



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



Minister: Rev Steve Levett. 575017.

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: Through your love, O Lord, all your works have begun. By your love you sustain them and in your love our life is everlasting. So let the beginning and ending of all our loving be to see you, O God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Julian of Norwich (c. 1343-1417)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 16th April. 2023.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BROMSGROVE (CTiB) PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER: this week: - Bromsgrove Baptist. – Rev Paul Lewis.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP: The Welcome Coffee Shop will re-open from Saturday 15th April from 10.00am till 12 noon. Then from Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 23rd April. 2023.

Service on Sunday 16th April. 2023.

10.30am: Holy Communion 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.

Services on Sunday 23rd April. 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr David Morgan/Mrs Sally Meredith.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP: The Welcome Coffee Shop will be reopening on Monday, 17th April. From then until the end of the Summer period the opening hours will be Monday to Thursday inclusive, 10.30am until 12.30pm. There will be no special hot dish during the summer on Mondays, nor will the Thursday Warm Space be offered. We hope the weather will mean these two things are not necessary. At present, we plan to reintroduce them when we reopen in September after the Summer closure. **Please continue to support the Welcome Coffee Shop throughout the summer.** *Management Committee.*

LIVING THE QUESTIONS: The next meeting will be on Friday 14th April at 37, The Flats at 2.30pm, and as usual anyone interested is welcome. We shall be continuing with the next section on the DVD, Painting the Stars. *Alan Bidnell.*

BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: This will take place on Sunday 16th April, at 11.45am, following morning worship. This is open to all, but voting is restricted to church members. Please do your best to attend, when important reports will be presented, and appointments made. Agenda to members in advance by email, with additional copies available at the meeting. Thank you. *John, Church Council Secretary.*

FUNERAL FOR REV JULIA PELLETT, WEDNESDAY 19TH APRIL AT 12 NOON: Alex McGowan has requested to know the likely numbers from Bromsgrove attending the Funeral Service and afterwards at Meadow Farm Pub and Restaurant for the catering purposes and also to make sure there are enough seats available at St Andrews. Please let Terry Clarke know (Tel.xxxxxxxxxx) as soon as possible if you will be attending.

THANK YOU: Molly and I would like to thank the Church Family for the beautiful flowers delivered to us last Sunday by Terry and Ilona. They cheered us up no end. I would like to say also the I tested Negative for Covid on Monday morning. Thank you for all your prayers, good wishes and offers of help through this very trying time. *Ken & Molly Brown.*

JERUSALEM JOY: This is a well-known musical telling the story of Easter written by Roger Jones, a Christian composer of 24 musicals (and counting). It will be performed at Bromsgrove Baptist Church on Saturday 24th April. You are invited to spend the day with Roger learning 'Jerusalem Joy', also added songs from his 'Songs of Easter' collection. Roger says that whether you would like to be part of the choir, orchestra, or simply soak up the atmosphere in the audience for the performance proper, this will be a real 'fun' day. For more information, please speak to me on 077772 580323. *Irene Rhead.*

VACANCY – CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY: I shall cease being the Church Council Secretary after the Church AGM on 16th April. This is a vital role to ensure the actions of the Council are recorded and widely shared for ongoing information of all connected with Bromsgrove Methodist Church. The role involves the preparation and distribution of the Agenda and any reports as attachments, preferably in advance by email to those concerned (email list available). This minimises printing, and forewarns folk as to what is up for discussion. Take notes of the meeting, including discussion, decisions arrived at and actions to be taken and by whom. These are emailed as minutes//report, (including for inclusion in the next FORUM) to all concerned as soon as possible after the meeting, for early notification, and people are asked to print off and bring same to next Council meeting. The secretary needs to have typing skills, be able to send and receive emails and have knowledge of simple filing, as there is a paper record maintained for future reference, and for eventual archive storage. If you would like to offer for this post, which cycles at most 4 times a year, please let me know, and I will gladly discuss the roll. Thank you. *John*, Council Secretary. Tel: xxxxxxxxxx – email:xxxxxxxxxxxx

GOD TALK: Mondays 11am in the Bromsgrove Methodist Church welcome Coffee Shop. Each week 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.*

QUIZ NIGHT 22nd APRIL: Tickets are now available for this next fundraising event on Saturday 22nd April at 7pm. Tickets are £7.50 each (including a buffet supper). Obtain your tickets from the Welcome Coffee Shop on Saturday or on Sunday after the Church service.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – COLOSSIANS 3 Verses 12- 14 (part)

Therefore, as God's chosen people,..... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another: forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love.....

REFLECTION:

This portion comes from Paul's letter to the church at Colossae (the Colossians) and is headed "Rules for Holy Living" in the NIV bible. It is from the reading for Saturday 15th April, in the Methodist Prayer handbook. When we have responded to God's call to be disciples of Christ, we are often exhorted by Paul in his letters to "put off" or shun, or give up old habits and behaviour and instead to "put on" or clothe ourselves in, a new kind of behaviour. It is the evidence of our being transformed by the ministry of the Holy Spirit; as believers we become new people. It follows therefore that our conduct should match our calling and our profession of faith in Jesus Christ, whose life was the example for us all.

Here we are reminded of the need for compassion and kindness, along with humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, the ability to find forgiveness, for grievances, whether real or imagined (we are at times too quick to take offence !); and to find love, or at least a liking for all with whom we come into contact.

How often do we bear a grudge against someone for a trivial slight, about which we may not even remember the origins and experience estrangement for years – unnecessarily !

Love enables us to look for reconciliation and peace between not only one another, but between communities, nations and cultures. As Paul says, "above all let peace rule in your hearts(v15). After all as people of

faith, we follow the Prince of Peace. As we read above “Forgive” because “the Lord forgave you”. And forgiveness is the basis of peace and reconciliation. The Northern Ireland Peace Accord could not have happened without an element of forgiveness between the parties. We also pray and hope for an eventual such an agreement for peace between Ukraine and Russia and in other places where conflict exists. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 16th April. (The Gospel of the Spirit)

Sun 16.	John 20:19-31.	StF 314	Psalm 16.	Tell.
Mon 17.	Acts 1:1-8.	StF 669.	Psalm 26.	Pray.
Tue 18.	Acts 2:1-21.	StF 391	Psalm 27.	Share.
Wed 19.	Acts 2:14, 22-35.	StF 418	Psalm 28:1-2, 6-9.	Notice.
Thu 20.	Acts 2:36-41.	StF 353	Psalm 29.	Pray.
Fri 21.	Acts 2:42-47.	StF 683	Psalm 30.	Open.
Sat 22.	Acts 3:1-10.	StF 364	Psalm 112.	Tell.

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