



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: Let our souls rejoice in your power, O God, and our hearts in your love.
As our mouths are filled with your praise, may our lives testify to your grace.

Amen. Sarah Crosby, Methodist Preacher (1729-1804).

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 27th August 2023.

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

this week: NewSong Community Church – Graham & Nicola Bayley.

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 3rd September. 2023.

Service on Sunday 27th August 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Terry Bill.

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 3rd September 2023.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Di Ross.

PORTABLE APPLIANCE TEST: I am pleased to announce that Jason Thurston has
volunteered to take over the portable appliance testing when Mike Ford 'retires'.
We thank you Mike for doing this job for so many years, working behind the
scenes without most of us realising how many hours you have put in – thank you.
Enjoy your retirement! *Sheila Sharman.*

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 follow-
ing information from Val's family in Leeds. We will have the cremation at Lawns-
wood 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.

Circuit Welcome Service for Rev. Peter Powers:

Message from **Anne Batchelor – Church & Community Outreach Worker Studley Methodist Church** ccwstudley@outlook.com

On Sunday 3rd September at 4.00 pm, Rev. Peter Powers will be welcomed to the Circuit at Studley Methodist Church. After the service Studley Methodist Church will be providing tea and coffee, it would be good if we could have a selection of cakes, they need not be homemade (of course if they are, even better!), so that we can have a simple time of fellowship and an opportunity to meet Peter. It would be helpful if you could let me know by next Friday 1st September if your Church is able to provide 1 or 2 cakes.

Many thanks, Blessings Anne.

I understand that the service will be live streamed. However, if anyone would like to attend at Studley and would like a lift, or has a vehicle with spare seats and can offer a lift, please let Terry know, (tel. 832955) who will do his best to match up. Terry

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - *Philippians 3 verses 12 – 14 (part)* - PRESSING ON-WARDS

“Not that I have alreadybeen made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.....Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me, heavenwards in Christ Jesus.”

COMMENT –

Paul the apostle is writing to the church he helped establish in Philippi, encouraging them in their newfound faith in Jesus, and offering advice on how to stand firm in their beliefs, because there was much opposition to the gospel in the days of the early church, and Paul gave them instruction in how to conduct themselves and how to maintain their witness in a hostile environment. Paul has been giving his testimony as to how he has served Christ and now he says with a bit of humility that he is not yet perfect.

None of us is perfect, either, and the words above are an encouragement, almost in a sporting sense, to strain our utmost to achieve approval in God's eyes, to keep our eyes on the prize.

We have just seen the Women's FIFA World Cup, and the prize was hard fought for, and we all applaud the hard team work put in by our own Lionesses. Now we have the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, where the best athletes in the world are competing, and each of them has their eye on the prize, a medal for their country, and to prove to themselves that they are the best at what they do.

As Christians, of all ages, we have to keep pressing on, not being tied to what has happened in the past, but looking positively to the future. We too have to show ourselves, like a good athlete, to be the best we can for God, in whatever we undertake for the gospel.

Another point is that in the same way as success in sport is down to team effort, with each person knowing their position and task, so in the Christian community and church setting, we try to work as a team, upholding, respecting, helping and supporting each other, using the gifts, skills, talents and graces which God has given to each of us.

With Paul, we can say, as individuals disciples, that Christ has taken hold of each of us, and will never let us go, as we labour (press) on for him, keeping our eye on the prize of life eternal, which is ours when our heavenward journey is complete. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 27th August. (The Work of the Spirit)

Sun 27.	Matthew 16:13-20.	StF 353	Psalm 138.	Challenge.
Mon 28.	John 15:1-6.	StF 389	Psalm 107:33-43.	Flourish.
Tue 29*.	Matthew 14:1-12.	StF 732	Psalm 126.	Learn.
Wed 30.	John 15:7-11.	StF 627	Psalm 110.	Pray.
Thu 31.	John 15:12-17.	StF 671	Psalm 111.	Serve.
Fri 01.	John 15:18-25.	StF 634	Psalm 112.	Live.
Sat 02.	John 15:26-27.	StF 400	Psalm 113.	Share.

**Beheading of John the Baptist.*

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