



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



Minister 07464 295843

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 01527 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: Dwell within us, O God, as we go about our work in quietness and peace; rejoice with us in the work you have given us to do; bless us in the love you have called us to share, and be present in the message you have summoned us to speak. **Amen.** *Isabella Gilmore, Pioneer Anglican deaconess (1842-1923)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 17th November 2024.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP:

The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Plus 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 10am until 12 noon.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 24th November 2024.

Services on Sunday 17th November 2024.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

3.30 pm: Memorial Service led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: Anyone who wishes to remember someone is most welcome to attend. It will be a short service followed by simple refreshments and silver stars will be available on which messages of remembrance may be written, and later they will be used to decorate our Christmas tree.

Services on Sunday 24th November.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Beth Haden.

6.00 pm: Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Bidnell.

GILL PRICE: We are sorry to announce that Gill Price has passed away after a long illness. Gill was a long-standing and active member of the Church. Funeral arrangements will be announced later. *Lynne and Lizzie Dovey.*

AMAZING NEWS: This Donation Day Bromsgrove Methodist Church has been paid £32.55. Thank you to everyone who supports us through #easyfundraising - you're incredible! Want to get involved? Sign up for free and turn your Black Fri-

day, Christmas and all other online shopping at over 8,000 retailers into free donations for our cause! **Sign up now:** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bromsgrovemethodist> *Jim Buchanan.*

BEL CANTO SINGERS would like to invite you to join us for our Christmas concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 7th December. The venue is Routh Hall, Bromsgrove School and tickets are £8 each, concessions for children. Our charity this year is Find Your Voice (Parkinsons UK). Tickets are available from Kath Goddard on 07958 238334. Hoping to see you there. *Veronica Porter.*

CROSSLINKS TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING SERVICE – VOLUNTEERS:

Crosslinks Befriending service is looking for more volunteers to supplement our team. We currently have a number of pending clients who await someone to offer telephone befriending.

Our clients tend to be people of all ages who are usually lonely because of their personal circumstances and are requiring social inter-action.

Volunteers are ideally good listeners, able to offer a few minutes a week or fortnightly to offer friendship and a connection to the outside world for people who are often housebound or isolated. Referrals come from various agencies in Worcestershire.

Volunteers are required to be DBS vetted because of the vulnerability of the clients. If you feel this is for you, please contact the Co-ordinator, Sue Butler by email to bromsgrovebefriending@gmail.com for more details.

REGENTS COURTCHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE: Tuesday 10th December at 3.15pm. It would be lovely if a few singers felt able to join us to help with the singing. Please let Deacon Gwynn know. *Deacon Gwynn Bamford.*

FILM NIGHT: The money raised for Church funds on 26th October was **£130** [after expenses]. Thank you to everyone who attended and donated so generously. The next Film Night will be on **Saturday November 16th with the film starting at 6.30pm.** Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be served beforehand. The movie will be **“The Lady in the Van”** starring Dame Maggie Smith who passed away recently after a wonderful career. As usual entry will be by donation.

FORUM: The deadline for items to be included in the December/January magazine is **Sunday 17th November.** Please send your contributions to me at

les.jim42@btinternet.com or leave hard copy in the FORUM folder in the Church office.

MISSING STAPLER: Some months ago Ken Brown reported that one of the large staplers was missing from the Church office....it is still missing! If anyone knows of the whereabouts of the stapler, please let me know. *Jim Buchanan.*

ROOM 6: When using Room 6 kindly stack the chairs along the wall without windows, please do not stack them around the cupboard and the coat rail, these are in use and need to be accessible. Thank you. Plans for the refurbishment of the toilet by Room 6 have been approved and hopefully work will commence very soon. Consideration is being given to the replacement of the tables in Room 6. If you are a regular user of Room 6 and the oblong tables please let me know if you have a preference for round, square, or oblong tables and the seating capacity. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

FOYER TOILETS: Thank you for your suggestions and comments. Plan B is the preferred option with a few amendments. Paper towels in place of Handdryers, the existing door to the ladies toilets to be removed, one of the two separate hand basins to be lower for children and wheelchair users, and one smaller toilet suitable for toddlers. We are now seeking quotations for this work. I hope we have met your suggestions. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

LIVING THE QUESTIONS: The next meeting is on Friday November 22nd at 37, The Flats at 20.30 pm. Open to anyone interested. *Alan Bidnell.*

NEIGHBOURHOOD MATTERS: Another "Drop in" Surgery has been arranged by the local police for Members of the Public to share concerns and receive crime prevention advice. This will be in the Coffee Shop on Tuesday 14th November 10.30am-11.30am. *Terry.*

A CHRISTMAS FANTASY: Message from Rob Turner who sings with the Midland Hospitals choir and the Phoenix Singers performing "A Christmas Fantasy" The concert will be held at Birmingham Town Hall on Sunday 8th December at 4.30pm. Tickets are available from Sally Powell 07870 196061 without the usual booking fee, if you are interested. *Terry.*

CHURCH OFFICE: Welcome to Ruth Henley who is the volunteer we have been waiting for. Ruth will take over the Office duties early in the New Year as she is very busy with her choir commitments in the run up to Christmas. *Ken Brown.*

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.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK –*John 15 v. 11*

“I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.”

COMMENT:

Jesus concludes his parable about the Vine and the Branches with these words. He has spoken about abiding (living) in God and allowing the spirit of God to abide in us by faith, so that we can be fruitful in his service, bring glory to his name and be a blessing to others.

When we have this special relationship with our Creator/Redeemer God, we have cause for rejoicing.

We are not very good at rejoicing, I think. We are prone to be a bit matter-of-fact about life. We take on the mundane day to day things, coping with all that life throws at us- “life’s rich tapestry” if you like.

As Jesus says, it is good to take time to recognise the joy in life, things that make us happy, that make us smile. Joy should be “complete,” and when we take time to recount all the good things in our lives, our hearts sing, our souls are uplifted, our whole demeanour can change, because God abides in us and we in him. Of course we have difficult, even painful, times, but we believe that then God is especially near to us. So let us be joyful – we have so much to celebrate, as individuals and as a fellowship of believers. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 17th November. (Signs of the Kingdom)

Sun 17.	Mark 13:1-8.	StF 244	Psalm 14.	Challenge.
Mon 18.	Mark 7:24-30.	StF 599	Psalm 37:1-11.	Open.
Tue 19.	Mark 7:31-37.	StF 364	Psalm 37:12-29.	Tell.
Wed 20.	Mark 8:1-10.	StF 255	Psalm 37:30-40.	Serve.
Thu 21.	Mark 8:11-13.	StF 240	Psalm 38:1-8.	Notice.
Fri 22.	Mark 8:14-26.	StF 248	Psalm 38:9-22.	Challenge.
Sat 23.	Mark :27-9:1.	StF 338	Psalm 40:1-10.	Learn.

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