



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 17th February 2013

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 17th Feb 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH
HOLY COMMUNION**
Rev. Alan Ashton & Sharon Thraves-Pennington

*Bible readings: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 (page 173);
Romans 10: 8b-13 (page 151); Luke 4: 1-13 (page 58)*

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP at C.E.M.
Branwen Rees

We pray... for our Lenten Commitment

Mon 18th Feb 19.30 Pastoral and Family Committee

Tue 19th Feb 19.30 Lent Course: Home – starting out... (*see overleaf*)

Wed 20th Feb 10.00-10.30 Prayer meeting (*see overleaf*)

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 21st Feb 10.00-12.00 Castle Street Tots

Sun 24th Feb 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Alan Ashton

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP
Sharon Thraves-Pennington

18.30 SPACE 2 B me

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

Lent Course – “Encountered: meeting God in ordinary places”

So, you may have missed out on the pancakes, but there is still time to be a part of the Lent Course Group. The session this coming Tuesday will be about “starting out from home”; its focus will be “the cost of standing up and standing out”. Copies of the resources for preparation for this week are available to pick up, and can also be downloaded from our church website (see www.castlestreet.org.uk/lent-course/, or click on the relevant News item on the Homepage – and the details published on last Sunday’s notice sheet can also be found there). Don’t forget, if you can’t make it to Castle Street in the evening at 7.30pm, there is an afternoon session at St. Luke’s Church at 2.30pm. For more information, see Sharon.



Day of Prayer 2013

At the start of a year when new ventures and meetings are being planned in our churches and in the circuit, it is felt that some time ought to be put aside for prayer. Prayer is an expression of our life-long dependence on God. The circuit is asking each of its churches to pause for a mid-week prayer meeting during this coming week. At Castle Street we are going to meet this Wednesday (20th February) from 10.00 until 10.30am (before the coffee morning) in the Aldersgate Room.

Printed information is now available to assist people in this time, and this includes a full list of times and venues elsewhere in the circuit for any who are unable to come on Wednesday morning, as well as prayer topics for each session. The information can also be downloaded from our church website (see www.castlestreet.org.uk/day-of-prayer-2013/).



Sign up for prayer texts during Lent

Young Methodists are offering people the chance to sign up for prayer text messages over the Lent period. The prayer texts have been written by children and young people from across the Methodist Church. They are intended to inspire other young people embarking on the 46-day spiritual journey of Lent. Mobile phone users can sign up to receive daily prayers by texting LENT to 66777 (charged at the standard network rate). The texts will be free to receive, and will be sent at 12.30pm every day during Lent (including Sundays) – they are aimed at children and young people. More information can be found in the News section of our church website.

Church at Castle weekend away – 21st to 23rd June at High Leigh

Details and booking forms for Church at Castle's weekend away were circulated a few months ago, but now it's time for those going to fill in a booking form and pay a deposit. This doesn't mean that additional people won't be able to book nearer the time, but a deposit has already been sent to the conference centre to reserve bedrooms, and we need to have a better idea of who is going in order to plan the weekend in more detail.

This weekend of fellowship, fun, prayer, study and worship is being held at the High Leigh Christian Conference Centre in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire (about three-quarters of an hour's drive down the A10 from Cambridge), where accommodation is in either fairly recently-built or recently refurbished rooms with en suite facilities – and the food is also excellent (ask Brian if you want to know more!). The programme begins on the Friday evening (dinner is at 7pm) and ends at tea time on Sunday. The cost is £136 per person (£68 for children aged 6-13 inclusive, with under 6s going free), which includes accommodation for two nights and all meals, plus refreshments mid-morning and late afternoon.

If you would like to go, please complete a booking form and send it with a deposit of £20 (£10 for children) to Margaret Cooper (tel. (01223) 354 561 or e-mail mc.golly@tesco.net). Cheques should be made payable to "Parish of the Ascension PCC". The balance will be due by the end of April.



"Acting out Acts" – an away day for lay preachers and others

A reminder about this event next Saturday (23rd February), full details of which appeared on the last two notice sheets. The cost for the day is £5 (pay on the day), and places must be booked by 18th February. For more information or to book a place, contact any of the following:

Christine Pooley – tel. (01223) 233 776, e-mail c.m.pooley@waitrose.com
Maureen Kendall – tel. (01223) 500 593, e-mail mauken17@gmail.com
Andrew Dalwood – tel. (01638) 603 099, e-mail amwdalwood@gmail.com



Additions to next Circuit Plan

Two of our services have been missed off the March to May plan:

- 19th May at 6.30pm – United Service at Castle End Mission
- 26th May at 6.30pm – Sharon Thraves-Pennington.

Our new website

Castle Street's revamped website (www.castlestreet.org.uk) has been up and running now for a number of weeks, although it is likely there may be a few tweaks in the coming weeks or months.

One of the features is a News section (advertising forthcoming events), and the most recent to be added can be accessed from the Homepage (for those who are not web-literate, what you see when you first reach the website). They can also be reached via the "News and Events" menu at the top of the page, by clicking on "Latest news".

This "Latest news" feature is already being used to allow documents to be downloaded, such as the preparation materials for the Lent Study Course on Tuesdays, or the information about this week's prayer meetings across the circuit. There are also links to relevant news stories on other websites.

If you've got a church-related item you'd like included there, please contact Martin Burchell (e-mail martin.burchell@ntlworld.com, or use the "Contact us" section). Remember, however, that anything published on the website can be viewed across the whole world – including personal contact information!

The weekly notice sheet is now also uploaded to our website (as a PDF file), and can be downloaded from the News section of the Homepage. When the notices have been uploaded, an e-mail will be sent out to the Castle Street Announce Yahoo! group – but the notices can be downloaded from our website without a Yahoo! login.



Pastoral and Family Committee

This committee meets tomorrow evening, and Anne Littlefair asks for any additional agenda items to be with her by 1pm today please.



Items for the March *Castle View*...

... should be with its Editor, Colin Moule, today please.

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: briancarter@o2email.co.uk