

## The Week Ahead at Brightons

Date	Time	Activity
TODAY	10.15 am	Congregational Prayer Time
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	11.00 am	Morning Service Live Streamed
	11.00 am	Sunday Club Groups
	12.30 pm	Question and Answer Session on vote
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> August	1.30 pm	Guild Committee Meeting
	7.30 pm	Up and Coming Team Meeting
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	7.45 pm	Communications Team Meeting
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	2.00 pm	Friendship Plus Committee Meeting
	6.15 pm	GB Explorers
	6.30 pm	GB Juniors
	7.30 pm	GB Brigaders
	7.30 pm	Band Practice
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	12.00 noon	Irene McNab Funeral Service
	8.15 pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	10.15 pm	Congregational Prayer Time
	11.00 am	Morning Service Live Streamed
	11.00 am	Sunday Club Groups
	12.30 pm	Congregational Vote
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Unavailable on a Friday from 14:30 - Saturday 14:30</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Ian Baillie	☎: 719641 or 07795 034728 ianb@brightonschurch.org.uk <b>Days Off: variable at present</b> <b>On holiday from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August</b>
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 <a href="mailto:sessionclerk@brightonschurch.org.uk">sessionclerk@brightonschurch.org.uk</a> <b>On holiday from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>
<b>Church Office</b>	☎: 713855	<a href="mailto:info@brightonschurch.org.uk">info@brightonschurch.org.uk</a>
<b>Church Website</b>		<a href="http://www.brightonschurch.org.uk">www.brightonschurch.org.uk</a>
<b>Newsheet</b>	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094
<b>Notices</b>		<a href="mailto:heather.oneill5@btinternet.com">heather.oneill5@btinternet.com</a>

**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 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024 (11.00am)**

*We offer ourselves to God in worship*

Welcome and Notices

Gathering Moment and Call to Worship

**Hymn – Here we stand**

**Hymn MP-1025 All who are thirsty**

All Together Time

**Hymn – Jesus, You are here with me**

(children and young people leave)

*We ask for God's help and listen for Him speaking to us*

Prayer and Lord's Prayer\*

Introduction to new teaching series

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-9 (NIVUK) (page 1092)

(Jean Meek)

Prayer for Others

(Marion Graham)

**Hymn MP-1350 Speak, O Lord as we come to You**

Message

*We respond to God*

**Hymn MP-835 Great is the darkness**

Benediction and Threefold Amen

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

*We have Sunday groups for all ages of children up to S4,  
as well as a creche room available for those under 3.\*\**

## **Welcome to Worship at Brightons**

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, they are welcome to stay in the service and/or visiting families can go with their children to the Sunday groups.

## **Keep in Touch and Informed**

We are on Facebook, X, Instagram and YouTube as well as our church website [www.brightonschurch.org.uk](http://www.brightonschurch.org.uk). You can download material from the website, see the calendar and news, as well as revisit previous sermons.

## **Sunday Morning Prayer and Thursday Evening Live Prayer**

Join us for a time of prayer on Sunday mornings 10.15 to 10.30 am in the small hall, or on Thursday evenings at 8.15 pm. You can join on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube. Please email: [info@brightonschurch.org.uk](mailto:info@brightonschurch.org.uk) for Zoom login details.

## **Evening Service**

Our next Evening Service will be next Sunday, 25 August, at 6.30 pm.

## **Ian Baillie’s Summer Leave**

Our Pastoral Assistant, Ian Baillie, will be on holiday from 3 to 20 August. Please contact Scott for any pastoral support.

## **Congregational Vote Q&A – today!**

We’re aware that some folks have questions around the vote on 25 August: about the meaning of the Bases (Union and Local Mission Church) that the four Kirk Sessions have already voted in favour of; the implications if we (or other congregations) don’t vote in favour of them; or what going into the Union means for us.

As such, we would like to offer a time after the 11am Sunday service TODAY for anyone to come to a short Question and Answer session, with Scott and Judith seeking to provide what information we can.

