

CONTACT

April 2019



Volume 60 - Issue 4
Sawston Free Church – Little Abington URC – Castle Camps URC

Sawston FC Regular Church Activities but please check diary below for full details or contact the relevant group.

Sunday	1 st Sunday of month	10.30 am 3.00 pm	Morning Worship Messy Church
	2 nd Sunday of month	10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Quiet Time with God
	3 rd Sunday of month	10.30 am 6.00 pm	Morning Worship Reflective Service with Communion
	4 th Sunday of month	10.30 am	Go4th:Worship of Song, Prayer, Praise with the Worship Band No evening service
	5 th Sunday of month	10.30 am	Morning Worship No evening service
Monday	Alternate - see diary	10.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	Term time only	6.15 – 9.00pm	Boys' and Girls' Brigades
Wednesday	Fortnightly see diary	2.00 pm	Wednesday Fellowship
Thursday	Term time only	10.30 – noon	Time for Tots
Saturday	Last Saturday of month	10.30 am	Monthly Prayer Meeting

For further details of these activities, please contact one of the Elders (see back page).
Four housegroups meet regularly. For information contact the Minister or Church Secretaries.

Three Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

Date	Sawston	Lt Abington	Castle Camps
Mon 1 Apr	10.00am: Craft Group (page 14)		
Sun 7 Apr	10.30am: Morning Worship - Mr Jacob Bali 3.00pm Messy Church	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mr John Luke	10.30am: Holy Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron
Sun 14 Apr	10.30am: Palm Sunday - Mr Jacob Bali 6.00pm: Quiet Time with Sue Lelliott	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mrs Sarah Devereux	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Elizabeth Caswell
Mon 15 Apr	10.00am: Craft Group (page 14)		
Wed 17 Apr	2pm: Wednesday Fellowship (page 14) 7.30pm: Hand Washing Service - Rev Bruce Waldron & Jacob Bali		
Thurs 18 Apr	7.30pm: Remembrance Jesus' last meal - Rev Bruce Waldron & Jacob Bali		
Fri 19 Apr	10am: Walk of Witness from LOL 7.30pm: Shared Service at St Mary's		
Sun 21 Apr	6.00am: Sunrise Service at Spicer's Pavilion 10.30am: Blossoming of the Cross - Rev Bruce Waldron	2.30pm: Holy Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	10.30am: Family Service / Blossoming of the Cross - Mr Jacob Bali
Sun 28 Apr	10.30am: Go4th - Rev Bruce Waldron & Mr Jacob Bali	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mr Richard Lewney	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Paul Whittle

This diary appears on the website. If you know of anything else you would like on the web diary, email: contact@sawston.com

Rotas

	Car	Flowers		Car	Flowers
Apr 7	John Conway 833953	Janet Parr	Apr 21	Gordon Heald 833983	
Apr 14	Jill Legg 01799 218318	Brenda Camp	Apr 28	Tony Moss 834220	Hazel Felton

The closing date for **May Contact** is Thurs **18th Apr.**

**David Nunn is the editor, so please email your items
to contact@sawston.com or anne.nunn@btinternet.com**

Contact

The monthly magazine of
**Sawston Free Church, Little Abington & Castle Camps URC's
United Reformed – Methodist**

Minister: Rev. Bruce Waldron, the Manse, 3 High Street, Sawston, CB22 3BG
Tel: 01223 836786 or 07814 920187 Email: revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk
www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk
www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch

From the Minister's Desk



On Saturday 18th, we woke up to the shocking atrocity suffered by the Muslim Community in Christchurch.

At church on Sunday, in Sharing Time, Kate Leach told us how horrified she was as a New Zealander that this country, known for its compassion and openness should be the location of such a horrific act. She wanted to take some flowers to a mosque to convey our sympathy and solidarity with the Muslim community. Sharn and I were thinking the same thing and so on Monday (20th), with Kate, we left flowers at the door of the mosque with a card saying who it was from, Sawston Free Church. I wrote on it our compassion and sympathy for the Muslim community, particularly in New Zealand, and hoped that there would come a time when such things would be perpetrated no more as we are all loved by God. Lucy also sent a message to the mosque, saying what was being intended. We both received similar responses. Here's mine.

- *Dear Reverend Bruce*

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to you and your congregation for your concern and love for the community. We very much appreciated you coming and delivering the flowers. It is wonderful to have the support of people like yourselves in the community. We are one people and we will stand firm and continue to live in harmony.

We are all going through testing times. However as long as we hold firm and lookout for each other we will not be divided as a community.

Once again thank you for your kindness.

