



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 service to God is led today by Rev Jim Cowan.
Order of Service – Sunday 4th October 2026 (11.00am)**

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome, Notices and Gathering Moment

(Judith Norton)

Call to Worship

Hymn MP-106 Come you thankful people come

Hymn MP-1001 Let everything that has breath

All Together Time: Harvest

Hymn - God's love is the best love

We listen for God speaking to us and ask for His help

Choir: We plough the fields and scatter

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 1:1-7 (Page 830)

Isaiah 6:1-4 (Page 691)

Jeremiah 1:1-5 (page 756)

(Wendy Dick)

Prayers for Others

(Jason Glass)

Hymn MP-1267 Come, people of the risen King

Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP-862 I'll go in the strength of the Lord

Benediction and Threefold Amen

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

We have groups for children and young people, and a creche space.

Refreshments are available after in the Heriot Hall.

➤ New items are identified with this icon

Welcome to the Upper Braes



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 and young people 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.

Are you new to Upper Braes?

- Pick up a Welcome Pack which gives some information about our church family and ways to connect.
- Fill in an information request card on the pew and hand it to a Door Team or Welcome Team member.
- Please sign our Welcome Book at the front door to the sanctuary.
- Introduce yourself to someone alongside you and please come join us for refreshments afterwards in the hall.

Quiet Room – open to all

We know that sometimes a quiet space is helpful, and so once the service has started, the vestry is available for this purpose – you can also watch the service there on the big TV. If a number of people need this space, please be collaborative.

➤ Teaching Series Overview

From the beginning of October to mid-Advent, we will have a teaching series taking us through the book of Jeremiah. Over 8 parts, we will explore some of the main aspects and themes of Jeremiah's life and prophecies, that we might hear God's Word to us today.

General information



➤ Thank You

Isabella Carr would like to thank all her Church family for their prayers, cards and flowers on the passing of her husband, Bobby. They were all very much appreciated. Also, thanks to Ian Baillie for his lovely service.

Betty Mercer Funeral Service

The funeral service for the late Mrs Betty Mercer of Station Road Slamannan will take place on Tuesday 6th October 11.30am in the Slamannan Ministry Centre, followed by the burial at Slamannan Cemetery.

Testimony Sunday – 11 October 2026

At both ministry centres, we are having our next time of hearing stories of faith in action, God speaking, or what has encouraged or built you up as a follower of Jesus. If you have a story to share, no matter the size or shape, please let Scott know within the next week.

➤ New Display

Please stop and have a look at the new 'Prayer' display in the Herriot Hall. It includes photos from our recent Prayer Weekend and lots of prayers and comments that were shared. Also displayed are the 'Community Psalms' written by people who used the prayer room. Thank you to everyone who made this a very blessed event.

➤ Connect Magazine

We're starting to prepare our Christmas edition of Connect magazine and would love to hear from our church groups and organisations! If your group has news, updates, forthcoming events or an article you would like included, please send your contribution to connect@upperbraes.org.uk by 1st November. For more information, please speak to Heather McManus or Susan McIntosh. We look forward to sharing all that's happening across our church community this Christmas!

CrossReach News and CrossReach Christmas & Calendar Collection

The above items are now available for uplift from both front and back vestibules from Sunday 20th September. Please support the work of CrossReach. St Margaret's House in Polmont and the Prison Visitors Centre at HMP/YOI Polmont are supported by this charity. Orders for Christmas Cards and Calendars will be collated by Maralyn Stirling and so save on postage.

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.

Thursday Evening Live Prayer

Join us online (via Zoom, YouTube or Facebook) 8.15-9pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Email info@upperbraes.org.uk for Zoom details. Then we meet in-person on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 8-9pm, in the small hall. All welcome and all types of prayer (spoken and unspoken) welcome.

Upcoming events



Youth Alpha

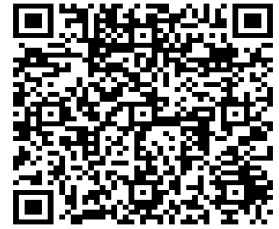
Youth Alpha is starting soon, and young people are invited to come along. It's a relaxed space to explore faith, ask questions, and chat about real life. Each week includes a short video, food, and time to talk. If you'd like to join in or find out more, speak to Caroline, Peter Gilmour or Mirjam. It will run for 8 weeks and begin on Monday 28th October, from 7.00 -8.15pm, at The Cross, Brightons.

Seniors Lunch Club – Slamannan Ministry Centre

The next Senior's Lunch Club of 2026 will be on Wednesday 7th October 2026 at Slamannan Ministry Centre. The cost is £5 for a main course and a pudding. Booking is essential - please contact Linda McGarry on 01324-851840.

➤ **Menopause Café - please pray**

Please pray for our first Menopause Café event, that it will be a blessing and a help to people in our community. This event is one of the outcomes of the Missional Listening exercise our church undertook last year. It will be held on Thursday 29th October, 7- 8.30pm in the Tesco Redding Community Hall. Our café is open to anyone (regardless of gender or age) to come together to have a chat, grab a drink, laugh, cry and talk about the menopause. We want it to be a friendly and safe environment to talk about menopause without stigma and with no preset agenda. To book a place by Eventbrite, please scan the QR Code. For more info, speak to Carolyn McEwan or Laura Eckles, or email menopausecafealkirk@gmail.com



Volunteering opportunities



➤ **Light Party Co-Leader Required**

We will be having our Light Party on Saturday 31st October and we are looking for someone to co-lead this fantastic opportunity to reach out to the children in our community. Light Parties are a Christian alternative to Hallowe'en and remind people that light and hope can be found in Jesus. If you are interested in co-leading and organising this event, please contact Rachel Gilmour on 07931 170127.

FLAIM Leader Volunteer Opportunity

FLAIM is our Youth Church group which runs most Sunday mornings for our high school young people. We are looking for a new leader to help us run sessions once a month, build great relationships with the young people, and support them as they grow in faith and confidence. If you are interested in joining us and finding out more, then let Caroline, George Mann, Nadia Cowan, Rachel or Doug Gilmour know - Caroline's contact details are on the back of the newssheet if needed.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal

"Remember Me." This is the theme for the shoebox appeal this year. Will you remember someone this Christmas by filling a shoebox either for a child or adult in need? Shoebox leaflets are now available at the front of the church. Please take one and fill a shoebox so someone will not be forgotten this Christmas. Our church have been so supportive of this good cause over many years. For more information see Jim Dick or call 01324 714417.

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
Newssheet Notices	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com newssheet@upperbraes.org.uk
Web & Social Media Links	facebook.com/upperbraeschurch ~ ~ instagram.com/upperbraeschurch youtube.com/@upperbraeschurch WhatsApp Messaging (no calls): @upperbraeschurch or 07447 440581	

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church



TODAY Sunday 4 th October	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	Youth Band	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 5 th October	9.30am	Toddlers Group	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Youth Alpha	Off Site Event
Tuesday 6 th October	9.30pm	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Huddle 26S	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Intentional Neighbouring Network	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 7 th October	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Seniors Lunch Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	6.00pm	GB Juniors/Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 9 th October	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer In Person	Brightons Ministry Centre
Friday 9 th October	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Saturday 10 th October	10.00am	BMC Redevelopment Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 11 th October	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	Youth Band	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Kirk Session	Brightons Ministry Centre