## **Please Remember in your Prayers**

Please continue to remember the family of Irene McNab in your prayers at this time. Irene’s Funeral will be held on Thursday 22 August at Falkirk Crematorium at 10.45 am and then at Brightons Parish Church at 12.00 noon.

## **Youth Development Worker Update**

Yesterday, we interviewed candidates and would ask for your continued prayers for the interview panel to have wisdom and discernment, and for everyone who applied, particularly for unsuccessful candidates. Ask God to help them remember He is still with them and working in their situation.

## **Pizza and Praise**

We are having a Pizza and Praise evening on Saturday 31 August, 5-7pm. Join us for an evening of worship, connecting with God, fellowship and pizza from Domino's. Suggested donation of £10 for adults, £5 for those under 12. For catering purposes, please sign up on the sheets at the doors **by Sunday 25 August** and let us know of any dietary requirements. For more information, speak to Cammy Dick.

## **Congregational Vote – Sunday 25 August 2024**

A copy of the Electoral Register is available in the church office, for you to view and confirm that your name is included, if you wish to do so. All current members/adherents have been added, as well as the new adherents. If there are any errors or queries, please speak with Judith by the evening of Sunday 18 August.

Please note: unfortunately the Church of Scotland does not utilise postal or proxy voting, so only those who are physically present for the vote are able to take part.

We are voting on two “Bases”, copies of which are at the door and on our website. The Basis of Union proposes we go into Union with the other three congregations, thus having a single Kirk Session, parish, shared way of congregational life, etc – so we will have much closer collaboration in caring for one another and furthering mission in the Upper Braes. The Basis of Local Mission Church proposes we keep a missional presence in Slamannan, with a building and local worship – but still as part of a bigger whole. The Elders of all four churches agreed to the inclusion of Slamannan as a Local Mission Church as we recognised the distance and social-economic deprivation of Slamannan would create specific barriers to mission and thus the need for a local presence and base of mission to be kept – there are no other denominations locally (unlike Shieldhill or Muiravonside), and the Church of Scotland recognises a biblical imperative to take the gospel to areas of poverty. It is the hope of the Kirk Sessions that members and adherents will support the votes upon these two Bases.

## **Keeping Brightons Secure and Safe**

Following the tragic events in Southport, we’re tightening up our security policy and ensuring that doors to the church buildings are locked or supervised. The Sanctuary door will remain open and supervised during services, so you’ll not notice much change there. The rear foyer door will be supervised before and after services, groups, and some meetings. However, as it’s not always possible to supervise the door, you may find the door locked when you arrive. In this case, please ring the bell outside the door and someone will let you in.

We trust you’ll understand these measures are for the safety of all using our church buildings, but if you have questions, please see Gordon Scott, Scott or Judith. You can find paper copies of the Security and Health & Safety policies for Brightons in the front and rear vestibules and also on the Governance page of our website.

## **Church Calendar**

As we start a new session for groups in the church, it would be helpful to have groups’ dates and times on the church calendar. We have some details but to add your group, please advise Jim Dick at [lets@brightonschurch.org](mailto:lets@brightonschurch.org) or on 01324 714417.

## **Communion Card Delivery**

Communion cards are ready for delivery by Pastoral Grouping Leaders (including Elders) and by the wider congregation. PGLs can pick up their packs in the vestry and other packs needing delivered are in the rear entrance hall.

## **Golf Outing**

The next golf outing is planned for Friday 20 September at Dundas Park Golf Club. The cost will be £28 including a buffet lunch. If you are interested, contact Billy Rankine (billyrankine@btinternet.com or 07860527899) by Sunday 15 September.

## **Volunteers for Post-Summer ASN Sunday Morning Group**

We are still seeking volunteers for a rota from September for a monthly Sunday morning group to cater for those with learning differences. This would run at the same time as, but separate to, Sunday School groups. It will probably finish by noon and include an activity sheet, songs, refreshments, light conversation. If you have questions, or are willing to be on the team, speak with Scott or Alie Drackford.

