CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH "Where all are welcome – all the time" www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 30th November 2014 – Advent Sunday

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 30th Nov B | | MORNING WORSHIP Kimberley Rayson 1 Corinthians 1: 4-9 (page 157) Mark 13: 24-37 (page 48) |
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| | 18.30 | UNITED EVENING WORSHIP Rev. Alison Walker & Rev. Geoff Dumbreck |
| | We pray | for the joy and promise of Advent |
| Tue 2nd Dec | 14.30 | Advent Course at Storey's House |
| Wed 3rd Dec | 10.00 | "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship |
| | 10.30-12.00 | Coffee morning |
| | 12.00-13.00 | "Forever Active" exercise class |
| Thu 4th Dec | 10.00-12.00 | "First Friends" baby and toddler group |
| 19.00 for 20.15 | | Thursday Table Talk: Advent Course |
| Sun 7th Dec | 10.45 | MORNING WORSHIP Prof. Morna Hooker-Stacey |
| | 18.30 | UNITED EVENING WORSHIP <i>at C.E.M.</i> Dr. Janet Bottoms |

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

Funeral of Doris Buck, RIP

The funeral of Doris Buck, who died rather suddenly on Wednesday 12th November, will take place tomorrow (Monday 1st December) at 1.45pm in the East Chapel at Cambridge Crematorium. All are welcome. We remember in our prayers Betty, Fred and the rest of the family.

Training session for the new AV equipment

The installation of most of the visual part of our new audio-visual system should now be complete. Tim Smith, the installer of the new equipment, will hold a familiarisation session for interested people at 7pm on Wednesday (3rd December). Do come along if you can.

Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project – urgent appeal for help

We still need volunteers to help on Wednesday evenings and nights from January. So far there are only seven people from Castle Street who have volunteered – fewer than last year. We will of course be working as Church at Castle and will probably benefit from some Federation students, but we do need more people from our own church, particularly for the overnight stays.

Plus, there is a need for two key roles (which could be shared) to enable each church to receive the sleeping bags and other kit, and to try to support the guests and provide a continuity of care across the nights and locations. Please do speak to Alison (tel: (01223) 872 862) if you would like any other information or to volunteer your services.

For anyone who has not previously attended a training session, there is one this Tuesday (2nd December) at Little St. Mary's Church. It starts at 7.30pm with a hot meal, and the training follows. (Anyone planning to go to this should let Alison know, please, so that numbers are known for catering purposes.)

One Sound concert – Saturday 3rd January 2015

A reminder that tickets for this event can be obtained from Ron Seaton. For more details, see *Castle View*.

Children's workers' meeting

A reminder that there will be another get-together with John Hardwick on Thursday (4th December) at 7.45pm at Haslingfield Methodist Church. There will be refreshments and a time to share stories and ideas from our local churches. John will then be sharing resources and giving some input on the issue of how we might minister interestingly and appropriately during the current years of remembrance about World War I. It should be a really interesting and helpful evening.

Please let Simon Oliver know by tomorrow (Monday) if you are intending to come along (tel. 07554 20 29 29 or e-mail simon.oliver@cantab.net).

Christmas Tree Festival at St. Giles and associated services

This annual event has started and continues until next Sunday (7th December). It is open daily from 10am until 4pm. For more details, see the posters and leaflets, or visit www.churchatcastle.org/node/1909.

This afternoon, starting at 3pm, there is an Advent Carol Service with Advent carols, Advent readings, and music from singers assembled for the day; it's followed by a tea (donations will be requested). Next Sunday afternoon (7th December) at 3.30pm there will be a Christingle Service (especially for children – and families are invited to come at 3.15pm to start making the Christingles), with CSD Brass providing rousing music. It will be followed by refreshments – cupcakes and drinks.

The Big Give

All We Can (the Methodist Relief and Development Fund) is participating in The Big Give to raise funds for its work in Burundi. Donate on-line on 4th, 5th and 6th December as soon after 10am as possible and your gift can be matched (allocating funds to different organisations begins at 10am, and there is a set amount of match-funding available each day). This year it is aiming to raise £35,000 for its partners in Burundi, equipping people with farming land and the tools and skills to grow enough for their families to eat. For more information and to make donations visit www.allwecan.org.uk/current-appeals/the-big-give (or search for "Big Give 2014" from the home page, www.allwecan.org.uk).

Online Advent Calendar

There's an online Advent Calendar on the Royston Methodist Church website, with a new window to open every day, starting tomorrow (1st December). Visit www.royston-methodist.org.uk and click on the link.

Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning at Royston

Royston Methodist Church is holding a Christmas Bazaar and coffee morning next Saturday (6th December) from 9.30am until midday. Admission is free, and all are welcome. It's in aid of JMA, supporting schools, churches, orphanages and hospitals in developing countries.

St. Nicolas Day Celebration – Saturday 6th December at St. Giles'

6th December is St. Nicholas Day, and a special day in many European countries. The Parish of St. John the Evangelist, the Romanian congregation who share St. Giles' Church, invite you to come and enjoy a programme of traditional Romanian Carols next Saturday at 10am.

Histon Methodist Church Wednesday Afternoon Concerts

Histon Methodist Church is holding two free hour-long concerts on Wednesday afternoons in December, both starting at 2.30pm:

- Wednesday 10th December: Tom Bryans (classical guitar)
- Wednesday 17th December: Matthew McCombie (keyboard and organ)

There will be a retiring collection for the Church Development Fund.

"Singing Allowed" Winter Concert – Monday 8th December at 7.30pm The choir that rehearses in our hall is again using our church for a concert – admission is free, but there will be a collection in aid of the Red Hen Project. Please do come along and support the concert.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next Sunday's notice sheet, ideally by Friday evening.

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