Kind regards

Omar Faruque

Mosque and Cultural Centre

There is a terrible reality in our world that Muslims are being killed all over the world, just for being Muslim. And Christians are being killed all over the world, just for being Christians. But this event, the Christchurch shootings, Kate, Lucy and Simon, myself and Sharn: we have a connection to this. What we did is not much, but it is one more small pebble in the pond, hopefully nudging our world in the right direction.

Jacinda Ardern, the New Zealand PM said: *we were not a target because we are a safe harbour for those who hate. We were not chosen for this act of violence because we condone racism, because we are an enclave for extremism. We were chosen for the very fact that we are none of these things.*

Jesus was similarly targeted, and for being even more so, none of these things. So may we stand strongly alongside all who seek to live out God's love for all of creation, and oppose with Jesus' strong love, all who feel it is alright to hate the objects of God's love.

And speaking of love, Mothering Sunday is coming quickly towards us. Looking around for material, Sue Nunn gave me this song.

If we might, think of the lyrics for the qualities of love that they promote, and knowing that God is love, compare this "Mother's love" song to the love of God for us, there are some wonderful parallels.

Mother's Love: Written by Jim Brickman.

Thank you for watching over me
All of the sleepless nights you lay awake
Thank you for knowing when to hold me close and when to let me go
Thank you for every stepping stone
And for the path that always leads me home
I thank you for the time you took
To see the heart inside of me

You gave me the roots to start this life
And then you gave me wings to fly
And I learned to dream
Because you believed in me
There's no power like it on this earth
No treasure equal to its worth
The gift of a mother's love

Thank you for every sunlit day
That fill the corners of my memory
Thank you for every selfless unsung deed
I know you did for me
Thank you for giving me the choice
To search my soul till I could find my voice
And I thank you for teaching me
To be strong enough to bend

You gave me the roots to start this life
And then you gave me wings to fly
And I learned to dream
Because you believed in me
There's no power like it on this earth
No treasure equal to its worth
The gift of a mother's love

Spring Cleaning Next Exit...

April is here... the lambs are bounding and exploring the fields, flowers are blooming in technicolour fashion, bumble bees are (well) bumbling along, and people are making the most of the sun when it shines. Whether you are one of the many people who prepare a bag of tricks for April Fool's Day or you are stocking up on antihistamines in anticipation of the rising pollen count, it goes without saying that this is an interesting time of year indeed!



April also offers us an opportunity.

It marks the end and new beginning of the financial year, when many people reckon their taxes and get their finances in order. Similarly, it is the month many people choose to do their annual spring clean, when people declutter their homes and get their gardens in order. For those observing Lent, April also represents a time of searching, discovery and a deepening awareness of the Messianic God who went to the cross for us. More specifically, it is the month we celebrate Easter and the new life offered through the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It seems that in many forms, April presents us with a chance to reorient ourselves, assess where we are now and to decide whether to keep going the same way or to choose a different path. In other words, April is an opportunity for a spring clean of our inner garden. But what do we do when we reach a fork in the road and the direction is not so clear?

During the events of the Passion of Jesus, the disciples would have been met with several forks in the road and various directions they could go. As they were forced to take a good look at their lives and make a choice. It was a hopeless time and they would have felt overwhelmed and dejected. Yet, in the midst of their time of trial and change, they met God, or it may be more appropriate to say, God met them.

Early on that first Easter morning, the bereaved women made their way to the tomb, with no idea what the future may hold and still under threat by the Roman officials, they were met with the glorious news that He had risen (Mark 6:1-8; Matthew 28:1-10; Luke 24:1-8). Following this, the male disciples hid themselves 'for fear of the Jews' and bereft with no conceivable way of moving forward, the risen Lord appeared before them (John 20:19-29). Similarly, on the road to Emmaus, the risen Lord walked with two other disciples and expounded the scriptures before their eager ears, offering words of comfort, rebuke and clarification of God's plan of salvation (Luke 24:13-35). Soon after this, when some of the disciples felt that the only way forward was to go back to their normal lives as fishermen, the risen Lord met them once again, this time with a new proposition (John 21:1-25).

In all of these moments, God met His people and gave them a chance to spring clean their lives. It was not an easy time by any means and the direction they were being asked to go would have been terrifying. Yet, they were being offered a chance, a choice, to walk a different path by faith. To walk a path that would lead to the refining of self. In his book, *Mid-Course Correction*, Gordon MacDonald writes that it is in these moments of spring cleaning that we realise that life is '***not just to acquire more things, or do more things, or know more things, but to be a genuinely noble person, to be a better companion and friend, to serve with greater humility and effectiveness, to love God more fully***'.

This April, as many spring clean their homes, ***may you be willing to let God spring clean your life.***

Jacob Bali

Living Lent is about recognising that changing our climate is not just an activity, but a lifestyle.



