



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 13th 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 13th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rev. Colin Smith

Bible readings: Zephaniah 3: 14-20 (p. 803);

Isaiah 12: 2-6 (p. 589); Luke 3: 7-18 (p. 57)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Alison Walker

Bible readings: Isaiah 12: 2-6 (p. 589); Zephaniah 3: 14-20 (p. 803);

Philippians 4: 4-7 (p. 188); Luke 3: 7-18 (p. 57)

We pray... for the plight of refugees

Wed 16th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 17th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 20th Dec 10.45 ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP
Carol Service – Rev. Alison Walker

18.00 CAROL SERVICE at St Luke's

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

Next Sunday evening and services over Christmas

There is no service at Castle Street next Sunday evening, nor is there an Iona service at St. Luke's at 7pm. However, all are invited to join the congregation at St. Luke's for their community carol service at 6pm.

A reminder that the morning service on Sunday 27th December will be a Church at Castle united service (including Holy Communion), and is to be held at St. Luke's at 10.30am. There will be no evening service at Castle Street that day. Details of special services in the circuit and Church at Castle over the Christmas period will appear on next week's notice sheet. Castle Street's Christmas Day service will be at 11am.



Manse Christmas Open House

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



Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell Methodist Church

This continues this afternoon, from 2pm until 6pm, with Christmas hymns and songs from 4pm. All are welcome.



Christmas Activity Afternoon at Royston Methodist Church

This takes place this afternoon, starting at 3pm and with a Children's Christmas Service at 4.30pm, followed by a bring-and-share tea. All ages are welcome. There is no charge.



"Science Meets Faith" at Wesley Methodist Church

The next in this series of monthly lectures takes place tomorrow (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/sciencemeetsfaith.htm.

Cumbria Floods Appeal

As many will be aware, Storm Desmond has caused immense disruption in Cumbria, with schools, hospital services and travel all being affected in addition to the thousands of homes that have been damaged and hundreds evacuated.

Many communities are gathering together to provide relief and assistance to the areas worst hit by the flooding, including Sandylands Methodist Church who have worked in conjunction with volunteers and local organisations to offer support.

For those who cannot give practical support, however, there is still much we can do. Revd. Richard Teal, Cumbria District Chair, reminds us of the wonderful response that the Methodist people made in 2009 and says that "the devastation this time is worse than before". The Cumbria Community Foundation, which played a significant role last time, has set up a Cumbria 2015 Flood Appeal to raise funds to support the individuals and communities devastated by the flooding. Richard suggests that this would be the best conduit for donations.

More information, including full details of how to give, can be found at <http://methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/news-releases/cumbria-flooding>.

Richard has asked that we join him in prayer for those affected by the flooding:

Creator God, we remember at this time all those whose homes and communities have been damaged by flooding in Cumbria.

In the name of Jesus we give thanks for the courage and dedication of the emergency services who have come to the help and rescue of all in need.

We celebrate the kindness of neighbours in caring for the most vulnerable.

Lastly, we ask in the power of your healing Spirit to rebuild not just the physical communities which are coping with many problems today but also to give us a sense of trust in your goodness through the kindnesses of one another, in Your Holy Name.

Amen

One more card

Every Christmas, families send an average of sixty-eight cards. This year the Methodist Church is asking you to send "one more card"!

This Christmas there will be many who do not have enough to live on. So when you write your cards, send one more card to Iain Duncan Smith. Wish him a happy Christmas, and ask that he helps ensure that every child has enough at Christmas.

Send your card to: Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith MP, Department for Work and Pensions, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA.

It's important that the government knows that, as Christians, we care about them and their work. It's also important that government knows that we care that every child has enough.

Visit www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/one-more-card-2/ to find out more.



Carol Concert by Cambridge Vocal Consort, Thursday 17th December

Under the direction of Colin Fludgate, this programme of seasonal choral music, from mediaeval to modern, will take place at St. Giles' Church on Thursday at 8pm. Entry is free, but donations are welcome. There will be refreshments to follow, for which there will be a small charge. All proceeds are in aid of St. Giles's Church.



A WiFi Internet Service comes to Castle Street

In response to a need from the two charities to whom we give free use of our premises and to a small but growing number of requests from potential hirers, we now have WiFi internet access throughout the premises. If this might be of value to you, our lovely worshippers, then the network reference is PLUSNET-9FMJHG and the password is 3b3c4feefb.

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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