



**BROMSGROVE METHODIST
CHURCH AND CENTRE.**



Minister: Rev Steve Levett. 575017.

Bromsgrove Methodist Centre: 835843.

Church Website: www.bromsgrovemethodist.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 your good spirit watch over us, O Lord, your love ever rule in our heart and your mercy and forgiveness ever keep us in body, mind, and soul. **Amen.** *John Wesley (1703-1791).*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 30th October 2022.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BROMSGROVE (CTiB) PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER: this week: - New Life Church
– John Cooke.

COFFEE SHOP open on Monday to Thursday 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 6th November 2022.

Service on Sunday 30th October.

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Rev Steve Levett. At this service, we welcome for baptism Edward Samuel Shakeshaft, his parents Sophie and Robin, family, and friends on this happy occasion. *Terry Clarke.*

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 6th November.

10.30am: Holy Communion led by Rev H Julia M Pellett.

IN MEMORIUM: Our thoughts and prayers are with Pam Harrison and family on the recent loss of husband Dan, after a long period of illness. *Terry Clarke.*

THANK YOU everyone who supported the Fashion Show. We would especially like to thank John, Terry, and Sue Ward. We raised £1261.00 so far. *Bromsgrove & Redditch Welcomes Refugees.*

A TRIPLE THANK YOU: Thanks to all who responded to recent charity appeals. Your gifts for Pakistan totalled £218.00 inclusive of Gift Aid. This was topped up from the Charity Fund to make a donation of £300.00. The goods contributed for the Basement at our Harvest Celebration have been taken to them and were very gratefully received. And finally, the Harvest Appeal for All We Can raised £262.90 inclusive of Gift Aid. All your donations are much appreciated. *Charity and Missions Committee.*

CONCERT: Sunday 6th November at 3pm at St. Andrew's Church, Barnt Green. John Newbold – Organ. Katie Leaver – Soprano & Piano, with Janna Mutton – Soprano. Including music by Vivaldi, Handel, Mozart, Rutter, Elgar, Offenbach, and Novello. Retiring collection in aid of Medic Malawi.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: I shall be organising a toiletries stall at the Christmas Fair. I would be grateful if you could save any unwanted toiletries and let me have them before November 25th Thank you in advance. *Jean Wall.*

REAR DOOR AND GATE TO THE MAIN CHURCH BUILDING: Following discussion at the Management Committee meeting it has been decided for security and safeguarding reasons the rear door and the gate will remain closed, until further notice. There are several emergency exits in the event of fire and other emergency. *John, Management Secretary.*

BROMSGROVE AND REDDITCH CIRCUIT MWiB: Dear friends, I hope you are all looking forward to meeting and hearing our new District Chair Rev Novette Headley at Bromsgrove on Saturday 29th October starting at 10.30am. This is a great opportunity for our circuit to host the MWiB Autumn District Day and so I'm hoping as many people will come along as possible. Every woman who comes to a Methodist Church is automatically part of MWiB (Methodist Women in Britain) so please don't think this day is not for you – everyone is welcome, gentlemen too. Please bring a packed lunch, drinks will be provided. Now the cheeky bit!! In order for

our circuit to be welcoming to the rest of the District, I'm asking each church if they could provide 2 or maybe 3 sliceable cakes to share with the refreshments. I do hope you'll all be there. Every blessing. *Jackie Hartrey*. to go ahead during the period of mourning for the Queen. *Lucy West, Circuit Administrator*.

EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST – ITS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN IN:

Evangelism... Wondering whether it's actually good news? Want to share your faith more but not sure how? Does the thought of evangelism make you anxious? Then **Everyone an Evangelist** is for you! **Everyone an Evangelist** is being facilitated by Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit, will take place over a period of about three months from mid-September, and involves three everyone together ninety-minute **Gatherings** interspersed by two six-week smaller group Phases, are detailed below. No need to book – just turn up. A Few folk from Bromsgrove have joined in with this initiative but it would be good to have a few more. The next significant opportunity is coming up with the SECOND GATHERING. Come and explore INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM.

GATHERING 1: INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM: Saturday 29th October – 10.00 – 11.30am. at The Bridge Church, Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch B97 4JX. REPEATED ON (you can attend either or) Monday 31st October 7.30 – 9.00pm at Studley Methodist Church, Alcester Road, Studley. *Rev Steve Levett*.