That's why this Lent, you are invited to become part of a community who will respond to the call to climate action by making significant personal commitments to changing our lifestyles for the climate.

As the Living Lent community, we will share in this together, encouraging and challenging one another as we journey through Lent.

Living lent is about recognising that changing our climate is not just an activity, but a lifestyle. We can buy a reusable coffee cup, but not ask who grew our coffee and how much they were paid, or we can refuse a plastic bag whilst buying fast fashion from a child sweatshop. This Lent, we want to explore as a community, what it means to open ourselves up to whole-life change for the climate.

Living Lent is not just about one decision to change...

It's about hungering and thirsting for righteousness, in our relationship with God and with the world.

It's about exploring the Lentern wilderness. Lent is a time of self-discipline in order to grow in our discipleship. Our environmental damage is making more of our earth barren wilderness; we should travel there to have our eyes opened for our need for renewal.

It's about being transformed by and in our relationships. Doing this together matters, because as a community we encourage, challenge and grow.

It's about our Christian call to love our neighbours. Climate change impacts the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world already. Our Christian call to bear the burdens of our weakest members means that those of us in the affluent west need to recognise our own abuse of the earth's resources.

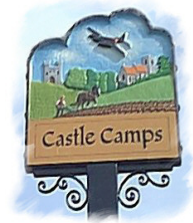
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. God created this planet and declared it very good. The creation – and everyone in it – is precious to God, and this should be reflected in the way we treat it too.

This is why we want you to inspire you to live lent with us this year. It's only 40 days, but it will have an impact forever.

As a member of the community, you are invited to make a commitment to changing your lifestyle for Lent. As the Living Lent community, we will journey through Lent by making these commitments together. We will share in devotional materials, creative, practical and spiritual resources. You will also have the chance to RSVP, to share your encouragements and challenges with the community. You could even sign up as a church community. Find out more about what that might mean here.

Joint Public Issues Team

Message From Castle Camps



April has arrived with the lighter nights and we are looking forward to the Spring weather and Easter.

We have started our Lent Course and are being guided by Jacob. It is always surprising what surfaces during these courses and other people`s views are often enlightening and stop us from being entrenched in previously held views. All good stuff.

At the beginning of March, our service was taken by Rev. Jenny Martin and she introduced us to a new hymn. She was helped in this by one of our congregation, James Davey, who is a big man with a wonderful voice and we were delighted.

James is a professional conductor and chorister and he actually led us through the hymn, so we did not sound bad at all. He has agreed to have a hymn learning session with us soon. Sara his wife has been all over the world singing with a very prestigious group on TV and Radio. She has a lovely voice and we are so lucky to have them joining our services.

Our Family service in March was taken by Jacob Bali, with Esther playing the organ. Our usual organist, Keith, was pleased to have a Sunday off, which enabled him to join the congregation and enjoy singing.

As there were five Sundays in March, we joined with our Anglican friends for a United Service at the Chapel. This coincided with Mothering Sunday, when we think of Mother Church and our own mothers. I, for one, realise how patient mine was to put up with my awful teenage self! We should like to thank Rev. Ian Fisher for conducting the service and Maureen for making the posies that we gave to our mothers.

On Easter Sunday, we shall be holding our "Blossoming of the Cross", which will be followed by an Easter egg hunt for the children.

We send our love and best wishes to you all and look forward to seeing you at our services.

Val and Friends.

An Australian came to live in one of our local villages. He went down to the pub, ordered 3 pints of beer, took them over to a table and sat down. No-one joined him and he drank all three pints. He did this on a regular basis and the landlady asked him why?



He explained that in Australia, he normally drank with his two brothers, so was continuing the ritual and thinking of them.

After a few weeks, he started ordering two pints and so the landlady assumed that one of his brothers had passed away and gave him the condolences of the pub. He explained that his two brothers were fine and it was he who had given up beer for Lent!

Footprints Café

It is now just over 6 months since the Footprints Café opened in place of the former Café at our church. Staff, students and volunteers are all working together to further the original aims that the church had with the previous scheme. We are hoping that more students will be able to join the team soon. We are waiting for the learning Disability Payments to be approved.

As a Church this is very much our café as it is being run as a partnership with the Footprints company. We provide the premises and they provide the day to day running.

Recently the atmosphere at Footprints Café, which has always been affectionately described as 'friendly', was enhanced with the first phase of an acoustic reduction panel installation. The panels, which are very discreet and placed in strategic locations around the café, absorb noise, leading to a much-improved ambience. Come on down and experience the improvement for yourself.

The panels were installed by a team from the Sawston Free Church. The cost of the materials, £2,450, was raised through a combination of grants and donations from Sawston Parish Council, John Huntingdon's Charity and Sawston Community Charity Shop, to whom the Church and the Footprints café team are grateful.

