



Weekly Bulletin

20th August 2026

VACANCY LIST

[Vacancies | The Church of Scotland](#)

Representative Elder Training

As we are just about to head into a new Presbytery session, we thought it would be good to hold a training evening for new, or fairly new, Representative Elders before our September Presbytery meeting. This will take place on **Tuesday 8th September at 7pm** in the Presbytery Office. If you would like to book in to this training session, please book using the following link:

[Register for Representative Elder Training](#)

There are only 20 places available, so if you are a new or newish Representative Elder (within the last year) please do sign up as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Property Roadshow!

Date for your diary – the Presbytery Property Stewardship Committee are holding two **Property Roadshows on 9th and 12th September 2026** for anyone who is involved in looking after the fabric of ecclesiastical buildings.

Invites will be sent out nearer the time, however if you would like more information, please contact the Presbytery Buildings Officer, Mhairi MacLeod mhairi.macleod@churchofscotland.org.uk



Safeguarding Forums and Training Opportunities

Safeguarding Coordinator Forums

There are two opportunities for coordinators to meet online next week, please register using this link [Safeguarding Coordinator Conversation – Fill in form](#)

Safeguarding Training

There are several Safeguarding Trainings planned for the coming months. There is a focus on trustee safeguarding training currently, with two in-person introductory trainings. Please share and use the link below to book you space.

Trustee Training Dates:

- **Saturday 29 August** 10am Hamilton New (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-hamilton-new-tickets-1992341749806?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 12 September** 10.30am Bo'ness (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-boness-tickets-1992341908280?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Wednesday 30 September** 7pm Online (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-online-tickets-1998413812509?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 3 October** 10am Coatbridge TBC (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-coatbridge-tickets-1992342362639?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 10 October** 10.30am Grangemouth Kirk of the Holy Rood (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-grangemouth-kirk-of-the-holy-rood-tickets-1992342583299?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 24 October** 10am Motherwell Kirk at the Cross (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-motherwell-kirk-at-the-cross-tickets-1992343228228?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 7 November** 10.30am Denny Old and Haggs (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-denny-old-and-haggs-tickets-1992343430834?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Saturday 14 November** 10am Airdrie Cairnlea (Trustee)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-airdrie-cairnlea-tickets-1992343561224?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Monday 16 November** 7pm Online (Trustee) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trustee-safeguarding-training-online-tickets-1998414100370?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Safeguarding Introductory Training Dates:

- **Monday 21 September** 7pm Upper Braes (Intro)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introductory-safeguarding-training-upper-braes-tickets-1998413467477?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- **Monday 2 November** 7pm EK Mossneuk (Intro)
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introductory-safeguarding-training-east-kilbride-tickets-1998413994052?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Church of Scotland Member's Survey – Future Communications

*This survey has been produced by the Church of Scotland main office. They are asking for it **not** to be shared on public channels such as Church websites and social media as this is primarily seeking the views of our membership. Including it in printed Church newsletters would be helpful though, of course, the full URL would have to be provided, or you could email it to your congregants.*

The Church of Scotland is exploring how we communicate with members, congregations and the wider church community following the closure of **Life & Work**. We would like to understand your current engagement with Church communications, your preferences for receiving information,

and your views on what a future publication or communication platform could offer.



Here is the link: [Church of Scotland Member's Survey](#)

While there is no specific deadline for the survey it will probably be closed within the next few weeks – so if you have opinions, get them in early!



Places of Worship – Ecclesiastical Exemption

The General Trustees would like our congregations to complete this survey and also to let Presbytery know if they have responded to the survey, so we would be grateful to have your responses in due course using fvandc@churchofscotland.org.uk

Congregations of the Church of Scotland benefit considerably from the ecclesiastical exemption. Its presence within the Town and Country Planning framework enables internal projects to churches to be progressed with significantly greater ease than would otherwise be possible.

