



**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: Forgive us, Lord, when we listen, but do not hear; when we look, but do not see; and when we feel, and do not act. Draw us by your grace into the righteous deeds of your kingdom and your reign of justice and peace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Maria Hare (1798-1870)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 13th August 2023.

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

this week: CTiB – All members of the teams.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP: The Coffee Shop is now closed for the summer break and re-opens on Saturday 2nd September.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 20th August. 2023.

Services on Sunday 13th August 2023.

9.00am: Holy Communion led by Rev Steve Levett.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Ian Athey.

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 20th August 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship – Local Arrangement.

6.00pm: Holy Communion led by Rev Brian Mason.

VAL REES: With sadness we have to announce that Val passed away peacefully last Saturday evening at the nursing home in Leeds to which she moved recently. The family have advised that Val's funeral will be held at St. Michael's, Stoke Prior. Full details to follow.

SAFEGUARDING: The next session will be on Saturday 2nd September at Lickey End Methodist Church 9am till 12noon. This is the last one until further notice. Please see Laura Hodges.

HOUSEGROUP – GRASPING AT FAITH WHILST EXPERIENCING A HEARING LOSS

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Yes...there are a lot of us! Communication is hard work. We spend our time guessing and smiling and hoping that we will make sense of it in the end.

SHARING is the essence of our relationship with our fellow Christians so please feel welcome to participate fully in a SPACE that will endeavour to meet all our needs. *Pat Booth* TEXT or phone 07966370448

BROMSGROVE & REDDITCH WELCOME REFUGEES: Bromsgrove picnic at Sanders Park on Saturday August 19th August @ 1.30pm. Meeting near the bandstand. Hope to see you there.

CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE: Sunday 3rd September at Studley at 4pm to welcome Rev Peter Powers. Please note this will be live streamed and details will be sent out closer to the event.

“Farewell (Not quite)

This Sunday, Rev Steve will conduct his final service as our Minister. He will then take a well-earned holiday before he continues in the role as Superintendent Minister in the Circuit from 1st September. I am sure we shall all remember his ministry here with fondness and gratitude in helping us grow in Christian discipleship, service and mission. We shall continue to see Rev Steve from time to time and of course wish him and his family well as they get used to the new arrangement. At some time in the future there will be an opportunity to show our appreciation to Rev Steve in a more tangible and fitting way. Terry

Message from Rev Ruth

Please find attached a poster which is self-explanatory.

Wednesday 16th August at 6pm a simple act of worship in the woods - taking time to breathe.

The worship itself will be around 35 minutes, with time to chat and wander.

Please will you let people in your congregations know about this?

Many thanks. Ruth.



Churches Together in Bromsgrove

Dear All,

Please see the note below from Nicola regarding Prayers for Bromsgrove on the Monday 14th August. The date of 11th September is also mentioned when the time of prayer will centre on the work of Street Pastors in Bromsgrove, to which all Street and Prayer Pastors are invited to join and seek God's purposes together. Terry.

“Thanks to everyone who joined for prayers at St Andrew's/Charford last month and braved the elements!

Next Monday, we'll meet at the Whitford Road end of Sanders Park and walk up the hill to pray over the town – and especially the new housing developments: 14th August **at 7.30pm – note earlier time.**

For our September meeting on Monday 11th, we are holding a joint prayer time together with Bromsgrove Street Pastors at the usual time of 7.45 for 8pm back at the Baptist Church. The focus will be on discerning the way forward for Street Pastors and hearing a report back from the Working Party. If you can't be there,

please pass on to me your thoughts/what you think the Lord is saying – to guide us in making decisions about this important ministry – one of the few joint church projects in Bromsgrove!

Enjoy what's left of the 'summer'! Iain & Nicola Martin.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – THANKS FOR FRIENDS:

One of the great blessings is to have a good and close friend, and if one is fortunate enough to have several, then that is something to be really grateful for.

At different stages in life we have friends – at school, at university, in the armed services, at work, in early retirement, and later in life. Sometimes we are especially privileged to have a life-long friend, someone whom we have known for as long as we can remember, and that relationship is special because it has never lapsed, through time and distance, and one makes special effort to maintain it. Such a friend Jean and I have, with whom Jean went to school and they met each other when Jean changed schools- over 70 years ago. We (she, her husband and both of us) have shared happy times and not so happy, whose children have grown up simultaneously with ours and we have attended their weddings. We have had multiple holidays together both at home and abroad. We have another couple, with whom we have been friends for fifty-plus years, and our children shared holidays.

Such long-term relationships are good because you have much in common, and when you eventually meet up after a time, because geographical or health problems have prevented getting together, then it is that you carry on conversation, almost where you last left off.

It is a proven fact that for good health one needs company of others, and to just talk, about anything and everything – what we call “putting the world to rights!” That is why clubs and associations, public houses and churches are good, because they enable caring and sharing and no one should be alone or lonely for too long. Befriending whether in person or by telephone is an important way of combating loneliness.

These days people don't tend to mix with their neighbours and indeed it is often the case that we don't know those who live around us at all.

Friendships begin often with a “Hello, how are you?” That is all it takes to make a conversation, then mutual introductions follow, and the next time you see each other, it may go further, and before long acquaintances become good neighbours, who in turn become friends over a shared coffee or a meal.

It is difficult to make friends as one gets older, because of fewer opportunities, perhaps not working, or not getting out as much. Another aspect is that it is the nature of aging that we also lose long term friends.

So let us appreciate and value every friendship, and avoid taking others for granted, and If appropriate tell them how much they mean to us.

After all, God has called us into a relationship with the Creator, Saviour, Friend, Jesus, Who offers us a special relationship with Him, and our relationships with others are, or should be, a reflection of the love within which we are held. As the hymnwriter says in StF 619 let's give "Thanks for friends who keep on loving".

Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 13th August. (Servant of All)

Sun 13.	Matthew 14:22-33.	StF 355	Psalm 85.	Pray.
Mon 14.	John 12:12-19.	StF 263	Psalm 99.	Worship.
Tue 15*.	Galatians 4:4-7.	StF 120	Psalm 45.	Notice.
Wed 16.	John 12:20-26.	StF 306	Psalm 150.	Flourish.
Thu 17.	John 12:27-36a.	StF 397	Psalm 102:1-11.	Pray.
Fri 18.	John 13:1-11.	StF 499	Psalm 102:12-28.	Serve.
Sat 19.	John 13:12-20.	StF 101	Psalm 103.	Care.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary.*

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