



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 15th March 2015 (Mothering Sunday)

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 15th Mar 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Joy Pegram

19.00 IONA SERVICE at St. Luke's

We pray... for Mothering Sunday

Wed 18th Mar 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 19th Mar 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

19.00 for 20.15 "Thursday Table Talk": Transformation

Sat 21st Mar 19.00 World Church Weekend: a Journey to India

Sun 22nd Mar 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Joy Levine

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
Maureen Kendall

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

Bible readings for this morning's service

Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22 (*page 519*)

John 3: 14-21 (*page 90*)

John 15: 8-17 (*page 105*);

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 (*page 165*)



Audrey Seaton, RIP

The funeral of Audrey Seaton, who died in Addenbrooke's Hospital on Wednesday 4th March, will take place at Castle Street on Wednesday 25th March at 1.30pm. It will be followed by a burial at Barton Glebe Woodland burial ground. There will be refreshments afterwards in the church hall at Castle Street.

We praise God for Audrey's contribution to the life of Castle Street. Please remember Ron and the rest of the Seaton family in our prayers.



World Church Weekend: a Journey to India

We are fortunate to have Geoff and Joy Levine with us next weekend, to take us on "A Journey to India". On Saturday evening, we shall have a talk, followed by questions and answers, from Geoff and Joy, about their medical and pastoral work, including that with the Karunai Illam project, which was our centenary charity last year. This event will start at 7.00pm, and promises to be absolutely fascinating, involving all our senses, to bring a real experience of India to Castle Street Methodist Church!

After the talk, there will be an Indian feast for all, with something more familiar for those who prefer that. This is where we need some help – there is a sign-up sheet on the notice board asking for donations of food. Please do commit to something if you can, or please bring any Indian artefacts, souvenirs, fabrics, etc., to enhance the decor. Please contact Heather Taplin (e-mail: [hsktaplin at gmail dot com](mailto:hsktaplin@gmail.com)) or Anne Littlefair (e-mail: [anne dot littlefair@ at ntlworld dot com](mailto:anne_dot_littlefair@ntlworld.com)) with any questions or suggestions.

There will be a collection to continue to support the work of Karunai Illam Ministries, with a suggested donation of £8 per person.

Statement on the closure and sale of Sturton Street Methodist Church

The following public statement has been made by Revd. Chris White and Revd. Alison Walker on behalf of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT):

“The decision to close a church is always a last resort and always involves consultation with the regular worshipping congregation. On 26th March 2014 the difficult decision was taken to close Sturton Street Methodist Church after years of faithful witness. This was largely due to the increasing financial cost of caring for an old building and the pressure this placed on a very small church membership. Following the decision, we met with all of the users of the church hall in person by Friday 4th April and the closure of the church finally took place on 31st August 2014.

“The building was placed on the open market on 1st March 2015. Some people have raised concerns about this decision due to the hopes of a community group to buy the site. While we were grateful to receive Save Our Space’s (The Sturton Centre Society Limited) early bid on the property, we have received clear legal advice that charity law requires us to sell it on the open market for the best possible price.

“Some have suggested that charity law would permit an exception in this case, but the legal advice we have received has been very clear that this is not the case and that we must sell the property on the open market. The sale of the property will release funds for the Cambridge Methodist Circuit to develop new areas of work and mission in the local community. Primarily this involves an exciting collaboration in Chesterton with the charity CamSight, which supports local people with sight loss. We are committed to ensuring that the money from the sale will benefit the Cambridge community long-term and will enable the Methodist Circuit to continue to focus on its priorities of worship and prayer, social inclusion, community development and working for justice and peace for all.

“The CLT met representatives of SOS on 10th July 2014 where SOS made a request to rent the Sturton Street building and outlined their plans for its use. The CLT subsequently considered the SOS presentation at length but the request was declined. A further meeting with SOS was declined on the grounds that it would compromise the need for the Circuit to be impartial with regard to any other interested parties.”

Appeal from Romsey Mill – collect tokens from the *Cambridge News*

Romsey Mill is one of fifteen charities selected to receive a share of £10,000 from the Cambridge Building Society's "Cash for the Community" scheme, but how much of that it gets depends on how many tokens from the *Cambridge News* it collects.

The tokens can be found in the *Cambridge News* between Monday 9th March and Saturday 4th April. Please cut them out and collect them, and either take them directly to Romsey Mill, hand them in at any branch of the Cambridge Building Society, with "Romsey Mill" clearly marked on the back, or place them in the tub at the back of the church.



Fundraising Concert in aid of Romsey Mill

Whittlesford Community Gospel Choir is holding a fundraising concert for Romsey Mill next Saturday (21st March) at 7.30pm at Wesley Methodist Church. Tickets cost £10 (£5 for under 18s), and are on sale at www.eventbrite.co.uk or from Romsey Mill.



Appeal for Easter Egg donations

Funeral Directors Weyman and Harry Williams and Sons are appealing for Easter Egg donations for children likely to go without. Call Sally on (01223) 354 289 if you can help.



***An Impossible God* – Wednesday 1st April at 7.30pm**

A reminder that tickets for this one-man play, written by Frank Topping and performed by Mark Topping, are now available, priced £8 – see John Boocock. We need an audience, so please sell tickets to your friends.



Items for the April *Castle View*...

... should be with its Editor, Anna Williams, next Sunday (22nd) please.

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

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