



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 6th December 2015

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 6th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Elliot Carmichael-Harris

Bible readings: Malachi 3: 1-4 (p. 815); Philippians 1: 3-11 (p. 186)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Rev. Colin Smith

Bible readings: Isaiah 40: 1-11 (p. 612); Matthew 1: 1-17 (p. 1)

We pray... for peace in the world

Wed 9th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 10th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 13th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rev. Colin Smith

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Alison Walker

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

Advent and pre-Christmas events in the Circuit and Church at Castle

- Christingle Service at St. Giles' Church – Sunday 6th December (today) at 4pm, with children especially welcome. Lively music from Tube Brass before and after the short service. Followed by refreshments and a children's tea. Come at 3.30pm to make a Christingle.
- Christmas Concert by Cambridge Sinfonietta (conductor: Peter Britton; leader: Mateja Kaluza) at St. Giles's Church – Thursday 10th December at 8pm. A programme of symphonic music, with organ, including Julius Fučík *Entry of the Gladiators*, Poulenc *Andante Lyrico* (arr. Britton), Poulenc *Organ Concerto*, Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique*. Tickets cost £7 (£5 concession, £1 child), and are available on the door or in advance from Cambridge Strings. Refreshments to follow.
- Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell Methodist Church – Saturday 12th December between 12 noon and 6pm, with cakes, gifts and a soup lunch available; then Sunday 13th December between 2pm and 6pm, with Christmas hymns and songs from 4pm.
- Joint Roads Christmas Celebration: crafts and music at St. Augustine's, Richmond Road – Saturday 12th December from 3pm. Christmas crafts: make Christmas cards, candles in jars, paper chains, foliage, baubles, colouring, and more, plus a Christmas café with mulled wine, juice and mince pies for sale. From 4.30pm there will be Christmas songs led by a local scratch band. Make something for Christmas, then join in community singing. No entry charge, all ages welcome.
- Carol Concert by Cambridge Vocal Consort at St. Giles' Church – Thursday 17th December at 8pm. Directed by Colin Fludgate, this concert of seasonal choral music, mediaeval to modern, is given for the benefit of St. Giles' Church. Entry is free, donations are welcome. There will be refreshments to follow, for which there will be a small charge.



Manse Christmas Open House

Alison and Robin invite members and friends round to their home in Haslingfield, for carols, mince pies and coffee on Monday 14th December between 3.30pm and 7.30pm. Just drop in.

Calling all carol singers

Would you like to join a small band of Castle Street Carol Singers for an afternoon? We plan to call on some of our members who are unable to get to church these days to sing some carols to them, deliver Christmas cards and perhaps some mince pies or similar. Daylight hours will be best, and may involve two or more separate sessions to get round everyone. Further details depend on the availability of those interested in joining in. Please get in touch with Anne Littlefair (or e-mail: *anne dot littlefair at ntlworld dot com*) with your ideas / preferences, so we can firm up dates and arrangements. Also let Anne know of whom we might visit. Anne is improving, and hopes to be back at church soon.



Bereavement Group

Our popular Bereavement Group wants to meet before Christmas – a very difficult time for those bereaved during the year – but Anne Littlefair who leads it is in poor health again. She can advise and assist someone else to take a lead – if there are any volunteers for this, please get in touch with Anne (see overleaf). This can be either a one-off or the start of a rota.



“Clothed in Glory” – Art and Use of Textiles in Worship

Margaret Waring, a member of The Textiles Society and The Embroiderers’ Guild, will give a short talk at St. Giles’ Church on Thursday 10th December at 11am. It will be illustrated with examples taken from the St. Giles’ Church collection. This is one of a series of free lectures on every second Thursday, hosted by the Friends of St. Giles’ Church. Refreshments will be served.



“Science Meets Faith” at Wesley Methodist Church

The next in this series of monthly lectures takes place on Monday 14th December, at 7.45pm. Dr. Andrew Davison, Starbridge Lecturer in Theology and Natural Sciences in the Divinity Faculty of Cambridge University, will give a talk entitled “Evolution and the Image of God: can we believe that creatures bear a likeness to God after Darwin?” For more information, visit www.wesleycam.org.uk/sciencemeetsfaith.htm.

A thank-you from Karunai Illam (*space prevented this appearing last week*)

“Our dear Sisters and Brothers,

“We, from Karunai Illam Trust, Vellore, are grateful to Castle St. Methodist Church, Cambridge for your involvement in what the Lord is doing in the villages through Karunai Illam. As a result of Ruth and Martin’s wedding and your Centenary fundraising, you have generously contributed £7,469.45 for the building of a community hall in one of our centres, Thanipadi. This hall will be used as a multi-purpose hall where the Lord’s name will be glorified through worship, tuition, meetings, socio-economic projects, etc., so the lives of the less fortunate can be transformed. Since the building will be in a common place not belonging to any specific caste, it is our hope that people from all walks of life will be able to come together without any difficulty.

“A bore well has been dug; a temporary room has been built to store the building material; permission from the Government and the approval of the plan have been obtained for building, and for electricity connection. The work on the actual building will start next week. We will keep you informed of the progress.

“We are grateful to you for your prayers and support. We are touched by your concern for the people you have not even seen. Your kindness is very much appreciated. God has used your minister Rev. Joy and Dr. Geoff Levine as His instruments in making this possible. The people we work with in Thanipadi are excited about this and are looking forward to using the building. They are grateful to you for making this possible.

“We pray that the Lord would bless you as you continue your ministry. We hope some of you would get to visit us and witness what the Lord is doing in this part of the country, some time.

“Thanking you once again,

Jean Jepegnanam and Vijaya Venkatesan, on behalf of Karunai Illam Trust, Vellore.”

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

Tel: (01954) 782 762

E-mail: briancarter@o2email.co.uk