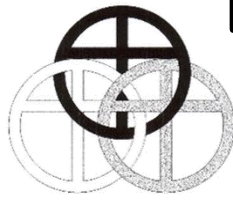


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**Bromsgrove
Methodist
Church
and Centre**



**September –
October 2022**

**Bromsgrove Methodist Church and Centre: encouraging,
supporting and developing followers of Jesus Christ and
sharing God's love in the wider community**

REGULAR SERVICES and KEY CONTACTS

SUNDAY

1 st	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Morning Worship
2 nd	10.30 am	Morning Worship
3 rd	10.30 am	Morning Worship
4 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship

- Holy Communion at one 10.30 am service each month
- Evening Services at 6.00 pm on some Sundays
- Special Services as arranged.

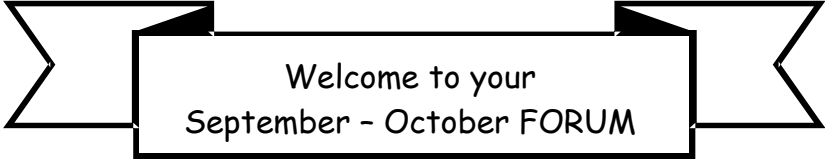
Please see the Centre Pages for full service details

Minister: Revd Stephen Levett
151 Birmingham Road, Bromsgrove, B61 0DJ
Tel: (01527) 575017

Centre Office: 19 Stratford Road
Bromsgrove, B60 1AS
Tel: (01527) 835843

Room Bookings: Tel. 07502 012858 **OR**
e-mail: bromsgroveroombookings@gmail.com

Find out more at www.bromsgrovemethodist.org.uk



Welcome to your
September - October FORUM

What's inside...

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26	And finally . . .

Enclosed with your magazine or attached to your email, you will find a copy of minutes from **2 important recent Church Council Meetings**. It would seem that some did not receive these minutes when issued previously so it was thought best to reissue with this FORUM so that everyone is aware of the information.

Material for FORUM to the Editor, Jim Buchanan, c/o Centre Office
or email:les.jim42@btinternet.com

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Church at any level

Good News

Covid . . War in Ukraine . . Cost of living . . Travel chaos . . Drought . .
a.n.other(?!)

All these things have been bad news for many people. Add to this general mix various personal, family and even church challenges and sometimes it is hard to discern any good news amongst all this bad. Yet the apostle Paul has a deep conviction that there is good news still to be had, confidently affirming that 'I am convinced that nothing . . will be able to separate us from the love of God that is Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:38-39). We are blessed if we can have such a deep-rooted faith and trust in the love of God, and in the person and work of Jesus, and in the presence of God's Holy Spirit, that we still experience Good News in our knowledge and experience of God. A gospel that endures in varying and challenging times so that 'In heavenly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear' is indeed good news.

Perhaps it also helps if we can see more down to earth good news in the more every day? So here are some things I have personally found to be good news recently.

Good News – we have had some rain! As I write it is the morning after the night before, when we had a real deluge at the Bromsgrove Sporting football match I was attending. This, along with the drop in temperatures, has come as something of a relief.

Good News – England won the Euro Football Tournament. Also, the recent Commonwealth Games were a delight to many of us. Even if you aren't particularly bothered about sport and don't find it particularly good news I hope you liked the mechanical bull!

Good News – the church roof has been fixed. Hopefully this means no more need for buckets in the corridor and some rooms can be used more regularly once more. It has cost a not insignificant amount but the good news is the Circuit has lent us the money and we can pay it back interest free over an extended period.

Good News – The church Coffee Shop will be open again from Monday 5th September (Monday to Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm). Better still we have a team of around 18 volunteers willing and able to serve not just

a cuppa but teacakes, toast, beans on toast, soup, and cakes. More encouraging still our Circuit lay worker Sally Meredith is going to be joining us for 8 hours a week to see if and how she can support us in growing our outreach through hospitality ministry in this space. And I personally am hoping to attend reasonably predictably on a Wednesday to be present and available but also to offer opportunity for fellowship and Bible exploration in the coffee shop space. We are hoping all this might promote increased attendance at the coffee shop, including from church members. It is quite possibly a case of use it or lose it. Hopefully people will use it, including some who need a warm space to sit and possibly work as the cost-of-living crisis bites and they struggle to afford to pay for heating their own homes. Maybe we could be just a little bit of good news to some in this way?

