

Worship... Service ... Witness ... in the name of Jesus
Crossways Methodist Church at Beckminster
Welcomes You

Check Out Our Website @ www.beckminsterchurch.co.uk

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Worship and Fellowship

Sunday, 1 March 2026

Lent 2

**Crossways Methodist Church
 at Beckminster
 Birches Barn Road
 Penn Fields
 Wolverhampton WV3 7BQ
 01902 344910**

What's On This Week....

Monday 2 March
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open
 10.45am - 12noon Coffee Mates (See Notices)
 1.30 - 3.30pm Take a Break
 2.00pm Pastoral Meeting
 5.00 - 9.00pm Dinky Divas

Tuesday 3 March
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed
 9.30am - 12.30pm Art Group
 4.45 - 6.30pm Dinky Divas
 7.00 - 8.15pm Lent Bible Study
 7.15 - 8.45pm Yoga Group

Wednesday 4 March
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open
 8.45 - 10.45am WeightWatchers
 9.00am Zoom Prayer Meeting
 7.30 - 9.00pm Akido Japanese Martial Arts

Thursday 5 March
9.30am - 3.30pm Office Open
 9.45 - 11.00am Move It or Lose It
 10.00am Ministers Meeting
 11.30am - 2.00pm Gro Health
 7.00 - 8.30pm St Johns Ambulance

Friday 6 March
9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open
 6.30 - 9.00pm Gateway Group

Saturday 7 March

Collect for the Day
To ponder and pray
 Christ, Son of the living God,
 who for a season laid aside the
 divine glory and learned
 obedience through suffering:
 teach us in all our afflictions to
 raise our eyes to the place of
 your mercy and to find in you
 our peace and deliverance.
 We make our prayer in your
 name. **Amen.**

**Come and join us on
 Sunday, 8 March 2026**
Lent 3
10.30am Morning Worship
led by Dr Rachel Starr

**10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev Dr Paul Nzacahayo**

Welcome

Lent 2

Opening liturgy

Object: a rigid, sturdy box, made of wood or metal. Place it near a cross at the front of the worship space.

Voice 1: We place this box at the foot of the cross. Strong. Rigid. Inflexible.

Voice 2: We are aware of the ways we try to contain you, God, in rules, in routines, in what feels safe.

Voice 3: But your Spirit moves where it will. Unseen. Unexpected. Free.

All: O Lord our God, on this Lenten journey, break open our boxes, and breathe your Spirit through us. Amen.

StF 464: God it was who said to Abraham,

Prayers

Reading: Genesis 12: 1 - 5 read by Ann Holt

Reading: Romans 4: 1 - 5, 13 - 17
read by Stephanie Sherwood

StF 463: Deep in the shadows of the past,

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe in God who calls people into new futures?

All:

**We believe in God,
who called Abraham and Sarah,
who calls prophets and disciples,
who calls each of us by name.**

Centenary Events

Saturday, 28 March Married's Tea (by invitation only)

Sunday, 10 May President's Visit

**Saturday, 6 June
& Sunday, 7 June** Centenary Weekend

Saturday, 20 June Organ Recital

Friday, 10 July Community Summer Event
with Gateway & Others

**September
(date TBC)** Treasure Hunt

**Further details on each event
will be given nearer the time**

**Services during 2026 with Visiting Preachers
who have past connections with Beckminster**

Sunday, 8 March	10.30am	Rachel Starr
Sunday, 19 April	10.30am	Rev David Shaw
Sunday, 10 May	10.30am	Rev Richard Andrew (President of the Methodist Conference)
Sunday, 7 June	10.30am	Rev Paul Nzacahayo (Anniversary Weekend)
Wednesday, 10 June	**Actual Anniversary Day for 100 Years of Beckminster**	
Sunday, 14 June	10.30am	Rev Neil Whitehouse
Sunday, 28 June	10.30am	Iris Evans-Bjorno
Sunday, 12 July	10.30am	Rev Eleanor Reddington
Sunday, 9 August	10.30am	Rev Peggy Heim
Sunday, 13 September	10.30am	Rev Roger Leslie
Sunday, 20 September	10.30am	Rev Emma Kendall (nee Sergeant)
Sunday, 11 October	10.30am	Rev Bryan Coates
Sunday, 6 December	10.30am	Rev Rachel Deigh (Joint Chair of West Midlands District)

Do you trust the promises of God?

