



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 101

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and  
knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

*Proverbs 9:10*

**Prayer Chain:** If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email [kathy.cohen@btinternet.com](mailto:kathy.cohen@btinternet.com) (or phone 01440 762536) and your message will be forwarded to all those on the prayer email list (about 80 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.

- Sunday 3rd April All-Age Service followed by Bring-and-share lunch

Our Sunday morning service will be led by Sarah Glasswell with participation from the young people who attend our Sunday evening youth group 'Illuminate'.

The service will be followed by refreshments and then a bring-and-share lunch. All are welcome to attend.

- Music Exams

Music exams will be taking place in the Church, coffee lounge and vestry from 8am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

Please DO NOT ENTER these areas.

If you are using other parts of the building, or the car park, please try to keep noise to a minimum.

- Prayer Walking prayer meeting

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1.30-2.30pm at the Methodist Church

Do please and attend if you possibly can so that we have opportunity to hear feedback, be encouraged together and collectively pray for Haverhill. You are also most welcome to invite anyone else along who may not be Prayer Walking but would still like to join us to specifically prayer for our town.

With every blessing

Bill

- Funeral of Paul Smith, son of the late Daphne Smith

Service of thanksgiving at Haverhill Methodist Church on Tuesday 12th April at 1.30pm.

(A private cremation took place on Thursday 17th March.)

Refreshments/buffet served in our church hall afterwards.

If anyone can please assist with either setting up tables and chairs in the church hall or putting them away afterwards, please speak to Peter.

- Good Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 10am

Haverhill & District Churches Together Service to be held at The Old Independent Church, Hamlet Road.

Afterwards, procession following the Cross down to the Market Square for service.

Our church providing musicians on the market square for the service.

Refreshments served afterwards in St Mary's Church.

- Find the Sheep Event Saturday April 16th

Thank you so much to everyone who has already committed to help with this huge community event. It's been heartwarming and on behalf of Sarah and myself please accept our gratitude !

There are just a couple of vacant slots that we need volunteers for:

- 1 or more persons to help with craft activities
- 1 adult to support the farm owner with hospitality (hot drinks, anything they might need like water for the animals
- 1 person to help Gill Jones with offering refreshments in the church before activities begin in the hall.

Please speak with either Sarah or myself directly or contact us via my email address [charmainslade57@gmail.com](mailto:charmainslade57@gmail.com)

*Every blessing,  
Charmaine Slade  
Lay Pioneer*

## **Easter Breakfast Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April**



**If you wish to come to our Easter Breakfast please put your name on the list in the Church Foyer**

- Funeral of Nancy Brown

This will take place in our church on 21<sup>st</sup> April at 12 noon

- Easter Offering Envelopes – Please take one

Each year the Methodist Church, in connection with Methodist Women in Britain, takes up an Easter Offering in support of God's mission.

The money raised through the Easter Offering goes to the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain to be allocated for work among over 100 Partner Churches and organisations around the world.

Easter Offering envelopes for your donation are available in the church foyer. They may be returned in the offering plate on Easter Sunday or soon afterwards.

Later we shall hold our Easter Offering Dedication Service to which you are invited – more details to follow when known.

Thank you for your support and generosity once again.

NB The 2022 Easter Offering envelopes were out of stock, so we have adapted regular Gift Aid envelopes for this purpose.

- [Link to Hope – Christmas shoebox appeal](#)

I know it's early but if you buy summer shoes, please save the boxes for the Christmas appeal.

Thanks

Gill

- [Update from Richard & Lana](#)

Hi everyone!

As everyone is aware now I think, Lana and I got married back in January! It was a wonderful day, with just a few of our UK family and friends present, with Lana's relatives able to enjoy the ceremony as we livestreamed it to Russia for her mother, sister, son and others!

We then had a short honeymoon in Winchester and on the Isle of Wight, followed by my being able to have couple of weeks off before I started my new job at South Cambs DC.

The new job is going very well, and I'm already dealing with a pretty intense district workload, but I'm absolutely convinced I made the right decision to switch my role to one as a district EHO. I already feel as though I've got more of my evening time back and am enjoying the MUCH reduced work stress levels!

Lana continues to teach online to her students in Russia, with the school year ending sometime in May. Unfortunately, her plans for two trips for students and adults to visit the UK have had to be cancelled due to the current Ukraine/Russia issues and sanctions preventing travel and financial transfers.