There is more good news to share (including celebrating Harvest Festival on October 9th (see p7), and a new website in the offing thanks to the determined efforts of Chas Ashworth) but space precludes it. Maybe you could make your own little list and share it with your fellow readers in the next Forum? And maybe we will realise yet that we have good news to share with friend and stranger, and find the confidence to share it? To this end we will be starting Everyone an Evangelist, a programme intended to build confidence in sharing our Good News. (See p16) Look out for further details in publicity to be shared in the weekly bulletin and on noticeboards.

Every Blessing
Rev Steve Levett



With the advent of the new Methodist year, we have a new President, Revd Graham Thompson, who will be seeking to put his mark on the life of the Church. In his Presidential address at the Conference, he provided some idea of his personal and professional background together with his aims for his Presidential year.

Google [Methodist.org.uk/about us](https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us) to find the content of his speech, to find out the thoughts from the top. Ed.

Fundraising Committee



As we need to raise money for the repair of the roof, I think it is the right time to re-instate the fundraising committee. I am happy to chair this. I would ask any of the members from the previous committee if they are willing to carry on in which case please let me know. We also feel new blood with fresh ideas are needed so if any of you think this is something you would like to get involved with please let me know.

Janet Millward 0121 4455140 or 07833 156715

Our first event will be a concert as follows:

**Bel Canto Concert
Monday 24th October
at 7.30pm**



£6.00 per ticket with refreshments

Tickets are available from Janet Millward or the Coffee Shop

Bel Canto is a well-known choir from Redditch to which quite a few church members belong. We have a varied repertoire of songs so you are bound to find something you like. We recently featured on Zoe Ball's Radio 2 programme singing "Sweet Caroline" for the Queen's Jubilee.



Craft and Christmas Fair

Saturday 26th November 10.30 till 12.30

After the success of the summer fair, I am happy to organize the Christmas fair. As well as the craft stalls, I think we could expand it to include a few stalls that would be relevant for Christmas, like a gift stall. I have had an offer to do a toiletry stall already. If you have any ideas and would like to be involved and help on the day please let me know.

Janet Millward

Prayer for the Stewardship of God's Creation

"If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter"

If the Earth
were only a few feet in diameter,
floating a few feet above a field somewhere,
people would come from everywhere to marvel
at it. People would walk around it, marvelling at its big
pools of water, its little pools and the water flowing
between the pools. People would marvel at the bumps on it,
and the holes in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer
of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The
people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the
surface of the ball, and the creatures in the water. The people would
declare it as sacred because it was the only one, and they would
protect so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest
wonder known, and people would come to behold it, to be healed,
to gain knowledge, to know beauty and to wonder how it could
be. People would come to love it, and defend it with their
lives, because they would somehow know that
their lives, their own roundness, could be nothing
without it. If the Earth were only a few
feet in diameter....

Source unknown

Festival of Tabernacles/Harvest Festival

Around the beginning of October every year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or they will celebrate the Harvest.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. “Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns.”

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: “celebrate the festival to the Lord your God...For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.”

Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting. Farming looks very different today.

Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we're not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year.

That might be even more the case in future, as the agritech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

We are very grateful for the food that arrives on our shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it.

Our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God's creation through science.

So, after you celebrate Harvest at church, why not follow it up with a trip to a local farm this month? Why not learn from the ancient Israelites, and follow it up with a meal together?

It stands to reason that those of us who live in countries where food is plentiful and cheap could do with being proportionately more generous in our gratitude and giving. Should we throw better parties? Probably!



HARVEST FESTIVAL AT BROMSGROVE



THE WEEKEND OF 8TH – 9TH OCTOBER

SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER HARVEST SUPPER

(INC FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT)

FULL DETAILS WILL BE PUBLICISED DURING SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER AT 10.30AM
HARVEST SERVICE LED BY REV. STEVE LEVETT



HARVEST APPEALS 2022

Harvest Worship is on Sunday 9th October. We will be collecting, as usual, for our two harvest charities: All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development), and the Basement Project, Bromsgrove's youth homelessness charity.

All We Can is continuing its "Next Steps" appeal, saying: *"Last year, we asked you to take the next steps with communities in Nkayi, Zimbabwe as they began to emerge from the COVID-19 restrictions. This year, we invite you to spend some time with the women of Binga District.*



We are partnering with Zubo Trust to help women to transform their lives, to rebuild following the pandemic, and to begin to see their potential fulfilled. Women have found solutions from within their own community, and it has been so important to have ownership of what they achieve.



