



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 8th April 2018

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 8th Apr 11.00 UNITED MORNING WORSHIP *at St. Giles'*

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Rev. Colin Smith

Bible readings: Acts 5: 27-32 (page 117)

Revelation 1: 4-8 (page 234)

We pray... for all who serve our church

Tue 10th Apr 19.30 Finance and Property Committee

Wed 11th Apr 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.15 for 10.30 *"I wonder..."* Easter story and craft session

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 *"Forever Active"* exercise class

Thu 12th Apr 19.30 Church Council

Sun 15th Apr 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Lynn Taylor

19.00 IONA SERVICE *at St. Luke's*

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

Easter “I wonder...” – Wednesday (11th April)

Following the success of previous “I wonder...” Godly Play sessions for children aged 3 to 10, we’re organising another one – and it’s this coming Wednesday (11th April), starting at 10.30am (with registration from 10.15am). The cost is £2 per child, and booking is essential – visit www.castlestreet.org.uk/I-wonder, or contact Alison.

Parents are invited to stay at our coffee morning, so John Boocock would be pleased to receive offers of extra cakes for it.



Church business meetings this week

A reminder that the Property and Finance Committee meets on Tuesday (10th April) – papers were sent out by Mike Sharpe a few days ago. Then on Thursday (12th April) evening it’s Church Council. Both start at 7.30pm.



“Creating safer space” safeguarding training

A reminder of the two dates for this (see *Castle View*), both at Chesterton Methodist Church:

- Tuesday 17th April, 7pm to 9pm – refresher training for those who have not attended training since 2015.
- Saturday 21st April, 10am to 12.30pm – foundation course for those who have never attended any Methodist Church safeguarding training.

To book your place, please contact Miriam in the circuit office at Wesley (e-mail: office@cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk).



MWiB Spring District Day in Ipswich, Thursday 26th April

Anyone going to this event who would like transport is asked to contact Lynn and Jim Taylor (e-mail: lynngtaylor@btinternet.com). Transport will be by car, as the minibus Jim previously used is no longer available. The guest speaker is Revd. Catherine Dixon from King’s Lynn (and Catherine is no stranger to us at Castle Street, having regularly worshipped here during her training at Wesley House).

“Science Meets Faith” at Wesley tomorrow evening, 7.15pm for 7.45pm

The next in this series of lectures will be given by Dr. Elizabeth Stockdale, Head of Farming Systems Research at NIAB in Cambridge. Her talk is entitled “Mud matters: some revelations of a soil scientist.”

Dr. Stockdale manages NIAB’s Farming Systems team, which delivers research, evaluation, demonstration and knowledge exchange activities on combinable crops and forage, with a particular focus on soils, cultivations and rotations. Previously she was senior lecturer in the School of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development at Newcastle University. She has been working in collaboration with farmers to investigate soil health and develop tools to help measure soil health and to support improved soil management. She currently leads the Soil Biology and Soil Health Partnership, funded by farmer-levy funding, which will bring together the best available research and practical approaches to tackle soil biology and soil health on-farm. Elizabeth has been playing with mud for a long-time, having become fascinated with the interactions of physics, chemistry and biology that underpin soil processes during her undergraduate study (1987-1990). She has been a Local Preacher in the Methodist Church for as long, and continues to be challenged and enlivened by God in interaction with his folk.

You will often find Elizabeth in a hole in the ground, getting over-excited about the colour, texture and smells that are the expression of a soil’s living community – or talking enthusiastically about the interactions of organisms with physics and chemistry that all happens in the habitat of soil. Yet the irony is that we know far less about the habitat of soil which is close to our toes – and upon which so much life on this planet ultimately depends – than we do about the stars overhead. Soil has often been described as the living skin, perhaps most poetically by William Bryant Logan as the “ecstatic skin of the Earth”. This confirms the dictionary definition that soil is a “thin layer at the surface of the Earth” and reminds us that we need to think about biology, as well as geology, when we bend down to study it. But why on earth does this thin layer of dirt matter so much? Why should we all care about – and nurture – it? With these questions in mind, Elizabeth will draw from her science, and also reflect from the standpoint of faith, on matters of mud and why mud matters.

District Celebration: “Day by Day in Worship and Mission”

This special service is taking place in St. Edmundsbury Cathedral (Bury St. Edmunds) on Saturday 5th May, starting at 6.30pm (with tea, coffee and cakes from 5pm). The guest speaker will be Revd. Loraine Mellor, President of the Methodist Conference. The Cambridge Circuit is looking to organise a coach if there is sufficient interest. So, if you are interested in going, please speak to Chris Rayson as soon as possible – the coach will be funded entirely by the district and circuit, so would be free to those going.



Ivor Jones Memorial Concert, Friday 20th April, 7.30pm

Revd. Dr. Ivor Jones was best known to us at Castle Street as the Principal of Wesley House, a post he held for fifteen years until 1999, while he was also one of the compilers of the Methodist hymnbook *Hymns and Psalms*. He died in April 2016, and, two days short of two years on from his funeral, Wesley Methodist Church is hosting a concert in his memory.

The concert will feature Alison Nicholls on harp and Geoff Batty on organ. Tickets cost £12 (£6 for concessions), and can be obtained from Wesley Church (tel.: 352 115) or Wesley House (tel.: 765 832).



Chesterton Choral Society concert next Sunday afternoon

Two of our members, Chris and Jo, are involved in the Chesterton Choral Society, whose performance of *Canterbury Pilgrims* takes place next Sunday afternoon (15th April) at 4pm at Chesterton Methodist Church.



General Church Meeting

A reminder that this will take place after the morning service on 29th April, and we hope that as many of our congregation as possible will stay. More details can be found in *Castle View*.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next Sunday's notice sheet, by midnight on Tuesday this week.

Tel: (01954) 782 762

E-mail: notices at castlestreet dot org dot uk