All:
**We trust that God goes before us,
walks beside us,
and works through us
to bless the world.**

Will you follow where God leads?

All: By the grace of God, we will go.

Hymn: God who sets us on a journey

God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.

Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.

End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
here can be no turning back;
et us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.

When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,
you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

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Prayers of Intercession

Offering

StF 476: One more step along the world I go,

Blessing

We welcome today our friends from Cranmer

**The Plants for March
are in loving memory of:
Louise Wood;
Rose Car;
Lilian Ashley;**

**We welcome You to
Worship Today**

**If you are here for the first time, please
make yourself known to those around you,
or to one of the Stewards or Minister.**

**Our fellowship will continue after worship
with tea and coffee served in the Coffee Bar.**

CENTENARY MARRIED'S TEA: We are planning to display wedding photographs at this event and keep it in church during the centenary celebrations. Could anyone attending the tea on 28 March, and happy to provide a photograph, kindly give to one of the stewards on a Sunday morning or to Sue in the office. If anyone has friends who were married here and you can obtain a photograph, please bring these in too. Also put your names and wedding date on the back and let us know if you need it returned to you. Many thanks.

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the Coffee Morning last Saturday when £190 was raised for the local Ukraine Support Group.

Next Sunday as part of our Centenary Year, we welcome our own **Rachel Starr** to lead worship.

Rachel became part of Beckminster through Questors (1987-1992). Since returning to Wolverhampton at the end of 2008, she has enjoyed being part of various Advent and Lent groups and Bible Month.

She is a tutor at the Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education, Birmingham (since 2010), teaching biblical studies and contextual theologies and supporting students in their journeys of discipleship and ministry.

Has publications that include: with Robert Beckford, *Behold the Men: An introduction to critical theologies of masculinities*, 2025; with David Holgate, *SCM Studyguide to Biblical Hermeneutics 2nd edition*, 2019.

Big Brew Fairtrade Coffee Morning: Saturday 21 March, 2026 from 10.30am – 12.00 noon.

Friends at Crossways@Beckminster are hosting a Big Brew coffee morning, raising funds for the development work of Transform Trade.

There will be an opportunity to taste new fairtrade products and the Circuit Fairtrade Steering Group will be holding an Easter fairtrade market with a selection of Easter cards, chocolates and crafts.

LOGO: At the last Crossways Church Council Meeting it was decided to ask all members of Crossways to design a logo for our new joint church. We will then use these to design the logo we will use. All designs can be either emailed to me, or hardcopies given to church stewards to pass to me. They will then be presented at the next Church Council Meeting. This is a celebration of us joining together and we look forward to receiving as many entries as possible.

Email: janetfenney@hotmail.com

INCLUSIVE GATHERING: Praise & Worship on the last Sunday of each month at 5.00pm.

Connect on every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm. An inclusive space to explore spirituality and faith.

Booking is available on Eventbrite or contact Deacon Linda Gilson. 07941 354958 linda.gilson@methodist.org.uk

CANTORAS CHOIR will perform Stabat Mater and Sanctum on Friday, 13 March 2026 at 7.00 for 7.30pm at St Paul's Square, Birmingham B3 1QZ and on Saturday, 21 March 2026 at 7.00 for 7.30pm at St Peters Collegiate Church, Lich Gate, Queen Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1TY. Tickets are priced at £15.00 and tickets for children/students are £5 and available on the door. For further information see notice board in the Coffee Bar.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE: The service this morning will be live streamed. The camera focuses only on those taking part but the back of your head might be seen. If you wish to remain out of sight of the camera, please sit at the back of the church.

