



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.

Minister: Rev Ruth Wilson. 07464 25943.

Minister : email ruth.wilson@methodist.org.uk

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 01527 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: It is to you, O God of glory, that we come. It is on your mercy that we rely. It is to you, O Lamb enthroned that we draw near, in your salvation that we trust, in your peace that we rest. **Amen.** *John Haime, Methodist itinerant (1709-1784)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 2nd March 2025.

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 until 12 noon.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 9th March 2025.

Service on Sunday 2nd March 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Service on Sunday 9th March 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Sarah Leeson.

UPPER ROOM HOUSEGROUP: The housegroup will meet as normal on Friday 7th March at 10.30am, unfortunately it clashes with World Day of Prayer. Those not attending the prayer day are welcome. The theme for discussion is "TOUCH" *Pat Booth.*

A CELEBRATION OF LOVE IN HYMNS AND MUSIC: Many thanks to those who came to the recent Hymns and Surprises session. Jim Buchanan had seen a possible fundraising opportunity just after Valentine's day, which provided the theme. I enjoyed it greatly and I think the 30 people who came did too. The donations were generous. A total of £201 was given, and a large fraction of that was Gift Aided. *Brian Henderson.*

FORUM FOR APRIL/MAY: The deadline for **FORUM** is **Sunday 19th March.** Please let me have your contributions including Easter memories as soon as possible either by email (Word document preferred) to ##### or if written copy in the FORUM folder in the Church Office. Thank you. *Jim Buchanan.*

AFTERNOON TEA DANCE: Following the success of last year's Tea Dance, we are pleased to advise that we have decided to repeat the event. The date will be **Saturday 22nd March** starting at 3pm. Tickets priced **£5** (includes refreshments) will be on sale **either from Jim Buchanan (#####) or from the Welcome Coffee Shop (Monday to Thursday mornings).** *Jim Buchanan.*

ONLINE LENT STUDY GROUP: One Long Thursday into Friday: An exploration of the deep themes of the Thursday of Holy Week. Overview: There is so much that happens on the Thursday of Holy Week in terms of teaching, activities and events. And the different Gospel writers all explore it slightly differently. In addition, it is just one of the days of Holy Week and we might simply pass it by in the rush from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. This lent group provides the opportunity to dwell in this day and give the themes of Thursday due consideration. **When?:** 7.30 – 8.45 pm on five consecutive Thursday evenings from **13th March to 10th April.** **Where?:** Online, via Zoom. The group is offered as a means for those unable to join a physically gathered group. **Who?:** Rev Stephen Levett will host the group and provide the primary and initial study input. From then on all group attendees who choose will; be encouraged to share in the ensuing conversation. The people of the Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit, and anyone they care to personally invite, are welcome to be part of the group. **To indicate your interest and to receive the Zoom meeting log-in details please email revlev66@gmail.com** Please do not publish the Zoom link in any newsletter or public online social media.

DEC MIDDLE EAST APPEAL: Grateful thanks to all who contributed. £205 was given, which will increase to £2450 when Gift Aid is added. £300 has been sent, the balance coming out of the general Charity Fund. *Charity and Missions Committee.*

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Our Church Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday 27th April at 12.00 noon. Look forward to seeing you there. *Pam Gale.*

SAFEGUARDING: Please could anyone who completed their foundation training in 2023 but did not receive their certificate contact me as I may be able to obtain a copy for you. *Pam Harrison.*

FILM NIGHT: The next film night will be on **Saturday 1st March** with refreshments served from 6pm and the film starting from 6.30pm. The film will feature the **25th Anniversary Concert of Phantom of the Opera** at the Royal Albert Hall including performances from many of the stars who have appeared in the show over the years. Entry will be by donation including the opportunity to Gift Aid. *Jim Buchanan.*

STORE ROOM IN ROOM 6: During the next few weeks the store room behind the kitchen in Room 6 will be cleared. Storage units will be installed along two sides of the walls together with a carpet and a couple of easy chairs. Primarily but not exclusively for the use of the Memory Changes Café. If you have items stored in that area which need to be retained please clearly label them. Anything not so labelled will be disposed of. I will appreciate your cooperation with this. Many thanks. *Sheila Sharman.*

GRANT APPLICATION WRITER: To enable us to raise enough money to refurbish our toilets, we urgently need someone to complete grant application forms on behalf of the church. Most applications are completed online so you will need access to a computer and the internet. If you feel this is something you would like to do, please contact me for more information. Many thanks. *Sheila Shaman, Church Treasurer.*

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE arranged by CTiB will this year be at Bromsgrove Baptist Church, New Road, on Friday 7th March at 11.00 am. The theme will be "I made you Wonderful" from the Cook Islands. Refreshments will be served after the service. All Welcome. *Deacon Gwynn Bamford.*

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 Stewards or myself. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – Thanks for Friends (part) StF No., 6 1 9

Thanks for friends who keep on loving, finding ways to help us grow,

Celebrating our achievements, sharing in our pain and woe

God is glimpsed where love is faithful; mirrored here in time and space.

Thanks to God for friends who love us: Christ revealed in every face.

COMMENT:

Friends are to be cherished, to be valued for the difference they make in our lives. Everyone needs other people; very few people choose a solitary life, away from others; and when loneliness impinges, often in later life, that is a sad situation.

Friends help you to make memories, and Jean and I have two valued best friends who have been on many, many holidays with us and we have good, shared memories, which we still relive, when we meet up, rarely, nowadays.

It is by making the effort, two ways, that friendships are maintained – it is so easy to send a text, email, or to pick up the phone- just to share the words "how are you?" To spend time together is always a pleasure and it always feels as if you just pick up the relationship where you left off, last time you met.

Friends are there to talk things over with, to offer congratulations, encouragement, help; or condolence, comfort and empathy and compassion..

True friendship is a measure of love, which Christ asked us to reflect in our dealings with others.

So let us give thanks for friends who keep on loving us, despite our faults, and count ourselves blessed through knowing them. Every blessing, *John.*

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 2nd March. (The Authority of Christ)

Sun	02.	Luke 9:28-36(37-43)	StF 261	Psalm 99.	Pray.
Mon	03.	Matthew 8:1-4.	StF 253	Psalm 146.	Care.
Tue	04.	Matthew 8:5-13.	StF 687	Psalm 147.	Learn.
Wed	05*.	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.	StF 236.	Psalm 51.	Challenge.
Thu	06.	Matthew 8:14-17.	StF 653	Psalm 90.	Serve.
Fri	07+.	Matthew 8:18-22.	StF 556	Psalm 92.	Live.
Sat	08.	Matthew 8:23-27.	StF 661	Psalm 93.	Notice.

**Ash Wednesday.*

+World Day of Prayer.

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