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 Donald Meek.

Order of Service – Sunday 18th October 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-247 How lovely is thy dwelling-place

Prayer of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

All Together Time - The things we make, break – and re-make

We listen for God speaking to us

Hymn MP-683 There's a wideness in God's mercy

Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 18: 1-12; Revelation 21: 1-5 (Kelly Templeman)

Hymn MP-806 Beauty for brokenness

Message

We ask for God's help and respond to Him

Hymn MP-254 I am a new creation

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others (Rachel Meek)

Hymn MP-212 Have thine own way, Lord

Benediction and Threefold Amen

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

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.

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

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.

- **Pastoral Support and Learning**

- Need help or know someone who does? Fill in the Pastoral Support card on the pew
- Pick up a Staff Contact Card from the foyer
- Want to grow in faith or be supported? Email discipleship@upperbraes.org.uk for info on our Fellowship Groups and Book Groups, and other opportunities

General information

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.

October Leave for Ministry Staff

Gayle is on leave 12-25 October inclusive. For pastoral needs, please contact Monica.

Holiday – Heather – Newssheet Cover

Please note that Heather is on holiday from Thursday 15th October – 22nd October inclusive. Please can you forward any items for the newssheet to newssheet@upperbraes.org.uk during this period.

Please remember in your prayers

It is with sadness we announce the passing of one of our church members, John Ogg, of Rumford. Please remember John's wife, Jean, and the wider family.
Please also remember Malcolm and Aileen Lewis and family following the passing of Malcolm's sister, Sheila. Also, Jean and Robert Callahan and family following the passing of Jean's brother, Douglas Wilson.

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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.

- **Guild Project 2026/2027 – Release International – Voice of the Persecuted Christians Operation Hope**

On Sunday morning 1st November a retiring offering will be taken when you will have the opportunity to help the Guild send a substantial donation to the Project they are supporting this session. Donations can be made with cash or card.

Kirk Session Meeting

Please note that the next Kirk Session Meeting will be on Tuesday 27th October at 7.15pm in the Small Hall at Brightons Ministry Centre.

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 Wednesday 28th October, from 7.00 -815pm, at The Cross, Brightons.

- **Live Concert Presentation by Rob Halligan, "How Did We Get Here?".**

Everyone is invited to come along to this live concert in Brightons Ministry Centre on Wednesday 28th October at 7.45pm. Please see flyer in entrance foyers for more details. Some have found the QR code / Eventbrite booking difficult, but this pre-booking is not essential - admission can simply be by donation on the door.

Family Christmas Film Night and Chippy

A warm welcome to all ages to book a ticket for this evening on Saturday 14th November, 4pm, at our Slamannan Ministry Centre. Tickets available from Jean Gilmour, Linda McGarry or Jean Meek. Why not invite a friend or neighbour too?

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 menopausecafefalkirk@gmail.com

Volunteering opportunities

- **Light Party Saturday 31st October 4.30-6pm**

We will be running an all-age celebration of God's light on Halloween, with craft, games, snacks and songs. Flyers will be available next week, so please invite your friends and neighbours. Children must come with an adult. If you can volunteer to help, please let Maralyn Stirling know.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal

"Remember Me". This is the theme for the shoebox appeal this year. Leaflets are available at the front of the church entrance. The last date for bringing boxes to the church is **Sunday 8th November.** To help you fill a shoe box we have spare boxes at the front of the church, please help yourself. Thank you for your help this year, if you need more information, please speak to 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 **On Holiday from 12th to 25th October**
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 **On Holiday from 15th to 22nd October** 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	

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The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

TODAY Sunday 18th 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 19th October	11.00am	UBPC Ministry Team Meeting	UBPC Manse
	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Youth Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Men's Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 20th October	1.30pm	Huddle 26S	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Wednesday 21st October	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Matha's Pantry	Off Site Event
	2.00pm	Friendship Plus	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 22nd October	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer In Person	Brightons Ministry Centre
Friday 23rd October	5.00pm	Martha's Pantry Social Evening	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Youth Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Saturday 24th October	5.00pm	Youth Together Live Praise	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 25th 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
	6.30pm	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre

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