Should further funding become available the second phase of acoustic reduction will be installed.

Footprints cafe serves good value home-cooked meals, hot drinks and home made cakes every weekday from 8:30am to 3:30pm. Roast lunches are particularly popular. Buffets and parties can be arranged. *Have a Chat with Angie the Café Manager.*

Gordon Heald
for Café Support Group

Blessing of the Hands

"These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours, as together you build your future.

These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch, will comfort you like no other.

These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief fills your mind.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow, and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children.

These are the hands that will help you to hold your family as one.

These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.

And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged, will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch".

Author Unknown
(requested by a Church member as a memory of her wedding day)



The Besom In Cambridge is a Christian charity, covering Cambridge and Sawston and is run entirely by unpaid Christian time-givers. The service it provides is free.

We operate out of a warehouse in Cambridge, two days a week; Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am-4pm. We also have a base in Sawston from which the Baby Bundle team operates.

We are an organisation that helps your church to give; your time, skills, money or household goods, to those in need in your community. This is a real act of God's love.

You can give your time individually or as a group;

- You could join the Baby Bundle team in Sawston. They meet once per month, for a morning, to put the boxes together. There is a creche so that mums with children can still give time. There are many jobs involved which could be done at any time like sorting the donations, washing, ironing, knitting or shopping. Items for baby go into an under-bed box, a baby bath or a moses basket and is then beautifully wrapped in pretty cellophane before being delivered to the Mum directly, or to the warehouse for mums-to-be attending a course at Romsey Mill in Cambridge.
- You could create or join a project team (2 people or more) in Sawston or Cambridge. Projects generally include gardening or painting; cutting back overgrown shrubs, cutting long grass, digging up brambles, working through borders (no knowledge of how to do gardening is acceptable!) Painting involves prepping the walls, filling in holes, sanding, washing down, painting (no knowledge of painting is also acceptable!)
- You could come as a pair and give time by befriending local people for a short period while they get themselves back on their feet.
- You could come in to our warehouse in Cambridge. We open on Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am-4pm. There are many jobs to be done here such as driving the van picking up / delivering furniture; sorting gardening/painting kit for projects; putting together bedding packs, kitchen starter packs, children's clothing boxes, administration, doing DiY, putting up curtain poles etc.
- At Christmas we give out hampers to every household we've served in that year. You could put a hamper together; pick up a cardboard box (around 40x50cm), wrap it in Christmas paper, fill it with luxurious food goodies and toiletries and maybe some toys for a family with children. This could be for a single person, a couple, a family with or without children. Let us know when it's ready. You could do this individually or as a homegroup.



You can give any amount of time, regularly or as a one-off.

If you have good quality household goods that you'd like to pass on, contact us by email and send us a photo of the item/s you wish to give. We are the only organisation in Cambridge that never charges recipients for items. Grace is free; so is our furniture.

Examples of what we take in includes tables, chairs, sofas, beds, clean mattresses, wardrobes, chests of drawers, bedside drawers, fridges, freezers, microwaves, ovens, washing machines, baby & children's clothes, toy storage, bed linen, clean duvets & pillows, curtains, kitchenware. Or contact us for further details of what goes in our Baby Bundle boxes.

Everything we do at Besom is underpinned by prayer, which you can do anytime, anywhere.

thebesomincambridge@gmail.com

Tel: 01223 246438 / 07437 354499

www.besom.com



On the cold and damp morning that was the 3rd March, Marc and I completed the Cambridge Half Marathon. Thank you for all your support. The total amount raised for CamCrag was £519.35.

A big thank you also to OSB Events, the organisers of the Cambridge Half Marathon, for donating 11 tonnes of fleeces and waterproofs to CamCrag. These will be distributed to the refugees in Northern France.

love, Valerie

Edited highlights from the March Elders Meeting

At the recent Elders meeting in March we discussed ...

- Logistics of the Eldership Election coming up at the AGM.
- The Footprints Café is going really well with the new sound absorbent panels in place, and financially looking promising.
- Maggie has volunteered to co-ordinate the Holiday Club alongside others from St Mary's and OLOL. This is good news!
- The Elders have a Study Day on 30th March. The topic is The Future of The Church. Jacob Bali is leading it. Serving and non-serving elders are invited.
- To raise funds for Christian Aid, the following events are to be held:
 - 11th May Tea Dance
 - 18th May village collection
 - 19th May Sunday service - Pam Richardson will join us to speak about Christian Aid.
 - Mary and Rosie are doing a car boot sale, date to be decided.
- Bruce and Maggie were due to attend the Synod meeting on 16th March which was being held in Chelmsford. Bruce to be projecting for them on this occasion. There was also a synod for children held in another part of the church. Nicola Grieves leads this and the children join the adults at the end. To consider highlighting this to SFC youngsters for future Synod meetings.
- The Church Directory has been updated – copies to be distributed by Elders.