ZOOM PRAYER MEETING: We meet on a Wednesday at 9.00am. All are welcome and for further details please contact Sue.

COFFEE MATES: Meet Monday, 2 March 2026 at Albrighton Garden Centre, Newport Road, Cosford WV7 3EE. from 10.45am - 12noon. Everyone welcome. June Sutton, tel. 07790272865.

New A/V System: If you have not received your invitation already, please feel free to join us at Noon on Wednesday, 4 March, when a representative from Novum will demonstrate the type of A/V system which we are hoping to install at Beckminster in the near future.

REFLECTIONS ON THE FIRST 100 CHAPTERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT: Copies are now available priced at £15.00 in aid of Paul's challenge. You can collect your copies from the office during office hours or they will be available on a Sunday morning. Sue.

Circuit MWiB Committee: Spring is just around the corner! Our **Spring Meeting** will be on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 at 2.30pm at Lanesfield. The Speaker will be Rev Alison Smith, United Reformed Minister from Wombourne. Bring and buy stall. All are welcome.

PASTORAL MEETING: Our next Pastoral Meeting will take place on Monday, 2 March 2026 at 2.00pm in the Epworth Room. Sue.

LENT GROUP: On Friday **6th March** in the lent group at Springdale at 2.30pm, we will dip into the theme of **Let go of scarcity, embrace abundance** in the light of the lectionary readings for the following Sunday, and think about how does Jesus' offer of 'living water' challenge the idea that we must work hard to earn God's presence or grace? You might like to prepare for the meeting by reading through the following.

Lent 3. March 8th

Exodus 17: 1 - 7 Water from the rock.

Psalm 95, Romans 5: 1 - 11 Peace and joy.

John 4: 5 - 42 Jesus talks to a Samaritan Woman.

ECUMENICAL LENT LUNCHTIME TALKS 2026: "Faith through Art". All talks will take place in St Peter's Coffee Shop, 4 Exchange Street WV1 1TS from 12noon - 1.00pm. Soup and rolls will be available from 12noon and the talk will begin at 12.30pm promptly and finish by 1.00pm including time for discussion. These will take place on 2 March, 9 March, 16 March and 23 March. See notice board in Coffee Bar for further details of the speakers.

CIRCUIT PLAN: There has been an alteration to the new plan that was circulated last week. The service on Easter Sunday will be at Beckminster, led by Rev Dr Paul Nzacahayo and we will be joined by our friends from Cranmer.

The WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Service will be held at St Bart's church on Friday, 6 March 2026 at **2.00pm** this year. Please note the change from the usual time. It has been prepared by Christian women from Nigeria and the theme is "I will give you rest, come". All are welcome to this moving service which we will be sharing with other Christians all over the world throughout the day. The World Day of Prayer service in Wombourne is at **St Benedict's Church** at 2.00pm.

LENT BIBLE STUDIES: As Crossways, we are offering two Lent Bible Studies, one at Springdale on Friday afternoons in the Fellowship Room on March 6th, March 13th, March 20th and March 27th at 2.30pm. The one at Beckminster will be on Tuesday evenings in the Epworth Room on March 3rd, March 10th and March 17th at 7.00pm.

The Bible Study at Springdale will be led by Rev. Robert Readshaw and will be looking at the Methodist resources for Lent and Easter on the theme '**Pause. Breath. Make space for God.**' You can find an overview of what will be available on the following link. <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/lent/> You can also use the link to sign up for weekly emails in Lent and daily emails in Holy Week and join with others in the Methodist Connexion preparing for Easter.

The resources are available on this link

https://media.methodist.org.uk/media/documents/Lent_2026_Worship_Resource.pdf

The Bible Study at Beckminster on Tuesday evenings will be led by Dr Rachel Starr and will be following Paula Gooder's book *Lentwise. Spiritual Essentials for Real Life.*

You don't need to buy your own copy, but if you would like to, it is available for £9 via Church House Publishing: <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9781781405451/lentwise>

Please feel free to join either of those two, or both, as your time and commitments allow you.

Teddy and Paul