

# C O N T A C T

March 2020



# L e n t

Volume 61 - Issue 3  
Sawston Free Church – Castle Camps URC

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

<b>Sunday</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am 3.00 pm	Morning Worship Messy Church
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am	Holy Communion <b>No evening service</b>
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am	Morning Worship <b>No evening service</b>
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am	Go4th:Worship of Song, Prayer, Praise with the Worship Band <b>No evening service</b>
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am	Morning Worship <b>No evening service</b>
Monday	Alternate - see diary	10.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	Term time only	6.15 – 9.00pm	Boys’ and Girls’ Brigades
Thursday	Term time only	10.30 – noon	Time for Tots
Saturday	Last Saturday of month	10.30 am	Monthly Prayer Meeting
<p>For further details of these activities, please contact one of the Elders (see back page). Four housegroups meet regularly. For information contact the Church secretary.</p>			

### Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

Date	Sawston	Castle Camps
<b>Sun 1 Mar</b>	10.30am: Covenant Worship - Rev. Mike Wilson 3.00pm: Messy Church	10.30am: Holy Communion - Bob Parkin
Mon 2 Mar	10.00am: Craft Group (page 13 )	
<b>Sun 8 Mar</b>	10.30am: Morning Worship & Communion - Rev. Paul Whittle	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev. Charles Martin
Sat 14 Mar	8am: <b>Church Workday</b> (page 13)	
<b>Sun 15 Mar</b>	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev. Mike Wilson	10.30am: Family Service - Wendy Roe
Mon 16 Mar	10.00am: Craft Group (page 13 )	
<b>Sun 22 Mar</b>	10.30am: Go4th /Mothering Sunday/Brigades Service - Rev Sam White	10.30am: Mothering Sunday - John Luke
<b>Sun 29 Mar</b>	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev. Mike Wilson	10.30am: United Service at URC - John Luke
Mon 30 Mar	10.00am: Craft Group (page 13 )	

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

### Rotas

	Car	Flowers		Car	Flowers
Mar 1	Jill Legg 01799 218318	Jill Legg	Mar 22	Helen Sharpe 834805	Mary Simuyandi
Mar 8	Tony Moss 834220	Margaret Wilson	Mar 29	John Conway 833953	Rosemary Livings
Mar 15	Gordon Heald 833983	Helen Sharpe			

The closing date for **April** Contact is Friday **20<sup>th</sup> March**

David Nunn is the editor, so please email your items  
to [contact@sawston.com](mailto:contact@sawston.com) or [anne.nunn@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.nunn@btinternet.com)

# Contact

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

Whilst in vacancy please refer Church related matters to:  
[secretary@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:secretary@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk) or [valeriespencer20@gmail.com](mailto:valeriespencer20@gmail.com) (CastleCamps)  
[www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch](http://www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch)

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## From The SFC Elders.

We hope everyone has survived the storms of late and feel we are lucky to be living where we do with the minimal risk of the awful flooding many people are experiencing.

We remember from the Gospels the stories about Jesus calming the storm when he was asleep in the boat on the Sea of Galilee and his disciples who were with him got anxious and woke him up as they were afraid the boat was going to tip them into the lake. He told them off and told the storm to be quiet which it did, and they were all safe.

We often have storms in our lives which we go through and how often we forget to trust Jesus and become anxious and wonder when it will all end or how it will end.

As Elders we are rewriting our Pastorate Profile for the church to be presented to prospective candidates. It was last written twelve years ago and it is interesting to see how our church has changed in that time. We hope to be able to present the new profile to the church meeting in March.

We pray for all those who have been affected by the recent floods and for the emergency services and the army who are helping all those who have had to move from their homes.

