



# Welcome To Catshill Methodist Church Centre

**Worship God  
Welcome Everyone  
Serve the Community**

Newsletter January 4<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

## **OUR CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS**

### **WORSHIP (10.30 am unless stated otherwise)**

**Sunday 7th January – Covenant Service  
with Communion led by Rev Latika Singh  
and the Mission Praise band**

**Sunday 14th January – Morning Worship  
led by Rev Alan Bidnell**

**Worship plans also available here:  
<https://www.catshillmethodists.org.uk/worship>**

### **Sheila Collins**

We're sad to report that Sheila passed away peacefully at home on January 1<sup>st</sup>. As many of you know she had been very ill for a few weeks but this still comes as a shock. Please keep Peter, their daughters, Pippa, Rachel and Helena, and their families in your prayers. They have sent this message:

*"We would like to thank everyone for your prayers, support and friendship over the last two months while we have looked after mum/Sheila/Mrs C at home.*

*She loved having so many visitors and phone calls and we are grateful to all of you for your words of encouragement and acts of kindness and love.*

*Please give thanks as mum "travels from the old to the new" for her long life lived joyfully serving the God she knew as a friend and who she was ready and excited to meet."*

From Peter, Pippa, Rachel and Helena.

### **Coffee Shop**

**Coffee Shop:** We are continuing with warm spaces until further notice, which means we are open until 1.30 on a Friday with soup and toast being served from noon. There is no cost for this although donations are welcome.

### **Rendezvous**

The next meeting is **Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>** with David Bartley, the "Comedy Poet". All welcome at 10 am for coffee.

### **Prayer Group**

Prayer group meets fortnightly at 10am for about 45 minutes. All are welcome to this important part of our church life. Any prayer requests will be very welcome. Next meeting **Tuesday January 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **"Friday Night In"**

Our next events are on **Jan 19<sup>th</sup> & Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>** – with kids games at 5pm and a "grown ups" movie at 7pm. A warm meal will be served around 6.30pm, for everyone there, plus snacks and drinks will be available during the evening. All welcome to all events.

### **Busy Bees**

Busy Bees is an informal group sharing ideas & encouragement on a wide range of craft projects. All are welcome. The first meeting of 2024 will be at 10.30-12.30 in the church on **January 18<sup>th</sup>** and then fortnightly after that.

### **ECO church information & top tips**

If we all switched our font style from Arial to Century Gothic on documents that might be printed it would save 30% on ink when printing, due to Century Gothic being much thinner than Arial. (So I'm trying these notices in Century Gothic – let me know what you think! Dave)

### **Coach Trips**

The planned coach trips for 2024 are:

**8<sup>th</sup> June: Weston super Mare**

**14<sup>th</sup> Sept: Cambridge**

**9<sup>th</sup> Nov: Cheltenham**

Names to Tricia (or any committee member) in January for the first trip.

## More Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 21st January – Morning Worship led by Rev Steve Levett and the Mission Praise band**

**Sunday 28th January – Café Church style Worship led by Martin Tingle**

## OUR CIRCUIT NEWS & EVENTS

### 'Refusing to be enemies: voices of hope in the Holy Land'

The above is the title of an afternoon event of learning, sharing and worship at Bromsgrove Methodist Church Centre at 2pm Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 with Rev. David Hardman (UK Methodist Liaison Office Jerusalem). In this time of distress with everything going on in Israel and Palestine, we need to come together and learn about what is happening there and pray God's will into the situation. All welcome. Tea and cake after.

*Matthew 18. v 19-20 "I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."*

### Peckwood Forest Activities

More details about Peckwood Forest Space can be found on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Peckwood-Forest-Space-107329065639646>

### Live streamed services from Studley

<https://www.youtube.com/@studleymethodistchurch/streams>

## OUR DISTRICT NEWS & EVENTS

### Job opportunity in the Black Country circuit

Having not managed to recruit a suitable person for the position of Children's and Families Worker, for the Black Country Circuit, they have looked again at the role and salary and made a few changes and are advertising again. This is a full time (35 hours a week) role, and closing date for applications is noon on January

15<sup>th</sup>. (See poster attached for more details – email copies only)

## PRAYER FOR TODAY

Gracious God, in Jesus we see your image, in all its wonder and beauty, majesty and splendour. In ourselves and in each other we reflect your image and mirror your glory, like an image in a reflecting pool.

But too often we distort your image in us. We do not see you in the wonder of the people all around us or your creation. We are blinded to the treasure within us and about us. When we do not see your glory or do not celebrate the treasure of your generous love in the wonder of our neighbours and the delight of your creation, have mercy we pray.

And help us to see.

Help us to mirror your glory.

Help us to treasure the gifts and graces you lavish on us and on all creation.

Help us to see you in refugees, migrants and displaced people, as we see you when we look in the mirror, or in the still, calm waters.

And help us to be thankful. Amen.

*David Hinchliffe, District Chair, South East District*

**Notices and News to Dave Morgan at [meandi@btinternet.com](mailto:meandi@btinternet.com) by 5 p.m. on Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> please**

*If you are reading a printed copy of this and would like it on email please let Dave Morgan know.*

**These notices also available here:**

<https://www.catshillmethodists.org.uk/notices>