



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 30th July 2017

Welcome to worship with us – whether this is the first time you have entered our church, or if you are a long-standing member of our congregation. We seek to offer friendship and opportunities for learning more of God's will in this place and in this generation.

Refreshments are served in the hall following most Sunday services – please do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 30th Jul 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rev. Simon Oliver

Bible reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (page 14)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Alison Walker

Bible readings: Psalm 119: 129-136 (page 528); 1 Kings 3: 5-12 (page 290); Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (page 14)

We pray... for the holiday season

Wed 2nd Aug 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 3rd Aug from 15.00 Summer Social (*details overleaf*)

Sun 6th Aug 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Valu Bullen

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Rev. Colin Smith

Please take a copy of Castle View for fuller details of what's on each month.

Questionnaire about Sunday evening services

A final reminder to fill in one of these – even if you never attend Sunday evening services at Castle Street – and return it as soon as possible. The box will probably be at the back of the church for week or two.



Summer Social on Thursday

Pam and Don Fisher are hosting our next Summer Social, on Thursday (3rd August). It's an "open garden" (with refreshments) at their new home in Comberton (address on printed notices and in *Castle View*). The time is nominally from 3pm until 6pm, but Pam says people are still welcome to arrive towards the end of that and don't need to leave at 6pm.

The remaining two are to be hosted by Jo on the evening of Thursday 10th August, and the Williams family on the afternoon of Saturday 19th August – see *Castle View* for details.



Swapped preachers

Please note that the preachers for the evening services on 6th and 13th August have been swapped round – so Mary Ratcliffe will lead worship at 6.30pm on 13th August, not next week.



Prayer Walk for Refugees

A group of Christians from multicultural and traditional denominations are doing a prayer walk for refugees from Cambridge to Ely (along the river bank) on Saturday 19th August. Starting at Pembroke College at 9am, there will be ten-minute periods of prayer at the start, at Waterbeach and at Upware, and there will be the opportunity to attend Evensong at Ely Cathedral at 5.30pm, which will be followed by a Pilgrims' Welcome in the Lady Chapel at 6.30pm.

The walk serves two purposes – to express prayerful concern about the refugee crisis; and to meet and learn about each other, celebrating, rather than fearing diversity. The whole walk is 17 miles, but it is possible to leave (or join) at Waterbeach (6 miles) at about midday or Upware (10 miles) at about 2pm. To find out more, contact James Gardom, Dean and Chaplain of Pembroke College, (e-mail: [jtdg2 at cam dot ac dot uk](mailto:jtdg2@cam.ac.uk)) or express your interest at <https://tinyurl.com/CamElyRefugee>.

Petition regarding Fairtrade tea at Sainsbury's

Castle Street is officially a Fairtrade church, and only uses Fairtrade products where they are available. Included in this, of course, is the tea and coffee we serve after services. Castle Street members have also been involved in Fairtrade campaigning for many years.

Sainsbury's is the largest retailer of Fairtrade products in the UK. However, it has decided to drop the official "Fairtrade" logo (as seen on the front of *Castle View*) on its own-brand tea, and replace it with its own "Fairly Traded" logo. This means that its Red and Gold Label, Green and Rooibos teas are no longer Fairtrade certified. Sainsbury's is piloting a self-run sustainability scheme instead, and these are the first products launched as part of it.

Sainsbury's has asked the Fairtrade Foundation to work with them on their scheme, but the Fairtrade Foundation has some major concerns about it. These can be read in full at <http://bit.ly/2tlnSIY>, but they include the fact that farmers do not have a fair say in how the scheme is run. The cash bonus that farmers receive on top of what they earn for their tea (similar to the Fairtrade Premium) no longer goes directly to them, and instead is held by Sainsbury's and the farmers must apply to a board in London to find out whether they can have it.

Over 220,000 tea producers stand to be affected by the change, and those the Fairtrade Foundation has spoken to are deeply dismayed. They have written an open letter to Sainsbury's (see <http://bit.ly/2uLsWms>).

Another major concern is that the Sainsbury's "Fairly Traded" branding on the tea could be mistaken for the official "Fairtrade" logo (the most recognised and trusted ethical label in the world), leading consumers to think that the tea has been independently certified.

Barbara Gwinnett has started a petition, urging Sainsbury's to reconsider, and not to ditch the official Fairtrade standards and certification. It will be delivered to Mike Coupe, Chief Executive of the Sainsbury's Group. The petition is supported by Oxfam, Cafod, Christian Aid, Traidcraft Exchange, Tearfund, the Trade Justice Movement, and Commitment for Life. We would encourage people at Castle Street to sign it – it can be found on the change.org website at <http://bit.ly/2sDTd1g>.

International Preaching Congress at St. Andrews Street Baptist Church

This is being held in Cambridge from 8th to 10th August, and members of local churches are invited to join the worship sessions at 7pm each evening, for which there is no charge. More details about the Congress can be found at www.icop2017.com, but the preachers include:

- Tue 8th Aug: Ralph Douglas West (pastor of The Church Without Walls – one of the largest African-American churches in the US);
- Wed 9th Aug: Roger Carswell (UK evangelist and author);
- Thu 10th Aug: Michael Quicke (former pastor of St. Andrew's Street Baptist and former Principal of Spurgeon's College).



Vacancy for Pastoral Assistant in St. Neots and Huntingdon Circuit

This is a part-time post (maximum 16 hours per week) for one year (from 4th September 2017 to 31st August 2018), with a salary of £10 per hour. It involves being the focus for the pastoral ministry in one church in St. Neots and one in Huntingdon. For more information, contact Robin Ward (e-mail: [Robinward at sky dot com](mailto:Robinward@sky.com)). Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 11th August, with interviews on Friday 18th and Monday 21st August at Huntingdon Methodist Church.



Vacancy for a Communications and Marketing Officer at Jubilee Centre

Jubilee Centre is a research and policy think tank that promotes a Biblical vision for public life through research, publications, events and training. It is looking for someone to deliver its work to wider audiences and to make the organisation better known – someone with excellent writing skills, a talent for creating and editing on-line content, and a passion to enthuse others with the vision for biblical social transformation.

It's a full-time post (37.5 hours per week) with a salary of £21,000-23,000 per annum, on a fixed-term contract of one year (renewable). Closing date for applications is Monday 14th August, with interviews on Monday 21st August. Visit www.jubilee-centre.org/supporters/jobs/ for further details.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next Sunday's notice sheet, ideally by Thursday evening.

Tel: (01954) 782 762

E-mail: [notices at castlestreet dot org dot uk](mailto:notices@castlestreet.org.uk)