



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST  
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



**Minister 07464 295843**

**Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 01527 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:** Holy and gracious God, by way of creation, you have brought us into being. By the way of the cross, you have brought us into your kingdom. By way of the resurrection you have restored us to life. **Amen.** *Macrina, deaconess and teacher ((.329-379)*

**BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> December 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 until 12 noon.**

**The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December.2024.**

**Services on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. 2024.**

**10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Rev Richard Wilde. Church Anniversary.  
*Please join us for Coffee after the service.***

**4.00 pm: Circuit Service led by Rev Steve Levett/Rev Ruth Wilson.**

**Services on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December.**

**10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.**

**6.00 pm: Brigade Carol Service led by Rev Steve Levett.**

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at Bromsgrove Methodist Church from 10.30am – 12.30pm. Gifts, Cards and Bacon Butties and refreshments. *Terry Clarke.***

**THANK YOU:** Thanks to the Church family for the wonderful flowers delivered by John and Jean on Sunday. They are lovely and have pride of place. Love, *Win Bingham.*

**THANK YOU:** Many thanks for your good wishes and kind thoughts following my recent operation. I'm making a steady recovery and will hopefully be back on my feet in the near future. Your consideration is much appreciated. *Maurice Preece.*

**UPPER ROOM HOUSEGROUP:** Our next session is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December in Room 6 at 10.30am. THE FLOOR IS YOURS! Please bring along any topic you wish to discuss that concerns our Christian life. All welcome. *Pat Booth.*

**AS YOU MAY KNOW,** we have both recently had spells in Worcester Royal Hospital – Irene for an angiogram and surgery on an arm, John for food poisoning, very unpleasant. We are both home and taking life gently. Thank you to our Church family for your prayers and practical help – lifts to medical appointments etc. We will be picking up the threads of life again, but slowly! *Irene and John Rhead.*

**ADVENT APPEAL FOR MISSION IN BRITAIN FUND:** We will be handing out envelopes for the Mission in Britain Appeal in church as usual on the next two Sundays, to coincide with the first Sundays in Advent. There are many requests for money at this time of year, but anything you feel able to give will be very gratefully received. Donations will be used for the Methodist Church's work of spreading the good news of God's love in communities which may not have faith. Thank you. *Fran Westrop, Mission Committee.*

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE** for Gill Price will be at Bromsgrove Methodist Church on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm, following the service at Waseley Hills Crematorium at 1.00pm for family and close friends. *Deacon Janet Thomas.*

**ADVENT STUDY MEETINGS:** I am leading 2 advent study meetings at Blackwell Community Hall on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> December. Anyone wishing to loin 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> December** we will be holding a **Quiz Night**. Tickets costing **£5 (including refreshments)** will be available from next Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December from **Jim Buchanan (01527 833531)** or from the **Welcome Coffee Shop thereafter** .

**BEL CANTO SINGERS** would like to invite you to join us for our Christmas concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:bromsgrovebefriending@gmail.com) for more details.

**REGENTS COURT CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Psalm 42 verses 1 & 2**

***“As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.”***

**COMMENT:**

We are made in God’s image the scripture tells us (Genesis 1), and we are also told that sin mars that image. But God in his goodness makes us right with himself through the cross of Christ. When we are spiritually re-born through faith and the work of the Holy Spirit, we yearn or long for God, regularly. His influence in our life becomes our driving force, our motivation.

Although we can worship God anywhere, because the presence of God IS everywhere, we know we are meant to gather together, to meet as the body of Christ, to build up each other, to fellowship together, and share the means of grace – to pray, worship, sing, hear the word expounded, and partake of Holy Communion, So it is with grateful hearts we come today, the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the coming together of three churches to form the new Bromsgrove Methodist Church.

During Covid we lamented the inability to meet under the imposed restrictions. Fortunately we had the wonders of the Internet, to enable virtual worship. Now we are thankful that we can fulfil the longing expressed in the ancient psalm, and as our souls “long for the living God”, we can continue to be God’s people in this place, meeting, greeting one another in Christian love, and drink to the fill of God’s love poured out on thirsty souls. As Jesus said to the woman at the well, “The water that I give will well up to everlasting life. They who drink of me shall never thirst”.

We pray we shall continue for many more anniversaries to fellowship here, and to glorify God in service and loving praise. Every blessing, *John*.

**Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> December. (The Lord’s Anointed)**

Sun 01*.	Luke 21:25-36.	StF 172	Psalm 25:1-10.	Notice.
Mon 02.	1 Samuel 3:1-14.	StF 666.	Psalm 131.	Live.
Tue 03.	1 Samuel 3:15-4:1a.	StF 663	Psalm 132.	Tell.
Wed 04.	1 Samuel 8:4-9.	StF 682	Psalm 133.	Pray.
Thu 05.	1 Samuel 8:10-22.	StF 506	Psalm 134.	Challenge.
Fri 06.	1 Samuel 10:17-24.	StF 709	Psalm 135:1-7.	Notice.
Sat 07.	1 Samuel 16:1-13.	StF 395	Psalm 135:13-21.	Live.

*\*World AIDS 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.