



# BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.



Minister: Rev Peter Powers. 07941 328155.

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:** Blessed by God's great name to all eternity. Blessed, praised, honoured, exalted, extolled, glorified and adored be the name of the Holy Blessed one. Blessed be God beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort. **Amen.** *From the Jewish Kadish (c. 1000)*

## BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> May 2024.

### THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:

The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours: 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 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024 .

Services on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

9.00 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Bidnell.

10.30am: Morning Worship – Local Arrangement.

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.*

**GIVING BY INTERNET BANKING:** If you prefer to donate to the Church via Internet Banking the bank details are as follows: - **Sort Code: 40-15-07. Account number: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Collection.** For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Reference: Charities.** **UK Tax payers please consider Gift Aid and complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration** available at the back of the Church. Completed declarations please to Eleanor Wright – Gift Aid Secretary, one of the Stewards or myself. Thank you.  
*Sheila Sharman.*

Service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

10.30 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Peter Powers.

**THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY** begins on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 10am for ANYONE struggling with the effects of grief. It is a free 6 week course to learn more about the process of grief, to share experiences, discover ways to cope with typical symptoms of grief and to meet likeminded people to give and receive support and Friendship. *Sally Merideth, Church Community and Outreach Worker. [Tel:07884191101](tel:07884191101). Email: [churchcommunityaanoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:churchcommunityaanoutreach@gmail.com)*

**A UKRAINIAN CAFÉ** will open up again for 2 more sessions on 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May at the Welcome Café. 2 of our Ukrainian friends will be giving us a taste of Ukrainian cuisine between 10.30 and 1.30. these are trial sessions to see if it could be something held on a more regular basis. Please come and support Inna and Svetlana in this enterprise. *Sally Meridith.*

**THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE** for the life of Anne Brooks will be held in the church on Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1.00pm, led by Rev Peter. Ann and her late husband George, were members of this church for many years. To accommodate this service, the coffee shop will close at 12 noon. *Terry Clark.*

**THANK YOU:** Thank you for the flowers I received on Sunday for my Birthday. They are still beautiful. *Lesley Buchanan.*

**SUMMER CRAFT FAIR:** I am arranging the Summer Craft Fair again and would like to hear from the 'regular' stall holders whether they are willing to do the same again this time. If anyone would like to help on a stall I would very much like to hear from you too. *Janet Millward.*

**FORUM:** The next edition of FORUM will cover the months of June/July with deadline for submission of items being Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May (not as stated in the last FORUM). Please email your contributions to me at [les.jim42@btinternet.com](mailto:les.jim42@btinternet.com) or leave any written items in the FORUM file in the Church office. *Jim Buchanan*

**HOT LUNCH AND NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF MWiB:** Those who attended last year's lunch at Catshill remember it as a very enjoyable occasion. This year Bromsgrove and Redditch Circuit MWiB committee warmly invite you to join us at Bromsgrove Methodist Centre, on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May from 12.00 noon. Booking essential for catering purposes – please give your name to Janet Henderson or Irene Rhead, or sign up on the list in the foyer by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May. "Come and discover a bit more about MWiB.

**DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH:** An advanced notice to those in our community who wish to experience what a Dementia Friendly Worship could look like. Lichfield Cathedral have hosted a service of Songs of Praise which will be broadcast on 12<sup>th</sup> May.

**YAMAHA PORTATONE:** A Yamaha Portatone PSR-6 portable keyboard has been found in the storeroom. Does anyone know who this belongs to? Please contact Maurice Preece.

**MWiB (METHODIST WOMEN IN Britain) SPRING MEETING:**

May 18<sup>th</sup> – ***THE CONNEXIONAL SPRING GARDEN PARTY*** to be held at the Rectory at Epworth.

We hope to be able to arrange minibus transport depending on sufficient numbers. Please contact Robert (07803 597081) or Carole (07808 071134) for further details and to reserve your seat – ALL are invited. *Carole and Robert Trigger.*

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – ISAIAH chap. 40 verse 31**

***“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”***

**REFLECTION:**

This verse of scripture contains some wonderful promises.

Our own strength often lets us down. We become weary with life's problems; we struggle on, perhaps forgetting that God KNOWS our problems and difficulties. We need at such times to rest in God; After all Jesus promised that those who “come to me” will receive rest; because when he walked the earth he faced all the problems we can expect – and more.

One of the greatest gifts God gives us is hope. Hope for an improvement in our situation, hope for better relationships, hope for better health, hope for a trusting heart.

God will not give us more than we can handle. For today, tomorrow and for the rest of our lives God is there for us. We believe our close friends are “there” for us. Why do we sometimes find it so hard to believe God is also there for us? Surely, when we recall past blessings, we have reason to believe God will not abandon us in our need.

Such faith and trust enables us to rise above problems which otherwise drag us down - and to keep a sense of proportion. The text puts it poetically that with sufficient hope or trust, we can even “soar on wings like eagles” i.e. be care-free,

because we have shared our problems with God, whose presence is always with us.

With strength which God provides we can reach our goal or goals without tiring or becoming faint.

It reminds one of the marathon runner, who completes the course, because they have trained and prepared for what conditions may throw at them. Life is not a sprint, but a marathon and sometimes we appear to be running through it, other times at a walking pace. But by keeping pace with God, and regular spiritual top-ups, we can deal with the storms of life, like the runner who replenishes their liquid intake and completes the course, so we can avoid becoming faint or weary. With God's loving help we can then. to quote the apostle Paul "run the race set before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus". Every blessing, *John*.

### **Suggested Readings Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> May. (Repentance and Return)**

<b>Sun 05.</b>	<b>John 15:9=17.</b>	<b>StF 400</b>	<b>Psalm 98.</b>	<b>Live.</b>
<b>Mon 06.</b>	<b>Amos 1:1-15.</b>	<b>StF 700</b>	<b>Psalm 126.</b>	<b>Challenge.</b>
<b>Tue 07.</b>	<b>Amos 2:1-16.</b>	<b>StF 720</b>	<b>Psalm 127.</b>	<b>Flourish.</b>
<b>Wed 08.</b>	<b>Amos 3:1-15.</b>	<b>StF 718</b>	<b>Psalm 116.</b>	<b>Learn.</b>
<b>Thu 09*.</b>	<b>Acts 2:1-18.</b>	<b>StF 300</b>	<b>Psalm 47.</b>	<b>Worship.</b>
<b>Fri 10.</b>	<b>Amos 4:1-13.</b>	<b>StF 716</b>	<b>Psalm 131.</b>	<b>Challenge.</b>
<b>Sat 11.</b>	<b>Amos 5:1-17.</b>	<b>StF 715</b>	<b>Psalm 132.</b>	<b>Tell.</b>

*\*Ascension Day.*

**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.**