



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.



Minister: Rev Peter Powers. 07941 328155.

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.

Church Website: www.brommethcentre.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: Blessed be God's great name to all eternity. Blessed, praised, honoured, exalted, extolled, glorified and adored be the name of the Holy Blessed one. Blessed be God beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort. **Amen.** *From the Jewish Kaddish (c. 1000).*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 5th November 2023.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BROMSGROVE (CTiB) PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER:

this week: All Saints, Bromsgrove – Rev David Ford.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:

The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours; Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Plus 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 10am till 12noon.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 12th November. 2023.

Services on Sunday 5th November 2023.

9.00am: Holy Communion led by Rev Seve Levett.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr John Webb.

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.

GIVING BY INTERNET BANKING: If you prefer to donate to the Church via Internet Banking the bank details are as follows: - **Sort Code: 40-15-07. Account number: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Collection.** For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Reference: Charities.** **UK Tax payers please consider Gift Aid and complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration** available at the back of the Church. Completed declarations please to Eleanor Wright – Gift Aid Secretary, one of the Stew

Service. on Sunday 12th November. 2023.

10.30am: Holy Communion/Remembrance Sunday led by Rev Alan Bidnell.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank all my friends in Church for the lovely flowers given to me by Irene on two occasions. After a spell in hospital, they were very cheering. Thank you. *Avery Turner.*

JOHN CROSS: John Cross sadly passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday 31st October. His wife Christine and their children attended our Church regularly some years ago and will be known to many. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayer at this time.

CIRCUIT VACANCIES: The Circuit needs a Treasurer, a Property Steward and a Circuit Steward. If you feel you could undertake one of these roles please let Rev Steve Levett know. Please pray for the Circuit as it is facing a number of challenges at the present time. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING NEWS: The very enjoyable Bel Canto Concert on Monday last raised the splendid sum of £640.50 for our Church funds. This means that the total banked from the two October events amounted to almost £1000. The Group are having a break in November but will be involved in the Christmas Fair. The programme for 2024 will be announced in due course.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Jean Wall will again be in charge of the Toiletries Stall on December 2nd and will be grateful for all contributions. Please contact Jean or Lesley Buchanan.

FORUM: The deadline date for the December/January edition of FORUM is Sunday 12th November. Please let me have any contributions before that date either by email (les.jim42@btinternet.com) or leave hard copy in the FORUM folder in the Church office. Jim Buchanan



HAVE YOU HEARD HOUSEGROUP – FRIDAY – 10TH NOVEMBER
ROOM 6 – 10.15AM – 12 NOON

We are a friendly group offering friendship and sharing in an Understanding space. Please feel welcome to join us. We get together on the 2nd Friday of each month.

Pat 07966370448

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BROMSGROVE & REDDITCH WELCOME REFUGEES

**Room 6 at the Bromsgrove Methodist Centre (B60 1AS)
Wednesday 8th November at 7:30pm.**

You are warmly invited to attend our 2023 AGM, find out what's been going on and have an informal chat and refreshments.

We have the following vacant committee posts:

1. Secretary
2. Minutes Secretary
3. Friendship Group Lead

To find out more, email info@brwr.uk or come along to the AGM and have a chat.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – *Philippians 4 verse 8*

...Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

REFLECTION:

It seems to me recently that we are becoming overwhelmed by the world's sadness and suffering. We have the overall effects of global warming. We have former fertile areas becoming parched and inhospitable; we have widespread flooding in various parts of the world, including unprecedented levels of rainfall in our country. We have news of conflict in Israel/Gaza, Russia/Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, and civil wars in parts of Africa.

We have earthquakes and natural disasters globally. So much so that one wants to turn off the TV or other media.

I know that "wars and rumours of war" have always been with us, and as Jesus said "You will always have the poor among you". But, such an avalanche of bad news as we seem to be witnessing, (on top of the disaster that was the pandemic) can have a very debilitating effect on our mental and spiritual health, I feel. Not that we have to ignore the suffering of others! That goes against all our Christian ethics, because, surely, we have to be proactive in showing love to our

neighbour, be they local or living elsewhere in the global village which is the wider world.

The antidote to such detrimental feelings is to try to find the good things in life to offset the sad and sorrowful. Paul has one answer, though and in his letter to the new Christian church he helped establish in Philippi, he concludes some wonderful encouraging words with the above instruction to his readers.

If we try to focus on what is good we begin to realise what a loving, caring God we have.

He has given us all things, knows each of us by name and in the words of Jesus, even numbers the hairs of our heads (even if like me you have very few!) The truth of the gospel is that we have to try to live out our faith in love for God and for others. We have to shun the wrong and uphold the “right” and thereby serve the needs of justice for all. These days there is a lot pedalled which is impure, so we should avoid that and seek to live “pure” lives. There is much that is “lovely”, for example the love of family, the gift of a child or grandchild, the blessed gift of recovery from a serious illness, to name a few. There is, too, much to “admire”, in the wonders of creation, but also in the achievements of those who do amazing things for others, such as full-time home carers, those who raise incredible sums of money for charity - one could go on. We are urged to dwell on things that are “excellent or praiseworthy”, and there are plenty of them. So when the current world news causes us to despair, let us concentrate instead on the good things. “All good things around us are sent from heaven above; then praise the Lord, O praise the Lord for all his love !” Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 5th November. (The Covenant of Faith)

Sun 05*.	Matthew 5:1-12.	StF 745	Psalm 34:1-10,22.	Challenge.
Mon 06.	Genesis 12:1-9.	StF 51	Psalm 13.	Flourish.
Tue 07.	Genesis 17:1-11.	StF 519	Psalm 15.	Tell.
Wed 08.	Genesis 18:1-33.	StF 527	Psalm 16.	Open.
Thu 09.	Genesis 19:15-29.	StF 137	Psalm 17:1-8.	Notice.
Fri 10.	Genesis 21:5-20.	StF 540	Psalm 18:1-9.	Challenge
Sat 11.	Genesis 22:1-19.	StF 91	Psalm 19.	Pray.

**All Saints' Sunday.*

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