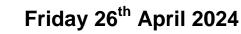
GOD LOVES YOU!

Haverhill Methodist Church

Rev. Andy Burrows Titular Superintendent Minister T: 01603 927010 E: <u>andrew.burrows@methodist.org.uk</u>

HMC Senior Steward Jacqueline Stewart T: 01440 706794 E: <u>stewartjacqueline59@gmail.com</u>



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Prayer Chain: If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email <u>kathy.cohen@btinternet.com</u> (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.

Barnabas Fund

The Easter collection for Barnabas Aid (<u>https://www.barnabasaid.org/gb/</u>)for persecuted Christians raised £186.00 Thank you for your generosity

Worship at the Meadows care home

Three dates have been booked for worship at the Meadows, **28th April** and 23rd June, all @ 3pm.

If you would like to go along and support this work please speak to Alan Carney.



Connect Issue 205

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• A Christian Conference @ Thetford

Flourish – a day conference for women, costing £15 Take a look at the postcard below and go to the website to book.



<u>Mission Boxes</u>

May I please have all Mission in Britain boxes and Overseas Mission boxes in for opening as soon as possible. I am asking for them earlier this year as Lloyds Bank is planning to close its doors in June and after that it will not be possible to bank small amounts of coin.

Hopefully we shall be discussing this at the Church Council meeting at the end of May and we can look at alternative ways of supporting this work. Thankyou

Kay

Letter from Nigeria

Dear Church family,

You may remember the baptism of baby David Meregini on February 18th 2024 in our church. David's Grandma Uchechi returned to Nigeria soon after the Baptism. I have received a lovely message from Uchechi who has given me permission to send this message you all via Connect. I have copied this message verbatim.

"Please help me and tell the church leadership, Rev Nicholls and wife and entire worshippers that I appreciated their warmth, reception and acceptance while I was with you.

I have told my local church in Nigeria, how wonderful you are in accepting and welcoming visitors. It is commendable and worthy of praise. God Bless you all as you continue to demonstrate the love of Christ to everyone that comes to worship with you. I love you all.I miss your tea and coffee time.I miss your fellowship.From Uchechi Emelogu (David's Grandma)"

I hope on reading this lovely message which came all the way from Nigeria, you will feel as uplifted as I felt. Many blessings from Jacqueline Stewart Senior Steward

House Groups

Several of our house groups are now full but there are still spaces in two: David Frost – First Thursday of the month at 3.30pm and

Dot & Tom Parker – 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 2.30pm Please speak to Heather or to the group host if you are interested in going along or just want to know more.

- The Role of Pastoral Friend at Haverhill Methodist Church
- 1. To offer friendship, caring support and encouragement particularly in times of special need.
- 2. To keep in contact with those you are a pastoral friend to. This contact may happen through Sunday worship, home visits, telephone conversations, email or text or letters/cards.
- 3. To pray for and perhaps with those you are a pastoral friend to.
- 4. To make available our weekly Connect to those unable to access it.
- 5. To distribute the annual Methodist Church Membership Tickets and Adherent Tickets.
- 6. As appropriate, to inform the Pastoral Secretary and Church Minister of any serious illness, hospitalisation or if back up support is needed.
- 7. To inform the Safeguarding Officer of any concerns
- 8. To inform the Pastoral Secretary and Communication Team Leader of any changes in their contact details.
- 9. To attend Pastoral Meeting.

If you are interested in this Role please speak to Janet Etheridge

• Weekly Offering & Gift Aid

We do not ask visitors for money, however should you wish to give there is an offering bowl just inside the main doors to the church at each service. If you wish to give by standing order/onlinebanking, please ask the duty steward (wearing a purple lanyard) for details of the appropriate church bank account. (This type of payment helps us avoid banking costs incurred by paying in cash/cheques.)

If you pay income tax you can fill in a form which allows the church to claim back 25p for every £1 at no cost to yourself. These forms are available from the duty steward on a Sunday morning.

The amount claimed back in recent years has approached £10,000 pa and has often prevented expenditure exceeding income in the annual accounts.

Prayer Diary

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

<u>May</u>

- 5 All Age Worship Preacher Charmaine Slade
- 12 Preacher Vivien Sargent
- 18 Churches Together Pentecost Event on Market Square with prayer in evening at the Chalkstone Centre
- 19 Pentecost Sunday Preacher- Andy Burrows
- 22 Circuit/Church Council Meeting
- 26 Preacher- Charmaine Slade

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 Burows 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.

Moses John – Pray for Moses John & his family as they prepare to move here in the summer. Pray that God will guide him in his leadership of us.

Sale & Purchase of new Manse – Pray for those involved in the proposed sale of the existing Manse and the purchase of a new Manse. Pray for the Lord's guidance.

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 now that they have restarted. Pray that they will be a means of growing spiritually and in closeness to each other.

Mens Coffee Club – Pray for this new venture to bring men of the Church together.

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 its ongoing and 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.

Advance Notice

Music Exams will be taking place in the church, coffee lounge and vestry on June 27th & 28th. Please do not enter these areas and be mindful of noise around the site.

• Dates for your Diary

April		
26 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
27 th	All day	Synod at Huntingdon Methodist Church
28 th	10.30am	Preacher: Gavin Payne Flowers: Sue & Stephen Symonds
		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
	3pm	Worship at the Meadows Care Home
30 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
Мау		
1 st	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
3 rd	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
5 th	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade – All Age Worship
		Flowers: Mollie LeRoy
		Prayer time from 10am in the coffee lounge
7 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
8 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
10 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
12 th	10.30am	Preacher: Vivien Sargeant Flowers: Linda & Ron Walker
		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
14 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
15 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
17 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
19 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Andy Burrows – Holy Communion – Pentecost
		Flowers: Gill Wadeson
st		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
21 st	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
22 nd	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
th	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
24 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
26 th	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade Flowers: Hilary Curtis
a a th		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
28 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
29 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
e et	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
31 st	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
June 2 nd	10.20	
2	10.30am	Preacher: tbc All Age Worship
		Flowers: Sue & Stephen Symonds
		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge