



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 11th December 2016

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 11th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Rev. Dr. Peter Graves

Bible readings: Isaiah 35: 1-10 (p. 608); Matthew 11: 2-11 (p. 11)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Prof. Morna Hooker-Stacey

Bible readings: Exodus 33: 18-23, 34: 4-6 (p. 76); John 1: 14, 16-18 (p. 87); 2 Corinthians 8: 1-9 (p. 173)

We pray... for the plight of refugees

Wed 14th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 15th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 18th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP – ALL AGE CAROL SERVICE
Rev. Alison Walker: "Wise men still seek Him"

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP – CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
Rev. Alison Walker

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

Next Sunday

Next Sunday is the last before Christmas Day, and we are having two carol services! The first, at 10.45am, will be for all ages and will include a short nativity play involving children and adults. The evening service will be a traditional candlelit carol service. It is planned to have a singing group for both services – please speak to Brian Carter if you can help.



Christmas presents for our CCHP guests

We'd like to give a shoebox of useful gifts to each of our overnight guests (we're expecting fifteen) on 28th December. As we are new to this, it's difficult to know what gifts will fit, or be most acceptable to our guests. Any unused items will be donated to Jimmy's. The contents of each box need to be identical (as much as possible), and the list of suggested items is as follows (note the list is not in *Castle View*):

- hat, scarf, gloves [*we already have a selection of hats*]
- socks, boxers
- men's toiletries (small sizes so easy to carry) – but not any mouthwash or hand sanitizer containing alcohol) – eg toothbrush, toothpaste, reusable razor and blades, shaving foam, lip balm (eg small Vaseline), washcloth, soap, shampoo, deodorant, comb, brush (not travel towels – we already have those)
- metal water flasks
- chocolate or sweets
- book
- travel games or playing cards
- plasters
- cereal bars, other high calorie and healthy snacks
- dried fruit

Sometimes we have a canine companion staying, so we could also include a box with dog biscuits, collapsible bowls, leads, collars, dog coats (as per the suggestions from Jimmy's).

Can you supply a wrapped shoe box (lid wrapped separately), with gifts? The boxes are to be organised during the coffee morning on Wednesday 21st December, so please bring them to church next Sunday (18th).

“Singing Allowed” Christmas Concert – tomorrow evening at 7.30pm

One of the choirs which uses our premises for its practices is holding its Christmas Concert in our church tomorrow evening (Monday 12th) at 7.30pm. There is no charge for entry, but donations will be in aid of the Royal Voluntary Service “Sing Your Heart Out” appeal. Refreshments will be served after the concert.



“I Wonder” Christmas Story and Craft – Wednesday 21st December

This one off “Godly Play” Christmas special invites children aged 3 to 11 to join us to explore the Nativity story through words, art and creative play. It’s starts at 10.30am and runs until midday.



Other people’s Christmas Events

- Orwell Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival – today, from 2.30pm to 6pm, with carol singing and mince pies around the fire from 4pm.
- Chesterton Choral Society Christmas Concert – Monday 12th December, 7.30pm at St. Laurence’s Church, Milton Road. (A group in which several Castle Street members are involved.)
- A Yorkshire Christmas Concert – Saturday 17th December, 1pm at Michaelhouse: Christmas songs and folk songs sung by the St. Augustine’s Singers conducted by Philip Mead with Clare Simmonds (piano).
- A Victorian Christmas – Saturday 17th December, 3pm at St. Augustine’s Church, Richmond Road: an hour or so of Victorian Christmas music and entertainment led by Anne Taylor.
- Christingle Carol Service – Sunday 18th December, 5pm at St. Luke’s Church, Victoria Road; come at 4.30pm to make Christingles.



Christmas Eve Services in the Circuit and Church at Castle

- 18.00 Christmas Eve Carols and Crib Service at St. Giles’
- 18.00 Community Carols at St. Augustine’s
- 23.15 Christmas Eve Communion at Haslingfield
- 23.15 Christmas Eve Communion at Wesley
- 23.30 Midnight Mass at St. Giles’
- 23.30 Christmas Eve Communion at Royston
- 23.30 Christmas Eve Communion at St. Andrew’s, Toft

“Science Meets Faith” – Monday 12th December at Wesley

Tomorrow evening at Wesley Methodist Church, Professor Emeritus Andrew Halestrap from the School of Biochemistry at the University of Bristol and the Chair of Christians in Science will give a lecture entitled “Friends or Foes?” It starts at 7.45pm with refreshments from 7.15pm.



Help needed with CCHP on Wednesday mornings

The Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project has now started for the current, with Castle Street hosting guests on Wednesday nights. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help so far, but we still need people to be at church on Wednesday mornings between about 7.30am and 8.15am in January, February and March to receive the kit. Please let Alison or any steward know if you can help (and thanks to those who responded to fill the gaps this month).

And please remember that the guests start to settle down to sleep from about 9pm (they’re asked to leave at 7am to go to Winter Comfort for breakfast), so if you’re in the building on a Wednesday evening between now and the end of March, please bear that in mind.



Security reminder

A reminder to key holders to ensure that doors are locked when you leave the building (also check the fire exit from the hall). It may also be appropriate to lock external doors while you are in the building, and please also keep the vestry locked when you’re not in there (and check it when you leave) – this is our “office”, and it’s easy for unwanted “guests” to slip in there unnoticed if the door is unlocked. Thank you.



Next Sunday’s notice sheet...

... will be the last until 8th January (there will be no notice sheet on either Christmas Day or New Year’s Day).

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

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