

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 259

Friday 23rd May 2025

*The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.
Psalm 121:7-8*

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 the 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.

- Baptism this Sunday

As part of our morning service this Sunday, 25th May, we will celebrate the baptism of Ooreoluwa Akinyemi (age 7) and Tiaraoluwa Akinyemi (age 2). Please do pray for them and their parents, Ayokunle and Oluwabusolami Akinyemi, as they prepare for this joyful celebration.

- 40 days of prayer for Haverhill at HMC

From 30th April to 8th June (Pentecost) the church will be open between 11am and 12noon for people to come and pray. 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. It's also OK to just turn up.

- 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

- Music Exams

There will be music exams taking place in the church, vestry and coffee lounge on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th June. Please do not enter these areas and please be aware of noise around the site, particularly in the car park. Thank you.

- 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.

- The Learning Network

The learning network are providing online staffroom meetings and there is one upcoming on Thursday 22nd May. This event is an opportunity for lay employees and volunteers to come together with others across the connexion. Anyone who wishes to participate can register on Eventbrite, or contact the event organiser James Devenish by Email:

devenishj@methodistchurch.org.uk or Tel: 07799902567

- Job opportunity #1

Huntingdon and Sawtry Methodist Churches are seeking to employ a 'Community Mission worker'. Please find the job advert attached below.

- Job opportunity #2

The Methodist Church's 'New Places for New People' team is advertising an exciting new vacancy for a full time Surf Church Planter and Missional Pioneer in Mundesley, North Norfolk. The full job advert is attached below.

- Haverhill & District Churches Together News and Events

Dates of Haverhill Praise at West End Congregational Church, all at 4pm:
July 20th, Sep 28th, Nov 30th

- Town Pastors

The Town Pastors will be on the streets tonight, 23rd May, from 8pm to midnight. 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 Cohen, Angela Proctor, David Payne, Phoebe, Mary Thake, Pat Shanks, Dot Parker or Sarah Glasswell. We can all tell you about our experiences as home prayers, base leaders or actually being out on the streets. Or contact the chairman, Ian Levett.



- Connecting Communities

Do you find it difficult to get to college, to the shops, medical appointments, work, or to visit your friends or family in the county? Connecting Communities are here to support those who do not have access to a regular bus service, or who struggle to use public transport.

Please find attached below two posters regarding their transport service and their 'Let's do Lunch' initiative.

- A letter from our Church Treasurer

At our recent General Church meeting, it was encouraging to see how many people attended and heard what God has been doing in our church's life, especially as we consistently have new people joining our congregation. Glory to God! I can't wait to see what God has in store for our church in the future.

Although the church has been growing rapidly, this growth comes with a bit of responsibility for all of us because the needs also get bigger. Obviously, we would rather be in this situation than the other way around. This is great news, as the needs arise, it becomes our responsibility to support our local church financially.

In the Bible, there are many things that challenge our daily lives, which sometimes we do without paying too much attention; But Jesus paid more attention to one particular issue: money. More than half of Jesus' parables are about money and possessions. On many occasions, Jesus challenged the people on how to use the God-given resources wisely, and they should be shared among his people. People found it hard to accept the teachings even in Jesus' days because this is a very sensitive and difficult issue to deal with. But it is a necessary issue that all Christians have to address.

In Matthew 6:21, it says, 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also'- Jesus revealed the truth by saying, "What a person values most is where their heart is at." So, the question is, is our heart in the right place? If not, what is meant for a blessing can become a stumbling block to our real blessing! For this reason, Paul also warns us by saying that the love of money can be 'the root of all evil' (1 Timothy 6:10).

That is why God taught us the spiritual discipline of giving a Tithe: 10 per cent of our income. According to Deuteronomy 14:23, the purpose of tithing is to teach us to always put God first in our lives and give what rightfully belongs to Him. In that way, we are not only sharing God's goodness with others but also honouring God by recognising that all the blessings we have are from God bestowed upon us by His grace (James 1:17).

Our generous giving reflects our love for God in action and also shapes our worship of our generous God. We don't give out of obligation, but as God blesses the cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7). We only give what God has already placed in our hearts. Obviously, we are NOT asking for more than you can afford. This will not only not be good for the church; more importantly, it wouldn't be pleasing to God either.

We, as a church, strive to be fully transparent. We have a good property and finance team that makes decisions on how we spend money, and their accountability is open for every church member to see.

As I mentioned in our recent general church meeting back in March, our current situation is that we have a minister of our own, which is not common for Methodist churches around the UK. Although this is a great thing for our church, where we can have our own minister, it also increases our costs, including housing and other expenses. Currently, we are facing a shortfall of £1250.00 per month.

Although it may sound significant, if every church member increases their giving by at least £10 per month, we can resolve this issue. We are very grateful for those who are already tithing and for some who are giving more than 10%. May God bless you and your heart for God's kingdom.

How can I give?

The best way to support is by setting up a standing order, which allows us to know how much is coming each month and makes it possible to plan the church's mission accordingly.

