



The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale

Weekly Bulletin

1st October 2026

VACANCY LIST

[Vacancies | The Church of Scotland](#)

Update from Presbytery

Presbytery met on Saturday 19 September for the first Presbytery of the new session. A warm welcome was given to new Presbyters as well as acknowledging those serving the church as Readers, those in training and probation for the recognised ministries of the church and Ministers who have become the minister of a united charge this year.

It was also a real joy to celebrate with Ministers celebrating the anniversaries of their year of ordination, recognising their faithful service across 25, 30, 40, 50 and an incredible 60 years of ministry. Cupcakes were duly handed round the Presbytery as a way of celebrating these milestones of ministry!



The Ministry & Congregational Development Committee highlighted a number of training opportunities including the Readers training day on Saturday 15th November which will have a focus on Leadership, as well as a Leadership Training Course for Parish Ministers. As part of our commitment to wellbeing and support, the Committee will also be having one-to-one conversations with all of our Parish Ministers over the course of the next year.

The Mission Action Committee noted that the Missional Conversations have largely concluded and thanked all who took part. They highlighted the continuing work on Priority Areas, immigration, rurality, and the Church's historical involvement in transatlantic chattel slavery, and note the Committee's intention to bring the last of these before Presbytery in October 2026. They also commended the Christian Aid campaign in support of the Debt Relief (Developing Countries) Bill, and urge members and congregations to (a) sign the Restore Campaign petition, (b) engage personally with their MP ahead of the Bill's second reading, and (c) make use of Christian Aid's Back to School worship resources.

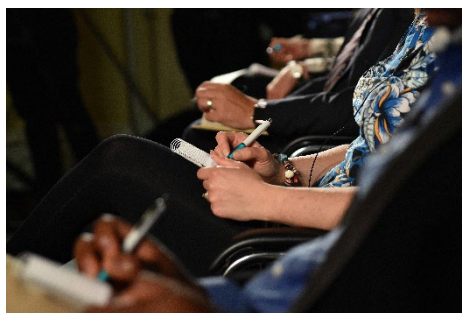
Presbytery also noted with sadness that Rev Alison Meikle is unable to take up the role of Moderator at this time and so invites nominations for a Moderator to serve from December 2026 to September 2027.

Autumn Safeguarding Training

Here is a list of the Autumn Safeguarding Training dates. There is a focus on Safeguarding training for Trustees at the moment, so there are a few courses available for this.

Trustee Training

- **Saturday 10 October** 10.30am (Grangemouth) [Safeguarding Training Grangemouth Link](#)
- **Saturday 24 October** 10am (Motherwell) [Safeguarding Training Motherwell Link](#)
- **Saturday 7 November** 10.30am (Denny) [Safeguarding Training Denny Link](#)
- **Saturday 14 November** 10am (Airdrie) [Safeguarding Training Airdrie Link](#)
- **Monday 16 November** 7pm (Online) [Safeguarding Training Online Link](#)



Introductory Training

- **Monday 2 November** 7pm (East Kilbride) [Safeguarding Introductory Training East Kilbride Link](#)

Latest News from the Faith Action Programme

Please find below a link to some short communications from the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team (FAPLT). They cover its work and purpose; events for those considering ministry; support for the Day of Prayer and a call for volunteers to represent the Church on council education committees. We hope to communicate in this way each quarter, letting you know more of the breadth of our remit and work.

Watch the videos on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMCtjlwhjdVw>

FAPLT Questionnaire

The Church of Scotland is reviewing the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team (FAPLT). FAPLT oversees national work relating to ministry, mission support, training, worship, new worshipping communities, social justice, and support for Presbyteries and congregations. We would be very grateful to hear your thoughts on this work, to help us learn what has worked well, what has been less clear or effective, and how FAPLT might best serve the Church's mission and priorities in the future. The questionnaire has only 6 questions and will remain open until 5th October.

[FAPLT Review Questionnaire for Church Members – Fill in form](#)

Light in the Darkness Church of Scotland Day of Prayer 31 October 2026



On Saturday 31 October, congregations, presbyteries and small groups across the Church of Scotland are invited to come together for an hour of prayer, praying for the light of Jesus to transform our Church, our communities across Scotland, and the places around the world where the Church worships and serves.

Churches and groups taking part can add their light to the Map of Light on the Church of Scotland website, helping to show people joining together in prayer across Scotland and beyond. A live-streamed service from West Kilbride Parish Church will also take place at 11am, followed by an online prayer gathering on Microsoft Teams at 4pm.

It would be fantastic if as many of our congregations as possible signed up for the Day of Prayer so that our churches in Forth Valley and Clydesdale can be part of lighting up the Map of Light and join in praying for light in our nation.

As Saturday 31 October is also our next Presbytery meeting, we will do something within the meeting to mark this special Day of Prayer and help be a light in the darkness.

More information on how to sign up for the Day of Prayer as well as resources and branding can be found here:

[Light in the Darkness | The Church of Scotland](#)

NEWARTHILL AND CARFIN PARISH CHURCH MUSIC FOR EVERYONE CONCERT

Organist, Duncan Mackay, is holding a 'Music for Everyone' concert in aid of church funds in the sanctuary on the afternoon of Saturday, 24 October 2026 at 2.30pm.

