



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

Where all are welcome – all the time

www.castlestreet.org.uk   castlestreetmethodist  castlestchurch

Sunday 1st December 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.

Sun 1st Dec
(Advent Sunday)

10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev Dr Peter Graves

Bible readings: Romans 13: 11-14 (page 153)
Matthew 24: 36-44 (page 26)

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP at Wesley Church
Advent Carols (see overleaf)

Prayer topic: World AIDS Day

Wed 4th Dec

10.00 “Time to Be” prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 Strength and balance exercise class

17.30 “Breathing Space” at St Luke’s (see overleaf)

Thu 5th Dec

10.00-12.00 “First Friends” baby and toddler group

18.00 Open Bible Study Group

Sun 8th Dec

10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Rev Alison Walker

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP
John Boocock

The **Methodist** Church 



We are a
FAIRTRADE
church

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.

Service this evening – Advent Carols at Wesley Methodist Church

As part of our programme of occasional joint evening services with Wesley Methodist Church (some at Wesley, some at Castle Street), this evening we shall unite for a service of Advent Carols. It will be at Wesley, and starts at 6.30pm. Obviously, music will feature quite heavily, and anyone from Castle Street who would like to join the choir (singing a couple of items on their own) will be made very welcome; the choir will rehearse from 5.15pm. Please do go along and support this special united act of worship.

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### **St Giles' Christmas Tree Festival 2019 – “Hope for the Future”**

This annual event at St Giles' Church has now opened, and runs until next Sunday (8th December). The church will be open between 10am and 4pm every day (although please be aware of any services taking place on the Sundays). Admission is free, and refreshments will be available from 12 noon.

This afternoon, there will be an Advent Carol Service by Candlelight, with Cantores (conducted by Jeremy Wong); it starts at 3.30pm, and will be followed by afternoon tea. Then, on Wednesday afternoon (4th December) between 2pm and 4.30pm you can enjoy a Seasonal Tea Among the Trees, and relax with a piano accompaniment by Colin Floodgate. Meanwhile, on Saturday afternoon (7th December) there will be a Children's Party from 3pm to 4.30pm, with a visit from Father Christmas.

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CCHP starts this week

Please remember all the volunteers and our guests in your prayers.

“Fireside” at Wesley Methodist Church – Tuesday (3rd December) at 2.45pm

The speaker at this meeting will be Alan Fawcett, whose topic is “The Secrets of English Mediaeval Church Wall Paintings”. Why, where, and when were they painted? Who painted them, and what did they portray? Where can you find them now? Alan will give the answers to all these questions. If you’d like to know more about the “Fireside” series, please speak to Amanda.

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**“Breathing Space” – Wednesday (4th December) at 5.30pm at St Luke’s**

The third “Breathing Space”, the new monthly Church at Castle Wednesday evening prayer meeting, takes place this week at St Luke’s Church, starting at 5.30pm and aiming to finish at about 6.30pm.

After greetings and refreshment there will be some opening prayers, usually a time of Bible reading and / or poetry, perhaps followed by some music. This will lead into a short period of silence before the main time of prayer. The atmosphere will be informal, the prayers freely formatted. As the Psalms show us, prayers may take the form of complaints and laments as well as praises, thanks and petitions. As we continue in this format month by month, we hope that during the time of silence we will be able to leave all our personal problems and plans behind us and concentrate solely on drawing close to God and his will for Church at Castle; we wish to see the power of prayer within our churches and their communities.

For more information, please contact Margaret Cooper (e-mail: mc dot golly24 at talktalk dot net) or Mike Good (e-mail: mikegood at ntlworld dot com).

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Storey’s Way Housegroup Christmas Celebration – Thursday 12th December

All are welcome to come along to this Christmas Celebration at the home of Joy and Geoff from 7.30pm, with readings and carols round the tree and a sharing of festive food – but note it’s a day earlier than originally advertised.

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**JMA Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning at Royston – next Saturday**

There will be cakes, a book stall, toys, jigsaws and gifts at this event next Saturday (7th December) at Royston Methodist Church, as well as coffee and mince pies. It’s open from 9.30am until midday. JMA (Junior Mission for All) supports schools, churches, orphanages and hospitals in developing countries as well as projects in Britain.

### **Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell Methodist Church – next weekend**

The nineteenth Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell is open on Saturday 7th December from 12 noon until 6pm and on Sunday 8th December from 2.30pm until 6pm. On Saturday there will be cake and gift stalls, as well as homemade soup, rolls, toasted sandwiches and drinks; on Sunday there will be carol singing and mince pies around the fire from 4pm.

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“Science Meets Faith” at Wesley Methodist Church – Monday 9th December

“Brokenness, compassion and identity in rehabilitation after brain injury” with Dr Andrew Bateman, Reader at the School of Health and Social Care, University of Essex. Light refreshments will be served from 7.15pm, with the talk starting at 7.45pm. Admission is free, but there will be a retiring collection. For more information, including a biography of the speaker as well as details of future planned talks, visit www.wesleycam.org.uk/sciencemeetsfaith.htm.

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### **Eldon Thursday Christmas Special with Royston Roses – 12th December, 7.30pm**

Carols, seasonal music and refreshments at Royston Methodist Church. Free admission but a collection will be taken in support of Action For Children.

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“Redeeming Power” – lunchtime talk on Thursday 5th December

This is taking place at the Jubilee Centre, 59 St Andrew’s Street, starting at 1pm and lasting one hour. British Historian Lord Acton famously said that “power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” Is power fundamentally a good or bad thing? As Christians, should we avoid and reject it? Is this even possible? God is the source of all power, so does this change the ways Christians think about and use power? Should we be willing to pursue it for the good of others – and where can this go wrong? In this lunchtime talk, Philip Powell will explore the idea of redeemed power and ask the question, how do we become good stewards of this power? No booking is required.

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### **Mince pies wanted for Sunday 15th December**

It’s our All-age Carol Service on the morning of Sunday 15th December, and this is an appeal for mince pies to serve with coffee after the service.

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Items for next Sunday’s notice sheet should be sent to **Brian Carter** by Friday evening.

Tel.: (01954) 782 762

E-mail: notices *at* castlestreet *dot* org *dot* uk