



# CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

## Sunday 23rd July 2017

*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 23rd Jul            10.45    MORNING WORSHIP**

**Elsie Salmon**

*Bible readings: Genesis 28: 10-19a (page 23)*

*Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 (page 14)*

### **18.30    EVENING WORSHIP**

**Rebekah Blyth**

*We pray... for those with disabilities, and the charities that support them*

Wed 26th Jul            10.00    "Time to Be" prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00    Coffee morning

12.00-13.00    "Forever Active" exercise class

Sat 29th Jul            12.00-15.00    Summer Social at the Manse *(details overleaf)*

### **Sun 30th Jul            10.45    MORNING WORSHIP**

**Rev. Simon Oliver**

### **18.30    EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

**Rev. Alison Walker**

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

## **Questionnaire about Sunday evening services**

The stewards are trying to survey everyone at Castle Street about their views on our Sunday evening worship. We would like responses from as many people as possible, including those who do not attend evening services here. Responses are anonymous.

A questionnaire has been produced – if you haven't yet been given one, please pick one up, take it away, fill it in, and bring it back (there's a box for them at the back of the church). It will also be available over the next few weeks, and can also be obtained electronically by e-mailing Brian (e-mail address at bottom of last page). We'd appreciate forms being returned by the end of July – next Sunday. Thank you.



## **Summer Social on Saturday**

The next Summer Social, next Saturday from midday until 3pm, will be a barbeque at the Manse (address on the printed notice sheet and in *Castle View*). Please bring items to cook and share on the barbeque – Alison and Robin will provide salads, buns and sauces. It would be helpful (but not essential) to let Alison and Robin know if you're planning to go.

There are then three Summer Socials in August, details of which are listed in *Castle View*; the first is between 3pm and 6pm on Thursday 3rd August, at the new home of Pam and Don Fisher in Comberton. Thank you to all who have hosted Summer Socials so far, and to those who have supported them. Monetary donations are in aid of the Methodist Church World Mission Fund.



## **Reimagine East of England – Saturday 7th October, 9.30am to 4pm**

Reimagine is a conference for Methodists who want to think differently about the future of their church. The day is intended for anyone interested in or doing mission in their local church – coffee mornings, café church, parents' groups, etc.. Hosted at St. Ives Methodist Church, we'll spend a day being inspired about what's possible. An expert panel of practitioners and pioneers will share what's worked in their contexts, and, more importantly, what's not worked. The event is free. If you'd like to go, please contact Alison urgently – tickets are limited in number. For more information, visit [reimaginemethodism.wordpress.com](http://reimaginemethodism.wordpress.com).

## **Petition regarding Fairtrade tea at Sainsbury's**

Castle Street is officially a Fairtrade church, and only uses Fairtrade products where they are available. Included in this, of course, is the tea and coffee we serve after services. Castle Street members have also been involved in Fairtrade campaigning for many years.

Sainsbury's is the largest retailer of Fairtrade products in the UK. However, it has decided to drop the official "Fairtrade" logo (as seen on the front of *Castle View*) on its own-brand tea, and replace it with its own "Fairly Traded" logo. This means that its Red and Gold Label, Green and Rooibos teas are no longer Fairtrade certified. Sainsbury's is piloting a self-run sustainability scheme instead, and these are the first products launched as part of it.

Sainsbury's has asked the Fairtrade Foundation to work with them on their scheme, but the Fairtrade Foundation has some major concerns about it. These can be read in full at <http://bit.ly/2tlnSIY>, but they include the fact that farmers do not have a fair say in how the scheme is run. The cash bonus that farmers receive on top of what they earn for their tea (similar to the Fairtrade Premium) no longer goes directly to them, and instead is held by Sainsbury's and the farmers must apply to a board in London to find out whether they can have it.

Over 220,000 tea producers stand to be affected by the change, and those the Fairtrade Foundation has spoken to are deeply dismayed. They have written an open letter to Sainsbury's (see <http://bit.ly/2uLsWms>).

Another major concern is that the Sainsbury's "Fairly Traded" branding on the tea could be mistaken for the official "Fairtrade" logo (the most recognised and trusted ethical label in the world), leading consumers to think that the tea has been independently certified.

Barbara Gwinnett has started a petition, urging Sainsbury's to reconsider, and not to ditch the official Fairtrade standards and certification. It will be delivered to Mike Coupe, Chief Executive of the Sainsbury's Group. The petition is supported by Oxfam, Cafod, Christian Aid, Traidcraft Exchange, Tearfund, the Trade Justice Movement, and Commitment for Life. We would encourage people at Castle Street to sign it – it can be found on the change.org website at <http://bit.ly/2sDTd1g>.

## Church Council dates

Advance notice that the Church Council will next meet on Tuesday 7th November 2017 and Thursday 8th February 2018, while the 2018 General Church Meeting will be on Sunday 29th April. Minutes of the recent General Church Meeting (not the Church Council, as stated last week) are now available – if you'd like to read them, please speak to Gilbert.



## Vacancies at Living Stones Café (at St. Andrew's Street Baptist Church)

Closing date for applications is 31st July. Full details can be obtained from Fiona Philips (e-mail: tripletmum *at* ntlworld *dot* com):

- Café Manager: 37.5 hours per week, salary from £18,000 per annum (depending on experience). The Café Manager will contribute to the development of the Café as a tool for mission and evangelism alongside the Minister, Leadership Team and Church Community, working alongside the church fellowship volunteers and staff preparing and serving food. The role will include training and support of volunteers and staff. A knowledge of Health and Safety within a catering environment is essential.
- Café Assistants: hours negotiable, salary £7.50 per hour (depending on experience and qualifications). The Café Assistants will work alongside church fellowship volunteers preparing and serving food and spending time sharing God's love with the customers being served.



## Weekly notice sheet during August

As in previous summers, it is planned to produce the weekly notice sheet every Sunday during the summer holiday except on 27th August (the bank holiday weekend, when the morning service will be at St. Luke's at 10.30am). Please note, however, that production may take place a day or two earlier than normal – so meeting the Thursday evening (or earlier) deadline is much more important than usual!

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

Tel: (01954) 782 762

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