Our partners in the Zubo Trust know that a community's greatest resources are already in their hands. Your support can help women like Sibongile, who has been able to buy her own sewing machine and wants to start her own business, to take their next steps, and embrace their full potential."

Appeal envelopes will be available on 25th September, 2nd and 9th October. Gifts can also be made online via the church account: Sort Code: 40-15-07 A/C No: 61090070, quoting the reference HARVEST.

Thank you!

At worship on 9th October, we will be receiving goods for the Basement. See below for details of things they would be glad to have. They currently **DO NOT NEED** baked beans, soup, pasta, or tea bags.



BASEMENT REQUESTS

The following tinned foods:

Meat/vegetable pies Hot dogs Chilli Meatballs Tuna
Beans & Sausage Spaghetti & Sausage Spaghetti Bolognaise
Ravioli Macaroni cheese Tinned Potatoes, Vegetables or Fruit

Other foods:

Long-life Milk Breakfast Bars Cereals Pasta or Curry sauces
Fajita kits Cup-a-Soups Pot Noodles Jam Biscuits Instant Coffee

Thank you!

Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit

MWiB
Crafternoon
Tea

Tuesday September 6th
2pm till 4pm
Crabbs Cross Methodist Church
Crabbs Cross Lane B97 5LD
Everyone welcome!



A number of our members were fortunate to attend events at the recent **Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games**, which were a great success and blessed with glorious weather. I asked some to let me have their three most memorable moments from the events they attended.

Janet Millward

My 3 moments are:

1: Being in the Alexandra Stadium the night Eilish McColgan and KJT won gold. The stand vibrated with the noise.

2: My Perry being hugged by Perry the Bull.

3: Watching the cycling road race and hearing a Kiwi voice next to me say to a toddler on his shoulders 'Your daddy will be coming past soon'. I replied 'Is your daddy in the race?' to which he replied 'Yes, Aaron Gate' – the chap who won the race and who we had seen in the velodrome where he won 3 golds!



Perry meets Perry!



Eilish McColgan



Aaron Gate, New Zealand

Sheila Sharman

With my daughter I went to three events, two netball at the NEC Arena and one session of the Athletics at the Alexander stadium.

My highlights of the netball matches were England v New Zealand: the winner went forward to the quarter finals. It was close, everything rested on the final quarter. In the closing minutes the spectators were on their feet shouting for England, the atmosphere was electric and when England scored the winning goals and the game ended the cheering, clapping and shouting was fantastic.

My highlight at the Alexander Stadium was the women's 3000m Steeplechase. I didn't realise just what a gruelling race this was, how the girls kept going I will never know!



England v New Zealand Netball



Women's 3000m Steeplechase

My third highlight was the medal ceremony for the men's 1500m T53/T54. England won Gold and Silver. We were sitting very close to the podium and it was such a joy to hear Jerusalem played so beautifully by the CBSO.



Men's T53/T54 1500m

Eleanor Wright



Men's Marathon

I saw the marathon from the streets of Bournville, and had tickets for the 3x3 and para basketball which was quite exciting though very hot as it was an outdoor event - hats, sun cream, sunglasses and bottled water essential.

I also went to a couple of sessions of athletics at the Alexander Stadium but the highlight for me was the Mixed, Synchronised Diving at Sandwell Aquatics Centre on the last day. The first event of the morning was the springboard but sadly England lost the silver medal place on their last dive (of 5) and ended 4th just missing out on a medal.



Mixed 10m Diving

The second event was from the 10-metre board (the really high one!!) The final result was England gold and silver and the stadium erupted – feet stamping, cheering, whooping - it's a wonder the stand didn't collapse.

I was very impressed with all the volunteers, cheerful and instantly ready to help; and the organisation - getting the thousands and thousands of spectators out of the Alexander Stadium was smooth and efficient with almost no queuing, just a lot of walking through a snake of barriers with lots of music to keep us cheerful.



Dancing Volunteers

The buses ferrying us back to the city had obviously come from all over the country, including my home city of Plymouth!

As **Editor** I have allowed myself the luxury of picking my own most memorable moment from all the outstanding and heart-warming incidents during the 12 days of the Games. In my view the whole event was uplifted by the inclusion of the Para athletes in many events in front of packed arenas.

The delight of these competitors was summed up to me by **Olivia Breen** of **Wales** who won the 100m sprint for T38 (Cerebral Palsy) athletes. From the moment that Olivia was called to the starting blocks to the end of her Gold Medal Ceremony her broad smile never left her face – a true inspiration to everybody.



Olivia

NOTES TO NOTE!

