



# CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

*Where all are welcome – all the time*

[www.castlestreet.org.uk](http://www.castlestreet.org.uk)

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## Sunday 24th March 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 usually served in the hall after Sunday services – do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.*

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<b>Sun 24th Mar</b>	10.00	Simple Prayer Time
	<b>10.45</b>	<b>MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION</b> <b>Rev Alison Walker</b>
		<i>Bible readings: Psalm 63: 1-8 (page 491); Luke 13: 1-9 (page 72)</i>
	<b>18.30</b>	<b>EVENING WORSHIP</b> <b>Jim Taylor</b>
		<i>Bible readings: Genesis 28: 10-19 (page 23)</i> <i>Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 (page 14)</i>
		<i>Prayer topic: for our housebound members</i>
<b>Wed 27th Mar</b>	10.00	“Time to Be” prayer and fellowship
	10.30-12.00	Coffee morning
	12.00-13.00	Strength and balance exercise class
<b>Thu 28th Mar</b>	10.00-12.00	“First Friends” baby and toddler group
<b>Fri 29th Mar</b>	19.45 for 20.00	Lent course: “Caring for Creation” <i>(see overleaf)</i>
<b>Sun 31st Mar</b>	<b>10.45</b>	<b>MORNING WORSHIP</b> <b>Phyllis Salmon</b>
	<b>18.30</b>	<b>EVENING WORSHIP</b> <b>Meditation Service at Wesley Church</b>

## 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.

### Rose Pettit, RIP

Rose Pettit died last Sunday (17th March), following a short illness. Her funeral will take place at 2pm on 12th April at Maidstone Crematorium in Kent. We remember Margaret and the rest of Rose's family in our prayers.

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### Lent course: "Caring for Creation" – Friday, 7.45pm for 8pm

This week's session is the fourth in the series of five, and is about "Coming out of Denial". Many of us find it hard to face up to the reality of climate change, and make the necessary changes to our lifestyle. We need to understand why this is so, and how our faith can help us.

This week's "repeats" at Haslingfield Methodist Church (tonight at 6pm) and Toft Methodist Church (Wednesday morning at 10am for 10.15am) will be the third sessions, about "The Age of Humans" (see last week's notice sheet or the March *Castle View*), with the fourth session being next Sunday evening (31st March) and Wednesday 3rd April respectively.

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### Methodist Women in Britain East Anglia District Day – this Thursday

The MWiB East Anglia Spring District Day, on the topic "The Sound of Silence", is taking place this Thursday (28th March) at Dereham Methodist Church, starting at 11am (with coffee from 10am) and finishing at about 3.30pm. Please bring your own lunch. This day of Bible study, prayer and reflections will be led by Mrs Judith Lampard.

## **Travel Talk and Supper at St Luke's – correct date is Saturday 6th April**

There has been some confusion over the date of the third and last of this year's Saturday evening travel talks at St Luke's, "In the Footsteps of Livingstone: a Journey to Malawi", with Paul and Angela Gibbs, as the date was changed after some publicity appeared. The correct date is Saturday 6th April (not last night). Other details shown in *Castle View* are, however, correct. Tickets are also available from Heather, priced £10.

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## **"I wonder..." – Thursday 11th April at Castle Street**

"I wonder..." is a place of imagination and creativity where children explore a famous Bible story in a style called "Godly Play". It is a place of openness and listening which encourages each child to find their own meaning and respond to stories through words, art and play, and a place of friendship and caring, open to those of all faiths or none.

Our Easter holiday storytelling session (during the first week of the school holidays, over a week before Easter) will be split into two groups for children aged 3-5 and 6-10. Two to three adults will be present in each session which will last for around sixty minutes. Parents and younger children are welcome to stay for play and refreshments. The session starts at 10.30am, with welcome and registration from 10.15am. A cost of £2 per session covers children's art materials and refreshments.

To register, please visit [www.castlestreet.org.uk/i-wonder](http://www.castlestreet.org.uk/i-wonder) or telephone Alison.

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## **Easter School for Preachers at Wesley House, Cambridge: "How can it be?"**

This inspirational short course is taking place during Holy Week and offers a unique opportunity for those who preach or lead worship to join leading academics and spend time reflecting, learning and developing their gifts. The course is held in a devotional atmosphere, giving participants the opportunity to deepen their own spiritual journey and experience the rhythm of community prayer at Wesley House. It's taking place from lunchtime on Monday 15th until the afternoon of Wednesday 17th April.

For full details of the programme, more background information and to register, visit [www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/study/short-courses/easterschool/](http://www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/study/short-courses/easterschool/). There are a few bursaried non-residential places available for Local preachers and Worship Leaders, and the cost is £150 with the code "Bursary" (that's pretty much half price).

### **“Y-Pray?” – 3rd to 5th May at The Hayes Conference Centre**

This is a conference for women who are interested in exploring prayer creatively, and is especially aimed at those who have not previously participated in such conferences or the (Women’s) World Day of Prayer. It runs from Friday evening (3rd May) to after lunch on Sunday (5th May), and The Hayes Conference Centre is at Swanwick in Derbyshire. The programme includes worship, bible study and creative prayer, plus more light-hearted activities and the chance to find out what WDP as all about. The cost is £125 per person, which includes en suite accommodation and all meals. For more information and to book, visit [www.wwdp.org.uk/y-pray-2019-3/](http://www.wwdp.org.uk/y-pray-2019-3/). Methodist Women in Britain is providing bursaries: visit [mwib.org.uk/index.php/prayer-and-worship/](http://mwib.org.uk/index.php/prayer-and-worship/) and follow the link.

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### **Job vacancy: Regional Learning and Development Officer (part-time)**

A part-time Regional Learning and Development Officer for the East of England Region is sought, working 17.5 hours per week on a fixed eighteen-month contract. It is a home-based position, working across Methodism in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. If you are keen and enthusiastic about helping to further the mission of our churches, circuits and districts, then this could be for you. As an experienced professional with a proven track record in learning and development, you will be part of a learning network within the Discipleship and Evangelism Cluster of The Methodist Church.

The successful candidate will join a regional team of four people and a 43-strong network of learning and development professionals across Britain – the Learning Network. For a lay employee, a salary of £26,600-£32,250 per annum pro rata is offered depending on skills and experience. For more details about the role, visit [www.methodist.org.uk/jobopportunities/](http://www.methodist.org.uk/jobopportunities/). The closing date for applications is midday on 12th April 2019, with interviews being held on 24th April.

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### **Coming up early next month...**

- “Fireside” at Wesley Church – Tuesday 2nd April at 2.45pm: AGM, followed by an illustrated talk by David Taylor on the subject “Colecting Things”.
- “Science Meets Faith” at Wesley Church – Monday 8th April at 7.45pm: “Driverless cars: their impact on society” with Prof Helen Atkinson CBE FEng, Pro Vice Chancellor, Cranfield University.