<p><b>Date to Remember</b> <b>AGM &amp; Church Meeting</b> <b>Monday 9 March 7.30pm</b> <b>PLEASE COME ALONG</b></p>
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## Summary from the January Elders Meeting

(Unfortunately this was received after the deadline date)

### Girls' Brigade

We invited Lucy McGregor to come along so we could have a catch up on how GB is doing. Lots of good things are being planned, some excellent ideas being pursued and some challenges. Elders are hoping to provide more support and we have been asked to lead devotions on some evenings. Lucy and David work well together as Brigades captains with excellent support from the other leaders. They need support and prayers from the church.

## **New Room Rental**

Elders were updated on a new rental, which was also highlighted at the Church Meeting. The OWL group (run by Papworth Trust) will be renting some rooms in the cottage. They start officially on Monday 10th February with the service users starting on Monday 17th February.

They will rent 3 rooms in the cottage (2 upstairs and middle downstairs) - 1,3,4 with occasional use of the church kitchen – TBC in advance. This will be Mon to Fri 08.30 – 16.30, 50 weeks per year. A good and fair rental was negotiated. Out of hours, two of their minibuses will be parked on the grass at the back. They are also installing a new shed on the grass.

It was highlighted that this is a rental only, with Sawston Free Church. It is independent of the café. The elders are very much looking forward to welcoming the group when they start next month.

## **Fun Run**

We agreed that with the Fun Run this year on Sunday 3 May, we will close church in the morning as before, and have an afternoon service instead. Messy Church will be cancelled for that month.

## **Eldership**

The Elders also discussed Elders Nominations. We must encourage members to consider this very carefully.

## **Summary from the February Elders Meeting**

We had a really good productive meeting with our Interim Moderator Paul Whittle.

We discussed in detail the next step in finding a new minister – writing up a new Pastorate Profile. This document describes everything about the church – what we do, who we are etc. The Elders are now working hard on this. This document is then used to show to potential candidates – a process in which Paul is involved.

We met with David Lloyd, captain of Boy's Brigade to find out how BB is doing. This is part of the Elders' aim to get closer to the church organisations and provide good support where we can. Numbers are low but there is a very committed team of leaders and helpers. And we discussed new ideas for funding, new projects, the children making connections with church people and making even better use of the café during Brigades evenings. And Elders are getting involved with devotions. David left us with a lot to think about. It was a really useful discussion and something Elders intend to discuss further. Both GB & BB need our prayer and support.

Re Elders elections, both Mary and Maggie have been nominated to re-stand.

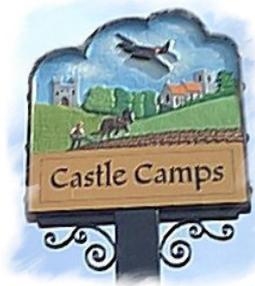
We discussed in detail the various Easter events that are being planned. Rev Alan Partridge is putting a lot of work into a lent study course for both St Mary's and SFC to use together.

And we found out that Alan Partridge is retiring on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.

Many more topics were discussed in confidence.

## **Maggie**

## Message From Castle Camps



March has arrived. Camps, the village and the chapel have survived the ravages of Storms Ciara and Dennis. The local rooks and jackdaws had a difficult time in the wild weather, but they are now starting to nest in the trees behind the chapel.



We have a little flock of 11 guinea fowl and they hate windy weather. They cannot be domesticated and sleep high in the trees every night. It is impossible not to feel sorry for them in a gale as they can get very little sleep. Guinea fowl are quite brave and we have seen them mob a visiting fox and see him off when he was eating windfall apples.

It is lovely to see all of the daffodils coming out and the crops in the fields developing.

During the half term break from school, some of the children have gone off skiing.

Recently, four of us visited the Challis Garden and found it delightful. It is so tucked away and we hope to visit again in the summer. It is a Five Star attraction and beautifully tended by volunteers.

In February, for the first time we welcomed John Gillet to take our morning service. He came all the way from Ipswich only to be confronted by a fallen tree a few miles from the village. However, one of the local farmers cleared the tree and John arrived with us in time for the service. He introduced us to the charity Open Doors, with which he is involved and which for the past 60 years has been serving persecuted Christians throughout the World - a very interesting and thought provoking service. We hope to see him again in the future.