We have, however, been notified that the Places of Worship Forum intends to consult on whether the existing ecclesiastical exemption system remains fit for purpose. The General Trustees view this as a considerable risk to both their work and that of congregations who are seeking to modernise their buildings.

Many congregations are working to make their buildings warm, comfortable, flexible and suitable for modern worship and wider community use. Without the protection of the exemption, projects would require listed building consent for each application. This would inevitably introduce additional time, expense and risk. In some cases, these added burdens could render projects unviable, notwithstanding the possibility of applications not ultimately being approved.



We would therefore strongly urge congregations, particularly those that have benefited from the ecclesiastical exemption over the years, to engage with the consultation survey and express their support for its continued inclusion within the planning system. The more that the Church of Scotland and other denominations are able to articulate the clear benefits of the exemption, the greater the likelihood of averting this potential threat to our wider programme of building improvements. A link to the survey is provided here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PF38HBM>

The closing date for the survey is 1 September 2026.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Job Opportunity – Youth Development Leader

Youth Development Leader, Viewpark Parish Church of Scotland, 400 Old Edinburgh Road, Uddingston, Glasgow, G71 6PJ

20 hours per week (1 FTE = 35 hours); 3 years fixed term

We have an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic individual with experience in youth work to be our Youth Development Leader.



We are looking for someone who is passionate about the Good News of Jesus Christ and the spiritual development of young people. You would be expected to worship at Viewpark and be actively involved in the life of the congregation in order to become familiar with the congregation and the wider work undertaken there. The successful applicant's main focus will be to facilitate and further develop our TeenSpace Project. This involves working with young people from 11 to 17 in conjunction with a range of ecumenical partners and other voluntary and statutory bodies. A wide range of volunteers is involved.

The ideal candidate will:

- Have experience of working with young people,
- Be experienced in starting projects and delivering to completion,
- Have an awareness of current issues affecting young people,
- Be someone who has led teams of volunteers,
- Be an effective communicator in many settings,
- Be both self-motivated and an adaptable team player

For further information, contact: Stuart Forrester – sforrester321@btinternet.com

For application pack, please send your CV with note of interest to Stuart Forrester – sforrester321@btinternet.com

Closing date for application: 5pm on Monday 31st August

Scottish Charity No: SC 009991

Sing A New Song...



On **Sunday 23rd August** there will be a special songs of praise service with Phill Mellstrom, Worship Development Worker with Faith Action, in **Newarthill and Carfin Church at 6.30pm**. Churches across the Presbytery are warmly invited to attend.

Using new songs from *God Welcomes All*, and working with some worship leaders from the Presbytery, Phill will take the theme of Refreshment. His hope is we will leave feeling uplifted and encouraged. *God Welcomes All* brings together songs written within the last twenty years from a broad range of musical styles exploring contemporary themes.'

It would be helpful for catering purposes to know how many people will be attending, particularly if a group from your church is attending. Please contact Rev Muriel Pearson so that she has an idea of numbers:

MPearson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Jesus: The Evidence Tour

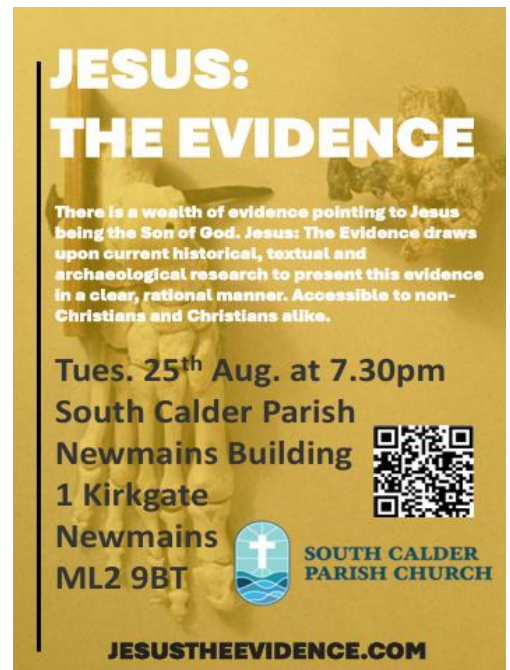
South Calder Church will be hosting Jesus: The Evidence on **Tuesday 25th August**.

