



**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: Love of the heart of Jesus, inflame us; strength of the heart of Jesus, uphold us; wisdom of the heart of Jesus, teach us; Zeal of the heart of Jesus, consume us, now and for ever. **Amen.** *Saint John Eudes (1601-1680).*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 28th May. 2023.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BROMSGROVE (CTiB) PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER: this week: New Life Church – John Cooke.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP: Open every 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 21st May. 2023.

Service on Sunday 28th May. 2023. Pentecost.

10.30am: Morning Worship – 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 4th June 2023. Trinity Sunday.

9.00am: Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Bidnell.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr. D. Morgan.

JOHN LEGGE, a local preacher in our circuit, will be visiting our church on Saturday 10th June as part of his plans for his Bike and Bible challenge tour. He will be Cycling around all 10 churches in Redditch/Bromsgrove circuit in a day, reading a book of the Bible at each church.

He has planned the route of churches and the approximate time at Bromsgrove church (it's very rough as depends on the weather/cyclists with me/readings etc) will be 13.30 – 1400. More accurate information will be in the weekly newsletter for 10th June. Bromsgrove is church no 5. John is hoping that a few people from Bromsgrove church may be present to hear him read Philipians. The Bike and Bible challenge is one of 6 challenges. Please see more details in Forum. John will appreciate any financial support for his chosen charities. *Terry*

MESSAGE FROM TERRY AND ILONA: We would like to express our sincere thanks to the church family for the concern, prayers, cards and good wishes received as Ilona was unexpectedly taken to the Alexandra hospital last Thursday with severe chest pains. An angiogram revealed that 2 stents were necessary. Ilona was able to return home to recuperate on Tuesday with boxes of medication and is now making steady progress.

EASTER OFFERING: Thank you to all who gave. The final total for the Circuit as a whole was £1385, of which Bromsgrove contributed £388 in donations and Gift Aid. *Janet Henderson, MWiB Treasurer.*

A REMINDER ABOUT "HYMNS AND SURPRISES ON THE ORGAN: at 3.00pm on Saturday 10th June. We sing about 10 hymns with a variety of organ items in between. We finish around 4.15 with refreshments. The Hymns will be chosen from your suggestions. See the poster and box in the foyer. The organ music, from Bach to the Beatles, will be my choices. If you still intend to make a request please make sure it is posted in the box by this Sunday, 28th May. *Brian Henderson.*

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP: The Welcome Coffee Shop will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 29th May.



Introducing a new concept of Housegroup. There are a lot of us finding it difficult to participate in group discussion due to our hearing loss. Come and join us in our journey of faith in a relaxed understanding space with friends who understand. Initial session on Friday 9th June at 10.30am in Room 6. Contact Pat 07966370448 for more information.

SUMMER CRAFT FAIR: On July 1st we will be holding the Summer Craft Fair in aid of much needed church funds. I am in need of willing people to help set up the tables on Friday 30th June at 6.30pm as well as to take down the tables after the fair. Please can all you lovely bakers make cakes for the cake stall as well as any other home made goodies e.g. Jans. If anyone has a particular craft and would like a stall please let me know. Also if anyone would like to help man a stall could they also let me know. *Janet Millward.*

THE METHODIST CHURCH BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT: Have a vacancy for Finance Officer 16 hours a Week to start September 2023. Salary £17.75 - £19.50 per hour, depending on qualifications and experience. We require someone who can do day to day book-keeping for the District; prepare draft budget and management accounts and draft end of year accounts; pay bills and expenses and collect payments due. The role will be home office based, mobile phone and laptop provided. For more information and an Application form contact office@birminghammethodist.org.uk or download the information from the District Website. Closing date for applications is 12 noon on 15th June. Interviews will be held on Monday 3rd July. *Lucy West, Circuit Administrator.*

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.*

Thought for the Week – Hymn No. StF 378 v. 1 –part

***“Father of everlasting grace.....you have, in honour of your Son,
The gift unspeakable sent down, the Spirit of life, and power and love”.***

REFLECTION:

This hymn, one of Charles Wesley's, and the selection in the Methodist Prayer handbook for Friday, celebrates Pentecost and the giving of the holy spirit to the early believers, which marked the birthday of the Christian Church.

This Sunday is Pentecost Day, so named after the Jewish feast of Pentecost, originally celebrated 50 days after the feast of the Passover, which in turn remembered the delivery of the people of Israel from Egypt. It was a time celebrating the completion of the barley harvest and was to be a holiday, when sacrifices of thanksgiving were made.

The bible tells us it was the time at which the Holy Spirit was given (descended on) the disciples accompanied by the signs of fire and wind.

The Holy Spirit in theology has become an indivisible part of the Holy Trinity – our three person God – who is Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Christians believe it is the Holy Spirit whom Jesus promised, who has come into the world and in the words of Charles Wesley is the source of the believers' "life, and power and love."

Evangelical Christians believe that it is in and through the Spirit that we "live and move and have our being" and the Spirit gives us gifts, such as preaching, teaching, healing, administration, serving, and the church today is made up of people who have and exercise those gifts for the good of all both within the fellowship and the community at large..

Further, the indwelling of the Spirit helps transform us from our old nature into the kind of people God would have us be. Fruits of the Spirit are evidence of that transformation and listed by Paul in Galatians 5 as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

It is said that it is the Holy spirit which first prompts us, speaks to our souls if you like, and convicts us of the need for Christ in our life, leading to repentance, forgiveness and the new birth, which Jesus speaks of in John chap. 3.

Yet, we have to realise that our becoming believers is not of our doing but down to God's "everlasting grace". We just have to say "Yes" to God, when he calls us, however that call may come.

So as we have the opportunity this Pentecost Sunday (although I personally prefer the term Whit or White Sunday), let us give thanks for the Holy Spirit who is the "author and finisher of our faith" Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 28th May. (The Gift of the Spirit)

Sun 28*.	John 20:19-23.	StF 371	Psalm 104.	Live.
Mon 29.	Romans 5:1-5.	StF 390	Psalm 18.	Tell.
Tue 30.	Luke 9:1-6.	StF 660	Psalm 33.	Open.
Wed 31+.	Luke 1:39-49.	StF 186	Psalm 113.	Worship.
Thu 01.	John 7:37-39.	StF 388	Psalm 146.	Notice.
Fri 02.	Romans 8:12-17.	StF 392	Psalm 100.	Challenge.
Sat 03.	Romans 8:22-27.	StF 400.	Psalm 139.	Pray.

**Day of Pentecost. +Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth.*

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