In March, we have John Luke taking two of our services. Firstly, on Mothering Sunday, then the following week the United Service when we welcome our Anglican friends from All Saints' and St. Mary's.

We are still having our services in the schoolroom which is much cosier, but we hope to be back in the main church early in March.

We send our best wishes to our friends in Sawston.

God's blessing to you all.

*Val and friends*



Open Doors supports persecuted Christians with Bibles, Christian materials, training, livelihood skills, advocacy - and in a whole host of other ways - so that they know they are not forgotten and can stand strong to serve their communities. So that they can give life.

We also seek to mobilise the church in the UK & Ireland not only to serve Christians living under religious persecution but also to learn from them what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

**SUPPORT CHRISTIANS LIVING IN THE HARDEST PLACE TO FOLLOW JESUS**

In North Korea, choosing to follow Jesus is a brave and challenging decision. When Kim Sang-Hwa found her parents’ secret Bible, she knew the whole family were in great danger. If the North Korean authorities found out, they’d be sent to a terrible labour camp. And they would never leave.

Courageously, she asked her father about Jesus – and made the decision to follow Jesus. More and more Christians in North Korea and other World Watch List top 10 countries are making the same dangerous choice. With your support, Open Doors is able to distribute Bibles and vital aid through secret networks, and reach hundreds of thousands of North Korean Christians.

“Thanks to your support, the secret believers experience that God loves them and provides in everything they need,” says Sang-Hwa.



**A 4-year-old's letter to God**

*A True Story -- Author unknown*

There is a kind soul working in the letter office of the Postal Service somewhere...

Our 14 year old dog, Abbey, died last month. The day after she died, my 4-year-old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God, so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognise her. I told her that I thought we could, so she dictated these words:



Dear God,

Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick. I hope you will play with her. She likes to play with balls and to swim. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her you will know that she is my dog. I really miss her.

Love, Meredith.

(written by the mother)



We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to: God in Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office.

A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought he had. Yesterday there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, "To Meredith" in an unfamiliar hand.

Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers, titled, "When a Pet Dies." Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note:

.....

Dear Meredith,

Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help. I recognised Abbey right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in, so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by.

Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I am wherever there is love.

**"Love, God"**

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## **Blessed, To Be A Blessing**

### **1 Peter 3: 8-9**

*Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing.*

On the 2nd February, Rev Deborah McVey spoke to us about The Beatitudes and asked us how we might complete the phrase "Blessed are.....for they shall...."

I would love to know if anyone thought of anything. Phrases going around in my head involved topics close to my heart.

Maybe something like:

"Blessed are those who care for creation - for they shall see the amazing beauty of God's presence in all living things"

Or

"Blessed are those who freely give their time to simply listen - for they shall know they have made a difference to the lives of both friends and strangers"

I don't know if that was sort of thing Deborah had in mind when she handed out those pieces of paper but it got me thinking about all the different ways we can both be blessed and also be a blessing to others.

I was also reminded of something I read a few months ago.

Paul Bridges is a member of Penistone Methodist / URC church, Manager of Huddersfield Mission and a Methodist Local Preacher.

His words are inspired by Rev Nadia Bolz Webber. Like Nadia, Paul sees the Beatitudes not as a promise or a contract but as Jesus extravagantly pronouncing and therefore conferring the blessing at that very moment.

### The Beatitudes - an environmental reinterpretation by Paul Bridges.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are they that still see the beauty of God's creation in our polluted world. Blessed are they that sometimes feel it is too late. Blessed are they that are tired of trying to persuade, or marching. Blessed are they that know they fail and have used more than their fair share. Blessed are they that are not paralysed by cynicism.

Blessed are the poor in spirit. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

Blessed are those who mourn for the world we have lost, for the rain forest that is being destroyed, the glaciers that are melting away. Blessed are those who grieve for the children, not yet born who will have to live with the consequences of our choices. Blessed are they that mourn for communities who have and are losing their homes, their livelihoods, and their hope. Blessed are they that mourn for their own choices.