You can also help without increasing your current giving: if you already have a standing order and pay tax to the Inland Revenue, you can sign the Gift Aid declaration, which will boost your donation by 25%. The Gift Aid Declaration form can be requested from any steward, David Rinaldi (Treasurer), or David Frost. If you have any queries regarding this request or need further details, please speak to me or David Frost. We would be more than happy to assist you. If you wish to set up a Standing order the bank details are

Account Name; Haverhill Methodist Church
Account number: 00060578
Sort Code: 30-93-99

God bless you.

Yours in Christ's service,
David Rinaldi (Treasurer)

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

- Dates for your Diary

May		
23 rd	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
24 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
25 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Moses John- Baptism Prayer time 10am in Coffee Lounge Flowers: Bryan and Jenny Ellicott
26 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
27 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
28 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
	7.30pm	Property Meeting
29 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
30 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
31 st	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
June		
1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Moses John - All Age Prayer time 10am in Coffee Lounge Flowers: Sue & Stephen Symonds
2 nd	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
	3.30-6.00pm	Reach in the Church Hall
3 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
4 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
5 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
6 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall
	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
7 th	11am - 12	40 days of Prayer for Haverhill in church
8 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Moses John- Pentecost, Holy Communion Prayer time 10am in Coffee Lounge Flowers: Denny Letcher
9 th	3.30-6.00pm	Reach in the Church Hall
10 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
11 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in Church Hall
	7:30pm	Church Council in the Church Hall
13 th	9.30-11.30am	Little Tots Baby & Toddler group in Church Hall

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



Community Mission worker

Based at Huntingdon and Sawtry Methodist Churches

(17 High Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TE and 9 Green End Road, Sawtry PE28 5UX)

An exciting opening has arisen for an enthusiastic and creative applicant to encourage and develop mission and discipleship opportunities, particularly focussed on people on the edge of our church communities in Huntingdon and Sawtry. The successful applicant will have a passion for making visible the love of Christ, a joy in communicating with people, a confident and friendly character and a good sense of humour.

Working in partnership with the Superintendent Minister, local church leadership teams and a range of lay volunteers, the role will involve helping churches to make the most of their missional resources and to realise currently unfulfilled opportunities.

At Sawtry, the need is to make links with the local community where new housing is being constructed. At Huntingdon, there will be the opportunity to focus on supporting and creating opportunities for children and families. The appointee will be able to get to know children and families at the Tots' group called "Seedlings", the Messy Church called "All sorts" and children and families who attend Sunday morning worship and then build upon these initiatives.

This appointment is for a permanent contract, dependent on continued funding, initially identified for 5 years. Commencing October 2025. A job-share may be possible.

Salary: £13 - £15 per hour depending on qualifications and experience.

The post will be for 12 hours a week split between the two sites.

For [an application pack please email the Circuit Steward, Pauline Zahner, on \[przahner@icloud.com\]\(mailto:przahner@icloud.com\)](#)

Closing date for applications – Monday, July 14th, 2025

Interviews to be held on Tuesday, 14th August, 2025

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010 it is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a practising Christian and we would expect the postholder to adhere to the values of the Methodist Church.

An enhanced DBS check will be required for this appointment.

The Methodist Church is an inclusive Church committed to the Safeguarding of all.



Surf – Faith – People

Job Opportunity **Surf Church Planter & Missional Pioneer**

Location: Mundesley, North Norfolk (Home-based with coastal engagement)

Salary: £30,888 per annum (£16.50/hour)

Hours: 36 hours per week

Contract: Permanent dependent on continuing funding, initially identified for 5 years



Do you have a heart for mission, a love for the coast, and a calling to pioneer something new?



We are looking for a visionary, enthusiastic and faith-filled Surf Church Planter & Missional Pioneer to launch and lead **Wavestation Surf Church** – a brand new expression of church rooted in the coastal community of Mundesley, Norfolk.



In partnership, **North Norfolk Methodist Circuit** and **East Anglia Methodist District**, are creating Wavestation – a bold new church plant designed for surfers, beach lovers, and the wider coastal community.
Part of the **New Places for New People** movement.

A satisfactory enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service will be required.

For an informal conversation about the role please contact Dr Yasmin Finch, District Mission Enabler: yrfinch@gmail.com

For further information and an application pack please contact Kate Dalton:
DLES@eangliamethodist.org.uk

Closing Date for Applications: 16th June.
Interview Date: 26th June.

connecting **communities**

rural transport

Connecting Communities is a transport service designed to make it easier for those in the Haverhill area to travel.

Do you find it difficult to get to college, to the shops, medical appointments, work or to visit your friends and family in the county?

We are here to support those journeys that are not otherwise possible.

We cover Haverhill, Abington, Bartlow, Great Wrating, Horseheath, Kedington, Linton, Shudy Camps, Steeple Bumpstead, The Thurlows, West Wickham, Weston Colville, Withersfield, The Wrattings

We support those who

- do not have access to a regular bus service or
- have difficulty using public transport.

Give us a call to find out if we can help you to stay connected.

www.thevoluntarynetwork.org

transport@thevoluntarynetwork.org

01638 664304



LET'S do LUNCH

HAVERHILL AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

**Fancy Lunch out? Why not join us for one of
our regular lunch trips.**

We book the restaurant, you simply pay your
travel fare from £8.00, select and pay for your
meal at the restaurant.

A great way to catch up with friends or meet
new people.

Please call the office for further details:

01638 664304