



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 Linzi Matheson.**

Order of Service – Sunday 16th August 2026 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Gathering Moment with Mission Praise 38 - As we are gathered*

Welcome and Notices

(Linda McGarry)

Call to Worship

Hymn: Mission Praise 1259 – Bless the Lord, O my soul

Prayer of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Renewal of Vows

(Rev Monica MacDonald)

Hymn: Mission Praise 288 – I need Thee every hour

We listen for God speaking to us

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26-31 and Genesis 2:8-15

(Fiona Miller)

Hymn: Mission Praise 327 – Immortal, invisible

Message

Hymn: Mission Praise 590 – Seek ye first

We ask for God's help and respond to Him

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others

(Eileen Hope)

Hymn: Mission Praise 200 – Great is Thy faithfulness

Benediction and Threefold Amen

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

* During the short songs at the beginning and end (words below), we stand as the Bible is brought in and taken out.

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.

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. If you are here with children, we have some resources available to share with your family.

Sunday Morning Prayer

Join us for a time of prayer on Sunday mornings 10.00 to 10.15am in the small hall of our Brightons Ministry Centre, or 10.40am in our Slamannan Ministry Centre.

A Lending Library in Slamannan

Following the Thrive Sundays at SMC, we now have donations of Christian (auto)biographies in a local lending library in the sanctuary. Please help yourself and complete the sheet with your name and the title of the book. Keep as long as you require and let us know what you thought of it.

Upcoming events



➤ 1st Polmont Girls' Brigade New Session - Enrolment

Enrolment will take place this Wednesday, 19th August, in the Brightons Ministry Centre church halls between 6.30pm - 7.30pm. The new session for girls attending will start on Wednesday 26th August 2026 at the times below when we will welcome back girls from last session and also any new girls who would like to join us on a Wednesday evening.

- Explorers (P1 - P3) – 6.15pm - 7.30pm
- Juniors (P4 - P7) – 6.15pm - 7.30pm
- Brigaders (S1 - S6) – 7.30pm - 8.45pm

If you require an enrolment form, please e-mail sandrablair69@btinternet.com

Coffee Morning

Please note that the Coffee Morning will start again on Thursday 20th August at 10.00am at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Stated Annual Meeting

After morning worship on Sunday 23rd August, we will present the annual accounts at BMC at our Stated Annual Meeting. All are welcome, whatever your level of understanding of the accounts, which will be available ahead of the SAM – we will explain the accounts and take the opportunity to look back and forward a little.

➤ Kirk Session

Please note that the next Kirk Session meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th August at 7.15pm in the small hall at Brightons Ministry Centre.

➤ Half-Hour Service: 27th August 2026, 11.30am

Our shorter, mid-week service is coming up soon and will include Communion. Please share with others who usually attend.

➤ **Men CAN Bake Coffee Morning - 3 weeks to go - September 5th**

Men and boys of Upper Braes still time to sign up for this unique and fun event. Organised by men - welcomed by men - home baking by men - served and sold by men. We already have a number signed up but we need more. Baking can be tray bakes to gateaux. Scones, pancakes, banana/date loaves, shortbread, tablet, cakes etc, etc. Food hygiene requirements will be issued nearer the time. Ladies and those not involved: keep Saturday 5th September (10.00 - 13.00) free and tell your friends. Three great charities are being supported - Christians Against Poverty (CAP), Martha's Pantry Slamannan, Strathcarron Hospice. Each charity will have a display at the event. To get involved, complete sign up flyers at front and back doors (post in boxes provided); or contact Roy Graham for more info on roymunro13@gmail.com

➤ **Weekend of Prayer in September**

Our next Weekend of Prayer runs from 11–13 September in the prayer room, which will be set up in the small hall at the Brightons Ministry Centre. We'll be holding 48 hours of non-stop prayer for our church, community, and anything God has placed on your heart. The sign-up sheet is now out on the table in the rear vestibule next to the side door. Also, a reminder to anyone who wrote a bold prayer and put it in an envelope to open in September - it is nearly time to open them!

Volunteering opportunities



Bible Alive Storytelling Session - Volunteer Training Opportunity

Valerie Sim, the Bible Alive Development Coordinator is going to be leading a Storytelling Session on Tuesday 18th August at 7.30pm at Brightons Ministry Centre. Everyone loves a good story! As Christians, we have the best story to tell, but how can we do this in a way which will engage, be memorable and cause children to reflect and respond? Come and explore techniques to improve presentation, enhance your storytelling and fascinate even the most wriggly child! If you intend to come to this session please let Caroline know.

Trauma Informed Workshop – Save the Date

Are you in a pastoral or youth church role? We are holding a Trauma Informed Workshop on Wednesday 19th August, 7-9pm in the Brightons Ministry Centre for volunteers and staff. If you are serving people of any age, then we would like you to be trauma informed. We're not looking to become experts but to grow together in being equipped to support our community. This workshop will help us all to recognise where people are affected by trauma and adversity, and be more able to confidently respond in ways that prevent further harm and support recovery. Please add your name to the sign-up sheets at the front door if you would like to attend. For more details contact Carolyn Costello at carolyncostello1@outlook.com.

Slamannan Pre 5s and Toddlers Group

Slamannan Pre5s Baby and Toddlers Group will start on 31st August 2026, and will be held on the last Monday of every month at Slamannan Ministry Centre from 9.30am to 11.00am. A friendly and welcoming group for babies and toddlers and their grown-ups. To make this happen we need your help. We need donations of some toys and Volunteers. A suggested list of toys: Dolls and prams, jigsaws, books suitable for toddlers and pre-school age, babies gym, rattles, teethingers, kitchen toys, cars and trucks. Please make sure that all the toys are clean and in a useable condition (no broken toys please). Please also make sure that there are no small parts that can be eaten by the toddlers. Volunteers would be required to provide drinks, prepare snacks and serve for both the children and grown-ups. If you can help with this then please contact Sharon or Kelly on 07852 196970.

Sermon Notes

key verses:

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 2.30pm to Saturday 2.30pm
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 Fri 4pm-Sat 4pm
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
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 16 th August	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Tuesday 18 th August	9.30am	Pre-5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Huddle 26S	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Finance Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Safeguarding Panel Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Storytelling Training Session	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Team Conveners Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 19 th August	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	2.00pm	Friendship Plus Committee	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	Girls' Brigade Enrolment	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Trauma Informed Workshop	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 20 th August	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer Zoom only	Online Event
Friday 21 st August	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 23 rd August	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Stated Annual Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre