teaching Series

Today we continue with our series called ‘Back to Basics’ where we are looking at the different elements within our worship and discipleship practices.

Holidays for Scott

Scott is now on holiday until Tue 21st April inclusive. During his leave please contact Monica or Gayle for pastoral assistance. For wider church business contact Judith. Once back from holiday Scott will continue on reduced hours until the middle of May, to enable him to better manage the healing process related to his chronic pain. Your continued prayers for Scott’s healing during this time are appreciated.

Please Remember in your Prayers

Please continue to remember in your prayers the family of Mary Forbes whose funeral service will take place at Brightons Ministry Centre on Monday 20th April 2026 at 10:15am, followed by the committal at Muiravonside scheduled for 11.30am.

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 – Deadline TODAY

Please send your articles (roughly 300 to 350 words) for the summer edition of Connect to connect@upperbraes.org.uk before the deadline. Many thanks, Mike Ferguson.

National Christian Hustings

With the Scottish elections coming up on 7th May, Logos Scotland held the only national Christian hustings on YouTube. We encourage you to visit the weblink and watch what the seven candidates have to say about their beliefs and the role of Christians in politics, education, housing and more.

<https://tinyurl.com/LogosHustings26>

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 members of the Slamannan area to complete the community 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.

➤ **Kintsugi Hope - Train the Trainer!**

Kintsugi Hope is a wellbeing programme that creates safe, supportive spaces for people to explore emotional health and resilience. We are looking for volunteers to help run sessions in Braes High School and with adults in the community. No previous experience is needed, but a heart to care for and support others is essential. Please pray, and if you feel led to be part of this, or would like more information, let Caroline Whittit know (contact details on the back of the newsheet).

Upcoming events



Thrive Sunday - 26th April (Brightons Ministry Centre)

We will have a Thrive Sunday on 26th 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 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.

Half Hour Service

Please note that the next Half Hour Service will held on Thursday 30th April at 11.30am in Brightons Ministry Centre.

Scottish Women Of the Word

The Scottish Women of the Word are holding a Day Conference on Saturday 9th May at Castlecary Hotel, Castlecary. There will be two speakers - Sheila Park and Ruth Box. I have been to these day conferences before and they have been a real blessing to me. For more details see www.scottishwomenoftheword.org or speak to Wendy Dick.

Strathcarron Hospice Big Birthday - 45 Years - Coffee Morning

A date for your diary - Friday, 24th April 10.30 am – 1.00pm at Brightons Ministry Centre. Please come along and enjoy food and fellowship. Any donations of baking are most welcome. A warm welcome awaits you! Support Strathcarron's wonderful work in our community. Please speak to Maralyn Stirling.

➤ **Youth Workers! A Save the Date!**

To all youth workers at UBPC, please save the date for our training and upskilling half day event which takes place in the morning of Saturday 9th May! If you volunteer, working with children or youth at the church, then this invite is for you! This is a free event, and more info will come through via email - so save the date for now and speak to Caroline if you'd like any more info! Looking forward to it!

➤ **Alpha Course**

Our latest Alpha Course is due to begin on Wednesday 22nd April in the small hall at Brightons Ministry Centre at 6:00 pm. There are cards at the front and rear doors of the church - please complete and give to an office bearer if you are interested. Should the above date or time be unsuitable then do please let Tom and Annabella Nimmo know.

➤ **Upper Braes Joint Service – Sunday 3rd May**

There will be joint service for Upper Braes Ministry Centres on Sunday 3rd May at Slamannan Primary School. If you require help with transport, then please let Judith know.

➤ **Kirk Session Meeting**

Please note that the next Kirk Session Meeting is on Tuesday 28th April at 7.15pm in the Small Hall at Brightons Ministry Centre.

➤ **Friends of Jesus – Visitors Night**

The Friends of Jesus Group are having their Visitor's Evening on Thursday May 14th in the Upper Braes church from 6.45pm. We would like to invite everyone to come along and share in this evening of celebration and fellowship, plus refreshments afterwards. There will be a donation box should you wish to support the work of our Friends of Jesus Group and Prospects across Scotland.

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

May the God of peace go with us
As we travel from this place
May the love of Jesus keep us
Firm in hope and full of grace.

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?

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Annual leave until Tue 21st April inclusive
Pastoral Assistant (lead)	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday
Pastoral Assistant	Gayle McLachlan	☎: 07720 256336 gayle@upperbraes.org.uk Sabbath on Fri 16:00 – Sat 15:00
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 19 th 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
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 20 th April	10.15am	Mary Forbes Funeral Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 21 st April	9.30am	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	4.00pm	SU Meeting	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Wednesday 22 nd April	8.45am	Property Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	2.00pm	Friendship Plus	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Huddle Catch Up	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 23 rd April	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Pastoral Care Team Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	Alpha Course	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer (In Person)	Brightons Ministry Centre
Friday 24 th April	10.30am	Strathcarron Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 26 th 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
	6.30pm	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre



THRIVE'26 GATHERING

FAITH AT WORK:
ONE CHURCH, MANY WORKPLACES

**Hybrid Mode
Gathering:**



In-person Meet



Online Seminar

**MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS | ENCOURAGING STORIES |
PRACTICAL WORKPLACE EVANGELISTIC TOOLS**



Glasgow
28 May
5.30pm
Findlay
Church



Falkirk
28 May
7.30pm
Upper Braes
Parish Church



Aberdeen
29 May
7.30am
Filo Cafe



Edinburgh
29 May
6.00pm
Bruntsfield
Evangelical
Church



National Seminar

30 May
10am - 12.30pm
On Zoom

Registration & details: [Thrivescotland.org/thrive26](https://thrivescotland.org/thrive26)

Thrive'26 Gathering: Faith at Work: One Church, many workplaces

Across Scotland, many Christians are seeking encouragement and confidence to live out their faith in their workplaces – in offices, classrooms, hospitals, shops, at home or wherever that may be. Thrive'26 is a gathering designed to support them in this.

Thrive'26: Faith at Work – One Church, Many Workplaces is an event being run across Scotland, to bring believers together locally and nationally to share stories, pray together, and grow in workplace mission.

Upper Braes are hosting one of the gatherings at Brightons Ministry Centre on 28th May, 7.30-9pm, where we'll have the opportunity to hear stories from the workplace, pray and have fellowship, as we look to God for encouragement, strength & support in community. We'll do this over tea and cake!

Following on from this on Saturday 30th May, 10am-12.30pm, there's also the opportunity to join an online national seminar (from your own location), involving sharing/teaching, practical tools on workplace evangelism, inputs from leadership of Christian workplace groups, and connecting faith with everyday work.

We believe Thrive'26 can encourage and equip us to live as disciples of Jesus in our work life, wherever God has placed us, so we'd love to have you join us, especially if:

- You are exploring how your work connects with God's mission
- You are feeling isolated as a Christian in your workplace
- You'd like more confidence sharing your faith at work
- You're involved in, or are considering starting, a Workplace Christian Group

REGISTER FOR THE EVENT

More information and registration details can be found here:

<https://thrivescotland.org/thrive26gathering/>

Upper Braes Parish members are invited to attend free with discount code: **upperbraes2026**

Please see Judith Norton (sessionclerk@upperbraes.org.uk) if you have any questions.