



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

Where all are welcome – all the time

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Sunday 13th January 2019

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 after most Sunday services – do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 13th Jan 10.45 ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP

Joyce Goodall

Bible readings: Luke 3: 15-16; 21-22 (p. 57); Acts 8: 14-17 (p. 120)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev Alison Walker

*Bible readings: Isaiah 43: 1-7 (p. 616); Acts 8: 14-17 (p. 120);
Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 (p. 57)*

Prayer topic: for health workers

Tue 15th Jan 19.00 for 20.00 “Table Talk” *(see overleaf)*

Wed 16th Jan 10.00 “Time to Be” prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 Strength and balance exercise class

Thu 17th Jan 10.00-12.00 “First Friends” baby and toddler group

Sun 20th Jan 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rev Stephen Burgess

19.00 IONA SERVICE *at St Luke’s*

Welcome to Castle Street Methodist Church!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the stewards and pick up a welcome leaflet. All people of this church are part of the ministry, led by the Revd Alison Walker who may be contacted electronically via the church website or by telephone on (01223) 872 862.

Our church magazine **Castle View** contains more details of events taking place each month – please pick up a copy of the latest issue.

There is a **Prayer Request** book at the back of the church, which is used during services and at prayer meetings – but remember it is on display for anyone in the church to read, so please respect the privacy of those concerned and avoid including names and other personal details unless specifically requested.

“Table Talk” – restarts this week

“Table Talk” is our study group aimed at young adults, and aims to meet every week during university term. We meet for a simple cooked meal (not compulsory) around a Table at 7pm (the cooking is shared), and this is followed at about 8pm with tea and coffee and the Talk part of the evening; we finish at about 9.30pm. This term we shall meet alternately on Tuesdays and Fridays, and the plan is shown below. The theme is “Exploring Spiritual Practices”.

- Tue 15th Jan: welcome back and planning session
- Fri 25th Jan: “Hunger and thirst for God”
- Tue 29th Jan: “Exploring fasting”
- Fri 8th Feb: “Exploring using Scripture”
- Tue 12th Feb: “Exploring prayer (part 1)”
- Fri 22nd Feb: “Exploring prayer (part 2)”
- Tue 26th Feb: “Exploring bread and wine”
- Fri 8th Mar: “Exploring fellowship”

A Doodle Poll has been set up to indicate who is going to be there for food each week. If you’re interested in coming along and are not already a regular, please have a word with Alison (so we know numbers for catering).

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### Family Snowman Drive – Saturday 26th January

Do you want to build a snowman? In this winter version of a “beetle drive” there will be fun for all the family. It’s a social event, so there is no charge. In order that it’s not too late for children, we want to start playing promptly at 6pm, so please arrive from 5.30pm. Speak to Denise if you’d like to know more.

## **“Science Meets Faith” – Wesley Church, Monday 14th January**

This series continues tomorrow evening when Dr David Williams, Associate Lecturer at the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge will give a lecture entitled “Light to the World – Experiences of a Veterinary Ophthalmologist”. It starts at 7.45pm, with refreshments from 7.15pm.

David Williams qualified from Cambridge University in 1988, aiming to devote his professional life to veterinary ophthalmology. Having worked at the Animal Health Trust and Royal Veterinary College, where he gained a PhD researching in ocular immunology, David returned to Cambridge, and studied for his fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons with a dissertation on ocular abnormalities in farmed halibut as part of his continuing interest in exotic animal medicine. A doctorate in veterinary medicine at the University of Cambridge’s Department of Veterinary Medicine concentrated on age-related cataracts in dogs, cats and horses and what that can tell us about cataracts in human patients. He now teaches ophthalmology there and runs the ophthalmology clinic. From early in his career David has been passionate about improving animal welfare and encouraging veterinary ethics. He is a diplomate of the European College of Animal Welfare and Behaviour Medicine, has a Master’s in Education and is currently undertaking a Doctorate in that subject, focussing on the teaching of veterinary ethics and animal welfare.

“Open my eyes, Lord, so I can see wonderful things from your word,” says the psalmist. Vision is so important both in real life and as a metaphor for spiritual insight. And yet Paul tells us in his second letter to the Corinthians that we “walk by faith not by sight”. Nearly forty million people globally are blind and about four times that many have visual disturbance. And one might think that human ophthalmology is thus far more important than caring for animal eyesight. Yet animals are part of God’s wonderful creation and so care for them is significant too. Animal eyes have just about the same range of diseases as human eyes, from dry eye and corneal ulcers to cataract and retinal degeneration. So, while certainly there are lessons which veterinary ophthalmologists can learn from human doctors, there are also important features of treating dog and cat eyes that can impact on human ocular conditions. We have successful treatment for dry eye in dogs which is now used in people and our studies of cataract in dogs and horses can hopefully improve measures of slowing the progression of lens opacities in people as well as in animals.

Many of the “Science Meets Faith” talks have been recorded, and can be downloaded as podcasts from <http://bit.ly/2TsOnih> – so why not have a listen if you’d like to get a flavour of what they’re like?

