

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 179

Friday 20th October 2023

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Prayer Chain: If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email kathy.cohen@btinternet.com (or phone 01440 762536) and your message will be forwarded to all those on the prayer email list (about 150 people).

Prayer Ministry: This is available after morning service each Sunday. Please approach someone wearing a lime green lanyard which has the words Prayer Ministry Team printed on it. Please remember our Churches Together online Prayer Wall [here](#).

Hearing Loop: We have a hearing loop, switch your hearing aid to the T position if available.

Mobile Phones: Please make sure your phone is off or set to silent before the service begins.

- [Link to Hope shoeboxes 2023](#)

Boxes need to be completed by this Sunday 22nd October. Leaflets available in the church foyer. Gill

- [GIFT DAY](#)

At a recent Church council meeting, it was decided to have a Church gift day on 22nd October. The proceeds of this event will go to fund our Children and young people's work

Gift envelopes will be distributed on the previous two Sundays for collection on the weekend of the 22nd October.

Next Door will be open on Saturday 21st from 10.00 until 1pm for tea and coffee and the receipt of gift envelopes and the sale of items donated by the craft group – see more below.

If you wish to donate directly into the church bank account the details are:

Account Name: Haverhill Methodist Church

Sort Code: 30-93-99 Account Number 00060578

Please use the reference 'Gift Day'

Thank you for your continuing support

As part of our Church's Gift Day, Next Door café will be open from 10.00am – 1.00pm for Tea/Coffee and cake. There will also be an opportunity to purchase last minute items for shoe boxes or maybe gifts for Christmas – please come along and see what the craft group have been doing and enjoy a drink and cake and for those who have never been into the Café, now's the opportunity to see it.

All proceeds will go towards the funding for our children and young people's work within the church. Donations of cakes would be appreciated Janet and Mick.

- Worship at the Meadows Care Home

The following dates have been confirmed:

Sunday 29th October/Sunday 26th November

If you would like to join in with this, please meet at 2.45pm in the foyer of the Meadows.

Talk to Alan Carney for more details.01284 735214 or 07713 597956

- 24 HOUR PRAYER ROOM

We have committed to a monthly Church prayer meeting which we started in the summer. For the September meeting we joined in the Churches Together act of worship on the market square.

For October we plan to hold a 24 hour prayer vigil from 6pm on Friday 27th October to 6pm on Saturday 28th October.

This is part of the East Anglian District initiative and will be supported by Yasmin Finch who is the District Mission Enabler.

The coffee lounge, next to the vestry, will be set up as a prayer room and quiet place to come and spend time with God.

For those who may not have experienced this type of prayer before can I encourage you to sign up and share in this wonderful experience.

I have a sign-up sheet, broken down into hourly slots and you can either come alone or with another person. The sheet will be available during coffee time on Sundays, or you can contact me direct on 01440 703760 or email: davidandjoyce@live.com.

Joyce Rinaldi



You are invited to a Light Party!

**Sunday 29th October,
4.00–6.00pm**

Haverhill Methodist Church Hall

Games – Treats – Glowsticks – Music –
Food – Fun!

A LIGHT alternative to Hallowe'en
Wear your brightest clothes!

Children under 5 must be
accompanied by an adult.

For more information or to book,
please email
hcmessychurch@gmail.com

- Bring & Share Lunch

It has been a while since we had a Bring & Share Lunch so I thought I would write about how it works.

These lunches are held on the 1st Sunday of each month after the morning service.

What is a Bring & Share Lunch? A time of fellowship with each other and share food together.

Why do we have it? It is an opportunity to chat and get to know people in an informal setting.

What do I need to bring? You can bring any food, hot or cold. If you decide to bring a hot dish please bring it already cooked. If you can bring it in a container that will keep it hot like a slow cooker or a casserole that can be popped in the oven to keep warm that would be ideal. Please note ALL food MUST have an ingredients list.

Do I have to bring hot food? No, cold food is also fine to bring.

Do I have to bring home cooked food? No, it can be shop bought but must be cooked at home first if bringing a hot dish.

Do I have to bring enough food for everyone? No, just enough food for your family or yourself.

Do I need to book? No booking required, just come along

How long will it last? There is no set time and you are free to leave when you need to but most probably 1.5/2 hours

I hope this answers some questions you may have but please speak with me if you are still unsure about anything. The emphasis on these lunches is fellowship together.

As with most things volunteers are needed to help with the smooth running of these events and to prevent all the work falling on just a few people. As the lunches are only once a month then the more helpers we have the less time you will be required to help. If this is something you can help with then please speak with myself or Janet Etheridge by Sunday 29th October. The first lunch will be held on the 5th November. My email address is, susan@marrensunset.co.uk
Thank you. Susan

Haverhill Methodist Church



Camps Road

Invite you to

A Service to Remember Loved Ones

Thursday 9th November 2023, 7.00pm

A time to remember loved ones departed

Names will be read out

and you will have the opportunity to light a candle



Followed by refreshments

- Young at Heart

Young at Heart Group are now busy knitting small blue hearts and I wondered if there was anyone in our church could help us out. The

pattern is simple and I can supply pattern and wool. If you could help us out please let me know. Janet

- House Groups

There are 5 possible House Groups.