PANTOMIME: SLEEPING BEAUTY:

Is our minister in it? Oh yes he is! Once more our minister Rev Steve Levett will be taking part in pantomime this year, again reprising his role as The Dame. If you would like to see this embarrassing spectacle (and a good number of the BB and BG are scheduled to suffer this experience) tickets are available priced £12 for all categories of people. Venue: Trinity Centre, 411 Birmingham Road, Lickey, Bromsgrove B45 8ES. Performances – Friday 2nd December 7.15pm; Saturday 3rd 1.30pm and 7pm; Sunday 4th 1.30pm; Friday 9th 7.15pm; Saturday 10th 1.30pm and 7pm; Sunday 11th 2pm. Steve can pick up tickets at rehearsals (so let him know when and how many on the strict understanding that you will pay for your tickets!) or contact the box office on 07772 645722 or by email at jigsawplayers15@gmail.com A poster with similar information will appear in the entrance hall. *Rev Steve Levett*.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – PSALM 84 (part). See No. 814 in Singing the Faith.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed, it faints for the courts of the Lord;

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.....

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.....

The Lord bestows favour and honour.

No good thing does the Lord God withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

REFLECTION:

During the time of lockdown, due to Covid, we all missed the opportunity to gather together in church (God's dwelling place, also referred to as the house of God).

In passing, we are grateful to those who faithfully took care of the building, supervising the water supply was uncontaminated due to lack of use, ensuring essential cleaning was done, heating it to a minimum in the winter months and so on, so that all was well when we could once again meet.

What does our church mean to us, I wonder?

We are looking at a serious situation where the finances may not enable us to continue to use the whole building in the future. So, we all have a vested interest in finding a solution to our monetary problems.

To me it is a house of prayer, praise and service for God and others. It is a place where I am able to sing God's goodness and love; to offer petitions on behalf of others; to say "sorry" to God, for my weakness and failings; to hear God's word expounded for my comfort, but to also, at times jolt me out of complacency.

Further it is a place where joy and sorrows are shared, where we can listen to each other's stories of God's grace and mercy in our individual lives.

In addition to that, the building was built and opened nearly 40 years ago to be a place where the community of Bromsgrove can be served; where people can find a welcome, find friendship, even find their Saviour, and get to know Jesus as their life companion.

We have many groups who weekly use our building, some as hirers of rooms, others as part of the wider church family - mums and little ones, Brigade boys, exercise classes, knit and natter groups, a youth group from one of the neighbouring churches, friendship groups including CAMEO and Meeting Point. Then there are others such as ancestry groups, and local history association. The list of what goes on is amazing, and it is possible that we see a footfall including Sunday worship of close to five hundred people a week.

As the psalmist says, above, we don't seek a position of importance or status in the fellowship – it is enough just to be a “doorkeeper” - as long as we still have access to our building which has seen us so blessed over the past 40 years!

We have the option of often going somewhere, instead of to church, on Sunday; but as the psalm says,, a day in the “courts” of God is “better than a thousand elsewhere.”

So, let us remember to seek God's guidance and blessing in these difficult times in our church life, because those who stay close to God find that “he bestows favour and honour” and in the end “happy is everyone who trusts in him.”

So, I repeat the question, put another way- How important is our church to each of us?

What can we each one do to ensure it stays open to serve the community, not just for now, but for future generations. That is the challenge for now and the coming months. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings Week beginning 30th October. (Grace Abounding)

Sun 30*.	Luke 6:20-31.	StF 744	Psalm 149.	Challenge.
Mon 31.	Matthew 17:9-13.	StF 663	Psalm 96.	Notice.
Tue 01+.	Matthew 5:1-12.	StF 746	Psalm 34:1-10, 22.	Flourish.
Wed 02.	Matthew 17:14-27.	StF 357	Psalm 997.	Learn.
Thu 03.	Matthew 18:1-14.	StF 420	Psalm 99.	Care.
Fri 04.	Matthew 18:15-35.	StF 613	Psalm 100.	Notice.
Sat 05.	Matthew 19:13-15.	StF 524	Psalm 103.	Care.

**All Saints' Sunday. +All Saints' Day.*

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