

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 188

Friday 22nd December 2023

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.*

Psalm 136:1

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.

- Midnight Holy Communion on 24th December

There will not be a Midnight Holy Communion service at our church on Christmas Eve but we are invited to join the congregation of St Mary's at 11.30pm.

- Christmas Day service – 10am

Request from Ken:

Please wear your Christmas jumpers (or Christmas hat/scarf so we can have a Parade of the Christmas Jumpers as we sing our first hymn.

Also, don't forget to bring a present to open all together during the service.

- Young at Heart Christmas break

This group will not meet on 20th Dec, 27th Dec & 3rd Jan, We'll be back on 10th January, so if you haven't tried us, make it a New Year resolution to pop in!

- Open Mind Christmas break

We will only be closed on 27th December.



As we close our doors for the last time in 2023 , the team at Open Mind would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported us over the last year.

We are very lucky to be part of such a wonderful local community and we are grateful to everyone who recommends our service and to everyone who has stepped through the door and allowed us to be part of their journey.

We will be back open on Wednesday 3rd January from 10am-12 but should you need support over the Christmas period please reach out to-

NHS 111 option 2

Samaritans on 116 123

or text SHOUT to 85258

- Bring & Share Lunch

It has been decided that for the time being Bring & Share lunch will take place once every 2 months. Therefore the next lunch will be Sunday 7th January.

Thanks

Susan

- Ladies Meal 2024 - Friday 26th January

At the Red Lion at Wrating, **7.00 for 7.30pm**. Menu and sign-up sheet in the foyer. If you are intending to come would you please let me know by **13th December**. Cost will be: 2 courses £16.95 or 3 courses £22.95. I will need a £10 deposit please.

Janet

- After Service Refreshments

I will be producing a new rota to begin in January 2024. If you would be willing to be included, please let me know in the next couple of weeks.

We all enjoy this time of fellowship after the service and the more people willing to take a turn means that the duty does not come around so frequently for everyone.

Also, on Christmas Eve we have no-one on the list at present. I will be available but could use some help please.

Many thanks,

Joyce Rinaldi

Email: davidandjoyce@live.com

- House Groups

I want to start a House Group beginning Friday 5th January from 10.30 till 12am. It will be once a month.

Please speak to me if you'd like to join.

Heather

P.S. those who come need to like dogs.

- Getting to know you!

There are bound to be lots of photos taken over the holiday period, *please* send me yours if you haven't already.

Head & shoulders, couples together, no kids.

Send to haverhillmethodist.info@gmail.com

I'm intending to print and put up the pics I've got early in the New Year, so it'll be 'name & shame' by your absence!!

Many thanks,
Kathy

- EDI Training

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.

- Prayer Diary

Apart from the Sunday services here are some other dates to pray for:-

January

- 7 Morning worship followed by lunch
- 14 Sunday Club visit to Pantomime
- 21 Covenant Service
- 24 Church/Circuit meeting
- 26 Ladies Meal

Extra Prayer Topics

- *Church & Circuit Steward & Local Preachers* Pray for those who have responsibility for leading us in the practical and spiritual running of this Church especially at this challenging time. Pray for the Rev. Andy Burrows as he is our titular Superintendent Minister. Pray that he will be able to cope with the extra workload. Pray for those bringing the Word of God to us each Sunday that we may all be blessed and our faith will deepen.
- *Invitation Committee* – We give thanks for our Invitation Committee and pray for them as they continue to serve our Church.
- *Worship Band* – Give thanks for those who lead our worship each Sunday through music. Please pray for more musicians to come forward to join the band.
- *Sunday Club* – More leaders and helpers are still needed. Give thanks for the growing numbers of Sunday Club youngsters.
- *Home groups*- Please pray for the Home Groups as they start up shortly. Pray that they will be a means of growing spiritually and in closeness to each other.
- *Property Committee* – Pray for the property committee as they prioritise the work needed to keep all the property in good condition and as they explore the possibility of selling the manse and purchasing a more suitable property
- *YFC* – Pray for the work of Sarah through YFC as she is involved in lessons, clubs, mentoring and chaplaincy work. Pray also for the work of Illuminate.
- *Next Door*- Now open 4 days a week. Please pray for the future work.
- *Young at Heart* – Pray for those leading and attending this group.

- *Reach* – Please pray for all those involved in the work of Reach as it tries to alleviate the suffering of so many at this time of financial challenge.
- *Open Mind* – Please pray for the ongoing work of Open Mind. More volunteers needed especially men.
- *Revival* – Give thanks for the new people coming into our Church. Pray for the Lord's visitation upon this Church in power as He has promised.
- *Our Fellowship* - Pray for those in our fellowship who are going through difficult times. Pray the Lord will meet them at their point of need. Pray for peace and healing.

Please Note:

There will not be an issue of Connect between Christmas & New Year. This is the last edition for 2023.

Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: kathy.cohen@btinternet.com

. Dates for your Diary

December		
24 th	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
25 th	10.00am	Christmas Day Celebration: Rev Ken Nicholls
31 st	10.30am	Preacher: Steve Norris Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
January		
2 nd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
3 rd	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
7 th	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade – All Age Worship Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
9 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
10 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
14 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Ken Nicholls Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
16 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
17 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
21 st	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Andy Burrows – Covenant Service with Holy Communion Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
23 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
24 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
28 th	10.30am	Preacher: Ian Levett Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
30 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
31 st	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
February		
4 th	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell – All Age Worship Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
6 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
7 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
11 th		Preacher: Peter Barton from Adopt-a-Child will update us on his work in Guatemala and Albania Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
13 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
14 th		Ash Wednesday
	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall