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 Scott Burton.

Order of Service – Sunday 29th November 2026 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome, Notices and Gathering Moment with Advent Wreath

Choir: Sing we the King

Call to Worship

Hymn MP-1100 Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Hymn – Living hope

All Together Time

(Youth Church leaves – option for parents/guardians to meet with Caroline^^)

Hymn – I'm following the King

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

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 32:6-15 (Page 795) (Wendy Dick)

Prayers for Others (Isla Duke)

Hymn MP-795 You laid aside Your majesty

Message

We respond to God

Hymn – Your kingdom come

Benediction and Threefold Amen

**The Lord's Prayer will appear on screen, if you would find that helpful.*

We have Youth Church for all children and young people, as well as a creche space.

Refreshments are available after in the Heriot Hall.

➢ *New items are identified with this icon*

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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. **All children and young people are welcome either to stay during the service or to go out to the Youth Church groups or the creche space. 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.

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.

^^Parents, Grandparents & Carers of Young People – TODAY!!
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 today, just after the Altogether Time during the church service, to meet with other parents in the small hall.

General information



- **Please Remember in your Prayers**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Winnie Patrick earlier this week. Please remember her sons Alan and Brian and the wider family at this time.

Also it is with sadness that we announce the passing of Helen Douglas, formerly of Comyn Drive. Please remember her husband and wider family in your prayers. Funeral details will be shared once they are known.

December Communion Collection
Please note that the collection at the Communion Service in December will be for our Missionary Partners in South Africa, the Duncan's. There will be an opportunity to donate either by cash or by using the contactless card machines.

- **Martha's Pantry – Thank You**

Two ladies in Slamannan arranged a Christmas Market in support of Martha's Pantry. There was a good turnout and a total of £734.25 was raised for Martha's Pantry! We are so incredibly grateful for this show of care from the ladies who organised this and from the folk who live in the community and surrounding areas who turned out to support the Christmas Market.

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Last Minute Christmas Gifts for Babies Born this Year

A Bible story every birthday from 1-5 yrs from Scottish Bible Society "Bibles for Bairns". Costs nothing. For someone who has everything but has something to celebrate. A Bible in their name to be placed in a hotel room/cabin etc. from the Gideons. Cost – donation. A donation for this year's GUILD project - "HOPE" or to any charity of your choice. Lots of problems solved? For more information, speak with Linda Gillespie.

BB – Christmas Cards

BB boys will be selling stamps at the church for the next three weeks for our annual Christmas card delivery service. We will cover Laurieston, Redding, Reddingmuirhead, Shieldhill, Brightons, Polmont and Maddiston areas. Stamps are 2 for £1 and all cards will be delivered the weekend of the 12th and 13th of December. The post-box for cards will be in the rear vestibule and last date for receiving cards will be Thursday 10th of December.

Volunteering Opportunities



Christmas deliveries – LAST FEW TO GO!

Can you spare an hour to help? We are looking for volunteers to deliver our Christmas cards and Connect magazines. They are pre-sorted by street and locality into 50 manageable bundles of 10 or fewer and can be collected from the rear vestibule. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

- **Let There Be Light – Christmas Tree Installation**

Let There be Light" plea for help. We are getting a 15ft Tree delivered Monday and require help to lift it into its mounting. If anyone is available on Monday /Tuesday next week, please let Ian Lawson or Roy Graham know.

Let there be Light Event – Saturday 5th December

This event will be held in Brightons Ministry Centre. Would you be able to donate some mince pies, shortbread or gingerbread men? Please speak with Iris O'Neill. Thank you to all the people who have come forward to volunteer to serve tea and coffee.

Nativity Fun Day

Nativity Fun Day Wednesday 23rd December 2-4pm. A chance for children and their families explore the real meaning of Christmas in a hands-on way. Also designed for people with additional needs. Please come, and invite your friends and neighbours. Flyers are available at the door. Volunteers of all ages are needed too - speak to Maralyn Stirling or Rachel Gilmour.

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.

Upcoming events

The Senior's Lunch Club Christmas Lunch

The next Lunch takes place on Wednesday 2nd December 2026 at 12.30pm. Since booking is essential for catering purposes, please confirm by **Monday 30th November** if you wish to attend. Phone Linda McGarry 01324-851850 where you can leave a message, or Monica MacDonald on 07833102874. Please also indicate any special dietary requirements.

- **Bereavement Service at Slamannan Ministry Centre**

We extend an invitation to you and members of your family to attend our annual Bereavement Service on Sunday, 6th December at 6.30pm. This is a special service for anyone who has experienced a family bereavement, whether in in recent times, or in years past. Refreshments after.

Family Singalong Christmas Concert

Once again Falkirk Caledonia Choir will be performing a family friendly singalong Christmas concert in Brightons Ministry Centre on Sunday, 13th December at 3pm. It's a concert suitable for all ages with plenty of audience participation and home baking and drinks available in the Heriot Hall afterwards. Tickets costing £5 (under 5s free) can be bought from Alison Cassells (07881 861048) every Sunday after the church service in BMC or via Ticketsource and the QR code on the poster on the church noticeboard.

Rescheduled Information Evening on Supporting Young People

Just to let you know the information evening has been rescheduled to 25th January 7-8pm, in the small hall at Brightons Ministry Centre - so please save the date and let Caroline know if you would like to come along. Together with Paul Beautyman from Youth Work Journeys, we'll explore how building relationships and attending events can help create a wider network of trusted adults around our young people. This is an opportunity to learn more and join the discussion, with no commitment required.

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.co.uk **Sabbath on Friday 4pm to 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 29th November	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	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
	6.30pm	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 30th November	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 1st December	9.30am	Pre-5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Intentional Neighbouring Network Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 2nd December	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 3rd December	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 4th December	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Saturday 5th December	2.00pm	Beginners/Juniors Party	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	Let There Be Light Event	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 6th December	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.30pm	Bereavement Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre

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