Maggie

My friend began her long overdue email to me by explaining that she was writing it in a cafe with a cup of coffee because she wanted to go home but couldn't. The home help was there, and she felt so guilty about employing a cleaner that she had to wait until the lady had gone.

Guilt is a real pig, don't you think? Why do we feel so guilty about everything when we know very well that we are doing our best? (Ah! But are you really?). I feel a twinge of guilt when I buy a squeezey plastic sauce bottle when I could buy virtually the same sauce in a glass one. And when I take another semi-plastic dishcloth from under the sink and I know that if we had cotton ones they would last for decades provided we put them through the washing machine. And when I put my foot down too heavily in the car and blow fumes over the guy behind..... . Not to mention the money we don't give away that no doubt we could well afford to give away. Not to mention all the things perhaps I should be doing for other people rather than wasting my energy and resources travelling all over the country to see the children and grandchildren, putting fascinating things into the garden, building and decorating inside the house, going on holiday to Jordan (this is being typed in a hotel in Aqaba, overlooking the Red Sea)

I blame two thousand years of mis-spent Christianity, where we have listened to moralising preachers who understand well how guilt works as a control mechanism. Give 'em sin and guilt, give them hell, and they'll be eating out of your hand. Miserable, yes, but obedient. It's all jam tomorrow, but never jam today. 'Just do a few extra things to get rid of the guilt thing, and then you will be able to really enjoy your pilgrimage.' But of course it is a siren voice.

The reason I don't do all those other things is that (in some sense of 'cannot' that isn't easy to pin down) ... I cannot do them. Life would be so much happier (and probably more fruitful and charitable) were I free to take full enjoyment from all I do rather than having joy constantly eroded and stolen by the guilt thing.

I once had a young woman bring me the fees for her forthcoming wedding, and as I wrote out the receipt she remarked that she'd had to borrow it. And being poor, she'd borrowed it from sharks. I was appalled. 'Take it all back,' I said. 'We'll work out a payment plan together.' She replied, 'If I did that I'd have bricks through my windows.' That's how the guilt thing works. Like debt, once trapped in its web, there is no way out. God did a very wicked thing when inventing guilt, don't you think?

Why did Constantine want to bring Christianity into the Roman fold? Because he wanted to control it. How do you control the church? By bribing the church leaders with offers of secular power and status to deliver the goods. And how do the church leaders deliver the goods? By preaching sin. Had they preached the freedom of the spirit, as did Valentinius (approx 100-160 AD), they would have lost their grip. So they declared Valentinius a heretic, and burned all his books. Sin controls the church, not love and joy.

Jim Rodford, lead guitarist for the Kinks and the Zombies, who died last year, was a lovely man. When his daughter became an Anglican vicar, he explained to her that he believed in God but he didn't go to church because although he tried hard and he knew he wasn't as good as he ought to be, he really didn't need someone telling him so and making him feel worse about it. I do so agree with him.

So I am going through a phase where I really don't want to think about sin. I don't want to feel guilty. I want to be free to enjoy my life and to do all the good I can. As John Wesley famously (and almost certainly fictitiously) remarked, 'Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.'

He didn't add, 'And if you find you cannot quite make it, spend your life feeling guilty about it.'

A Letter To the Editor

Mike asked some challenging questions in his article last month "Fair's Fair".

A reader's response:

Abuse doesn't discriminate according to gender, race, religion, age or financial security. Our reaction to it does. There is no argument there.

However, the phrase that women somehow "**enjoy the full protection of the law**" and that women should "**pay a price**" for asking to be treated with a little more respect left me feeling very hurt and upset.

For thousands of years women around the world have been treated as lower than men. We recently marked the 100th anniversary of women being allowed to vote and it is only within the last five years that a woman has been ordained as a bishop in the church of England. The choices we make regarding our own bodies are open to public debate with women often being made to feel guilty and ashamed in what are already very difficult circumstances. And in cases of sexual assault, women are often asked what they were wearing or how much they had had to drink - as if they are partly to blame for the man's actions.

Throughout the Bible there are stories of the rape and abuse of women and young girls. And we hear phrases like "wives should submit to their husbands" and "a womb or two for every man". Things like this have contributed to an unconscious bias that somehow women just aren't worth as much as men. And many people, including people of faith, have used the Bible as evidence that women need to be "kept in their place"

Jesus offers a different message to women. A message of hope and reassurance. A message that says we are worth something. He talks to us when we are sitting by a well, protects us when we are being judged and stones are being thrown, understands when we want to sit and listen to him rather than rush around doing other things. He restores our confidence and our status.

