



CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

Where all are welcome – all the time

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Sunday 2nd February 2020

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 usually served in the hall after Sunday services – do stay for a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Sun 2nd Feb

10.45 MORNING WORSHIP

Rev Dr Stuart Jordan

Bible readings: Micah 6: 1-8 (page 793)

Luke 2: 22-40 (page 56)

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP

Geoff Ling

Prayer topic: for those living in fear of persecution

Wed 5th Feb

10.00 “Time to Be” prayer and fellowship

10.30-12.00 Coffee morning

12.00-13.00 Strength and balance exercise class

17.30 “Breathing Space” prayer meeting *at St Giles’*

19.30 Marriage and Relationships Report Study Evening

Thu 6th Feb

10.00-12.00 “First Friends” baby and toddler group

Sun 9th Feb

10.45 ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP

Rev Alison Walker

18.30 EVENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Rev Alison Walker

The **Methodist** Church



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We are a
FAIRTRADE
church

Welcome to Castle Street Methodist Church!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the stewards and pick up a welcome leaflet. All people of this church are part of the ministry, led by the Revd Alison Walker who may be contacted electronically via the church website or by telephone on (01223) 872 862.

Our church magazine **Castle View** contains more details of events taking place each month – please pick up a copy of the latest issue.

There is a **Prayer Request** book at the back of the church, which is used during services and at prayer meetings – but remember it is on display for anyone in the church to read, so please respect the privacy of those concerned and avoid including names and other personal details unless specifically requested.

Changes ahead for the Cambridge Methodist Circuit

Two changes in the ministerial staffing of the Cambridge Circuit have been announced this week. First, Revd Simon Oliver has been appointed as a Chaplain to Addenbrooke's Hospital, effective from 1st April 2020. He will therefore be stepping down from his role at Histon Methodist Church from that date, although he has committed to continuing to work towards a transition or positive ending of "The Roost" at Cottenham and other aspects of the ministry there. Revd Alison Walker will take temporary pastoral charge at Histon from 1st April until the end of the current Connexional year on 31st August, while Deacon Ian Murray will oversee circuit involvement at Cottenham, in liaison with Simon.

Meanwhile, Revd Colin Smith has confirmed his intention to reduce his re-invitation period from four years to two, and to vacate his role as Circuit Superintendent and Wesley Minister in September 2022.

Starting immediately, and against this background, the Circuit Leadership Team will instigate a comprehensive Strategic Review of future options, challenges and resources.

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## **"Breathing Space" – Wednesday (5th February) at St Giles' Church at 5.30pm**

This is the fairly new Church at Castle monthly prayer meeting, which started in October. It meets for an hour at 5.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month, and moves between the different churches each time. Following greetings and refreshments, there will be opening prayers, a reading or poetry and perhaps some music, a short period of silence, and then the main period of prayer. The atmosphere will be informal and the prayers freely formatted. All are welcome.

### **“God in Love Unites Us”: Marriage and Relationships Report and study evening**

The February *Castle View* (available today) has a short article about the Marriage and Relationships report which was presented to the Methodist Conference in July last year. The study evening for the circuit, to be held at Castle Street this Wednesday (5th February), starting at 7.30pm and lasting two hours, will be hosted by Revd Alison Walker and Deacon Ian Murray. This will give the opportunity to learn what the report says, and to contribute to an informal session working out what it means in today’s society. We hope that many from Castle Street will go along and take part in the discussions.

Feedback on the report is sought by the District Synod, and will be collated at church level. Printed copies of the feedback form are available from the stewards, and should be returned to Chris Rayson by Sunday 19th February or as soon after as possible. The form is also available electronically: please ask Chris (e-mail: cjr43@cantab.net) if you’d like a copy, and then return it to him (by 19th February) or, if preferred, directly to the Assistant Synod Secretary, Marilyn Watsham (e-mail: m.watsham@btinternet.com) by 28th February (which is the deadline for our collective response).

We still have some printed copies of the report available (please ask a steward), but the report and other related resources are also available online – visit <https://tinyurl.com/GodInLoveUnitesUs>.

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Wesley “Fireside” – Tuesday (4th February) at 2.45pm

The February meeting of “Fireside” at Wesley Methodist Church will be with Emma Turner, on the subject of “the Conservation of Art on Paper”. Emma works for the Royal Collection and is based at Windsor Castle and will be talking about what her job involves. Tea and coffee will be served afterwards.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd March, when Lottie Taylor will ask, “Is climate change affecting Ethiopia?”

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### **“Tunes and Spoons” at Royston Methodist Church, Friday (7th February)**

...or “Dessert Island Discs Opus 8”. An evening of favourite music chosen by you, and with delicious desserts. Tickets cost £8 (or £4 for those aged 16 or under), and can be obtained from Sue (e-mail: walter962 at btinternet dot com); for more information and to choose a piece of music (classical, opera, operetta, pop, jazz, etc), please contact Richard Elcock (e-mail: rs dot elcock at btinternet dot com). Proceeds are in aid of the Royston Methodist Church Refurbishment Project. It starts at 7.15pm.

## **Sleep-out in aid of Homelessness Charities at St Giles' Church**

Over the last couple of years the Cambridge Convoy Refugee Action Group (CamCRAG) has hosted an annual sleep-out to raise awareness and funds for refugees and homeless people both here in Cambridge and in Calais. The Cambridge Churches Homelessness Project has received significant donations from these events, and CamCRAG has been a wonderful supporter of CCHP.

This year's is the third of these sleep-outs, and it's taking place on the night of Saturday 15th February. Volunteers are needed to be sponsored to sleep rough for the night, either inside the church, outside in a tent, or outside under a tarpaulin. An evening meal and breakfast will be provided. Money raised will support the work of CamCRAG in northern France and CCHP in Cambridge. For more details about the event or how to make a financial contribution, or to sign up to take part, visit the Eventbrite page at <https://qr.go.page.link/AhQob>.

On the Saturday afternoon, from 1pm until 5pm, the St Giles' Winter Fair will take place. There will be stalls, soup, a raffle and cakes, plus a choral concert from the choir "ReSound".

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Next Saturday evening Travel Talk at St Luke's

The next Travel Talk at St Luke's will take place on Saturday 29th February, when Paul and Sylvia Custerson will take us on a tour of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Tickets will be available soon, from Brian Carter or Margaret Cooper.

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## **"Science Meets Faith" at Wesley Methodist Church, Monday 10th February**

Prof Andrew Steane from the Physics Department at Oxford University will talk about "Seeking to know: a humane philosophy of science and religion". Light refreshments served from 7.15pm, with the lecture starting at 7.45pm. There will be a retiring collection. See [www.wesleycam.org.uk/sciencemeetsfaith.htm](http://www.wesleycam.org.uk/sciencemeetsfaith.htm).

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Coming soon...

Lent starts in just a few weeks' time, and the February *Castle View* gives details of a five-session study course based on the story of *Les Misérables*. It will take place fortnightly on Tuesday evenings, starting on 4th March and continuing after Easter. Meanwhile, there are also details of a circuit Lent house group on Thursday mornings at 35 Millington Road, starting on 27th February.