



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST  
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



**Minister: Rev Steve Levett. 575017.**

**Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.**

**Church Website: [www.brommethcentre.org.uk](http://www.brommethcentre.org.uk)**

**Circuit Website: [www.brmethodists.co.uk](http://www.brmethodists.co.uk)**

***Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and  
Sharing God's love in the wider community***

**PRAYER:** Longing for you, O Lord, we are crowned with love. Seeing you we are filled with joy. Resting in you we do not stumble. Persevering with you we enter your presence. *Persian Christian Martyrs (c. 344).*

**BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> July. 2023.**

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

this week: All Saints, Bromsgrove – Rev David Ford.

**THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:** Open every Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Plus 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month from 10am till 12noon.

**The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July. 2023.**

**Services on Sunday 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2023.**

**9.00am: Holy Communion led by Rev Steve Levett.**

**10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr John Webb.**

**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 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

**10.30am: Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Bidnell.**

**6.00pm: Circuit Service led by Rev Steve Levett.**

**THANK YOU:** John & Teresa thank everyone for their kind wishes and beautiful flowers following Teras's accident. She is now making good progress and looks forward to being out and about again soon. *John Wyatt.*

**MESSAGE FROM CTiB:** Bromsgrove Baptist Church are holding a day of prayer on Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup> from 10am – 2pm and everyone is welcome to join for a time focused on intercessory prayer. We will be praying for many things, but will have a particular emphasis on the war in Ukraine, for renewal in Bromsgrove and also

our own church profile and search process as we are currently in a period of pastoral vacancy. If there are any prayer resources you would like to bring along, feel free! We are hoping to have a time of worship as well. We are also holding a 'Messy Church' event on 15<sup>th</sup> July from 10am which is suitable for children with their parents/carers.

**CHURCH COUNCIL:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> June, email to [pam\\_gale@live.co.uk](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

**MWiB SUMMER EVENT:** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2.30 – 4.30pm at St Andrew's Methodist Church, Redditch, B98 9AA. Refreshments, Bring and But Stall, Tombola, Garden Games. Donations invited for MWiB Charities. Everybody Welcome. *Janet Henderson.*

**SUMMER CRAFT FAIR:** On July 1<sup>st</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.*

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – 1 Thessalonians 5 v 18 – *Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.***

**REFLECTION:** – As in many instances in scripture this verse contains 3 aspects of our faith.

Other examples come to mind – Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God: love, joy peace: way, truth and life: and the trinity Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is thought that ideas were expressed in this way by early scholars, when scriptures were read out to congregations who were largely unable to read or write, as groups of three aid the learning process.

However, we are today exhorted to be joyful, pray and give thanks. But they are qualified, in that we are to be joyful always, to pray continually, and perhaps the hardest, to give thanks in all circumstances.

We often struggle to find joy in life, when things are going adversely, when worried about the future, health problems, or relationships. We may ask what is joy? The Oxford dictionary defines it as pleasure or gladness. In our context it is pleasure or gladness in the relationship we have in God through Jesus. It is a realisation and acknowledgment, I think, of what we owe to God, as Creator, Redeemer, Sovereign, and for the abundant life which our faith gives us. Why should we not be joyful when we contemplate that despite everything God loves us to the very utmost!

We are called upon to pray, not just the odd prayer when we are in trouble, but to pray continually – another scripture puts it to “pray without ceasing”. What is prayer but heartfelt conversation with God. One is reminded of Rabbi Lionel Blue, I think it was, who had a daily radio slot entitled “Just a minute, Lord?” in which he offered topical and relevant short (arrow) prayers on behalf of the listeners. Many are daunted by the prospect of regular prayer, but it is merely in its simplest form talking to God. God talks back to us, not in an audible voice perhaps, but through circumstances, through scripture, through conversation with others, and it is said God answers, “Yes”, “No”, or “Wait”. The latter is often the way forward in situations, and we remember to say “Your will be done”

When circumstances are difficult it is very hard to give thanks to God; then it is perhaps that we dig deep spiritually to find the blessing out of adversity; then it is that Jesus’ words come to mind “I will be with you always, don’t be afraid.” We have no excuse not to praise God though and to thank him for the good things in

our lives and in the lives of others whom we know. We should not take blessings for granted, for all that we have or are is due to God's enabling grace and mercy at work in our lives. Every blessing, *John*.

**FORUM:** The deadline date for contributions to the August/September magazine will be **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**. Please send items to me at [les.jim42@btinternet.com](mailto:les.jim42@btinternet.com) or, if written, items leave in the FORUM folder in the Church Office.

Thanks. *Jim Buchanan*.

**Suggested Readings Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> July. (Sent by the Father)**

Sun 02.	Matthew 10:40-42.	StF 695	Psalm 89:1-18.	Open.
Mon 03*.	John 20:24-29.	StF 316	Psalm 31:1-6.	Share.
Tue 04.	John 4:27-42.	StF 457	Psalm 65.	Notice.
Wed 05.	John 4:43-54.	StF 336	Psalm 66:1-12.	Care.
Thu 06.	John 5:1-18.	StF 466	Psalm 67.	Learn.
Fri 07.	John 5:19-29.	StF 364	Psalm 26.	Tell.
Sat 08.	John 5:30-47.	StF 55	Psalm 27.	Pray.

*\*Thomas, Apostle.*

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