



**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: Loving living God, help us today as we practice our love for our neighbour. Help us to see that all we are and do is embodied in your simple commands to love you and those around us. Give us your perspective of this wonderful planet and all its peoples, so no life is seen as less than another's. By your gracious Spirit may the love of Christ Jesus be known, shown and grown. **Amen.** *Stephen Lindridge, Newcastle upon Tyne District Chair.*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 20th August 2023.

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

this week: Holy Trinity & Saint Mary, Dodford and Christ Church, Catshill – Rev Beverly Robertson.

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 27th August. 2023.

Services on Sunday 20th August 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship – Local Arrangement.

6.00pm: Holy Communion led by Rev Brian Mason.

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 27th August 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Terry Bill.

THANK YOU: Jill and Eddie Palmer say thank you for the lovely flowers given to us last Sunday. Eddie really appreciates contact with the church and speaks often about the years when he cut the grass and weeded the garden (and picked up the litter). *Jill Palmer.*

PORTABLE APPLIANCE TEST: It is a legal requirement for all portable electrical appliances to be checked regularly to ensure they are safe for use. Mike Ford has

performed this task annually for many years. Sadly, he now feels it is time to pass this on to someone else. If you or someone you know is able to take this on please contact Terry Clarke, Sheils Sharman or Mike Ford. Professional training in PAT testing is available and can be provided. Ideally, Mike would like someone to 'shadow' him this year with a view to taking it on next year. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

MESSAGE FROM SALLY MEREDITH: Thank you to those who gave their views on the possibility of a new group starting up on Thursdays at the Centre. There were 2 clear favourites – A Dementia Support Group and a film club. We have decided to look into both of these suggestions, but to start with the Dementia cafe.

With this in mind I would like to hold a meeting for anyone interested in helping in some way with this new venture. The meeting will be at church on Monday 21st August at 2pm. If you would like to help, but are unable to attend then please contact me at churchcommunityandoutreach@gmail.com or leave a message on 07884191101. This is something that will be very valuable to the community, but it will take a number of volunteers to get this up and running so please give prayerful thought to whether this is something that you can support. Come to the meeting and find out more. *Sally Meredith – Church community and outreach worker.*

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Please note the change of date – the autumn Church Council Meeting will take place in Room 6 on Wednesday 11th October at 7.30pm. Thank you. *Pam Gale.*

REMINDER – VAL REES FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: We have received the following information from Val's family in Leeds. We will have the cremation at Lawnswood Crematorium here in Leeds, at 3.15pm on Wednesday 30th August. The short service will be available online: Website: <https://watch.obitus.com>. Username: Keso4715. Password: 498991.

On Friday 8th September we will celebrate Val's life in two places which meant so much to her. There will be a memorial service at 3pm at St Micheal's Church, Stoke Prior and we will gather afterwards in the main hall at Avoncroft Arts Centre, on Redditch Road, B60 4JR.

In accordance with Val's wishes, we are inviting donations for St Micheal's Church in lieu of flowers. You are of course most welcome to join us on any or all of these occasions: please don't feel you have to dress in sombre clothing, this is after all a celebration of a life well-lived.

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.

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.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – PSALM 103 verses 1- 5 (part) NIV.

Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name....and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins ... crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things.....

REFLECTION - This part of a psalm by David, who is credited with over 70 of the 150 psalms, calls on us to praise or rejoice in God's goodness. It goes on to name three very important aspects of our relationship with our Lord. He forgives our sins, gives us love and compassion, and satisfies our wants with good things. Taking these three aspects of God's care for his children in turn - a short look at forgiveness.

It is God's gracious gift to us that we are forgiven when we say sorry for our human frailties, and determine with spiritual help to live better lives. God doesn't just forget, according to scripture, he puts our sins behind us, as far as the east is from the west, and even though our sins be as scarlet they shall be white as snow. Forgiveness comes as a condition of our treatment of others, because we pray "forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us." How can we accept God's forgiveness yet refuse to forgive others ?

God crowns us with love and compassion. Crowning involves anointing or elevating us to a special status, it is a symbolic way of saying that we are recognised by God as special in his sight, and in his gracious mercy he gives us his love and his caring; and "compassion" which is care in action. David would have used this phraseology recalling his own anointing by Samuel before he became king of Israel.

We have to remember always that our relationship with God enables us to trust him as provider, sustainer, the one who watches over us, our going out and our coming in and because he knows all about us,(ps. 139), he knows what is best for us and meets our wants (desires) in accord with his will for us, giving us "good things".

Let us acknowledge that all that we have and are comes about through God's love for us, so that with David we can truly say "Praise the Lord, O my soul." Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 20th August. (One True Foundation)

Sun 20.	Matthew 15:21-28.	StF 438	Psalm 67.	Challenge.
Mon 21.	John 13:21-30.	StF 531	Psalm 104:1-23.	Learn.
Tue 22.	John 13:31-38.	StF 685	Psalm 104:24-35.	Notice.
Wed 23.	John 14:1-14.	StF 303	Psalm 105:1-11.	Pray.
Thu 24*.	Luke 22:24-30.	StF 623	Psalm 145.	Challenge.
Fri 25.	John 14:15-17.	StF 373	Psalm 107:1-16.	Live.
Sat 26.	John 14:18-31.	StF 378	Psalm 107:17-32.	Notice.

**Bartholomew, Apostle.*

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