



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 19th January 2014

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 19th Jan 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP – COVENANT SERVICE, WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Rev. Alison Walker

Bible readings: Exodus 24: 3-11 (p. 67); Jeremiah 31: 27-34 (p. 672); Romans 12: 1-2 (p. 153); Mark 14: 22-25 (p. 49)

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP at C.E.M.
Rev. Norman Setchell

We pray... for a new start in our Covenant with God

Wed 22nd Jan 10.00 "Time To Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 23rd Jan 10.00-12.00 Castle Street Tots

Sun 26th Jan 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Jean Simmonds

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP
Jim Taylor

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

Lent groups – final call for book orders

Although it's still January and Lent does not start until 5th March, but if you would like to join our Lent Course this year, "Time to Talk of God", then we need to buy copies of the book, available through the Methodist Book Centre, priced £3.50.

The book encourages what it calls "Christian conversation", or being able to talk simply and openly about our faith – both inside the church, and to our friends outside the church. Over six sessions we will read the book through, and engage with the ideas and each other.

You can of course go ahead and buy your copy, or we can get a single delivery (but no discount on the price). If you think you might like to attend the Lent Course and would like us to order a copy of the book for you, please put your name on the list by next Sunday (26th January).

At this stage you are not committing yourself to attend – in fact, you may want to buy the book and see for yourself, before deciding whether to come along. Details such as time and place will be agreed later. It is expected that at least one group will be in Haslingfield, one at Castle Street, with hopefully another one somewhere in the Parish of the Ascension and perhaps one either at Sturton Street or at a member's home; it is also hoped there will be both daytime and evening sessions.



Appeal to help the displaced Syrian people

Many thanks to the kind people who got together warm clothes in time for the container to Syria, organised by the Luton Islamic Centre. The deadline for receipt of goods was last Thursday, and now the items are being checked and packed into vehicles, which teams of Muslim men will drive to Syria to ensure the items get through.

The next collection is baby milk, nappies, baby wipes, and sanitary pads for the mothers. All will need to be new and still in their packaging. We don't have a date yet for when these will be needed for transport, but it's likely to be fairly soon. Anne Littlefair's contact in Cambridge told the people in Luton that a church was helping, and they were amazed and encouraged. If you can, please let Anne have donated items as soon as possible – her mobile phone number is 07749 569 111.

“Saturday Nights at St. Luke’s” – The Land of the Long White Cloud

The first of three travel talks with themed suppers takes place next Saturday (25th January) at 6.30pm, when Paul and Sylvia Custerson take us on a journey in New Zealand. Tickets (which include supper and soft drinks) cost £10, and are available from the stewards.



“Big Issues” Series – Can we feed the world without GM foods?

The next in this series at Histon Methodist Church takes place this Thursday (23rd January) at 7pm for a 7.30pm start, and will be presented by Professor Sir Brian Heap, President of the European Academies Science Advisory Council. Coffee and tempting desserts served!



Methodist consultation on same-sex marriage and civil partnership

Methodist Church policy currently does not permit same-sex marriage ceremonies and the blessing of civil partnerships on Methodist premises. The 2013 Conference set up a working party to look at whether that policy should be reviewed, and people’s views are currently being sought. Full details can be found at www.methodist.org.uk/ssmcpworkinggroup; a paper copy can be requested by telephoning (020) 7486 5502. The survey can be completed anonymously, but it is required to enter “East Anglia District”. We hope people will respond – the deadline for completion is 9am on Monday 10th February.



An evening with Roz Savage – preliminary confirmation of date

This event will take place on Tuesday 4th February from 6.30pm until 8pm, at Heffers book shop in Trinity Street. More details will follow, or visit www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for “Roz Savage”.



Items for the February *Castle View*...

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

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next week’s notice sheet, by Wednesday evening this week.

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