



**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: Oh high and lofty One, creator of the universe, infinite in perfection, wisdom, goodness and truth; in you alone is our truest pleasure, our greatest happiness and our final glory. *Susanna Wesley (1669—1742)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 25th June. 2023.

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

this week: Grace Church – Steve Vincent, Ben Bevins and Jonathon Coleman,

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 18th June. 2023.

Services on Sunday 25th June. 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Ruth Wilson.

6.00pm: 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 22nd July 2023.

9.00am: Holy Communion led by Rev Steve Levett.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr John Webb.

MARGARET CORNWALL'S FUNERAL: This will take place on Friday 30th June. The Committal will be at the crematorium at 11am and the Thanksgiving Service will follow at the Church at noon. The family has asked that those attending should wear bright colours. Donations will go to the Church. There will be tea, coffee and cake at the Church after the service. If anyone is able to make a cake for the occasion, please bring it to the church on Thursday afternoon, after 3pm. Thank you. *Lizzie.*

FUNERAL SERVICE OF MARGARET CORNWALL, FRIDAY 30TH JUNE: 11am Service of Committal at Abbey Crematorium: Though this service will primarily attended by family they are happy for others to attend. 12noon: Service of Thanksgiving at Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Drawing on a practice often incorporated in the churches of New Zealand (where Margaret's son lives and she herself often visited) the service will include a time of open sharing, where those present can bring a memory or thought about Margret. So please accept this invitation to speak if you wish. Alternatively, if the prospect is really too terrifying you can let Rev Steve Levett have the words you would like to share and he will say them on your behalf. Any donations in memory of Margaret will go to church funds for the church roof appeal. The service will be followed by light refreshments of a cuppa and cakes. *Rev Steve Levett.*

THANK YOU: I would like to thank the Church family for the lovely flowers that were brought round to me last week. They are beautiful and very cheerful. Best wishes, *Florence Court.*

THANK YOU: Once more I have to thank friends in the Methodist congregation for the lovely fragrant flowers delivered to me by Pam Gale last Sunday. I have been going through a bad patch emotionally and physically and they certainly cheered me up. I am hoping to get my access details sorted and then be able to attend future services. Thank you for remembering me. *Avery Turner.*

CHURCH COUNCIL: Tuesday 4th July @7.30pm, in the Main Hall. Agenda and other relevant papers will be sent to Council Members by email before the meeting. If you have any reports to be circulated in advance, please let me have them by 27th June, email to pam_gale@live.co.uk Many thanks. *Pam, Council Secretary.*

AN INVITATION FROM METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN. BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT. The inauguration of the Revd Sue Smith as District MWiB President is on Saturday 1st July at 2.00pm at Lichfield Methodist Church. The service will be followed by refreshments and all are welcome. A mini bus has been arranged to take people leaving from Catshill Methodist Church. For information on the bus please contact Irene Rhead: Tel 07772 580323. *Janet Henderson.*

LIVING THE QUESTIONS: The next meeting will be on Friday, June 23rd at 2.30pm at 37, The Flats. As usual, anyone interested is welcome. *Alan Bidnell.*

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 homemade 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.*

CRAFT FAIR: Donations of NEW or GOOD QUALITY items are needed for the Gift Stall at the Summer Craft Fair. Please give these to Jenny, Laura or Meryl. Alternately you can leave them in the office or kitchen in a bag marked Gift Stall. (I am in the church most days) Many thanks. *Jenny Jones.*

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.*

CIRCUIT VISION DAY 2: Reorganising for survival and Mission? An opportunity to consider the issues and options as Bromsgrove Methodist Church:

When: Wednesday 28th June 7.45pm in Room 6.

Back in January a Circuit Vision Day took place, the focus being to consider potential different ways the Methodist Churches of the Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit to be organised and work together to support our hopes of both surviving and thriving. Motivations were explored, challenges flagged up, potential advantages considered, and various options suggested. The vast majority of those present on the day (around 50 people) agreed it had been a god and important day, and that the conversation should be carried forward.

Various other challenges and demands on time and resources in the Circuit and Churches have delayed the pursuit of the conversations. However, the time has now come for us at Bromsgrove Methodist Church to make the time to consider matters ourselves. To that end you are invited to the conversation to take place on **Wednesday 28th June commencing at 7.45pm in Room 6.** It is open to all members and attenders of Bromsgrove Methodist Church and not simply Church Council Members.

In preparation for the conversation please read in advance the summery notes from the vision day. A few printed paper copies are available in the coffee shop (reference to copies tom be read ant the Centre and not taken away.). They are also available to read on the Circuit website at www.brmethodists.co.uk/circuit_documents/circuiot-vision-day-2-notes/ and nay have come as attachments with this notice if you received it by email.

Other individual churches will be having their own local church conversations. It is anticipated that at some point in the next few months representatives from the Churches in the Circuit will be invited to join a circuit level group to discuss if we should pursue any of the options suggested, and if so how do we do so.

Every Blessing, *Rev Steve Levett.*

'RELIEF TO UKRAINE': The recent destruction of the dam on the Dnieper river in Ukraine has created a severe humanitarian crises with huge areas flooded, shortages of drinking water, and the threat of landmines entering residential areas. It has necessitated the evacuation of tens of thousands of people. Samaritans' Purse, a London-based international relief organisation which responds to desperate need in Jesus' name, has been working with local partners in Ukraine since immediately after the Russian invasion and distributing food, blankets and other critically needed relief items. On 9th June, in view of the destruction of the dam, it sent a DC-8 aircraft from North Carolina in the United States to Poland where its cargo was unloaded and taken to Ukraine by lorry. The aircraft carried eighteen tons of relief materials including hygiene kits, water filters, solar lights and jerry cans. Samaritans' Purse states that since the invasion it has distributed almost 18,000 tons of food, produced 68 million litres of clean water, and treated more than 23,000 patients.