Duncan will perform music from a range of musical genres, from classical, Scottish, and jazz to film and modern-day pop hits, on the church organ, piano and his workstation keyboard.

Refreshments will be served at the interval.
Entry is by donation to church funds.

A warm invitation is extended to all to attend



Organ Recital – Airdrie New Wellwynd

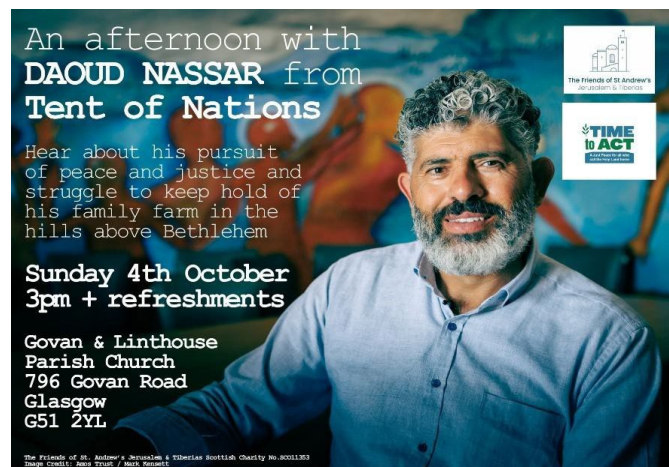
There will be an organ recital this Saturday at Airdrie New Wellwynd with musicians from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Entry is by donation and refreshments will be served after the recital.

An Afternoon with Daoud Nassar from Tent of Nations

The Friends of St Andrew invite you to event with one of the CofS partners, Daoud Nassar on **Sunday 4th October 3pm** at Govan and Linthouse Parish Church.

This would be a great chance for people to hear directly from a Palestinian Christian.



Ecumenical Group Autumn Meeting

LiFT (formally the Young Adult Guild) is an ecumenical group for 18–40-year-olds who usually meet online but have recently started to hold in-person events around the country. They are supported by the Church of Scotland Guild. Their last event of this year is being held in **Carnwadric Parish Church in the Southside of Glasgow on the 24th of October from 11am-2pm.**

If you have anyone in this age group within your congregation share this event with them. Lunch will be provided and as well as sharing more about LiFT as an organisation, there will be a speaker and also a discussion based on Luke 24:13-35.

Bible Sunday 2026 – Sunday 25th October

The Scottish Bible Society would love to welcome your church to join them for Bible Sunday 2026, with churches from across Scotland already preparing to take part.

This year's theme is **Sowing the Word of Life**. Together we will explore how God's Word can take root in our lives and bear fruit in today's world. There are free resources available to help you plan a meaningful service for your congregation.

[Download your free resources now](#)



Christ at the Checkpoint Conference, Belfast

The Friends of St Andrew have, in the past, supported ministers to go to the Christ at the Checkpoint Conference in Bethlehem. Given the current situation there, they have not been able to do this for a number of years however there will be a version of the conference held in Belfast on the 13th and 14th November. Tickets are £25 and the Friends of St Andrew's are happy to support 5 ministers with £200 to go over and be part of this conference.

If you would be interested in attending, please contact Val Brown, Head of Christian Aid Scotland on vbrown@christian-aid.org. Further information and the booking form can be found here: [Belfast, Northern Ireland — Church at the Crossroads](#)

Learn More About Tearfund

As we seek to live out our faith in action and respond to God's call to love our global neighbours, I am writing to share an encouraging opportunity to engage your congregation with the vital and life-changing work of [Tearfund](#).

[The Very Rev Dr Gordon Kennedy, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland](#), has warmly endorsed Tearfund's ongoing work to end extreme poverty and respond to global crises after his [recent trip with Tearfund Scotland to Burundi](#).

"I have seen for myself the difference Tearfund's approach makes and how, when the church steps forward in faith, entire communities can be transformed. I'd love to encourage you to give what you can to support Tearfund. Could you fundraise as a church, lift an offering, have a speaker, or sign up to give monthly what you would have spent on a coffee?"

— **Very Rev Dr Gordon Kennedy, Moderator of the General Assembly**

Invite a Speaker to Your Church

Tearfund Scotland's passionate speakers are available to visit your congregation. Whether for a Sunday service, a midweek fellowship or guild meeting, a youth event, or a prayer breakfast, a speaker can help bring global stories of hope and transformation directly to your church.

What a Tearfund speaker offers:

- **Inspiring preaching and teaching** rooted in Biblical justice and compassion.
- **First-hand stories** of transformation from communities facing poverty, climate challenges and conflict.
- **Practical ways** for your church to get involved through giving, acting and praying.

How to book a speaker

Arranging a visit is easy and can be tailored to fit your church's schedule and preferences. To request a speaker or to find out more, please contact Tearfund Scotland directly at scotland@tearfund.org

Thank you for your continued partnership in the gospel and your dedication to serving both local and global communities.

With every blessing,

Diana Cameron
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