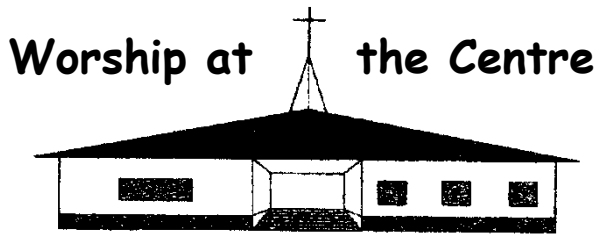
Time to check your purses and wallets!

On 30 September old-style paper £20 and £50 notes (over 17bn worth remain in circulation) will cease to be legal tender and you won't be able to spend them in shops, although you will be able to deposit them into your account.



The new notes feature the artist JMW Turner on the £20 and mathematician Alan Turing on the £50.

Despite cash usage falling sharply during the pandemic, cash still accounts for around 17% of all payments, making it the second most popular way to pay after debit cards.



September 2022

- 4th** 9.00 am
 Holy Communion Revd Steve Levett
- 10.30 am
 Morning Worship Mrs Linda Ashworth
- 6.00 pm **At The Bridge Church, Redditch**
 Circuit Service Revd Steve Levett

Launch of **"Everyone an Evangelist"** See page 16

- 11th** 10.30 am
 Holy Communion Revd Steve Levett/
 Revd Latika Singh
- 18th** 10.30 am
 Morning Worship Ms Lynne Gennoe/
 Mrs Anne Batchelor
- 6.00 pm
 Holy Communion Revd Steve Levett
- 25th** 10.30 am
 Morning Worship Ms Jackie Hartrey/
 Dcn Gwynn Bamford

October 2022

2nd 9.00 am
Holy Communion Revd Anne Smith
10.30 am
Morning Worship Dcn Janet Thomas

9th 10.30 am
Harvest Festival,
with Holy Communion
Revd Steve Levett



See page 7/8 for details of
our **Harvest Celebrations**
and appeals for **All We Can** and the **Basement Project**

16th 10.30 am
Morning Worship Revd Steve Levett
6.00 pm
Holy Communion Revd Anne Smith

23rd 10.30 am
Morning Worship Mrs Jackie Russell

30th 10.30 am
Morning Worship Revd Steve Levett

EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST

At the Circuit Vision Day back in March the general consensus was that people wanted to gain renewed confidence on how to share faith. To this end as many people as possible are encouraged to explore the **“Everyone an Evangelist”** programme. This involves three 90 minute larger group 'gatherings' and two six week small group exploration 'phases'. More details (including venues) will follow but for now **save the dates!**

Sunday 4th September 6pm: Circuit service at The Bridge, in part to launch “Everyone an Evangelist” .

Gathering one: “Demystifying Evangelism”

An option of either

Saturday 17th September, 10am

or

Monday 19th September, 7.30pm

Week beginning 19th September: Start of Phase 1: Six week small group, (dates/times/venues to be decided).

Gathering two: “Intentional Evangelism”

Option of either

Saturday 29th October 10am

or

Monday 31st October 7.30pm



Week beginning Monday 31st October: Start of Phase 2: Six week small group deciding upon, preparing for and delivering practical evangelism projects, (dates/times/venues to be decided).

Gathering three: “Faithfulness and Fruitfulness”

Option of either

Saturday 7th January 10am

or

Monday 9th January 7.30pm

The Last Tale from Mr Tibbs



Just to let you know that the one-time contributor to the “Forum” magazine of Bromsgrove Methodist Church is no longer with us. I’m still not sure how old he was but my maths is appalling and getting worse.

For the last few months Mr. Tibbs did very little but sleep, eat and go into the garden sometimes.

Though he did not seem to be in pain, he lost an awful lot of weight. I didn’t take him to the Vets’ because I knew he was getting very old but he could still get around and lie happily in the sun and these “medical people” do strive to keep alive.

However, the day came when I felt that enough was enough and booked an appointment for the following day.

In the morning he seemed brighter but soon faded away and, when I put him in his carrying box he walked in, turned around and lay down. We **always** had a battle when he had been in the box before so I knew he had decided it was time to go and I was so grateful that we agreed.

Thank you, Mr Tibbs, for sharing your life with us and the comfort and happiness you brought.

Chris Roberts

PS and thank you to the Vet for a quiet, peaceful and painless end.

