



**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: Br fruitful within us, O God and fill our words with your love, our lives with your glory, and our labour with your blessing. **Amen.** *Ann Gilbert, Cornish Methodist preacher (c. 1735-1790)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 27th 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 24th November 2024.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Mrs Beth Haden.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

6.00 pm: Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Bidnell.

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THANKSGIVING SERVICE for Gill Price will be at Bromsgrove Methodist Church on Monday 9th December at 2.00pm. *Deacon Janet Thomas.*

CIRCUIT SERVICE ADVENT SUNDAY: 1st December at 4.00pm. (Please see attached flyer).

PLEA FROM THE TREASURER: No I am not asking for more money at the moment! I am asking for help with the identification of monies paid into the bank account. **4th March £32.00 in cash and 18th June £141.00 in cash.** If you know anything about these two amounts please let me know. Many thanks. *Sheila Sharman.*

ADVENT STUDY MEETINGS: I am leading 2 advent study meetings at Blackwell Community Hall on Wednesday 4th and 11th December at 7.45pm. I will be using

the Methodist church's advent source "Hush the noise, join the love song this Christmas". Please come along and join in. *Janet Millward*.

CHRISTMAS POST 2024: The Centre's post box will be available from Sunday 1st December. On Sundays it will be in the foyer and during the week in the Office. Please post early if you can! The last day for posting is Sunday 15th December, to give time for people to collect their cards before Christmas. As always, the post is run for the benefit of Action for Children and donations will be gratefully received. If you aren't sending cards you may like to make a donation instead. *Janet and Brian Henderson, Post Organisers*.

CTiB: Churches Together in Bromsgrove are having a carol singing session in the 'Iceland' precinct on Saturday 14th December from 10.30 – 11.15am. All are welcome to join in. (Please see attached Poster). Margaret Evans.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT HOUESMAN COURT: We have been asked if we can lead carol singing in a service of about 40 minutes duration. This has been arranged and the date is Tuesday 17th December. Anyone wishing to join in, please gather in the Church Foyer at 10.15am – the singing starts at 10.30am. Thank you in anticipation of your support, where several residents have said they look forward to what is always a happy occasion. We shall be taking the word sheets "Bethlehem Carols", so you won't have to sing from memory! Every blessing, *John Webb*.

HELP REQUIRED: Amongst the clothing items which Chris Roberts has for alteration are a pair of black ladies' trousers with a British Home stores label but without any information of ownership. If you are the owner please contact Chris as soon as possible to clarify the situation. Thank you.

FILM NIGHT: Despite the wet night we had a good turnout for the film show last Saturday. After expenses and allowing for Gift Aid donations amounted to £100 for Church funds. The next Film Night will be on **Saturday 7th December. The film will start at 6.30pm with refreshments available beforehand.** Please join us for an exciting and magical Christmas Eve ride on ***The Polar Express*** starring Tom Hanks. Entry by donation.

On the following **Saturday 14th December** we will be holding a **Quiz Night**. Tickets costing **£5 (including refreshments)** will be available from next Sunday 1st December from **Jim Buchanan (01527 833531)** or from the **Welcome Coffee Shop thereafter** .

HUB HAPPENINGS: Please see attached the first monthly edition of the Circuit “HUB HAPPENINGS”!

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 COURCHRISTMAS 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.*

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 num-**

ber: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Col-lection. For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Refer-ence: 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 – 1 JOHN 5 verses 14 & 15

“This is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him.”

COMMENT –

The words “according to his will” seem to be the qualifying phrase above. It is very easy to pray for things that are in our own interests, putting what we want before possibly what God wants of us in any given situation.

We pray for the planet earth and for the stewardship of humanity over it. We know God has put us in charge of all things in our eco - world (Genesis 1, 26-on), but at the same time we ravage it by over-fishing, plastic pollution, carbon gases, deforestation, and so on.

We pray for peace, yet continue to make and supply the weapons used to promote conflict.

We pray for equality, diversity and inclusion for all people irrespective of colour, creed, sexual orientation, social background; but we still see tremendous prejudice between groups and many inequalities still exist.

I suppose that at the end of the day we live in an imperfect world, and it is our duty as followers of Christ to pray for change for the better, and in our own individual ways, and as a church, seek to bring about (as John the author of the text uses the word in chap.4 over 20 times!) love in the lives of others, sharing the love of God, and bringing the gospel of hope, peace, justice and reconciliation to all.

Coupled with praying for the right things is the belief that God will hear and grant our requests; without such faith we are “like a branch wavering in the wind”.

So let us continue to boldly pray for others and situations, knowing God hears and trust that we have obtained what we ask, in accord with his sovereign will.

Every blessing, *John.*

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 24th November. (Dedicated to the Lord)

Sun 24*+.	John 18:33-37.	StF 319	Psalm 93.	Challenge.
Mon 25.	1 Samuel 1:1-20.	StF 56.	Psalm 41.	Care.

Tue 26.	1 Samuel 1:21-28.	StF 468	Psalm 42.	Tell.
Wed 27.	1 Samuel 2:1-10.	StF 60	Psalm 43.	Worship.
Thu 28.	1 Samuel 2:18-21.	StF 104	Psalm 51.	Live.
Fri 29.	1 Samuel 2:22-26.	StF 511	Psalm 46.	Learn.
Sat 30f.	John 1:35-42.	StF 660	Psalm 27.	Notice.

**Christ the King. +Women against Violence Sunday. f Andrew, Apostle.*

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