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 1st November 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-907 O God of Bethel

Prayer of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Pressure-points and our reactions

We listen for God speaking to us

Hymn MP-702 Through all the changing scenes

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 15: 15-21; Romans 8: 35-39 (Sharon Mercado)

Hymn MP-200 Great is Thy faithfulness

Message

We ask for God's help and respond to Him

Hymn MP-626 Teach me Thy way, O Lord

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others (Rachel Meek)

Hymn MP-243 How firm a foundation

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.

➢ 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
- Or, introduce yourself to someone alongside you or at the refreshments

Guild Project 2026/2027 – Release International – Voice of the Persecuted Christians Operation Hope
This morning, 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.

General information

➢ Remembrance Sunday Services
Next Sunday, 8th November, both our morning services will start at 10.45am. Prayer times at 10am at both ministry centres.

Connect Magazine – DEADLINE TODAY!
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!

➢ Thanks
Maggy Dick would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, phone calls, and love, prayers & support over the last few months & especially the last few weeks. Recovery is going slowly but moving forward.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal – DEADLINE NEXT SUNDAY
Thank you to everyone who has supported the shoebox appeal this year.
Please note that the last date to hand boxes in at the church is **Sunday 8th November.** If you need more information please phone Jim Dick 01324 714417.

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CrossReach News and CrossReach Christmas & Calendar Collection
The above items are now available for uplift. 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.

Upcoming events



Blood Transfusion Service
The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service will be at Brightons Ministry Centre on Monday 2nd November. To book your appointment, phone 0345 90 90 999 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm), visit scotblood.co.uk, or email nss.snbtsenquiry@nhs.scot. You must book your appointment by 5pm the day before. Thank you.

- **Seniors' Lunch Club**

The next Seniors' Lunch Club of 2026 will be on Wednesday 4th November 2026 at Slamannan Ministry Centre at 12.30pm. The cost is £5 for a main course and a pudding. Booking is essential - please contact Linda McGarry on 01324-851840.

- **Men's Breakfast**

The next gathering is on Saturday 14th November, 9.30-11.30am in the Brightons Ministry Centre. Sign-up sheets at the doors. Scott will be speaking.

- **Family Christmas Film Night and Chippy – DEADLINE NEXT SUNDAY**

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?

- **Parents, Grandparents & Carers of Young People - this one's for you!**

How can we best support our young people in their journey of faith? We invite parents, grandparents and carers to come along and share their thoughts as we consider how the church can partner with families in nurturing faith at home and in church. Our aim is to create stronger foundations for young people's faith, recognising that faith development happens throughout the week, not just on Sundays. You are invited to come along to the meeting on Sunday 29th November, just after the Altogether Time during the church service, to meet with other parents in the hall. Let Caroline know if you can attend or just come along on the day.

Volunteering opportunities



- **Invitation to Fruitful Futures Learning Community**

Scott shared with us an invitation to be part of learning community that would seek to equip us in how we lead and serve, how we make decisions, and how we discern God's leading. The group would start in January 2027. A handout is available at the doors, if you wish a copy. Please speak with Scott or Judith if interested or curious.

Do you have a spare bed?

Over 28-30 January 2027, we are looking for host homes to provide 1+ bed(s)/bedroom(s) and breakfast to a group of 12 ministers and pastors from across Scotland, England and the USA who are meeting in our Brightons Ministry Centre to deliver the training course Scott has undertaken on "remissioning". This would be a generous way to bless others, as well as provide opportunities to hear/share stories of what God is doing in congregations, ours and theirs – we all might learn together! If you are able to offer 1+ beds for 2 nights during these days, please let Scott know by end of November.

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 Friday 4pm – Saturday 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 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 1st November	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
	2.00pm	St Margaret's Care Home Service	St Margaret's Care Home
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Bible Study	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 2nd November	1.00pm	Blood Transfusion Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 3rd November	9.30am	Pre-5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Finance Team Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 4th November	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Seniors Lunch Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan
	6.00pm	GB Juniors/Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Youth Alpha	The Cross, Brightons
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 5th November	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 6th November	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	10.45am	Youth Church Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.45am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.45am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre

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