

Weekly Bulletin

29th October 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](#)

Presbytery Day Conference

Saturday 21st November 2026 10am – 2pm

One Step Beyond

Kirk at the Cross Parish Church, Motherwell

Keynote: Rev Dr Doug Gay – Contextual Mission
Workshops: ABCD - Rev Derek and Helen Pope
SHAPE - Rev. David Cameron (formally South Queensferry)
Fresh Expressions – Rev Dr Peter Wood
Stepping Stones to Faith and Belonging – Presbytery Office Team

Open to all! [Booking link to follow](#), so watch this space!

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](#)

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](#)

Messy Church Regional Teams Gathering

You are invited to the very first Messy Church Regional Teams Gathering; a time to connect locally, to share ideas, pray together, learn from one another and feel supported by people who understand the joys and challenges of Messy Church.



There are two opportunities to attend, both via Zoom: an evening meeting on Tuesday 3rd November, and an after-lunch meeting on the 5th – further details and the booking link can be found here: <https://www.messychurch.brf.org.uk/regional-teams/>

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>

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?

EARLY-CAREER SCHOLAR PUBLIC LECTURE

The Church in a Changing Society

FROM CULTURAL PRIVILEGE TO FAITHFUL PRESENCE

 Rev. Ronald Matandakufa

- 🕒 Friday 20th November at 7:30pm
- 🍷 Door open and refreshments from 7:00pm
- 📍 All Saints' Church Hall, St Andrews, KY16 9BG
- 🎟 All Welcome · Free Event

 CHALMERS INSTITUTE

 Theology in Scotland

Events Across Presbytery

It is wonderful to see so many churches sending us information about their events for the Bulletin. However, we are getting so many in that we will need to limit the number of events we can 'advertise' on our Bulletin or indeed on our forthcoming new website when it launches in the near future.

We will now look to highlight events which are special one-off events such as an 150th Church Anniversary or similar, or events which are specifically missional in nature and where others within the Presbytery might wish to attend or bring friends or family members to. We hope that this change will enable us to highlight some important events within the life of our Presbytery so that we can celebrate together and also share the good news of Jesus with others. If you are in any doubt whether your event qualifies for this, drop us a line and we can have a chat with you – we wouldn't want Presbytery to miss out on hearing about suitable events.

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.

A vibrant poster for the Shine Touring Group. The word 'SHINE' is written in large, colorful, brush-stroke letters at the top. Below it, 'Touring Group' is written in a cursive font. The background is a rainbow with musical notes. The event details are listed in yellow and purple boxes: 'Wednesday 18 November 2026', '7.30 pm', and 'Ticket £10'. At the bottom, it says 'South Wishaw Parish Church' and provides contact information for Mari Lindsay and Lesley Mitchell.

SHINE
Touring Group

Wednesday
18 November 2026

7.30 pm

Ticket £10

 **South Wishaw Parish Church**
Contact for details:
Mari Lindsay - 07870 907 984
Lesley Mitchell - 07734 226726
email: face.swpc@hotmail.com

A poster for an organ recital at Denny Westpark Church. The background features a photograph of the church building and autumn leaves. The text is arranged in a central column. At the top is the church crest and name. The title 'ORGAN RECITAL' is in large, bold letters. Below it, the program details are listed. The date and time are in a bold box. At the bottom, it says 'All are welcome' and 'Entry by donation, refreshments served after the concert'.


DENNY WESTPARK CHURCH

ORGAN RECITAL

A programme of much loved classics and inspiring favourites by our organist Zoe Cox and her friends, Robin Bell and Shona Blackhall. Pieces include Phantom of the Opera, Thriller, Hedwig and the Addams Family plus many more.

Saturday 31st October
2.30pm

All are welcome

*Entry by donation,
refreshments served after the concert*

Knitted Bible Exhibition

Lochmaben and Lockerbie Church's invite you to see the famous Knitted Bible Exhibition. Created by crafters at St George's United Reformed Church in Hartlepool, this collection of 36 different Bible scenes now travels the country, drawing crowds of visitors wherever it goes. This is only the second time that it will have come to Scotland.

Teas and coffees will be available, and activities for children as well. There is no charge for entry.

If you would like more information, or to book a group visit, please contact their Session Clerk Mrs Winifred Dickie on 07590 435058. Otherwise, just go along, and they will be delighted to welcome you.

