



**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: By your beauty, O Lord, transform our poverty of soul. By your love tame the waywardness of our passions. By your grace renew the yearnings of our heart. **Amen.** *Catherine of Genoa (1447-1510)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 12th January 2025.

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 12th January 2025.

Service on Sunday 12th January 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Service on Sunday 19th January 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Gwynn Bamford/Jackie Hartrey.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MATTERS: Bromsgrove Safer Neighbourhood teams will again be available for face to face chats in our coffee shop on Tuesday 21st January from 10.30am – 11.30am. Uniformed officers will be pleased to see you to discuss any worries you may have. *Terry.*

BOTTLE TOPS: Unfortunately, milk bottle tops are no longer required by the charity we have been supporting. Unless anyone knows of any other collectors, please do not bring them to church. They can be recycled at home with the cartons, in the green bins. Many thanks to all those who have supported the venture over many years. *Terry.*

CHURCH COUNCIL: The next meeting is on Tuesday 4th February at 7.30pm in the Main Hall. Please could I have reports by Thursday 30th January. Many thanks. *Pam Gale.*

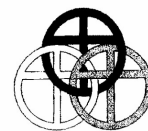
CHRISTMAS POST: We are delighted to report that the Christmas Post has raised £459 for Action for Children. Gift Aid will take this to well over £500 for the charity. Thank you to all who gave so generously. *Janet and Brian Henderson.*

UKRAINIAN CAFÉ: The Ukrainian Café will be back in the Foyer on Friday 31st January, operating from 10.30 am – 1.30 pm. Come for an early lunch before they sell out of your favourite Ukrainian dish! I guess that it is the cheapest lunch in town. Funds shared between the church and a refugee charity. Any offers to be a waitress, please to Margaret Evans (07974 811443). Thank you.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PAT MILLWARD: Monday 20th January, 1.00 pm at Bromsgrove Methodist church, service to celebrate the life of Pat, followed by a short service at the crematorium for family and close friends. *Gwynn Bamford.*

STREAMING OF SERVICES: A situation arose last Sunday which, for a very good reason, prevented the streaming of services. Unfortunately, at that time, about 4 people were waiting for the streaming, and were disappointed. So to avoid this happening again, I have explained below what the options are.

Facts: There is only 1 camera, which is used only on the lectern, communion table and organ. Only the preacher, and readers etc at the lectern will be seen, unless an arrangement is agreed. During communion, the camera is pointed at the cross at the front of the church. Funerals and services containing children or vulnerable adults will not be streamed unless an arrangement is made.



Options: Here are the options available for streaming. If the church council votes for streaming with at least 75%, then it can proceed.

1. Live streaming – the service is transmitted in real time, ie as it happens.
2. Recorded streaming – the service is recorded and streamed to you-tube at a later time. This avoids the problem of someone knowing where anyone is at that time.
3. Sound recording – only the sound is recorded and available on our website.
4. No streaming.

I hope this clarifies the situation. There will be no streaming until the church council decides. *Charles Ashworth.*

MEETING POINT LUNCH: This is a reminder that this will be at the Golf Club on 15th January, sitting down at 1 pm. *Mo Leigh.*

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY is coming soon and we will be holding our annual service at the Baptist Church on Sunday 19th January at 4pm, all are welcome to join for worship and fellowship. The title of the Service is the theme suggested by the National Churches Together. It is the question Jesus asks Martha at the raising of her brother Lazarus: 'Do you believe this?' I look forward to seeing you again. *Hilda Roxborough – CTiB Co-ordinator.*



Sunday 19th January 4.00pm
Bromsgrove Baptist Church,
New Road, B60 2JD

Followed by refreshments

All welcome

2025 Prayer for Christian Unity

40 YEARS EXHIBITION: As our 40th Anniversary year has now come to a close, it my intention to clear the exhibition items in the Quiet Room and store them in a safe place. A number of people have provided memorabilia and I know that some will want to retrieve them for their personal archives. Therefore, I would ask that you remove these pieces by **Friday 10th January** to enable me to attend to the remaining items and put them in storage. I hope that the exhibition has proved to be of interest and that many happy memories resulted. *Jim Buchanan*

FORUM: The next edition of FORUM will cover February and March with the deadline for contributions being **Sunday 19th January**. Please email any items to me at ##### or leave any hard copy items in the FORUM folder in the Church Office. *Jim Buchanan*.

MEMORY CHANGE CAFÉ: Do you or someone you support experience **MEMORY CHANGE?** You are welcome to join us at our inclusive CAFÉ for friendship sharing and a safe space **FRIDAY – 17th JANUARY – 2pm to 4pm**, in Room 6at the **METHODIST CHURCH CENTRE**. For mor information please contact Pat #####. *Pat Booth*.

CANDLES IN CHURCH: The UPPER ROOM HOUSEGROUP wish to acknowledge the pleasure given by the many candles suspended over us and adding to the atmosphere in our church. Thank you to those involved especially Pete Gale and Terry for their contribution to our Christmas celebrations. *Pat Booth.*

CIRCUIT MISSION ENABLERS & MINISTER: From January 2025, Sally Meredith & Anne Batchelor (our circuit hub mission enablers) and our hub Minister Rev Ruth Wilson will be using Bromsgrove Methodist Church Office as their base. The office will be a shared working space and we need to ensure that anything (from church groups especially) is removed from the office and any equipment etc is stored in church groups' cupboards. Thank you for your understanding. *Deacon Gwynn.*

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 - Lamentations 3 verses 22-23

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is the Lord's faithfulness.*

COMMENT:

Last week I reflected on the hymns "Lord for the Years" and of us taking "One more step from the old things to the new", concluding that life is to be lived one day at a time, each and every day as Christ would have us live it.

The above words from Lamentations follow a prolonged passage which outlines the suffering of God's people at the hands of their enemies, which they see as punishment for their disobedience and lack of loyalty to God, culminating in their exile.

The book continues by outlining God's steadfast enduring love which overlooks the transgressions of the people when they acknowledge their wrongdoings, e.g. ch. 3 vv 56,57 "I called on your name, and said 'do not close your ear'. You came near and you said 'Do not fear' ".

As followers of Christ, we acknowledge the gift of each new day, and the love of God we experience. His mercies are indeed without end. Jesus said to his disciples that he would never leave them or forsake them; and we find his mercies are with us each and every day, enabling us to live the life of faith, and we rightly praise God for that knowledge.

The passage reminds me of the hymns "Great is thy faithfulness, and also "New Every Morning". For confirmation of just how great is our God's love, see these poems of praise at StF numbers 137 and 51. Every blessing, *John.*

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 12th January. (Of the House of David)

Sun	12*.	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.	StF 233	Psalm 29.	Care.
Mon	13.	2 Samuel 1:1-12.	StF 733	Psalm 47.	Tell.
Tue	14.	2 Samuel 1:17-27.	StF 721	Psalm 48.	Challenge.
Wed	15.	2 Samuel 5:1-5.	StF 228	Psalm 50:1-15.	Learn.
Thu	16.	2 Samuel 6:12-19.	StF 117	Psalm 52.	Worship.
Fri	17.	2 Samuel 7:1-17.	StF 556	Psalm 53.	Notice.
Sat	18+.	2 Samuel 7:18-29.	StF 113	Psalm 56.	Worship.

**Baptism of Christ +Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.*

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