



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 3rd December 2017 – Advent 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 3rd Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Judy Wynn

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
Rev. Dr. Stuart Mews

We pray... for the joy and promise of Advent

Wed 6th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship
10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 7th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

Sun 10th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Alison Walker and Rev. Joy Levine
including baptism of Aaron Burchell-Levine

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
Valu Bullen

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

Bible readings for today's services

10.45am: Isaiah 64: 1-9 (*page 635*)

Mark 13: 24-37 (*page 48*)

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 (*page 157*)

6.30pm: 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 (*page 194*)



Open house at the manse – this Friday (8th December)

Alison and Robin extend a warm invitation to drop in at the manse between 5pm and 8pm on Friday – Robin will get everyone singing, there will be mince pies to munch, and tea and coffee will be in plentiful supply. Children are, of course, welcome. Christmas jumpers are optional. Each year people ask if there is a collection for anything. So, for those who would like to donate, there will be a box for Action for Children.



Carol singing in Haslingfield – Friday 15th December

All are invited to go carol singing around Haslingfield village on Friday 15th December – meet at 6.30pm at the Wisbey's Yard community room. It's followed by more carols in The Little Rose pub from about 8pm.



Christmas Tree Fair at St. Giles'

This has now started, and the church is open from 10.30am until 4pm every day until next Sunday (but beware of services taking place on Sundays). Full details, including accompanying activities, can be found on the flier and are also listed in *Castle View*, and include an Advent Carol Service at 3pm today, followed by a tea, and the "Festival Finale" children's party with games, crafts, quizzes and a visit from Father Christmas from 2pm to 4pm next Sunday (10th December).



Orwell Christmas Tree Festival – next weekend (9th and 10th December)

The Seventeenth Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell Methodist Church takes place next weekend. It's open from midday to 6pm on Saturday and from 2.30pm until 6pm on Sunday. There will be a cake and gift stall, as well as homemade soup and rolls, toasted sandwiches and drinks available on Saturday. On Sunday, there will be carol singing and mince pies around the fire from 4pm.

Events at Royston Methodist Church next weekend

The Nativity Set Festival “It happened in a stable...” is open for visitors on Friday (8th December) from 10am to 4pm, Saturday (9th) from 11am to 4pm, and Sunday (10th) from 11am to 2pm. Admission is free.

This is followed on Sunday by a Christmas Activity Afternoon, starting at 2.30pm, when there will be the opportunity to decorate Christmas biscuits, and to make stars, gift tags and other crafts. After this, at 4pm, there’s a children’s Christmas service followed by a bring-and-share tea.

The church also has on-line Advent Calendar on its website (www.royston-methodist.org.uk) – every day during Advent there’s a new window to click on and open, with the Advent story, pictures, puzzles and fun.



Other Circuit Events later in the month...

... are listed in the December / January issue of *Castle View*. They include “Science Meets Faith” at Wesley on Monday 11th, switching on the Christmas Lights at Chesterton on Tuesday 12th, and an all-age Christingle service at Chesterton at 4pm on Sunday 17th December.



Chesterton Choral Society – “Christmas around the world”

This concert is taking place at St. Laurence’s Church, Milton Road, this afternoon (Sunday 3rd) at 4pm. Tickets cost £7 (family £15), and there will be a retiring collection for Emmaus. See Chris or Jo for more information.



Important notice about our car park

Could everyone please note that during the week our car park has only very limited spaces for our use. Spaces 13-16 are usually available, although there is no guarantee of this. External users of our premises do not automatically have car park use included. It is important to note that some of our car park users come and go during the course of the day: just because spaces are empty doesn’t mean they are free for use. To help prevent unauthorised use we encourage anyone entering or leaving to close the gate. If you have any queries, please talk to Denise or Gordon.

Rotas for Sunday mornings

The centre pages of *Castle View* contain the rotas for various duties connected with Sunday morning worship. The observant will notice that, at the time of going to press, there were lots of gaps for December and January. So this is a plea for more people to sign up, especially two people to be door stewards (the "Welcome Team"), a reader, someone to organise coffee, and someone to organise the flowers – the sign-up sheets are usually in the hall during coffee on Sunday mornings. We're currently drawing up guidelines as to what is involved in doing particular tasks.



Prayer for CCHP

This week sees the start of the Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project for this winter, which we are hosting every Wednesday night until the end of March. We remember in prayer all the volunteers involved in running the project, and the guests who will be sleeping in our church hall.

*May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that we may live deep within our hearts.*

*May God bless us with anger at injustice and exclusion
so that we may bring hope, build community and seek reconciliation.*

*May God bless us with tears shed for those
who feel lost to their addictions, compulsions and poor mental health
so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them.*

*And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe
that we can make a difference in this world,
so that we can do what others claim cannot be done,
to bring justice and kindness to all we meet. Amen.*

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: notices@castlestreet.org.uk