



Welcome To Catshill Methodist Church Centre

**Worship God
Welcome Everyone
Serve the Community**

Newsletter: November 27th – December 11th 2025

OUR CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

WORSHIP (10.30 am unless stated otherwise)

**Sunday 30th November - Local Arrangement
- Café style church - led by the Mission Praise
band (1st Sunday in Advent)**

**Sunday 7th December - Annual Toy Service
led by Rev Ruth Fry (see note below)***

Current/future worship plans also available here:
<https://www.catshillmethodists.org.uk/worship>

Message from Rev Ruth about Advent

This year we're making use of the Methodist Church worship resources for Advent and Christmas the theme of which is GIFTED. We are invited to remind ourselves of our inherent worth and beauty – not because of what we've done, or what we can give – but because of who we are.

Gifted is for everyone in our churches and beyond: both believers rejoicing at God's gift of Jesus, and those who might find the season more wearying than wonderful.

Gifted reaches out to people longing for transformation but feeling stuck. For those searching for something more, something real – but unsure where to look.

Gifted is the our open invitation, speaking the good news to everyone that they matter. We are all Beloved. Created with infinite care. A gift to the world, just as we are.

Be part of Gifted: In your worship, your welcome and your witness.

I am very much looking forward to worship at Catshill during Advent and Christmas, and I hope you are too. Please do invite friends and family to join you as together we prepare to welcome the birth of Christ.

***Sunday December 7th "Toy/Gift" service**

This service is both a toy and gift service, and The Basement have been overwhelmed with so many food donations during Harvest that

they don't have any room for any more general food donations. They also have so many toys leftover from last year that they aren't looking for any more. So this year, they want to create festive goodie bags for their young single clients. So they need treats like:

- Tubs of chocolates (Roses, Quality Street, Heroes, Celebrations, etc.)
- Selection packs, festive biscuits
- Christmas sweets (chocolate coins, jelly sweets, festive sweets, marshmallows)
- Crisps (like Pringles or similar)

No mince pies or Christmas puddings this year, they've got plenty already! They'd also really welcome donations of toiletry gift sets. Everything unwrapped if possible!

Christmas morning service – change of time!

The service on Christmas Morning will now start at 11am, and not at 10.30, as in the plan, and will be led by Rev Ruth & Dave Morgan.

New Year study sessions with Rev Ruth

In the New Year Rev Ruth Fry will be leading a study session on Monday evenings starting on **5th January** at 7pm for 6 weeks. All welcome.

Christmas Experience

Everyone is invited to come to our Open Christmas Experience session on **Sunday 30th November** at 4pm. Come along and see the whole experience for yourself. Meet Mary, The inn keeper, Shepherds and Wisemen and hear their stories at this interactive experience

Christingles

A box will be available in the porch from this Sunday, for donations of soft sweets & raisins ready for Christingle. We will be making the Christingles on **Tuesday 23rd December** at **9.30am**. Please do come along to help.

Rendezvous

The next meeting is a Christmas meal at The Nailers Inn on **Thursday December 4th**.

Please note Rendezvous WILL meet on **Jan 1st** for a general social to start the New Year.

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. The next meeting will be on **December 2nd**.

Thank you from the Basement

We've received this email from The Basement

I am writing on behalf of the clients, staff and volunteers at The Basement Project to thank the congregation and supporters of Catshill

Methodist church for your kind donation of two crates of food for our food bank which we recently received. We continue to be touched by the generosity of the local community in support of our charity and the vital work that we do here. Sometimes we are the only place that our young people can turn to and it is wonderful that we are so well supported by the local churches, schools and individuals. Thank you.

ECO ways to help our wildlife through winter.

- 1) Make a fat ball for birds and hang them in sheltered areas so they don't get damp.
- 2) Leave out some logs in a damp shaded spot of your garden; it will provide shelter & food for hedgehogs.
- 3) Make your own bug hotel in your garden and leave out of direct sunlight & in a place sheltered from the rain.
- 4) Leave your seed heads, these provide shelter for insects and also food for birds and other small animals.
- 5) Build a nesting box, this will provide a warm place for birds to rest.

Coffee shop December dates for your diary!

Dec 6th: Bromsgrove Strings Christmas Concert

Dec 13th: Carols round the piano - our annual Christmas Jumper Day and Carols Round the Piano is on Dec 13th 10am – midday. Christmas jumpers are optional. Wear something else Christmassy if you want - be creative! We guarantee good company, Christmas carols, drinks, games and mince-pies in abundance! All proceeds will go to Save the Children. Please come along and join us for this always enjoyable morning.

Dates for 2026 events & coach trips

Events:

10th January – Curling Evening 6.00pm with Chilli and Jacket Potato £5

Coach Trips:

30th May – Ross-on-Wye & Monmouth

12th September - Windsor

31st October - Bridgnorth and Ludlow

Busy Bees

This is a fortnightly informal group sharing ideas & encouragement on a wide range of craft projects. All are welcome. Next meeting will be 10.30-12 on **Dec. 11th** in the porch.

Beware of scams!

Rev Anne's son, David, has kindly sent over two sheets with what to look out for to avoid being caught on a scam – these are attached (email copies only). Thanks Anne

Worship Dates for your Diary

Sunday 14th December - Morning worship led by James Knott with the Mission Praise band

Sunday 14th December at 4 pm– Afternoon “Blue Christmas” service led by Rev Ruth Fry (see separate note below)

Sunday 21st December - Communion Service and Café style church led by Rev Anne Smith

Blue Christmas service (Dec. 14th at 4 pm)

A service for those who find Christmas time difficult. If you have lost a loved one, or are struggling, join us for this reflective service

Christmas Worship Dates for your Diary

Sunday 21st December at 6 pm - Candlelight Carol Service led by Rev Ruth Fry

Wednesday 24th December at 4 pm (Christmas Eve) - Christingle Service led by Rev Ruth Fry

Thursday 25th December at 11 am (Christmas Day) - Christmas Morning Service led by Rev Ruth Fry & Dave Morgan (Note new start time)

OUR CIRCUIT NEWS & EVENTS

Two Circuit Advent study opportunities

Deacon Janet Thomas will be running an Advent bible study on December 4th, 11th & 18th at 11am for an hour at Bromsgrove Methodist Church. All encouraged to attend. Alternatively Rev Stephen Levett is also doing a zoom session on 3rd December at 7-9pm. Please email Steve if you would like the link.

Circuit service date for your diary

There will be a Circuit Service on Sunday 22nd February 6pm at Bromsgrove. The focus will be Celebrating Service.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

A Simple Prayer that we can all say:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of this and each new day. Guide my every thought, word, and action. Help me each day to love well, and to trust You fully. Give me peace in uncertainty and strength for whatever I face. Amen

Notices and News to Dave Morgan at meandi@btinternet.com by 5 p.m. on Thursday December 11th please.

PLEASE NOTE this will be the notices for the following 3 weeks (Dec 11th to Jan 1st 2026)

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

These notices are also available here:

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