



# CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

*"Where all are welcome – all the time"*

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

## Sunday 24th November 2013

*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.*

<b>Sun 24th Nov</b>	<b>10.45 MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Alison Walker</b>
	<i>Bible readings: Jeremiah 23: 1-6 (page 663); Colossians 1: 11-20 (page 190); Luke 23: 33-43 (page 85)</i>
	<b>18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP Dan Woodhouse</b>
	<i>Bible readings: John 18: 33-37 (page 108)</i>
	<i>We pray... for women who suffer violence</i>
Wed 27th Nov	10.00 "Time To Be" prayer and fellowship
	10.30-12.00 Coffee morning
	12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class
Thu 28th Nov	10.00-12.00 Castle Street Tots
<b>Sun 1st Dec (Advent Sunday)</b>	<b>10.45 ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP Prof. Judith Lieu</b>
	12.30 Advent Austerity Lunch (see overleaf)
	<b>18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP at C.E.M. Dr. Janet Bottoms</b>

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

## **Advent Austerity Lunch**

After morning service next Sunday (1st December) the Mission and Social Responsibility Committee is holding its usual Austerity Lunch (or semi-austerity really, as the variety of soups plus bread and cheese is often substantial). Geoff and Joy Levine are our in-house guests and will give an after lunch account of some recent Indian experience, possibly entitled "The Rag-pickers' Village". Do plan to stay and join in please.



## **Journey to Christmas – prepare, journey, prayer, reflect and share**

All are invited to two Advent evenings with Dan Woodhouse and Revd. Alison Walker, on Wednesdays 4th and 11th December, starting at 7.30pm. Although linked (by the theme of journeying), you can attend either or both. Alison says it would be helpful to know who is coming along.



## **Rotas – request for volunteers**

At Castle Street, we have a number of rotas for various tasks and activities. From time to time vacancies become available as people who have been involved for years find they are unable to continue, and Audrey Seaton is appealing for new volunteers for two jobs on Sunday mornings – door stewards (to welcome people and hand out hymn books, etc.), and people to organise coffee after the service. Audrey is currently trying to put together the rotas for next year, so if you'd like to know more or wish to offer your services, please have a word with her as soon as possible.



## **Cambridge Churches Homeless Project (formerly Night Haven)**

A reminder about the two training sessions for volunteers – the first of which is this Tuesday (26th) at Little St. Mary's Church at 7.30pm. See previous notice sheets for details.



## **"Big Issues" – Attitude**

The next in this series at Histon Methodist Church takes place this Thursday (28th November), with William Cline-Bailey, a police officer in London. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start; refreshments, including tempting desserts, will be served.

### **Carol Singing – Saturday 7th December, from 2pm until 4pm**

Details of this Church at Castle event (in two week's time) can be found in *Castle View*, but help is needed. Anyone who is able to help is asked to speak to Anna Williams – as well as offers of mince pies (to be handed out to passers-by), plenty of singers are needed. So if you enjoy singing Christmas carols, we hope you will come along.



### **More carol singing – Saturday 14th December**

Another Church at Castle group is to go carol singing around new housing developments in the parish. Meet at St. Giles' at 2pm; it will finish at 4pm.



### **Alternative Christmas gifts from MRDF**

Are you struggling to find a suitable gift for the person who has everything (they need)? Look no further, choose one of the Alternative Christmas Gifts from MRDF (the Methodist Relief and Development Fund). Whichever gift you choose, you will be helping MRDF's partners to tackle poverty and injustice in some of the world's poorest communities. For each gift, you will receive a card featuring a picture of the gift and explaining how it will make a difference, for you to give to the person who has everything. Leaflets can be found at the back of the church, and in the foyer between the church and hall.

You might also like to take part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge, which gives the opportunity for donations to be doubled in value. MRDF is aiming to raise £40,000 for its work in Malawi, supporting young unemployed people who are particularly vulnerable, due to a lack of education or family support. The project will provide loans and training in business management, providing them with the skills and capital to set up small agricultural businesses. Donations made at 10am on 5th, 6th or 7th December will be matched pound for pound by the Reed Foundation. For more information, visit [www.mrdf.org.uk/biggive](http://www.mrdf.org.uk/biggive).



### **Piano recital in aid of St. Augustine's music – next Saturday at 6pm**

Details of this recital given by Philip Mead at St. Augustine's appeared on last week's notice sheet, or visit [www.churchatcastle.org/node/1624](http://www.churchatcastle.org/node/1624).

## **Romsey Mill Twelve Days of Christmas Match-Fund Appeal**

This is taking place between 1st and 12th December, and the first £12,000 of donations made during this time will be matched by pledges from various local businesses, led by the Coulson Building Group and Ridgeons. The target is to raise £24,000 to support one hundred young people facing tough times at school, at home or in the local community. To donate, visit [www.romseymill.org](http://www.romseymill.org), text "MILL12" to 70070, visit [justgiving.com/Romsey-Mill-12-Days-of-Christmas](http://justgiving.com/Romsey-Mill-12-Days-of-Christmas), or send a cheque (payable to Romsey Mill) to Romsey Mill, Hemingford Road, Cambridge, CB1 3BZ. Romsey Mill works with some of the most disadvantaged families and young people in Cambridge, and is finding that demand for its services keeps on growing. Help them to help those in most need.



## **Christmas Tree Festival at St. Giles' Church**

St. Giles' fifth annual Christmas Tree Festival is about to take place:

- Friday 29th November at 6pm: Grand Opening by the Mayor of Cambridge, music from Ely Waits, and refreshments.
- Saturday 30th November: church open from 10am to 4pm, with a Scandinavian Advent Wreath Workshop (open event, all proceeds to charity) and charity stalls.
- Sunday 1st December at 3pm: Advent Carols followed by St. Giles' tea.
- Monday 2nd to Friday 6th December: church open from 10am to 4pm, with lunchtime music, readings and reflections, and hot refreshments.
- Saturday 7th December: church open from 10am to 4pm, with a Christmas Topiary Tree Workshop from 2.30 to 4.30pm (must be booked), carol singing at the gates from 2 to 4pm, and charity stalls.
- Sunday 8th December at 4pm: combined concert by CSD Brass and Christingle service, followed by cupcake tea.



## **Items for the December and January *Castle View* double issue...**

... should be with its Editor, Colin Moule, today please.

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: [briancarter@o2email.co.uk](mailto:briancarter@o2email.co.uk)