Blessed are they that mourn. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are they whose actions go unnoticed. The plastic straw refused, the holiday taken at home. Blessed are they who know their actions will never be enough, but act any way. Blessed are they that try to live with less stuff, to ignore the tidal wave of consumerism and incessant need for more. Blessed are they who don't keep up with Jones. Blessed are they that try to remember to take their bag for life with them when they go to the shop.

Blessed are the meek. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are they that march for the planet, sign petitions, and write to their MP. Blessed are they that try to put words into actions. Blessed are they that eat less red meat or buy more FairTrade. Blessed are they

that live simply so others can simply live. Blessed are they that feed the poor and ask why the poor have no food. Blessed are they that struggle to understand climate change, but try to love God.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the companies that put the planet before profit. Blessed are those that clear up the rubbish of others, the playground litter picker and the roadside rubbish collectors. Blessed are they that volunteer for the earth. Blessed are those that try not to print and if they have to use both sides of the paper.

Blessed are the merciful. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are they that are not put off by the scale of the challenge, or the inactions of others. Blessed are they they know they can always do more. Blessed are they not fooled by eco marketing, but know that all stuff is stuff. Blessed are they that recycle, reduce and reuse.

Blessed are the pure in heart. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you

*Valerie Kerr*

**Note: If you missed Deborah's sermon, it can be listened to via our church website.**

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## Lent Study Course

Rev Alan Partridge has written up a new Lent study course to accompany a new Lent book "Saying Yes To Life" from SPCK. This will be for **St Mary's and SFC** to use in shared Lent study groups, as we have done in previous years.

The following groups have been set up. Each will run for seven weeks. Everyone is very welcome.

Mondays 7.30pm at Sally & David Bard's 15 Huddleston Way CB22 3SW starting 24 Feb to 6 April. Further information 01223 501165.

Wednesdays 10.30am at Mary Simuyandi's 28 New Rd, Sawston CB22 3BN on 26 Feb. Then from 4 March at Rosemary Harris's 24 St Mary's Rd, Sawston CB22 3SP. Further information 01223 837433 or 01223 832854.

Wednesdays 2pm at Kate Leach's 22 London Rd, Sawston CB22 3HU starting 26 Feb. Further information 01223 660943.

Wednesdays 8pm at Chalk Farm, Babraham CB22 3AG starting 26 Feb to 8 April. Further information from Alan Partridge.

Do please take advantage of these Lent Studies. It is an important part of the Christian year and can be a significant time if we put time into our fellowship. Study notes are available from Maggie. Also, there are three copies of "Saying Yes To Life" doing the rounds.

A few weeks ago the BBC, care of Radio 4 Extra and the small hours of the night, reminded me via a drama (in several nightly episodes) of the Great Plague of Eyam in 1665. I didn't hear the whole thing. Invariably I fell asleep half way through an episode, or woke up just in time to hear it end, but that was enough.

It is thought that the cause was an infected bundle of cloth delivered from London to the village tailor. Out of a Derbyshire village of around 800 souls, something between a quarter and a half of them died over a period of just over a year. Remarkably, the village grave-digger survived. One Elizabeth Hancock also survived, despite burying her husband and her six children within eight days of each other.

Eyam is famous because the villagers did a very remarkable thing. Once plague was recognised, the entire village quarantined itself. They agreed that no-one would leave until the plague had gone, so as not to infect other villages. Suspecting that the infection was transmitted by proximity, Christian worship was transferred from church and chapel to Cucklett Delph, a nearby natural amphitheatre, so that no-one need touch another. The joint leaders in the entire village strategy made a strange pair: one was the newly installed vicar, William Mompesson and the other was Thomas Stanley, the Puritan minister who had himself been the vicar until the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 and the subsequent Great Ejection of 1662. That was when those non-conformist vicars who (like Stanley) would not subscribe to the Act of Uniformity and would not use the Book of Common Prayer were ejected from their vicarages. (Sawston Free Church is, in its Congregationalist heritage, a consequence of those days.) That these two men, representing as they did different sides in a bitter quarrel, and one living in the vicarage from which the other had been so recently ejected, should have come together to lead the village in this way is surely remarkable? They put it to the villagers that it was their collective Christian duty to stay, and to accept the possibility of their own deaths rather than risk the deaths of others in the neighbouring villages. There is no record of anyone leaving.

