



The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale

Weekly Bulletin

8th October 2026

VACANCY LIST

[Vacancies | The Church of Scotland](#)

Running Rev Raising Rewire Money!

Rev Stewart Cutler, Minister of St. Ninian's Stonehouse LEP, donned his running shoes to run the Great Scottish Run 10k held in Glasgow on 4th October. He managed to complete the 10k in an impressive 59 min 36.2 seconds!

He was looking to raise £10,000 for the 10k race to raise money for a complete rewire of the building, installing new LED lighting, a fire alarm and emergency signage. It's a big job and will cost around £180,000. The church family are currently meeting in a community hall as the church building cannot be used at this time.



Stewart's 10k for St Ninian's

At the time of writing, Stewart has raised over £13,000 so far, an amazing achievement and a testament to the standing of St Ninian's in the local community. Stewart recalls *"when I suggested that we could raise £10,000 for a 10k run I honestly didn't really expect to do it..."* Do it he did, and then some!

He did find it a tough slog at times, with the last 2km being a real struggle but he pushed through knowing that *"every step was £1 more to help St Ninian's get back to serving our community"* and those thoughts enabled him to keep going and finish the race.

You can find out more information about Stewart's fundraising for the church here: [St Ninian's Church Stonehouse LEP](#)

Autumn Safeguarding Training



Here is a list of the Autumn Safeguarding Training dates. Feedback from the Trustee Safeguarding training has been very positive, so do book on if you are a Church or Presbytery Trustee. There are **only a few places left**, be sure to book your space! **Please note**, there is a new link to sign up to the online Trustee Safeguarding Training on

Monday 16th November. If you have already signed up to this training, you do not need to register again.

Trustee Training

- **Saturday 7 November** 10.30am (Denny) [Safeguarding Training Denny Link](#)
- **Saturday 14 November** 10am (Airdrie) [Safeguarding Training Airdrie Link](#)
- **Monday 16 November** 7pm (Online) [Trustee Safeguarding Training \(Online\)](#)

Introductory Training

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

Presbytery Clerk – New Contact Number



The Presbytery Clerk, Rev Fiona Crawford, has a new work mobile number!

You can now contact her on: 07938878661.

Application for Property Works

The Property Committee wishes to remind Kirk Sessions that the **deadline** for submission for applications for property works is **Wednesday 14 October**. Any applications submitted after this date will roll over to the next Property Committee meeting.

Pulpit Supply Claim Forms

Faith Action have advised that the Pulpit Supply forms have been updated to reflect the last mileage rate change and to make the information within them clearer. With some larger Unions and other

adjustments, it can be complex when trying to claim in an absence or vacancy situation so if you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact either of the undernoted departments for clarification:

- For vacancies, please contact Karin Anderson at vacancy@churchofscotland.org.uk
- Or for any of the other categories please email pastoralsupport@churchofscotland.org.uk

The forms are on the Church of Scotland website at this link: [Pulpit Supply Forms](#)

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

Organist, Duncan Mackay, is holding a 'Music for Everyone' concert in aid of church funds in the sanctuary on **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

How Did We Get Here?



Christian singer-songwriter Rob Halligan brings his *How Did We Get Here?* musical to Upper Braes Parish Church on Wednesday 28 October at 7.30pm. Admission is by donation.

Everyone has a story to tell and every one of those stories has a headline but it's often only the sensational headlines that catch our attention. Look past the headlines - we all carry a story, and in those stories lie the familiar echo of our shared human journey - the moments of joy, the sting of loss, the screams of doubt, and the tender ache of longing.

In 2001, Rob Halligan lost his father in the 9/11 terror attacks. A week later he found himself in New York City on the start of a journey, trying to make sense of what he'd seen. From a dysfunctional childhood and life on the streets, to being an ambassador for vulnerable children and an acclaimed songwriter, Rob's journey whistles hope into a hopeless world and invites us to do the same.

Through songs and stories, “How Did We Get Here” takes us down a road underpinned by a simple faith and the belief that love is bigger. This would be a great event to invite friends and family to, particularly those who may not know Jesus yet.

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](#)

Conversations – The Bible in Local Church Life



The Scottish Bible Society is hosting regional conversations about the Bible in the life of the local church—including in **Glasgow on Wednesday 4 November, from 10am–12 noon**, with refreshments and networking from 9.30am. Church leaders are invited to hear a snapshot of current research, share what they are seeing in their congregations, and reflect together on Bible engagement and confidence in church life.

Further information and registration are available here:

<https://www.scottishbiblesociety.org/bible-engagement-in-the-local-church-event-registration>

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

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.

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