the presbytery of forth valley & clydesdale

Weekly Bulletin

5th November 2026

VACANCY LIST

Vacancies | The Church of Scotland

Local Vacancies

Take a look at our local charges looking for a minister:

Kirkmuirhill Parish Church Home Page
Calderglen Parish Church Calderglen Parish Church
South Calder Parish Church South Calder Parish Church

Deadline for Property Works Applications

The next meeting of the Presbytery Property Group meeting takes place on 25 November, therefore this is just a wee reminder that any Applications for Works should be with the Property Committee by 18 November.

Presbytery Day Conference

We wish to highlight to you our One Step Beyond Conference. You will be receiving an email from Fiona Crawford tomorrow providing more information about the event. It would be great to see many of you there as we think it will be a great day of shared learning together as well as time for fellowship with others over lunch. The event is free, but we do ask you to book a ticketed space for catering purposes.

Open to all! Book your space HERE



Autumn Safeguarding Training

There are **only a few places left**, on the final Trustee Training date, if you haven't already, then be sure to book your space!

Trustee Training

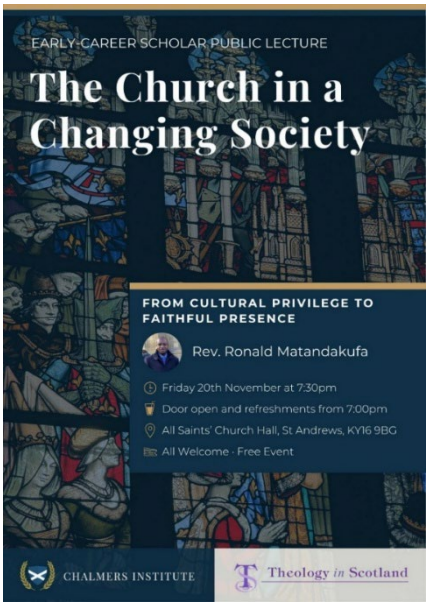
- **Saturday 14 November** 10am (Airdrie) Safeguarding Training Airdrie Link

Session Clerk Conversations



Join Lorna and Scott for our Session Clerk Conversations focussing on Action Plans. There are three dates to choose from, Wednesday 18th November 10am, Monday 23rd November 1pm or Thursday 26th November 7pm. Please register using this link Session Clerk Conversations – Fill in form

Public lecture: The Church in a Changing Society: From Cultural Privilege to Faithful Presence



Speaker: Rev. Ronald Matandakufa, Parish Minister, Kirk of the Holy Rood, Grangemouth. Ronald, who is originally from Zimbabwe, has a particular interest in the evolving nature of the church and its relationship with contemporary society. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend.

Friday 20th November at 7:30pm (doors open 7pm, refreshments available)
Where: All Saints' Church Hall, St Andrews, KY16 9BG

This lecture, jointly sponsored by Theology in Scotland and the Chalmers Institute, will take a fresh look at a familiar topic by engaging African Reformed theology and the experiences of African diaspora churches in dialogue with Scotland's evolving religious landscape.

Topic: The rapid decline of institutional Christianity in Scotland has often been interpreted as evidence of secularisation and the failure of historic churches. At the same time, reports of renewed interest in Christianity, particularly among younger adults, suggest that the relationship between Christian faith and institutional religion is more complex than simple narratives of decline imply. This lecture argues that the current moment should not be understood primarily as the collapse of Christianity but as the end of a form of Christianity that relied heavily on cultural privilege and social expectation. Rather than asking how the church might recover its former influence, the lecture poses a more fundamental theological question: What kind of church is God calling Scotland to become after Christendom?

Grant Funding Opportunity

New Cherish Scotland Grants available – deadline 19 January 2027
Thanks to an extension of the successful Cherish programme in Scotland, granted by The National

Lottery Heritage Fund to help places of worship in Scotland remain open and in good repair, the National Churches Trust is delighted to have £100,000 to award to churches of any Christian denomination in Scotland for urgent repairs or project development work. There are grants of up to £10,000 available and the deadline for applications is 10am, Tuesday 19 January 2027. This is likely to be a one-off grants round, with decisions made in March 2027. To find out more, including eligibility criteria or connecting with one of our Scotland Support Officers who can help offer guidance with your application, go to nationalchurchestrust.org/grants

Funding & Support Drop-in Session
Learn more about grants and support available from National Churches Trust, including Cherish funding, at our upcoming event on Thursday 19 November, 1pm-4pm at Findlay Church, Glasgow. Find out more and sign up here: National Churches Trust Funding & Support Session, Glasgow – Fill in form

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Religious Observance in Scottish non-Denominational Schools: Exploring Policy and Practice at a Time of Change

The lecture will be held online via MS Teams on Thursday 12 November, 6:30 pm.

This open lecture will explore the challenges and opportunities surrounding Religious Observance (RO) in non-denominational schools at a time of considerable legal and curricular change. It will share findings from a recent review of inspection evidence on RO, providing fresh insights into what happens in practice and highlighting the implications for schools. RO, sometimes called Time for Reflection, has an interesting history in Scottish schools, and with recent developments, it has an interesting future ahead. Join us to explore RO's role and importance in schools.

The presenters will be Dr Stephen C Scholes, a Senior Lecturer in Education at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, and Dr Chantelle L Boyle, a Research Assistant in Religious Education at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.

To attend, please complete the sign-up form here: Religious Observance in Scottish Non-Denominational Schools: SIGN UP

Please note that joining instructions and the lecture link will be sent to those who sign up shortly before the event.



Musical Theatre Group comes to South Wishaw

The Shine Touring Group are supporting South Wishaw Church with fundraising by putting on their musical show which covers well known songs from many hit musicals.

The group is part of the Shine Youth Theatre based in Carluke, for children aged from P4-17years. Their ethos is to promote musical theatre, whilst instilling skills for the youngsters through a musical and dancing route. However, one of main aims is to instil confidence, team working and communication for youngsters within a safe, fun setting.

Remembrance Sunday



A number of our churches across the Presbytery create displays for Remembrance Sunday. In honour and remembrance, South Wishaw Parish Church have decorated their church with poppies knitted entirely by members of the congregation. What a lovely display both inside and outside the church. If you have a display, do send us a photo of it and, with your permission we can share it with the Comms team at the Church of Scotland to display on their Remembrance collage.



Grahamston United Church



Bute Street, Falkirk FK2 7DH

SCO 16991



A Service of Hope & Remembrance

A time to remember, reflect and find hope

Sometimes, as Christmas approaches, the absence of someone we love can be particularly difficult.

This special service offers a gentle opportunity to pause, remember those who have died, reflect on precious memories and find comfort and hope.

This service is not just for church people so whether your loss is recent or many years ago, you are warmly invited.

Just come as you are. There is no expectation, no pressure and no need to participate in anything you don't feel comfortable with.

Sunday 22nd November 3.00 pm

Everyone is welcome

The United Reformed Church

The Methodist Church

The Church of Scotland