



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



Minister: Rev Steve Levett. 575017.

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.

Church Website: www.bromsgrovemethodist.org.uk

Circuit Website: www.brmethodists.co.uk

***Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and
Sharing God's love in the wider community***

PRAYER: Come, love of the Lord Jesus and demand everything from us. Come, presence of the Lord Jesus and transform everything around us. Come, breath of the Lord Jesus and heal everything within us. **Amen.**
Based on a woman's prayer of Australia's First People.

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 22nd January 2023.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BROMSGROVE (CTiB) PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER: this week: - NewSong Community Church – Graham & Nicola Bailey.

COFFEE SHOP: The Coffee Shop opening times: 1st and 3rd Saturday 10.00am – 12 noon: Monday, 10.30am – 2.30pm. Tuesday to Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 29th January 2023.

Services on Sunday 22nd January.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Steve Levett.

6.00pm: Boys' Brigade Service led by Rev Steve Levett.

Arrangements for worship.

Good ventilation, social distancing and the use of hand sanitiser should continue.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Caution and distancing still relevant.

Service on Sunday 29th January.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Maureen Foxall.

YOUTH WORSHIP:

Led by Redditch Youth for Christ (RYFC) and supported by St Andrews Church is launching a Youth Church service called 'Power House' on Sundays starting on the 22nd January 3pm -5pm, for ages 12-25.

So let's get the word out there and encourage as many Youth as possible to come along to St. Andrews to worship and fellowship together. *Lucy West, Circuit Administrator.*

BIG BIRTHDAY: Eddie Palmer will be celebrating his 100th birthday on January 22nd, and Jill invites friends who know him to Open House at ***** for coffee and cake on Saturday 21st, between 10.30am and 12 noon. No presents – donations for church if you wish. *Jill Palmer.*

GOD TALK: Mondays 11am in the Bromsgrove Methodist Church Coffee Shop. Commencing on Monday 9th January each week to come along and Talk of God. It will be conversational, not over planned. Nobody will be forced to talk if they don't want to. But we will talk of God – our experiences, our journeys, our encounters, our understandings, our struggles, possibly even what we thought of Sunday's sermon!? We may still end up talking about the weather, the cost of a loaf of bread etc, but let's be open and willing enough to talk with each other of God. It may just be that if we get more used to talking with each other of God that we will begin to find it a little easier to talk to others of God. *Rev Steve Levett.*

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Members are reminded of the next Meeting on Tuesday next, 24th January, at 7.30pm in the main hall. Please attend if possible, or apologies please. Agendas will be sent in advance by email – minutes of the October meeting have already been distributed. *John, Secretary.*

CHURCES TOGETHER in BROMSGROVE: Due to the change in job role from 1st February 2023, my email address will be changing to: revplbromsgrove@gmail.com If you are contacting me regarding Bromsgrove Youth & Community Hub, please use this email address: plthehubbromsgrove@outlook.com These email addresses are already in place, so please update your records between now and the end of this month to ensure that I continue to receive emails from you/your organisation. Kindest regards, *Paul Lewis.*

MILK BOTTLE TOPS: I have been asked whether there is a charity which benefits from bags of milk bottle tops. As bags of these appear occasionally in the Church Kitchen, then disappear, does someone know? Please let me know. Mobile: 0772 580323. *Irene Rhead.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – 1 John chap. 3 verses 18 and 23*Let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.....and this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.*

REFLECTION:

The identifying attribute of the Christian is the way he or she conducts themselves. We have recently been thinking of how we can tell our Christian story, in an effort to witness to others what God means to us and has done in our lives. This has been a hoped for result of the studies under “Everyone an Evangelist”. It is about our effort in a small way to make more disciples of Jesus.

On 19th December, five of us told our personal faith stories to folk in the Coffee Shop. As believers we all have a story to tell. The problem, I think, is how to broach the subject to our friends, colleagues or neighbours.

As we read above, words come cheap, and the better witness is the kind of life we lead, the example we try to set in our language, attitudes and conduct.

How often have we met the critical question of censure “Call yourself a Christian?!” It comes back to Jesus’ exhortation to do to and for others what you can. To quote his words, “When you gave food to the hungry, and drink to the thirsty, when you welcomed a stranger and looked after one who was sick, or visited someone in prison, all of this you did for me: and when you did not do these things you did not do it for me.” (Matt.25 paraphrased)

Now Jesus was truly human as well as being divine. As a human he experienced all kinds of situations that face each of us, including mockery, rejection, having no permanent home, friends who let him down and betrayed him, ultimately facing death in a horrific way. That is why he is such a wonderful life example, because he not only dealt with the difficult things in his life, but he went about performing deeds of kindness and love, and showed his divinity by performing miracles such as water into wine, raising Lazarus and feeding multitudes.

If we “believe in his name, and love one another, not just with words but with actions”, we cannot but invite the question, “What motivates you, why do you do what you do?” thus opening the door to that conversation which leads us to telling our story of what God has done for us: because ultimately, we believe that what God has done for us, He can and wants to do for anyone. We may not talk someone into the kingdom, but we can with God’s help love them in. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 22nd January. (Returning to the Lord)

Sun 22.	Matthew 4:12-23.	StF 674	Psalm 27.	Live.
Mon 23.	Joel 1:1-13.	StF 561	Psalm 121.	Learn.
Tue 24.	Joel 1:14-20.	StF 65	Psalm 122.	Care.
Wed 25*.	Galatians 1:11-24.	StF 450	Psalm 67.	Share.
Thu 26.	Joel 2:1-17.	StF 51	Psalm 123.	Worship.
Fri 27+.	Joel 2:18-29.	StF 94	Psalm 124.	Flourish.
Sat 28.	Joel 3:1-16.	StF 623	Psalm 126.	Challenge.

**Conversion of Paul +Holocaust Memorial Day.*

All items for inclusion in the next edition should be submitted by 9am on Friday morning to kenb740@gmail.com Thank you.