



Welcome To Catshill Methodist Church Centre

**Worship God
Welcome Everyone
Serve the Community**

Newsletter: November 21st – December 5th 2024

OUR CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

WORSHIP (10.30 am unless stated otherwise)

**Sunday 24th November - annual Toy Service
led by Rev Anne Smith ***

**Sunday 1st December - Christmas Experience

Worship plans also available here:

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

*Christmas Toy Service...

..is an opportunity to help young people faced with issues surrounding homelessness. The Basement have requested, if possible, gifts for children 0-18 months (girls and boys) - preferably toys but could be clothing (not nappies or baby toiletries as they've plenty) and also adult (male or female) toiletry gift sets. Could all gifts be unwrapped please? If you prefer to give something else I'm sure it will be welcomed, but all should be new or as new. Thank you.

**Christmas Experience

An invitation to attend the Christmas Experience is attached for email recipients, on the website (www.catshillmethodists.org.uk) and on the notice boards in the porch.

Coffee shop thanks

The coffee shop team would like to thank all who contributed to a magnificent total of £428.48 raised at the Children in Need weekend. They have also agreed to make the total up to £750 before sending it off.

Help needed this weekend!

In preparation for our Christmas Experience, you're invited to help stick labels on bags and make small bundles/twists of hay & straw, tying them with jute string. If you can help, please come to coffee shop on Friday 22 or Saturday 23 Nov. at 10am? The children

will collect a heart from Mary, hay from the inn keeper, a sheep from the shepherds and a star from the king which they will put in the paper bag to carry home. I hope to see you there! Thanks Lindsay

Carol singing round the village

We will be carol singing on **Wednesday 18th December**, starting from our church at 7 pm. We will sing door to door around the village and everyone is welcome to join us.

Christmas meal at church

We'll be having a festive meal (Turkey or meat free equivalent, stuffing, jacket potato and salad, Christmas pudding and custard) on **Friday 20th December**, at 6 pm in the youth hall (please arrive by 5.30). There are 45 spaces and there is a sign up sheet in the church porch (please indicate if you prefer the non meat option). There is no charge but donations are welcome but not necessary. We will also have Christmas Music.

Church blue chairs

If you would like any of the spare blue chairs that we have please speak to Dave or Ian.

Memories of two building projects

2 memories of building the church (1968) and youth hall (1991) have been added to the Archives page of the website.

Rendezvous

The **November 28th** meeting is the Christmas Meal and on December 12th it will be "Thoughts of Christmas" with Janice & Gordon Rhodes. All welcome at 10 am for coffee.

Wednesday Aaradhana Group

The Aaradhana group will next meet at 7:30pm on **January 15th**. All welcome to join this group for Christian fellowship, conversation, Bible study and more.

BaC-Up (Bereaved and Carer's Group)

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday Nov 26th** at 2.30 pm. The subject will be "Christmas memories"! The group meets on the last Tuesday of the month. All carers, present and past, and those bereaved at any time, welcome. Join us for chat, coffee/tea & cake!

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 November 26th**.

Busy Bees

This is an informal group sharing ideas & encouragement on a wide range of craft projects. All are welcome. Next meeting will be at 10.30-12.30 on **December 5th** in the church and then fortnightly.

Prayer Vigil

There will be a prayer vigil on **Friday 22nd November** from 2 pm – 6 pm. Come for any length of time. Perhaps read a Bible passage then pray and/or meditate on it.

Coffee Shop soup and toast is back!

Coffee Shop soup and toast is back on Friday lunchtimes, from 12.00 (midday) until 1.30pm. All welcome to join us.

The Christmas Experience (1st - 4th Dec)

Thank you for all the props you have loaned for the Christmas Experience. We are nearly there! Please may I have any other offerings asap. Thanks. Sue

ECO church information & top tips

Unfortunately up to 80% of Black Friday purchases will be thrown away after just a few uses, so before buying anything new ask yourself - Would I buy it if it was at full price? Have I wanted this item for a while? Could I borrow a similar item or buy it second hand? Has this item been made with my ecological values in mind? What will happen to this item when it reaches the end of its life cycle?

Dates for your diary

There will be a Curling evening on **Saturday, 11th January** at 6.00pm, £5 to include a jacket potato, with chilli mince or cheese and a cold drink. Tickets from Tricia or Events Committee Members.

Dates of Coach Trips 2025

31st May – Weston super Mare

13th September – Cardiff

25th October – Cotswolds

Coffee shop planned events

Performance from the Platform Players (schoolchildren playing music) **Saturday December 7th** 11.30-12.30.

Christmas Music with the Strings Orchestra **Saturday December 14th** 11am to midday

Carols around the Piano/Christmas Jumper Day - **Saturday 21st December**

We'll be having a clear out...

...probably in the first week in January. Please ensure you have either removed items that

need to be kept or arranged storage with Ian or Dave. Thank you

More Dates for your Diary

Sunday 8th December - Communion Service led by Rev Latika Singh

Sunday 15th December - Café style church led by John Webb

For all Advent & Christmas services go to:

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

OUR CIRCUIT NEWS & EVENTS

Circuit Service at Bromsgrove

The circuit service will be on **Sunday Dec 1st** at 4 pm at Bromsgrove Methodist Church. It will be an affirmation and celebration of the ministry of Local Preachers including Long Service Awards and Holy Communion. All welcome.

Hub Happenings – Circuit News

The first edition of the above is attached (*email copies only*). This is an exciting new opportunity for our circuit so please take time out to read it.

Dementia Friendly Carol Service

The above will be on Friday Dec 20th 2-4 pm at **Bromsgrove** Methodist Centre (**please note – NOT Catshill as stated previously**). Singing & refreshments.

Peckwood Forest Activities

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

Live streamed services from Studley

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

DISTRICT & OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord, thank you each day for your unfailing love. No matter what each new day brings, fill my heart with love, joy and gladness that I can share with others. Amen.

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

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>