It will be an ideal event to bring along friends and neighbours who don't come to church to learn more about Jesus.

What Does a Jesus: The Evidence Event Look Like?

A Jesus: The Evidence event typically consists of two, 40-minute sessions reviewing the historical and rational basis for Jesus being the Son of God - drawing upon the latest historical, textual and archaeological research and clear, rational argument.

There is also an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation. A **free 70-page booklet** is also provided to each attendee at the end of each evening.



The Michael Brawley Big Band Comes to St Andrews Church Blantyre

St. Andrew's Church Blantyre is holding a charity event on **Friday 4th September at 7pm**.

Come along for an enjoyable evening of swing and varied musical genres performed by the fantastic Michael Brawley Big Band. The band is a non-profit making swing band which has raised in excess of £60,000 for well-meaning and worthy charities which have recently included:-

- Les Hoey Dream Maker Foundation
- The Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre
- St. Andrew's Hospice
- Glasgow Children's Charity



Tickets cost £10 and are available from the Church Membership Group or they can be purchased at the door on the night. Light refreshments will be included during the interval.

It would be lovely to see you at St. Andrew's Church, Church Street, Blantyre, G72 0NY to enjoy a great evening of live music and entertainment.

Jonathan Veira Live!

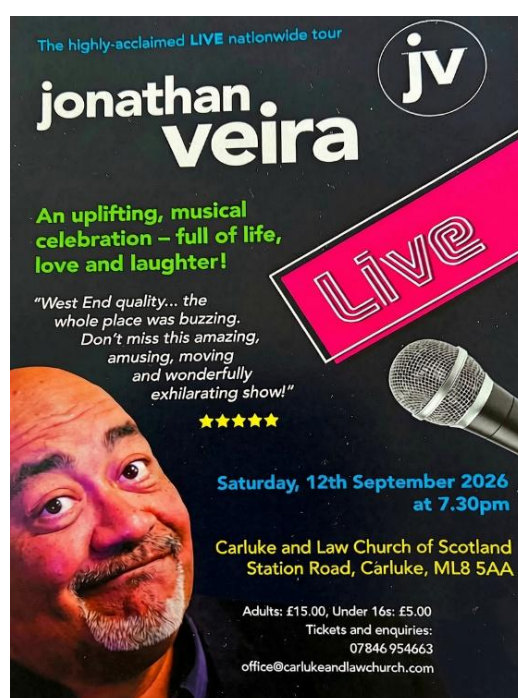
You are warmly invited to join us in Carluke and Law Church on **Saturday 12 September** for an evening with Jonathan Veira.

Jonathan is a well-known and very talented singer and musician with an amazing voice who sings in a broad range of styles.

At the start of the Covid lockdown he started streaming as "JV - Live from the Steinway Room". On the first night he played and sang alone and hundreds of people watched. Many of them have continued to join him each week on a Sunday evening as he sings a variety of songs - ballads, jazz standards, blues, spirituals, opera and of course Gospel songs.

If you would like to join us on 12 September 2026, tickets are available by phoning **07846 954663** or by sending an email to **office@carlukeandlawchurch.**

Adults £15; under-16s £5



Dalserf Community and Youth Choirs



If you enjoy singing there are opportunities to sing with Dalserf Community Choir which meet weekly on a Tuesday at Dalserf Parish Church.

If you know any children who are in P4 – P7 there is also a Youth Choir which rehearse at the Rorison Memorial Church in Dalserf on a Tuesday afternoon from 4.30pm – 5.30pm.

Do share this information for anyone nearby who would love to sing with other people, make friends and enjoy learning new songs!

