GOD LOVES YOU!





Connect Issue 255

Haverhill Methodist Church

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Friday 25th April 2025

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18

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 200 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.

40 days of prayer for Haverhill at HMC



From 30th April to 8th June (Pentecost) the church will be open between 11am and 12 noon for people to come and pray for Haverhill. There will be a large map of the town on display, divided into 40 sections, to help focus your prayers on particular areas or streets, A4 copies of these sections will also be available.

Please sign up for a time slot on the sheets provided in church – multiple people per slot are encouraged! If you can't get to church to sign up, please email haverhillmethodist.info@gmail.com with your chosen date/s, to be added to the list.

• 24/7 Prayer at River of Life Community Church

As part of RoLCC plans to develop a house of prayer for Haverhill, (in the Upper Room at the Chalkstone) a number of 24-hour prayer days are coming up, with the next one on 25th/26th April. If you know of anyone who might like to participate, here is the link: Prayer for Haverhill Henry Wilson

Pastoral Meeting

There will be a Pastoral Meeting on 29th April at 7.30pm in the Coffee Lounge.

All Pastoral Friends should do their best to be there.

Our growing numbers mean that we are always looking for more Pastoral Friends so that everyone if our church community can be looked after. If you are interested please contact Janet Etheridge.

• Food, Glorious Food!

We will be holding an "International Food Evening" on Saturday 14th June 2025.

Bring, share and experience a variety of food that represents and celebrates the various cultures that make up our amazing family of Haverhill Methodist Church.

So pop the date in your diary for this wonderful event. More details will be given in due course. Susan Marren

Young at Heart – Crochet Butterflies

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Crochet Butterflies - thank you to those who helped distribute them over the Easter period on behalf of the church – we managed to distribute over 300 butterflies.

Janet

Car Park

To help relieve congestion in the church car park on Sunday mornings we have been given kind permission by the Haverhill Family Practice doctors'

surgery and pharmacy to use their rear car park. This is located just down Camps Road from the church (NOT the one across the road).

Please take care and be considerate to other users, from the Baptist Church and Haverhill Pharmacy, or else this kind privilege could be withdrawn.

Parking at any time other than Sunday mornings is prohibited.

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.

Town Pastors

The Town Pastors will be on the streets tonight, Good Friday 18th April, from 8pm to midnight (as well as marshalling the Walk of Witness in the morning!). Please keep them in your prayers and support those who bring this important ministry to our streets. If you are interested in becoming part of this aspect of God's work in our town please speak to Kathy, Angela Proctor, David Payne, Phoebe, Mary Thake, Pat Shanks, Dot Parker, Sarah Glasswell, Paula Tappin or Jack Tappin, we can all tell you about our experiences as home prayers, base leaders or actually being out on the streets. Or contact the chairman, lan Levett.

- Haverhill & District Churches Together News and Events
- Dates of Haverhill Praise at West End Congregational Church, all at 4pm:

May 11th, July 20th, Sep 28th, Nov 30th

 Thursday 8th May: Service for the Anniversary of VE Day, 7pm @ St Mary's Church, including Handel's Hallelujah Chorus – as in 1945 • From the Chair of District (arrived a little too late for previous edition)



Dear friends,

As I am writing this we are not too far from Holy Week and Good Friday will soon be here.

We will go from the songs of praise of Palm Sunday, to the anger in the temple, a meal with precious friends, and the devastation of Good Friday before we reach the beckoning light of Easter Sunday.



On Good Friday we remember that the cross of Jesus stands as a witness to all the pain and suffering in the world and we can't avoid being aware of the brokenness of the world right now. In the cross, all our hatred is heaped upon Jesus and in this great moment of giving love, he dies a most humiliating death. In this moment Christ stands alongside all who are broken and despairing, all who are unfairly treated, all who are crushed by the hatred of humanity. Darkness falls and seems to overwhelm the world.

But we know that is not the end of the story. The women go to the tomb in the early morning of Easter Sunday. The dawn is emerging with the promise of daylight, a new day, a new beginning. All of the gospels talk of the women who are first at the tomb. In John's gospel account we read that Mary Magdalene runs to the disciples to say, 'I have seen the Lord', she cannot keep silent but they say it must be an idle tale and they don't believe her. It is only later, when they share in their own experience of the risen Jesus that they realise Mary's truth. Perhaps they were a little ashamed then.

Resurrection might seem like an idle tale to so many in our world today yet our faith inspires us to speak out about hope and new possibilities. We cannot pretend that life is always easy. There are times when we feel pushed to the limit, exhausted or stressed. Family pressures, money worries, exam stress, relationships that crumble, we know these things are currently a reality for many people.

Yet, in the resurrection of Jesus we are encouraged to think differently. When we feel we have no hope left, God is there with us. If we are blinded by tears God whispers our name and reminds us that we

are loved.

When we feel all is lost we come to realise that we are not alone. When we want to give up God lifts us up and says, I am here, you are important to me, we will do this together.

I have planted numerous seeds recently, every year, and when they germinate and grow I am bowled over that such tiny things can produce, mostly, prolific growth, flowers and food. They inspire me with hope.

This is the Easter message: Love will win, death does not have the last word. This is good news and something worth talking about. It is not an idle tale, it is a story to live by.

Alleluia! Christ is risen... He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Sending you and yours, prayers and best wishes for Easter.

Helen

Please Note: Helen will be preaching at HMC on Sunday 11th May

information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: <u>kathy.cohen@btinternet.com</u>

Downs Baptist Chapel Haverhill

downsbaptisthaverhill.org.uk

Service of Thanksgiving to the Lord for 1975-2025 pastoral oversight

God willing on Saturday April 26th at 2.30pm

when
Mr Peter Chapman
(Baldock Baptist Church)
will lead worship

There will be refreshments afterwards in the Garden Annexe

Offerings of the day for the Salisbury Reformed Seminary

A warm welcome awaits you

Would appreciate a call to Daphne on 07570 101104 if you are thinking of coming as it will be helpful for catering!

Dates for your Diary

25 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
27 th		Little rots baby & roddier group in charen rian
21	10.30am	Preacher: Henry Wilson Church Easter Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
29 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
30 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
May		
1 st	2-4pm	Reach: Welcome Spaces in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
2 nd	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
3 rd	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
		All Age Worship: Rev Moses John
4 th	10.30am	Flowers: Linda & Ron Walker
		Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
5 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
6 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
7 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
8 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	2-4pm	Reach: Welcome Spaces in Church Hall
9 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
10 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
11 th	10.20am	Preacher: Helen Hollands – District Chair
	10.30am	Prayer time 10am in Coffee Lounge Flowers: G Wadeson
12 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
13 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
14 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
15 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	2-4pm	Reach: Welcome Spaces in Church Hall
16 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
17 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church

^{*} If you would like to join the Flower Rota, please contact Sue Symonds 01440 763613 or harrys62@sky.com