We are asked to pray for an end to the war, the people caught up in the conflict, and those ministering to them in whatever way.

Incidentally, Samaritans' Purse has packed and sent to the earthquake area of Turkey eighteen thousand kits from the Operation Christmas Child warehouse in Oldbury. A further six thousand is due to leave there for Turkey in the next few days. I have been working at Oldbury making boxes. When these are packed into large cardboard crates, an articulated wagon can take six thousand tons. Three such wagons have gone, a fourth due to leave in the next few days. *John Rhead.*

MESSAGE FROM RUTH WILSON:

A reminder for your church notices and communication. Everyone is welcome to come along for a gentle meander through the woods, bring a friend and enjoy space.

Many thanks

Ruth

Wandering & Wondering

Join us for a short walk in the woods

Tuesday 27th June
at 11.00am

A chance to wander through natural ancient woodland and wonder at the beauty of nature. Finish off the morning with a bowl of soup and conversation.

Forest Church
@Peckwood



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK– Simple things – 2:

Some weeks ago I directed our thoughts to some of the simple things which give us pleasure, such as birdsong, flowers in their variety of colour, trees in greenery, the laughter of children at play, and so on.

It is when we take time out from the hustle and bustle of daily life, and use our senses that we realize what a wonderful world we have to enjoy and also to cherish for those who follow us.

Fred Pratt Green puts that sentiment well in StF 727 – “God in his love for us lent us this planet....cradle of life and the home of our race.....The earth is the Lord’s: it is ours to enjoy it, as God’s stewards, to farm and defend. From its pollution, misuse and destruction, good Lord deliver us, world without end !”

In the song “What a wonderful world”, made famous by jazz musician Louis Armstrong, are mentioned some of the simple things that give us pleasure – “Trees of green, red roses too, skies of blue and cloud of white, bright blessed days (of summer) and sacred nights....The colours of the rainbow; friends shaking hands, saying ‘how do you do’, they’re really saying ‘I love you’and I think to myself ‘what a wonderful world!’”

It is not the things that we invest lots of time and effort, or money in that give us happiness. It is more about relationships, and taking time to be at one with God through what he has made for us and given to us.

We all have a few of “My favourite things” (another song title, this time from the film score of *The Sound of Music*, sung by Julie Andrews). It may be reading a book, going for a walk, watching and playing along in quiz programmes on TV (one of mine); or visiting a library or museum or art gallery, or watching or participating in a sports activity. The list is endless and intensely personal.

Whatever your favourite things, let’s remember always that we have a wonderful life if we let ourselves live it to the full, as God intended, and a wonderful world in which to enjoy it. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 25th June. (Living Water)

Sun	25.	Matthew 10:24-39.	StF 535	Psalm 69:7-18.	Learn.
Mon	26.	John 3:1-15.	StF 361	Psalm 56.	Flourish.
Tue	27.	John 3:16-21.	StF 346	Psalm 57:1-3, 7-11.	Live.
Wed	28.	John 3:22-30.	StF 182	Psalm 61.	Serve.
Thu	29*.	Matthew 16:13-19.	StF 322	Psalm 125.	Live.
Fri	30.	John 3:31-36.	StF 32	Psalm 62:1-5.	Notice.
Sat	01.	John 4:1-26.	StF 330	Psalm 62:6-12.	Open.

**Peter, Apostle.*

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

Your Web Site. (www.brommethcentre.org.uk)

Security.

The web site is secure (a little padlock appears on the top line) which means every time you use the site, a certificate held by a registered authority is checked against a certificate on my computer, and the name of my computer must match the certificate. This stops your messages being switched to any other computer by hackers or pirates.

Why have a web site?

1. To be a centre for news and information for our congregation
2. To show the 'outside' world what goes on and what we do.

1 Centre for news etc.

The web site is available on phones and computers.

It contains information such as

- Service schedule – the circuit plan, and a more detailed local plan showing details of the coming servicers including duties. It is available for each month as soon as it is issued.
- News letter and magazine. Available as soon as published; all previous letters/magazines are available as well as the latest. It can be viewed, downloaded or printed.
- Sound recordings of most servicers are available – and are kept for later use if required. If a service is missed, or a recap is needed, it can be heard. It is possible to select a part if required. Note because of copyright, the hymns have to be removed.

2 Outside world

What do we wish other people to see of our church life?

Do we wish people to be able to find out about our faith and services?

- There is a page introducing Methodism, and a page for each type of service such as weddings, funerals etc explaining our church's practices.
- There is a complete list of 'social'; groups – groups who use our buildings – each group is invited to have a page built showing what they wish to publicise.
- There is a planner showing when the building is in use
- There is a description of each of the rooms available for hire

I have built the site based on the old site adding and amending where things have changed, but if we wish our web site to be useful and informative and up to date, we need comments, suggestions and information from our congregation.

So if you wish the web site to continue, it needs the nourishment of contributions.

Please at least look at it and make comments – do not be afraid of technology – I can look after that, but we do need everyone's help if it is to be useful and meaningful.

There is a link to send an email to me on the web site "Send email to Admin" – it will start up your own email program and fill in the "to" line.

For Info: It is costing the church nothing in cash terms – the web site is on one of my computers in my home, so no fees are required. **Chas.**