## **Additional Support Needs Survey Form**

As part of our wider work on Additional Support Needs, we would like feedback from the congregation. Survey forms can be found at the front and rear doors. Please complete and return, with your name. We cannot promise an immediate resolution to all issues, but are keen to hear what needs there actually are and seek ways forward.

## **1st Polmont Girls' Brigade**

Our enrolment evening will take place on Wednesday 21 August between 6.15pm - 7.30pm. Please email gb@brightonschurch.org.uk for an enrolment form.

All sections will start back on 28 August:

<b>Explorers (P1-P3)</b> 6.15 – 7.30 p.m.	<b>Juniors (P4-P7)</b> 6.15pm - 7.30pm	<b>Brigaders (S1-S6)</b> 7.30pm - 8.45pm
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We look forward to welcoming back girls from last session and to welcoming any new girls who would like to join us.

## **Prospects Across Scotland have some helpful training events coming up**

September 2<sup>nd</sup> 7-9pm **'Building Communities of Belonging – Worship for All'**

September 10<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm **'Autism in the Church Family'**

Booking is essential. For more information or to book, go to the 'Prospects Across Scotland' website and click on 'events'.

## **Tea and Coffee**

18 August – Alison Cassells, Alex Davis and Jennifer Gallivan.

25 August – Lesley Mann, Janet Crosthwaite and Christine Hastings.

## **Flowers in Church**

The flowers in Church today have been donated by John Kerr in loving memory of Helen, and by May Young in loving memory of Scott.

Delivering the flowers after today's service will be Frances McCabe.

Delivering the flowers next week will be Leslie Baillie.

## **Thanks to those who contributed in different ways to today's Service**

Linda Clarke, James Falconer, Laura Eccles, Neil Matheson, Susan McIntosh, Richard McManus, Jean Meek, Ewan Norton, Heather O'Neill, the Welcome Team.

## **MEN'S BOOK GROUP – from Jim Hope**

The group will start up again on **Monday 26 August at 7.30pm in the Minister's Vestry**. Our new book is "**Listening to the Jewish Jesus**" and promises new insights into Jesus's teaching by looking at the culture into which Jesus was speaking, and how his words would be understood.

It is nearly a year since this group started, and here are comments from some of the members as we finished our first season:

"As a Christian, fed on countless sermons, and the reading of sections of the Bible, I found this book opened up a new understanding of some of the more difficult books of the Old Testament. Philip Yancey gets you right to the heart of the books – Job, Deuteronomy, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, the Prophets, putting them into context and revealing the struggles faced by God's chosen people. Their complaints and moans, doubts and dialogues with God, resonate with me on my faith journey. He also explores how they point to Jesus. Thoroughly enjoyed it – easy to read and understand – highly recommended."

"Some Christian teachers give the impression that Gospel truth is super-simple. But the obvious reality is otherwise and it's healthy to share our difficulties with others. Others often know more than we do or have been through the experience we are struggling with. Even in a small group it's surprising how wide is the range of life experience, yet there is also so much in common that a real sense of fellowship develops easily."

"I've never been in a book group before nor have had other people reading the same book as me at the same time. I find it interesting the different perspectives and the different things that people can take from the same chapter and the questions that arise for different people. It's great that we can talk about it in a comfortable and safe environment and be able to ask the questions that come to our minds and ponder them."

"I have benefited greatly from the opportunity to be with other men in a Christian context of this kind - to hear what they think, how they approach life, the way they interpret, or react to, a book. This.....encourages engagement with Scripture and discussion of Scripture. I have also enjoyed the regular reading of such material. I learn as I go, and I am very grateful to be able to do so."

If these comments make you think you'd like to give it a go, you'll be most welcome! The book costs £12, and Cammy will get you a copy on request. Any questions? Ask Cammy or Jim.

We hope to see you there!