The strategy worked. For an entire year, the villagers paid for provisions supplied from surrounding villages by leaving coins in bowls of vinegar at boundary stones placed at the edges of the village. Not one neighbouring village succumbed to infection.

As I write this, the BBC are showing pictures of Italian police sealing off the town of Codogno, with its population of 16,000, for fear of the coronavirus. As I write, the virus has killed some 2,600 worldwide, virtually all of them in China. By the time you read this, you may know that I am writing nonsense, but it occurs to me that our flu-ridden coughs and sneezes kill on average about 600 people every year in the UK and some 60,000 world wide. In 2008/09 flu deaths in the UK alone are estimated at 13,000. To kill on that scale, world-wide deaths to the current coronavirus would have to be 320,000. The 1918 pandemic killed an estimated 50 million.

Why do these figures not seem to address the current situation? I think the answer is 'Fear'. We are not afraid of flu despite it killing hundreds every year. The UK take-up of the free-to-the-vulnerable vaccine each winter is a pathetic 50%, with even fewer taking it this year than last. But let there be so much as a whiff of the new coronavirus in the UK, and we shall all be rushing to buy face masks, even though they are virtually useless, and stockpiling food. And suppose it was announced that there was free vaccine for coronavirus available at every Boots and at every surgery from tomorrow? There would be a 95% take-up, I'm sure.

Fear is the key. But in Eyam in 1665, the key wasn't fear, but courage - self-sacrificing, generous courage. And they were led by two clergymen whose rival churchmanship and theology had but months before caused one to put the other out of his house and living, and which had, a few years earlier, caused the deaths of an estimated 200,000 in the Civil War.

*'Perfect love,' says St John at 1 John 4:18 'casts out fear.'*  
And Jesus says *'Have no fear, little flock'* at Luke 12:32.

Something tells me that the Rev'ds William Mompesson and Thomas Stanley found themselves quoting those verses quite often.

## Easter Services

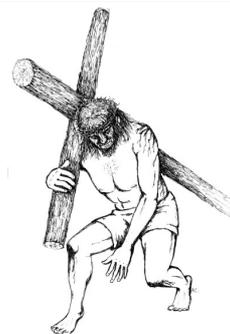
Maundy Thursday 7.30pm	Holy Communion service with Rev Paul Whittle
Good Friday 10.10am	Walk of Witness starting at Our Lady of Lourdes, finishing at St Mary's Church
Good Friday 7.30pm	Joint service at SFC with Rev Alan Partridge & Rev Paul Whittle
Easter Sunday 6am	Sunrise Service – TBC
Easter Sunday 10.30am	All Age Worship with Holy Communion & Blossoming of the Cross led by Rev Paul Whittle

### Good Friday Procession Of Witness

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020

10.10am starting at Our Lady Of Lourdes

Processing through the High Street  
Finishing with refreshments at St Mary's Church



### Good Friday event for Children

### An Easter Journey

On Friday 10 April (Good Friday) there will be a special 'Stations of Easter' for children in St Mary's, 10am–12 noon. This runs alongside the Walk of Witness and is designed to allow children to hear the whole of the story from Palm Sunday through to Easter Morning. Each section of the story will be told in an interactive way and the children will collect a series of objects at each station to take home so that they can retell the story to their family and friends. The start time allows parents to drop children off at church before going on the Walk of Witness should they want to. The Walk is being re-routed so that it ends at St Mary's where walkers can join the children for refreshments. Children under five must be accompanied and parents/carers are welcome to stay.