And he offers the same message of hope to everyone especially those who were seen to be on the outside. The beggar, the blind man, the leper, the poor, those from other regions and faiths. Jesus didn't discriminate.

Jesus taught us to love one another, as he loved us.

Please don't make it into a battle of the sexes. We are all individuals with our own stories. May we learn to listen to each other without stereotyping by gender - or any other factor.

Name and address supplied

From The URC Daily Devotions Rev. Dr 'frin Lewis-Smith

Blessings are not earned. Nothing we can do can make God love us more, and we cannot force a blessing out of God however amazing our actions or attitudes.

The same with forgiveness – we do not earn it, but receive it because God is good and the divine nature is always to show kindness.

When Jesus said 'a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God' he was pointing our thinking in the same direction. Life in all its fullness (John 10.10) is not about being wealthy – albeit that poverty robs life of its abundance. An abundant life is one in which we know we are loved, and know that God cares what we do. It is an awareness of our dependence upon God and how blessed we are to be able to depend on God.

That is the treasure in heaven (Matt 6.19-21) which Jesus introduced in his sermon on the mount. The thing it would be worth selling everything you have to own (Matt 13.45-46).

This rich man probably believed that his great wealth and the power it conferred were signs that God was pleased in him. But, as Spiderman, Churchill, and Roosevelt would have it: *with great power comes great responsibility.*

The rich fool tries to hoard his money and power; to be able to manipulate the market by selling his grain only when the price is high. He plans to kick back and retire happy, living off the profits. But as God kindly points out, he cannot bring his wealth into heaven, and what good is it to him when seen from eternity?

How we spend or hoard money affects our spirit, and changes our relationship to God. Better, then, to think of earthly wealth not as a treasure or a blessing, but as a responsibility, a stewardship task. Jesus cares what we do with our money, and what our money gets up to as it travels around the world.

Prayer

*Generous God,
as I put my hand in my pocket today
may I be conscious
that everything I have comes from you.
Let me test my spending
against your words
and my saving against your intentions.
Amen.*

And in the same vein, from our Lent Studies.

“Fellowship is being conduit companions to a community rather than acquisitive consumers of capital.”

Wednesday Fellowship

Seven years ago, I accepted the role of Chairperson (now Co-ordinator) at Wednesday Fellowship, when Kathleen McCubbin retired. It has been a special time and the Lord has again blessed the Fellowship, as He did under previous leaders.

Much has been shared within the group and we have also been privileged to host many interesting and thought-provoking guest speakers over the years. After considerable prayer and heart searching, I believe that it is now time for me to stand down. Sadly, no one has come forward to take up the leadership.

Therefore, the Easter Service at 2pm on Wednesday April 17th will also be the formal closing of this Fellowship.

I am very grateful to everyone who has supported Wednesday Fellowship over the years. Particular thanks are due to Janet and Terry, for their long and faithful service and to all who have provided transport for less mobile members.

The people who make up this group will not, at least currently, have an alternative venue. A suggestion was made to meet informally in the Footprints café. Therefore, there is an open invitation to come along, buy your refreshments and join in fellowship with friends. This will take place at 13.30 on the last Wednesday of each month.

Love & Blessings,

Helen.

Thank You...

Dear Friends,

Regarding the imminent closure of Wednesday Fellowship:

Thank you so much for the beautiful Hydrangea plant, presented to me at the AGM on Sunday morning. Thanks are also due to all who have shared the journey over the last seven years.

With Love & Blessings,

Helen

Arthur Rank: Outstanding CQC Report...



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

making every moment count

Arthur Rank Hospice which last year supported over 3600 patients and their families living with a life-limiting illness or condition in Cambridgeshire, has been recognised as outstanding by The Care Quality Commission (CQC).

CQC is the independent regulatory of health and social care within England. They monitor, inspect and regulate services to make sure they meet fundamental standards of quality and safety and publish what they find, including performance ratings to help people choose care.

The inspectors were assessing the Hospice's entire range of services which are provided with no charge to patients and their families.

Five domains were inspected: safe (good); effective (good); caring (outstanding); responsive (outstanding); and well led (good), leading to an overall rating of 'outstanding'.

'Good' is defined by CQC as "the service is performing well and meeting expectations", with 'outstanding' meaning "the service is performing exceptionally well". These results are due to our dedicated staff, volunteers and Lynn Morgan's vision.

Sawston Free Church Easter Services

Holy Week (Week before Easter)

Tuesday 17th : 7.30 @ St. Mary's.

