

Cathcart United Free Church

Congregational Profile 2026

7 Struan Road, Glasgow G44 3AT
Scottish Registered Charity No: SC001573

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

Romans 10:15

Our Story

Cathcart United Free Church was formed in 1929 from several local congregations, with our building opening in 1931. We are a small, warm and welcoming congregation on the south side of Glasgow.

Over recent decades we have built strong relationships with neighbouring churches, leading to a formal Covenant with Cathcart Church of Scotland (first signed 2011, renewed February 2026) and active partnership with Cathcart Baptist Church. Together the three churches support Radiate Cathcart, a youth ministry serving the local community.

Ecumenical Partnerships

Joint activities across the three Cathcart churches include:

- Wednesday morning and evening services
 - Monthly prayer meetings and prayer breakfasts
 - Easter and summer holiday clubs
 - Holy Week services
 - Renew Wellbeing — a weekly mental health drop-in café
 - Moments Café — a dementia-friendly café
 - Off the CUF — our own monthly café-style community gathering
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Our Priorities

Our priority is to build up the congregation so that we are better equipped to live for Jesus and to serve him in our daily lives, particularly in the local community. Our ministry teams focus on three areas:

Worship

Biblical preaching that encourages and challenges us in our walk with Christ. Our Sunday services combine traditional and contemporary elements, led by a small praise band. Members regularly participate through Bible reading, prayer and occasional personal reflections.

Discipleship

Small groups, Bible study and equipping the congregation to share their faith. Home Groups run jointly with Cathcart Church of Scotland. We also run Christianity Explored, Discipleship Explored and Talking Jesus groups from time to time.

Growth & Community

Serving our neighbours and building genuine relationships in Cathcart through joint community projects, our prayer garden, and Off the CUF.

Strengths & Challenges

Strengths

- Good biblical preaching
- Open, inclusive community
- Willing to try new ideas
- New people coming in — signs of growth
- Range of gifts emerging in the congregation
- Flexible premises and prayer garden
- Strong use of technology
- Effective partnership working

Challenges

- Small congregation with limited capacity
 - Time poverty among working-age members
 - Few members under 50
 - Small group participation could grow
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Worship & Prayer

Sunday Services — 11am

A relaxed style of worship with a mix of traditional and contemporary music, led by a small praise band. Services run approximately 75 minutes and are livestreamed on YouTube and available on Zoom. After the service there is tea and coffee with plenty of opportunity to chat.

Wednesday — 10:30am

A shorter, slightly more traditional midweek service of approximately 40 minutes, shared with Cathcart Church of Scotland and attended by members from both congregations.

Prayer

A small group meets on Zoom every Monday evening (8–9pm) to pray for the congregation and wider world, with an in-person option at the church on the 1st and 3rd Mondays. A joint prayer breakfast with the other Cathcart churches takes place on the first Saturday of each month (8:30–10am).

Mission & Outreach

Local Community

Local outreach is primarily joint activity across the three Cathcart churches. A shared Community Team arranges occasional special events, including community carol singing and garden parties. Our prayer garden is open to the community throughout the year with seasonal displays and themed reflections.

Off the CUF is our own monthly café-style gathering on the first Saturday of each month — a relaxed, open space exploring themes relevant to everyday life, with food, conversation and a short reflection. Open to all, no commitment required.

Children and Young People — Radiate Cathcart

Radiate is a joint youth ministry across the three churches, constituted as a separate Scottish charity. Led by Senior Development Worker Cara Wightman, its programme includes:

- Weekly discipleship groups and youth clubs
- Easter and summer holiday clubs
- Monthly events for young people
- Schools involvement
- Vibe creative arts classes, supported by the Church of Scotland Go For It Fund

World Mission

A joint Worldwide Team with Cathcart Church of Scotland raises awareness of world mission and supports missionary work internationally. An annual mission weekend in October/November includes speakers from missionary societies. The congregation also supports Tearfund through an annual Christmas lunch and quiz nights.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is a shared responsibility across elders and a dedicated pastoral team. We recognise the value of the ministry of referral — knowing when to signpost people to external support with specialist training.

We would look for any minister to have strong interpersonal skills and a genuine ability to get alongside people facing challenges, working collaboratively with the pastoral team rather than carrying this responsibility alone.

What We Are Looking For

We are seeking a minister — full or part-time — who will help us build on what we have. Specifically, someone who:

- Preaches and teaches the Bible with clarity and warmth
- Has a heart for pastoral care and genuine relationship with people
- Is willing to engage with the local community and our partnership churches
- Can work collaboratively with a committed team of elders and volunteers
- Is open to new approaches while respecting what God has already built here

We are a congregation with real potential. We have signs of growth, strong partnerships, a flexible building, and a warm community spirit. We are looking for someone who will help us realise that potential — in worship, in pastoral care and in community witness.

Contact

For a confidential conversation or further information, please contact our Interim Moderator:

Rev John Fulton

InterimModerator@cathcartuf.org.uk

If you would like to visit the congregation before making contact, you are very welcome to join us on a Sunday morning at 11am.

www.cathcartuf.org.uk