The Refugee

*As the news from Ukraine slips
ever later in the news bulletins
and has disappeared from the front
pages of newspapers, we should continue to
reflect on the plight of thousands of people suffering the
consequences of the war. This poem may help us to remember.*



All that I was, I no longer am
All that I have, I hold in my hand
My home, my love, my world are all gone
One among thousands, I shuffle along.

Only last week I knew who I was
All that has gone, and only because
Someone in a land a long way away
Turned life into hell one terrible day.

He started a war, his heart icy cold
He rained down his hell on the young and the old
I ran for my life for I had no choice
And nobody heard the fear in my voice.

Everything's gone, and all that is 'me'
Summed up in a word – the word 'refugee'.
I have no control, no say in my fate,
Just one in a crowd, I stand and I wait.

Waiting for what? The future's unclear,
For armed men have taken all that I held dear
Along with my hopes, and all I had planned
All swept away by the tanks in my land.

One thing alone puts a smile on my face
A far nicer stranger has come to this place;
A bed for the night? A cup of hot tea?
And – best of all – someone who sees me as me.

Nigel Beaton



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URBAN OUTFITTERS WAREHOUSE MONSOON & MORE!**

PLUS *FRENCH + ITALIAN DESIGNER WEAR*

**SIZES
6 TO 30**

**Saturday 1st October, 2022
2pm**

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre

Tickets: £8 (including tea/coffee & cake) or £9 cash on the door

For tickets, please email info@brwr.uk **OR**

Contact Jenny Jones or Margaret Evans

Website: <https://brwr.uk>

Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcome Refugees (BRWR)

Supporting Syrian, Afghan, Ukrainian and all other refugees locally

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For The Garden of Our Daily Living

Whether you consider yourself a gardener or not most of us love well-kept gardens, and can appreciate there are many analogies to be drawn from the care and cultivation of them. For instance, we know that in order to completely eradicate weeds from the garden they must be totally removed from the soil—roots and all, and be destroyed to make room for the good plants to flourish.

This illustrates how Jesus expected his disciples to discipline their thinking to truly become his followers. Here is a simple little poem, which gives helpful ideas as to what we may consider we should cultivate in thought and deed.

Plant three rows of peas

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

To conclude we must have thyme

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

Autumn in the Air

Colours of Autumn around me I see
Glowing here and there.
Brown on the field, red and gold on the tree,
stillness in the air,

In the air.

Mists of the morning are fingers of grey,
Clutching everywhere.
Glimmers of sun at the end of the day,
Purple clouds up there,

In the air

Ripe is the fruit in the hedgerow and tree,
Apple plum and pear.
Elderberry and blackberry also I see,
Sweet smells in the air,

In the air

Corn is all gathered, the harvest is done.
Praise God for such care.
Praise for all seasons, especially this one,
Autumn in the air,

In the air

Jean Wiseman





HYMNS WE LOVE



“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say...” StF No. 248

*I heard the voice of Jesus say: ‘Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast’
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad,
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say: ‘Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live.’
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say: ‘I am this dark world’s light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.’
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk, till travelling days are done.*

Biography - This hymn was written by Horatius Bonar, born in 1808, a minister in the Church of Scotland, who was ordained in 1837. He wrote 600 hymns, translated many psalms, and issued many tracts one of which, entitled “Believe and Live”, sold over 1 million copies. He also edited two magazines.

He was no stranger to tragedy and loss, five of the children he had with his wife of 40 years, Jane Lundie, dying early in life. He later wrote: “Spare not the stroke, do with me as thou wilt, complete your purpose that we might become thy perfect image”. His love for children caused him to write many hymns directed at them, using well-known Scottish song tunes to fit the lyrics he wrote, so as to make them readily acceptable for the youngsters in his Bible classes. He died, after a lifetime of service, in Edinburgh in 1889.

Comment - In each verse we see a call and a response. Spread over the three verses we hear the account of an encounter with Jesus, wherein the writer describes the way in which as he read the scriptures and the words of Jesus in the gospels, they spoke directly to him.

In the first verse, he realised that he was weary, and worn and sad, and in placing his worries and cares in Jesus' hands, and allowing himself to be metaphorically hugged by Jesus, he found rest, and instead of being sad, he discovered that the love of Jesus had made him glad!

The second stanza describes how he allowed himself to be filled with the living water of the Holy Spirit, and spiritually never needed to be thirsty again. Whenever we feel down in spirit we can come to Jesus and have our spiritual batteries topped up. He does not keep office hours, but is available with his grace, mercy and love 24/7! The author says that his thirst was quenched, his soul revived and he went forward to live in (and through) Jesus.