If you would like to reserve a place for your child/ren, email [stmaryscre8@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryscre8@gmail.com).

St Mary's Church, Sawston

### Easter Journey

An Interactive Journey For All Ages  
(Children Under 5 Must Be Accompanied  
Parents/Carers Welcome To Stay)

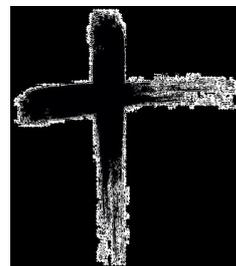
Good Friday 10th April 10.00 - 12.00

All Welcome

**TO RESERVE A PLACE: [stmaryscre8@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryscre8@gmail.com)**

**Find us on Facebook : St Mary's Church, Sawston**

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



## Christian Aid Week – Timetable

### Car Boot Sale

- Alert!! Car boot sale planned to raise funds for Christian Aid. Please look out for any unwanted Bric a Brac to sell to raise funds( no books or DVDs please). Goods needed by the end of April. Drop off points are at Pam and Tony Moss's home 01223 834220 or Mary Simuyandi 01223 837433. Goods can be collected if needed.

### Cream Tea and Tea Dance

The poster features the Christian Aid logo at the top left, with '2020 Appeal' and '10-16 MAY' below it. To the right, the text 'Cream Teas and Tea DANCE' is displayed in a large, stylized font, accompanied by images of a cream tea and a couple dancing. On the left, there is a smaller image of a woman carrying water jugs with the text 'Every. Last. Drop.' and 'Give today to help families survive the drought.' Below the main text, the event details are listed: 'Saturday 16th May 2.30 - 5.00pm' at 'St. Mary's Community Hall, Church Lane, Sawston'. Ticket information states 'Entrance by ticket: £8 including cream tea (10 years and under £4) from Mary Tel: 01223 837433 or Pam Tel: 01223 834220'. A note at the bottom right says 'Soft soled shoes only please'. At the very bottom, there is small text with registration numbers for Christian Aid.

**christian aid week**  
**2020 Appeal**  
**10 - 16 MAY**

**Cream Teas and Tea DANCE**

**Every. Last. Drop.**  
Give today to help families survive the drought.

**Saturday 16th May**  
**2.30 - 5.00pm**

**St. Mary's Community Hall**  
**Church Lane, Sawston**

Entrance by ticket: £8 including cream tea (10 years and under £4)  
from Mary Tel: 01223 837433 or Pam Tel: 01223 834220

For more information about Christian Aid Week please visit [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)

Soft soled shoes only please

UK registered charity no. 1155851 Company no. 5171525 Scot charity no. SC228952 NI charity no. 3354439 Company no. N059154 ROI registered charity no. 20014102C/P16988 Company no. 426629  
The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. © Christian Aid December 2014 15-0142 P11676

### Collections

- Outside the Sawston Co-op on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-1pm. Please sign up in the church if you are free to help.

**Christian Aid Service** with a speaker on Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> - 10.30am.

**Christian Aid does so much work in the world to relieve suffering, PLEASE support us**

**Mary and Pam**

## Please support our Messy Church

Dear friends,

On Sunday 8th March, I shall be taking part in the 2020 Cambridge Half Marathon. And this year I would love to raise £100 for our very own Messy Church.

I have set up a JustGiving page to let you all know how the training is going and for online donations. The link to this can be found on our church website and our Facebook page. Donation envelopes are available in the church.

Please support our Messy Church if you can. We have a wonderful team of volunteers who offer a warm welcome to people of all ages and all backgrounds. If you haven't been to one yet, call in and say hello.

I also appreciate your prayers. Running 13.2miles is not an easy task but knowing I am surrounded by your care and support really does help me to keep on putting one foot in front of the other.

Thank you.

Love, Valerie Kerr

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sawston-messy-church>



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### World Day of Prayer 2020: Praying with Zimbabwe

Service at St Mary's Church,

Friday 6th March 2020 at 6pm - ALL WELCOME!

