



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.

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*Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and
Sharing God's love in the wider community*

PRAYER: Be strength to our hearts, O Love most powerful. Be goodness to our taste, O Love most sweet. Be life to our souls, O Love most dear. Be comfort to support us, O Love most faithful. Be endurance and hope to us, O Love most victorious. **Amen.** *Gertrude of Helfta (1256-1302)*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 23rd February 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 2nd March 2025.

Service on Sunday 23rd February 2025.

10.30 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Ruth Wilson.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Service on Sunday 2nd March 2025.

10.30 am: Details unavailable to me at time of going to press.

THANK YOU Margaret, for the beautiful Church flowers you delivered to my door on Sunday, what a lovely surprise. They are very much appreciated. Thank you to all concerned for this loving thought. God bless you all. *Joan Tombs.*

STREAMING OF WINIFRED BINGHAM'S SERVICE: Giles Sons have arranged for the service to be live streamed, or watched from between 3 days and 28 days after the funeral. The screening is arranged through OBITUS. The following are the details – Streaming details for the service of WINIFRED BINGHAM – 10.15 am on MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY at Redditch Crematorium chapel. Watching Live and on Demand – website <https://watch2.obitus.com> Username – pote3151 Password 963012. The live stream can be viewed approx. 5 minutes before the service start time. Please be aware earlier services may overrun. In advance of the service, log in to the site and test your internet connection. *John Webb.*

THANK YOU: May I take this opportunity to thank the Church for the welcome I have received so far as I start my new role as Circuit Mission Enabler. My contact details are as follows: Anne Batchelor, Email ##### and my mobile no is #####. Sally and I now have our office base at Bromsgrove in Room 2, and we are grateful to Bromsgrove Methodist Church for accommodating this. *Anne Batchelor.*

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Our Church Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday 27th April at 12.00 noon. Look forward to seeing you there. *Pam Gale.*

SAFEGUARDING: Please could anyone who completed their foundation training in 2023 but did not receive their certificate contact me as I may be able to obtain a copy for you. *Pam Harrison.*

THANK YOU: I would like to Thank You all for the beautiful flowers which I received today (Sunday). They cheered me up when I was at a very low ebb. *Pam Harrison.*

FILM NIGHT: The next film night will be on **Saturday 1st March** with refreshments served from 6pm and the film starting from 6.30pm. The film will feature the **25th Anniversary Concert of Phantom of the Opera** at the Royal Albert Hall including performances from many of the stars who have appeared in the show over the years. Entry will be by donation including the opportunity to Gift Aid. Jim Buchanan.

STORE ROOM IN ROOM 6: During the next few weeks the store room behind the kitchen in Room 6 will be cleared. Storage units will be installed along two sides of the walls together with a carpet and a couple of

easy chairs. Primarily but not exclusively for the use of the Memory Changes Café. If you have items stored in that area which need to be retained please clearly label them. Anything not so labelled will be disposed of. I will appreciate your cooperation with this. Many thanks. *Sheila Sharman*.

GRANT APPLICATION WRITER: To enable us to raise enough money to refurbish our toilets, we urgently need someone to complete grant application forms on behalf of the church. Most applications are completed online so you will need access to a computer and the internet. If you feel this is something you would like to do, please contact me for more information. Many thanks. *Sheila Shaman, Church Treasurer*.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE arranged by CTiB will this year be at Bromsgrove Baptist Church, New Road, on Friday 7th March at 11.00 am. The theme will be "I made you Wonderful" from the Cook Islands. Refreshments will be served after the service. All Welcome. *Deacon Gwynn Bamford*.

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 – Colossians 3 verse 12

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience."

COMMENT:

It is interesting to think of ourselves as God's chosen ones. To me, that means when the Holy Spirit convicted us of our need to turn to God for salvation, that was the beginning of a process, initiated by God, not ourselves. We are a work in progress so to speak, working to become the kind of people God would have us be, reborn in his image.

Chosen for what, we may ask. Surely to bring praise and glory to God whose servants and ambassadors we are. We should strive to be holy, i.e. Unworldly, set apart for God's purposes. Putting it another way, we are called to be in the world for the amount of good we can do, but not OF the world.

In order to achieve the purposes for which God calls us, we need to put on or "clothe ourselves with" compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Paul, the author of this letter to the church in Colossae, uses the analogy of clothing ourselves with right living. We recall his telling his readers to "put on the whole armour of God." Allied to this he says elsewhere "put off" as in discarding garments, maliciousness, resentment, bad language and so on.

These ideas of compassion, kindness and so on, are some of the identifying characteristics of the Christian, for which we strive, as we seek to live the life of faith, following the example of self giving which Christ set us. With God's help we CAN be properly clothed and ready for the challenges which face us, both personally, and in our dealings with others. Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 23rd February. (Praying the Kingdom)

Sun	23.	Luke 6:27-38.	StF 716	Psalm 37:1-11,39-40.	Care.
Mon	24.	Matthew 7:1-6.	StF 715	Psalm 82.	Open.
Tue	25.	Matthew 7:7-12.	StF 501	Psalm 84.	Pray.
Wed	26.	Matthew 7:13-14.	StF 94	Psalm 85.	Live.
Thu	27.	Matthew 7:15-20.	StF 686	Psalm 86:1-10.	Challenge.
Fri	28.	Matthew 7:21-23.	StF 741	Psalm 86:11-17.	Learn.
Sat	01.	Matthew 7:24-29.	StF 747	Psalm 87.	Notice.

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