- Joining with St. Mary's Church: Rev Alan Partridge, reflections on his visit to Israel this year.

Wednesday 18th : 7.30pm

- Handwashing Service: Jesus washed his disciples feet, we wash each other's hands:

Thursday 19th : 7.30pm

- Remembrance of Jesus' last meal with his disciples

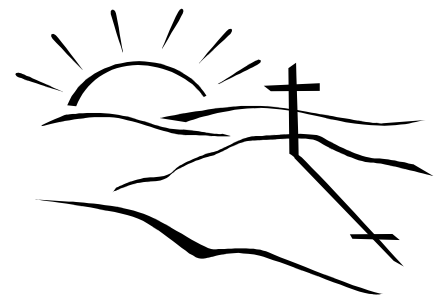
Good Friday 20th : 10am

- Walk of Witness, leaving from Our Lady of Lourdes at 10.10am. Remembering Jesus walk to the crucifixion. Finish at Sawston Free Church for Hot Cross Buns and Coffee/Tea
- 7.30pm. Shared Service at St. Mary's Church.

Easter Sunday 21st

- 6am. Sunrise Service at Spicer's Pavillion.
- 10.30am Blossoming of the Cross and Communion. Easter egg hunt for the children.

Greet the Dawn



On Easter Sunday morning, very early, some women went to Jesus' tomb to anoint the body with the wonderfully generous gift Joseph of Arimathea had given, but on the way they were wondering how on earth they would move the stone.

The stone was not a problem. It was rolled away from the mouth of the tomb, and in the tomb lay only discarded grave clothes.

Jesus was risen. They didn't know it yet, but they would, and soon.

And so to remember that event in Sawston, on Easter Morning at Sunrise, a bunch of us gather at The Pavilion on Spicers Field, to greet the dawn, to be there with those women who found the tomb empty. Do come and join us. It's great to greet the dawn on Resurrection morn.

We bring hot cross buns and flasks of hot drinks and after we've celebrated the resurrection, we do what any sensible British person does on a cold morning. We have a cup of tea or coffee with "hot" Hot Cross Buns.

Then at 10.30 at Camps and at Sawston, we carry on the celebration of the resurrection, bringing flowers to church to cover the cross in Easter bloom, and joyfully proclaim the triumph of life over death, Christ over evil and hope over despair. As St. Paul said, "We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us and gave His life for us. Thanks be to God.

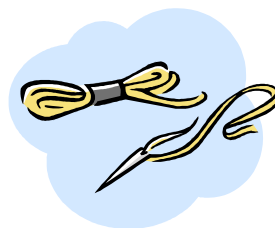
And of course, there is an Easter Egg Hunt for the children afterwards.

Sawston Free Church

Craft Group

We meet in the Church back hall, alternate Monday mornings : 10am - 12noon.

Dates for April: 1st and 15th. For more detail please contact **Yvonne** 473937 or **Pam** 834220



Flower Rota 2019

It is always welcoming to see the flowers in church. So please remember to put your name down on the **flower rota**, which is at the back of the church.

For more information please contact Rosemary Harriss on 832854

or any of the other flower ladies: Rosemary Livings, Linda Moxon, Janet Parr or Vivien Ford (when in Sawston)



Time For Tots at Sawston Free Church

Showing and Sharing God's love

Time for Tots is a church run group for babies and preschool children and their carers. During our weekly session there is time to play, make things, chat, have a drink and snack, have a bible story and sing some songs.

For more information please contact **Rosemary**. Email:

timefortots@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk



Another baby and toddler group you could go along to is Refresh – 2pm-4pm every Monday (except bank holidays) in St Mary's Church.

This is a 'drop in' session with refreshments and CAKE!

For more information please contact **Becca**. Email: rebecca.r.herrick@gmail.com

House groups/ Lent groups: 2019

Starting from 11th March for five weeks - **A Lent Study on Fellowship**

Study 1: The disciples in formation: Learning from Jesus what it means to be community.

Study 2: The disciples in Jerusalem: Community in the last week.

Study 3: The disciples in consternation: Community facing the reality of the crucifixion

Study 4: The disciples in reorientation: Reforming community around the risen Christ

Study 5: The disciples in formation again: The Community of the Spirit of Christ.

Study Guides will be available from Rev Bruce Waldron

email revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk or ph 07814 920187

Please contact the host of the Study Group so we can make sure each group has enough space for the numbers coming.