One is filled but there are spaces with David and Ann Frost 7.30-9 once a month; Charmaine Slade Thursday 10.30 twice a month; Sonja and Muritala Monday evening 1st and 3rd from 8.00; finally Dot and Tom Tuesdays at 2.30 on the 1st and 3rd of the month.

Please see me on Sunday to sign up for a group.

These Groups are a very good way to really get to know people and to study the Bible in greater depth. I very much recommend them.

Heather

- Following on from Andy's sermon last week...

Andy recommended that we should share our "banked experiences" of God and his provision/blessings for the benefit of all. In other words, share our testimonies of God's goodness to us.

If you would like to share anything along these lines, it can be done through the pages of Connect. Please email a reasonably succinct passage to me and it will be published in the next edition.

Kathy

- Walking Nativity

It's that time of year.

We are planning a Walking Nativity in Haverhill on 2nd December.

Starting at 12 noon.

It will finish at St Mary's.

To pull this off we need your talent. Most of all we need your help and support.

We are looking for willing and able participants to:

be in the crowd ~ play music in the street ~ bring tea towels! ~ dress up ~ take one of the acting roles ~ clap and cheer ~ follow the trail around giving encouragement ~ sing carols ~ wear hi viz vests to ensure people's safety

There is a pleasurable job for everyone.

Jacqueline Lowry

Operations Coordinator

Email: admin.chalkstone@rolcc.org.uk

My working hours are: Monday 8-4/Wednesday 8-4/Friday 8-12

Tel: 01440 707766

Chalkstone Community Centre, Millfields Way, Haverhill, Suffolk,
CB9 0JB Web: www.rolcc.org.uk

A poster for a Nativity event. The background is a silhouette of a nativity scene with Mary and Joseph, set against a sunset sky with a bright star. The text is overlaid on the image.

Haverhill Walking
Nativity
NEED
PEOPLE WILLING TO TAKE ON A
SPEAKING PART

EVENT: SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
PLEASE CONTACT CHARMAINE BY
1ST NOVEMBER IF YOU CAN HELP.
CHARMAINESLADE57@GMAIL.COM

- PAT Testing (Portable Appliance Testing)

We will soon be testing all electrical equipment used in the church or Next Door for safety.

If you use any electrical equipment that I will not easily find, please send me a list with location of this equipment. Please also include any electrical items you bring in and connect to a church or Next

Door power socket. This includes extension leads, uplighters, amplifiers and other devices. We can then arrange a suitable time to test these.

Users of any electrical equipment used within the church or Next Door should visually inspect the equipment for signs of damage regularly. Do not use the equipment if any damage is found. This should include the plug, power cord and other parts of the equipment.

Please ask if you have any questions

Thank you

Jamie Evans

jamie@evans-mail.co.uk

- Posada

The idea of a Posada comes originally from Central America, probably from Mexico and may go back to the late 16th century. The word 'posada' means 'inn' or 'shelter' in Spanish.

The idea is to use the time of Advent when we prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas, to welcome Mary and Joseph into our homes and remember the time they were trying to find a place for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem.

There is a Posada set (basically a manger scene) which travels around the congregation, moving to a new home each day. Members of the congregation sign up for a day when they can receive the Posada which will be brought to them by the household that precedes them on the list. They will welcome the visitors, provide simple refreshments (tea/ coffee + biscuits/cake) and then hold a short act of welcome. (Words provided). The journey for the holy family will finish in the Church on Christmas morning.

If you would be interested, please sign the list either in the entrance or in the hall during the next few weeks.

If you wish to know more speak to Ken. Thank you.

- Have you considered if you are called...

We are very blessed with the growing number of young people in our Sunday Club, however this has led to a need for more helpers (& leaders!) on the team.

We aim for helpers to be on the rota once a month. There is no preparation beforehand, just supporting the leaders on the day. We

have spaces in all 3 groups - Splash (3-7), XStream (7-11) and Grid (11+). *Please speak to Claire if you would be interested or would like more information.*

Sunday Club would also appreciate any donations of rolls of wallpaper.

- EDI Training - reminder

The Methodist Church is committed to justice, dignity and solidarity. A new online Methodist training programme on equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) is now available and open to all. The 2021 Methodist Conference agreed that this ***EDI training would be mandatory for those holding certain key roles in the church, including ministers, local preachers, safeguarding officers, circuit stewards, church stewards and pioneers.*** Those expected to complete the training are required to do this before **December 31st 2023**. More information, including how to register for the training can be found on the Methodist Church website. Here is the direct link <https://mcb.theologyx.com/course/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-foundation-module/>

For those who are undertaking EDI training, please note that Jacqueline Stewart has agreed to keep a local record of those in our church who have completed this training.

It will be necessary to give Jacqueline a printed copy of the certificate of completion which is issued at the end of the online EDI training.

Thank you.

- Advance Notice

On Saturday November 18th we will be holding a Creative Prayer Workshop led by the Learning Network Eastern Region. More details nearer the time but please book the date in your diary!

On Sunday 26th November our Chair of the East Anglia District, Rev Julian Pursehouse, will be preaching here. Please book the date and come along.

Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: kathy.cohen@btinternet.com . Please try not to leave it to the last minute to send things.