### "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk"



This years' service is compiled by Christian women of ZIMBABWE. Please join us as, along with other Christians from around the World, we pray with the people of Zimbabwe and learn about this country.

The World Day of Prayer is a women-led, global, ecumenical movement.

To find out more, please visit <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>

## An Unspoken Bible

*(From the Inspirational stories website)*

His name is John. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant but kind of eccentric and very, very bright. He became a Christian recently while attending college.

Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. One day John decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service had already started and John starts walking down the aisle looking for a seat.

The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything. John gets closer and closer and closer to the pulpit and, when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. (Although perfectly acceptable behavior at a college fellowship, trust me, this had never happened in this church before!)

By now the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick. About this time, the minister notices that from way at the back of the church, an Elder is slowly making his way toward John.

Now the Elder is in his eighties, has silver-grey hair, and a three-piece suit. A godly man, very elegant and very dignified. He walks with a cane and, as he starts walking toward the boy, everyone is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's going to do.

How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor? It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church is utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane.

All eyes are focused on him. You can't even hear anyone breathing. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the Elder does what he has to do. And now they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty he lowers himself and sits down next to John and worships with him so he won't be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control, he says, *'What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget. Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read'*.

*Author Unknown*

## Sawston Free Church



### Craft Group

We meet in the back hall of the Church on alternate Monday mornings 10am & 12noon.  
**Dates for March:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>. For more detail contact **Yvonne** 473937 or **Pam** 834220

### Flower Rota 2020

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](mailto: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!



### Prayer Meeting

Please remember the monthly prayer meetings held at 10.30am on the last Saturday of each month. Everyone is welcome to come to pray or just be with us - you would be most welcome. If anyone would like to talk to me about the meeting I would love to hear from you.

Please ring me on 520383 – **Sue Lelliot**



### Church Workday – March 14<sup>th</sup> - 8am till noon

Please come and help keep our premises looking good.

There are various tasks to suit all talents and capabilities from painting to gardening, and a chance for a chat over cake and coffee.

**Please let me know if you can come it really helps me to plan the work.**

**Thank You** Gordon (833983)



## Our Lady Of Lourdes Quiz

### Night 2020

### Friday 6th March

### 19:00 for 19:30

#### Sample Questions:

1. Where is it?
2. How much to enter?
3. What's the team size?
4. What are the questions all about?
5. What about sustenance?

Quizmaster  
Bernie Flood  
back again!

And the answers...

- ✓ Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, High Street, Sawston, CB22 3HJ
- ✓ £5 per person, proceeds to Arthur Rank Hospice
- ✓ Teams of 6 or come along and find a team
- ✓ General Knowledge with themed rounds
- ✓ Tea and coffee provided, please bring and share some nibbles, bring your own drinks

Due to high demand last year we're taking advance bookings. You're welcome to come without booking but we can't promise you a seat. Please contact Bernie on [bjflood@tomicomail.co.uk](mailto:bjflood@tomicomail.co.uk) or call/text on 07808 296383.

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**Thursday March 12th 2020 – 7.30p.m.**

For tickets at £5 to include tea/coffee and biscuits contact Sue on 01763 243815  
e.mail:walter962@btinternet.com  
or on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rmc1](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rmc1)  
Proceeds in aid of the RMC Refurbishment Project

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*Johann Strauss - Thunder and Lightning Polka*  
*James Horner - Apollo 13*  
*Richard Strauss - Also Sprach Zarathustra (2001: A Space Odyssey)*  
**AND MORE!**

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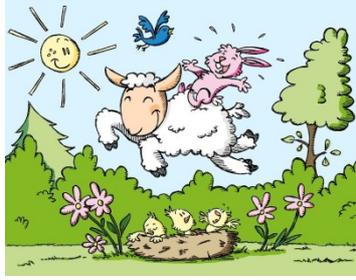
Tickets: **£10 each**  
Coffee/tea during interval break