Mondays @ 7:30pm, 15 Huddleston Way, Sawston,

- Contact: Sally Bard, Ph 501165, sally.bard2@gmail.com

Mondays @ 7.30pm, 21 Hillside, Sawston,

- Contact Maggie Jones, Ph 565637, maggie.jones90@ntlworld.com

Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm Tudor House, 1 Catley's Walk, Sawston,

- Contact Dianne Conway, Ph 833953, dianne.m.conway@btinternet.com

Wednesdays @ 7.45pm. 22 London Road, Sawston,

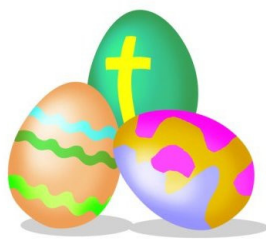
- Contact Kate Leach, Ph 660943, kate7leach@gmail.com

Wednesdays @ 8 pm, Chalk Farm, Babraham

- Contact Rev. Alan Partridge, Ph 832248, a.partridge7@gmail.com

Fridays @ 3pm, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford

- Contact Terry & Beryl Penny, Ph 833635, terence.penny81@btinternet.com



CAMBRIDGE METHODIST CIRCUIT Circuit Diary Events for April 2019

For more details contact The Circuit Administrator: Mrs Miriam Webb
 Circuit Office: Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG
 Office: 01223 352115 www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk
 Email: office@wesleycam.org.uk or office@cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk

APRIL			
Tues 2 nd	2.45pm	Fireside AGM followed by illustrated talk by David Taylor entitled "Collecting Things" – all welcome	Wesley MC
Thurs 4 th	10.45am – 12pm	Lent Teaching and Discussion Group at 35 Millington Rd, on the theme of Fruit of the Spirit #5 Kindness with the Revd Dr Andrew Stobart Coffee from 10.15am. Session starts at 10.45am – 12pm	Cambridge
Mon 8 th	7.15pm for 7.45pm	Science meets Faith "Driverless Cars: Their impact on Society" With Prof Helen Atkinson CBE FREng, Pro Vice Chancellor, Cranfield University All welcome. Light refreshments from 7.15pm talk will start at 7.45pm. Retiring collection.	Wesley MC
Thurs 11 th	10.45am – 12pm	Lent Teaching and Discussion Group at 35 Millington Rd, on the theme of Fruit of the Spirit #6 Faithfulness with Prof Morna Hooker-Stacey Coffee from 10.15am. Session starts at 10.45am – 12pm	Cambridge
Tues 17 th Wed 18 th Thurs 19 th	2-8pm 2-8pm 2-5pm	Prayer Stations for Holy Week at Royston Methodist Church - All welcome to pop in any time	Royston MC
Thurs 18 th	10.45am – 12pm	Lent Teaching and Discussion Group at 35 Millington Rd, on the theme of Fruit of the Spirit #7 Gentleness with the Revd Dr Brian Beck Coffee from 10.15am. Session starts at 10.45am – 12pm	Cambridge
Sun 28 th	6pm	Faith To Live By with Bishop Alice Muthoni Mwila Short time of worship, presentation, refreshments & discussion. All welcome	Haslingfield MC

Monday 8th April – Science meets Faith (see above)

Driverless cars have the potential to reduce traffic, cut pollution and save thousands of lives each year. After a brief introduction to how they work, Professor Atkinson will discuss some of the potential impacts on society, including whether they will exacerbate the North-South (or city-rural) divide, the impact on public finances and on power structures, insurance, city planning, empowerment of those who cannot drive themselves, safety, and issues around the transition regime when both cars with drivers and driverless vehicles are on the road. There will also be some active participation for the audience on the ethical dilemmas faced in relation to driverless cars.

Church Directory

Minister		Tel
Rev. Bruce Waldron	The Manse, 3 High Street, Sawston Email: revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	836786 07814 920187
Secretaries:		
Maggie Jones - Sawston	21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Lynne Riecansky – Lt. Abington	7 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893295
Val Spencer – Castle Camps	20 South Road, Abington	892214
Elders: Sawston		
Mary Simuyandi	28 New Road, Sawston	837433
Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston	832913
Mike Purdy	42 Granta Road, Sawston	830903
Sue Sisk	63 Babraham Road, Sawston	833508
Sue Lelliott	26 Park Road, Sawston	520383
Joint Treasurers:		
Lynne Hays	Baggot Hall, Station Road, Harston	871800
Terry Penny	April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	833635
Contact Editors		
David & Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston Email: anne.nunn@btinternet.com	832913
Church Bookings	Maggie Jones, 21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Church Website:	www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/	
Facebook page:	www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch	

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The Footprints Café



at
Sawston Free Church

The Footprints Café is a community cafe offering a wide range of reasonably priced Snacks and Meals together with Teas & Coffees, Cold drinks, Cakes and Pastries.

We are open Monday to Friday from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Breakfasts are served until 11.30 am.

The Footprints Café is located where the OWL Café used to be; at the back of Sawston Free Church.

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