The third and last verse speaks of light in darkness, of Jesus being the light to shine in the darker corners of our lives, and to shine on our path as we go forward through life in faith. What can be more important for sustaining life than the light we receive from the stars and the light and warmth of the sun? Likewise, our relationship with Jesus is just as vital for the light of life that we walk, and continue to walk as, believers, "till travelling days are done."

Every blessing, JOHN

With Us

My dearest Lord,
Be Thou a bright flame before me,
Be Thou a guiding star above me,
Be Thou a smooth path beneath
me,
Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me,
Today and evermore.



*A prayer of St Columba who in 563 AD
sailed from Ireland to Iona, an island off Mull.*

God's Answer to You

For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves,
God has a positive answer for it.

You say: It's impossible.

God says: All things are possible. (Luke 18:27)

You say: Nobody really loves me.

God says: I love you. (John 3:16 & John 13:34)

You say: I can't go on.

**God says: My grace is sufficient. (2 Corinthians 12:9
& Psalm 91:15)**

You say: I can't figure things out.

God says: I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

You say: I can't do it.

God says: You can do all things. (Philippians 4:13)

You say: I'm not able.

God says: I am able. (II Corinthians 9:8)

You say: It's not worth it.

God says: It will be worth it. (Romans 8:28)

You say: I can't forgive myself.

God says: I forgive you. (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

You say: I can't manage.

God says: I will supply all your need (Philippians 4:19)

You say: I'm afraid.

**God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear.
(II Timothy 1:7)**

You say: I'm always worried and frustrated.

God says: Cast all your cares on me. (I Peter 5:7)

Humour Corner

Faint Praise from School Reports

“Sheila attended the lessons”

“He has an overdeveloped unawareness”

“By the time he has mastered French he will be too old to cross the Channel”

“The improvement in his handwriting has revealed his inability to spell”

“I am sorry to tell you he is doing his best”



The Harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows



MEDICAL TERMS FOR NON-MEDICAL PEOPLE

Artery: the study of paintings

Bacteria: the back door to cafeteria

Barium: what doctors do when patients die

Caesarean section: a neighbourhood in Rome

Cat scan: searching for kitty

Cauterize: made eye contact with her

Coma: a punctuation mark

Enema: not a friend

Fester: quicker than someone else

Labour Pain: getting hurt at work

Nitrates: cheaper than day rates

Outpatient: a person who has fainted

Post-operative: a letter carrier

What am I?

A teacher gave her young class a lesson on Zoom.
It was about the magnet, and what it does.

The next day in a short test, she included this question:
“My full name has six letters. The first one is M.
I am strong and attractive. I pick up lots of things. What am I?”

When the answers were sent in, the teacher was astonished
to find that more than half her students had answered the
question with the word: **“Mother”**

And Finally....

HAPPY NEW YEAR

As we enter the new Methodist year, we can give thanks that the repairs to the roof have been completed ahead of schedule and that we can look forward to the winter months without cascades of water entering the building. It is at this point that we should acknowledge the hard work of the Management Group who, I am sure, have all had sleepless nights over the period of planning, seeking finance and implementing the work.

THANK YOU.

Now all we have to do is pay for the work!

You will have noticed from earlier in the magazine that Janet Millward has agreed to take over the Chair of the Social and Fundraising Group and some events are already planned over the next few months. Also, Janet has indicated that we require volunteers to be part of this Group and indeed it would be good to have some new faces and fresh ideas from any part of the Church Family. Even if you do not wish to join the Group but have ideas on likely events, please let Janet know directly.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition with either content or making sure the magazine is available at the designated time.

Looking forward, in a change to the norm, the next edition of FORUM will cover only the month of **November** with its resonance to Remembrance both historical and, unfortunately, contemporary issues both here and worldwide. The deadline date for copy will be **Sunday October 16th**. Please email content to me at les.jim42@btinternet.com or hard copy in the FORUM folder in the Church Office.

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CHURCH ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE

MONDAY

6.00 pm Girls' Brigade

TUESDAY

10.00 am Toddler Group

10.00 am Knitting Group

WEDNESDAY

6.00 pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

7.15 pm Boys' Brigade Juniors

7.30 pm Meeting Point (1st & 3rd)

SATURDAY

10.30 am CAMEO (1st & 3rd)

During the week other groups and organisations run activities at the Centre too. See the noticeboards for information.

COFFEE SHOP

10.30 am to 12.30 pm

Monday to Thursday

Closed on Friday & Saturday