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**Further information and to book tickets please contact:**

In aid of   
**Simon Crooke, Branch Fundraising Co-Ordinator**  
Email: [cambridge@mndassociation.org](mailto:cambridge@mndassociation.org) - 07551 575752 or  
**Cynthia George, Branch Chair**  
Email: [c.i.george@icloud.com](mailto:c.i.george@icloud.com) - 01954 202095/07515 534430



## Circuit Diary March 2020

### CAMBRIDGE METHODIST CIRCUIT

<b>MARCH</b>			
Tues 3rd	2.45pm	Wesley Fireside - Lottie Taylor talks about 'Is Climate change affecting Ethiopia? Lottie visited Ethiopia in October 2019 with Christian Aid and will be sharing her thoughts following that visit. Meeting starts at 2.45pm tea and coffee afterwards.	Wesley Methodist Church
Thurs 5th	10.15am for 10.45am	Lent Study Group - All welcome A series of house groups sessions looking at Psalms at 35 Millington Rd, Cambridge. Coffee from 10.15am Study 10.45am-12noon #2 Psalm 139: 1-8 with Catherine Dixon	Cambridge
Mon 9th	7.15pm for 7.45pm	Science Meets Faith "Climate Change:@ What is means and what we can do about it" with Prof Joanna Haigh, Physics Department, Imperial College London University All welcome. Light refreshments from 7.15pm talk will start at 7.45pm. Retiring collection.	Wesley Methodist Church
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.15am for 10.45am	Lent Study group. All welcome A series of house groups sessions looking at Psalms at 35 Millington Rd, Cambridge. Coffee from 10.15am Study 10.45am-12noon #3 Psalm 139:19-24 with Stephen Burgess	Cambridge
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Buckden Handbell Ringers. A band of 10 people – 20 hands and over 50 handbells perform a repertoire of classical music, ragtime and popular music from shows and films. Tickets £5 from <a href="http://ticketsource.co.uk/rmc1">ticketsource.co.uk/rmc1</a> or <a href="mailto:walter962@btinternet.com">walter962@btinternet.com</a> Proceeds in aid of the RMC refurbishment project	Royston Methodist Church
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Faith To Live By with Revd Julie Norris addressing the subject of "Can we serve the common good by transplanting pig organs into human patients?" Worship, discussion, and time for questions. All welcome.	Haslingfield Methodist Church
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.45am	Lent Study group. All welcome #4 Psalm 122 with Bishop Alice	Cambridge
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.45am	Lent Study group. All welcome #5 Psalm 137 with Bruce Birch	Cambridge

For more details please contact The Circuit Administrator: Mrs Miriam Webb. Circuit Office: Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG 01223 352115 [www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk)  
Email: [office@wesleycam.org.uk](mailto:office@wesleycam.org.uk)

## Church Directory

<b>Minister</b> In vacancy	All church related matters to secretary@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	<b>Tel</b>
<b>Secretaries:</b> Maggie Jones - Sawston Val Spencer – Castle Camps	21 Hillside, Sawston 20 South Road, Abington	565637 892214
<b>Elders: Sawston</b> Mary Simuyandi Anne Nunn Mike Purdy Sue Sisk Yvonne Sparrow	28 New Road, Sawston 10 London Road, Sawston 42 Granta Road, Sawston 63 Babraham Road, Sawston 25 Edinburgh Ave, Sawston	837433 832913 830903 833508 473937
<b>Joint Treasurers:</b> Lynne Hays Terry Penny	Baggot Hall, Station Road, Harston April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	871800 833635
<b>Contact Editors</b> David & Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston Email: <a href="mailto:anne.nunn@btinternet.com">anne.nunn@btinternet.com</a>	832913
<b>Church Bookings</b>	Maggie Jones, 21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
<b>Church Website:</b> <b>Facebook page:</b>	<a href="http://www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/">www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch">www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch</a>	

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