



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

"Where all are welcome – all the time"

www.castlestreet.org.uk

Sunday 7th December 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 7th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Prof. Morna Hooker-Stacey

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP at C.E.M.
Dr. Janet Bottoms

We pray... for peace in the world

Mon 8th Dec 19.30 Concert by "Singing Allowed" (*see overleaf*)

Tue 9th Dec 14.30 Advent Course at Storey's House (week4)

Wed 10th Dec 10.00 "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 "Forever Active" exercise class

Thu 11th Dec 10.00-12.00 "First Friends" baby and toddler group

19.00 for 20.15 Thursday Table Talk: Advent Course (week 4)

Sun 14th Dec 10.45 MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Geoff Dumbreck

18.30 UNITED EVENING WORSHIP WITH
HOLY COMMUNION
Rev. Alison Walker

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

Bible readings for this morning's service

Isaiah 40: 1-11 (*page 612*); Mark 1: 1-8 (*page 33*); 2 Peter 3: 8-15a (*page 226*)



Christmas Tree Festival at St. Giles' Church

Today is the last day of this event, and it closes at 4pm – do try to pop over the road if you've not yet done so. To close the festival, there will be a Christingle Service at 3.30pm this afternoon, with CSD Brass providing rousing music. Families are invited to come along at 3.15pm to start making the Christingles. The service will be followed by refreshments – cupcakes and drinks.



"Singing Allowed" Winter Concert – tomorrow evening 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 – there will be refreshments afterwards.



Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project – urgent appeal for help

We still need volunteers to help on Wednesday evenings and nights from January. Anyone who is able to help is asked to contact Revd. Alison Walker. For more information, see *Castle View* or speak to Alison.



"Science meets Faith": Can science make us better humans?

The next in this series at Wesley Methodist Church takes place tomorrow evening (Monday 8th December), when John Bryant will discuss the subject of Bioethics.

On the one hand, genetics and developmental biology combine to provide us with a means of selecting "healthier" children. On the other hand, the transhumanism movement wants us to be "better than well" and suggests that science can deliver that objective. How realistic are these claims and, if they are realistic, what are the ethical and social implications that arise? How do we decide what is right and what is wrong? Does faith help us in this decision-making? See www.wesleycam.org.uk for more about John.

Wednesday Afternoon Advent Concerts at Histon

Histon Methodist Church is holding two free hour-long concerts on Wednesday afternoons 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.



Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell

Next weekend there is a Christmas Tree Festival at Orwell Methodist Church. On Saturday (13th December) it is open from noon until 6pm, and there will be cakes and gift stalls, and homemade soup, rolls, toasted sandwiches and drinks. On Sunday (14th December) it is open from 2pm until 6pm, with carol singing round the fire at 4pm. All are welcome.



Romsey Mill “Twelve Days of Christmas” appeal

Romsey Mill is asking for help to raise £12,000 to work with local young people facing challenges in their lives – at home, at school and in the community. There is a growing call for the services of Romsey Mill, and this money will help it to meet this need in 2015.

Any donation, large or small, *will* make a difference. There are several ways in which donations can be made:

- visit www.romseymill.org;
- visit justgiving.com/Romsey-Mill-12-Days-of-Christmas-2014;
- text MILL12£5 or MILL12£10 to 70070 to donate £5 or £10 respectively;
- send a cheque (payable to Romsey Mill) to Romsey Mill, Hemingford Road, Cambridge, CB1 3BZ.



Prayer Vigil for Christians in the Middle East

A prayer vigil to stand in solidarity with people in the Middle East, including Christians in Iraq and Syria, will be held at St. Columba’s United Reformed Church, Downing Street, on Thursday (11th December). At 5.30pm there is a talk from Dr. Amal Marogy of the Aradin Charitable Trust; the prayer vigil will begin at 6.15pm and last for half an hour.

Some carol services this week

- City Workers' Carol Service – Monday 8th December, 6.30pm at St. Andrew the Great. Organised by the Chaplaincy to People at Work in partnership with John Lewis. Mince pies and refreshments from 6pm.
- Cambridge United Community Carol Service – Tuesday 9th December at 7pm the R Costings Abbey Stadium. Special guests will be Jeremy Sallis of BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Robert Dryden. The Salvation Army Band will be performing, as will children's choirs from local schools. The service will be part of the "Silent Night Carols" national initiative, which highlights the role that both carols and football had in the Christmas Truce of 1914, where British and German soldiers laid down their guns and exchanged gifts in no-man's-land. As part of this, there will be an exhibition on World War One in the Dublin Suite, where refreshments will also be on sale.
- Action for Children Carol Service – Wednesday 10th December at 7pm at Wesley Methodist Church (see *Castle View* for details).



Storytelling course, led by John Hardwick

This is to take place on the evenings of Thursdays 15th, 22nd and 29th January 2015 at Castle Street. There's no charge, but places need to be reserved by contacting Revd. Simon Oliver. More details soon...



"Amanda and Friends" – Saturday 13th December at 7pm

Amanda Roocroft is an international opera singer and Olivier Award winner, and is one of the top sopranos in the UK. She also teaches singing locally, and is a member of Bluntisham Baptist Church. Next Saturday evening, Amanda with friends and students present a concert at St. Ives Free Church; it's in aid of the Friends of St. Ives Corn Exchange. Tickets (£10 including refreshments) can be obtained from "Just Sharing" at the Free Church or online via www.ticketsource.co.uk/stivescornexchange.

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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