It's difficult to know quite what to say about the Ukraine/Russia situation. It is, of course, horrific to see the destruction and pain that

is happening in Ukraine. It is good to see that so many organisations and countries are providing support to those affected in the Ukraine. I would also ask for your prayers for the general Russian population too, many of whom are unaware of much of what's going on, who are also being affected by this awful situation. Many have seen their already small savings decimated and massive rates of inflation (over 400% for some everyday items), food and other shortages (paper supplies, etc.), and isolation/separation from relatives. Whilst many have experienced similar hardships in the past, these impacts are likely to affect the general population for many years to come.

In addition, it is difficult to see some of the headlines/social media implying that it is "ok to beat up or kill Russians" around the world. Fortunately, Lana has not experienced this first hand, though she has friends here in the UK who are fearful of even speaking Russian in public in case someone hears and decides to act mindlessly.

Lana's mother is fearful that she'll never be able to see Lana again due to the travel restrictions and sanctions, and although we are confident that this will not prove to be true, it is putting a lot of stress and strain on Lana and her family members with the distance between them.

Therefore, I ask that as you (and I) pray for the people in the Ukraine, please also spare a prayer for the general Russian population around the world who are also being indirectly impacted by this devastating war. Thank you.

I must also take this opportunity to say thank you for many that have sent messages of encouragement, care and love, to Lana, directly or via myself at church. I know Lana has valued each and every one of them, and it's really meant a lot to us both.

Many have asked how Lana's son Kamil is doing. Thank you for all your prayers following his severe COVID illness last year. He has now fully recovered and is currently back working in Yaroslavl. Even though he's there on his own he seems to have settled in well and has been in good spirits when we've chatted to him recently. We're hopeful that the future job uncertainties in light of the sanctions will prove unfounded, and that he'll continue to build his experience and career (it's something IT based).

Closer to home, my family are all doing ok. My Mum received her BEM in early February for services to Music and the Community.



We're so proud of her and she is very excited about her invite to this year's Queen's Garden Party which she'll attend with Dad, who's health is currently stable, again thank you for your prayers. I do hope it all goes ahead this time following the huge disappointment of the COVID cancellations in 2019.

Oakley (went missing, returned with a badly injured right leg) continues to get better too. He only limps a little bit now, though he struggles to get up onto the chair or the bed.

Unfortunately, his daddy (me) has taken empathy to a new level by badly injuring his own right leg last week during a badminton match. After 5hrs in A&E last Wednesday it was established that I've badly torn the top of my calf muscle. After a couple of days not really being able to walk on it much at all I am now getting more mobile, though the recovery will be a couple of months (and 4-5 months before I'm able to get back onto a court). I'm really disappointed to miss the rest of the season and quite a few tournaments, but am grateful for Lana being here and being so supportive. Prayers for healing would be gratefully received, thank you.

With love and best wishes in Christ,

Richard and Lana

- Could you become a Pastoral Friend?

At Haverhill Methodist Church we seek to support one another through a network of Pastoral Friends.

A Pastoral Friend supports an agreed number of individuals. We are in need of new Pastoral Friends to support an increasing congregation.

If you are interested, please speak to Peter or to our Pastoral Secretary Janet Etheridge.

## 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 Connect newsletter 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 Pastoral Secretary of any changes in their contact details.
8. To attend the Pastoral Meeting.

- Coronavirus Guidance Update – from 24th February 2022

Though Covid restrictions in England have now lifted, we continue to help one another stay well by reducing the risk of infection. To help everyone feel safe and welcome, the following simple guidance is offered:

- If you are unwell with a risk of infection, please consider others and stay at home, and if you have Covid-19 symptoms take a test.
- We shall continue to keep our premises ventilated to let fresh air circulate

We shall continue to provide hand sanitizer and encourage good hygiene practice, especially around shared objects, food and drink. Face coverings in church are now a personal choice. There is no requirement to wear a face covering when singing.

- Invitation

Hi church family,

This year is my 70th birthday and I would like to celebrate it with my church family. I have booked the Haverhill rugby club for the 28th May. If you do wish to attend please could you let me know towards the end of April as I need to know the amount of food to order.

Hope to see you in church this Sunday

Keith Barker

- Prayer Diary

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

### April

3<sup>rd</sup> Bring & Share Lunch

4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Music exams in church

7<sup>th</sup> Final session of Lent Course

10<sup>th</sup> Prayer Walking prayer meeting at our church

12<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving service for the life of Paul Smith

14<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service

15<sup>th</sup> HDCT Good Friday service at OIC, Walk of Witness, service on Market Square

16<sup>th</sup> 'Find the Sheep' outreach event

17<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday - Holy Communion, Easter Breakfast, Celebration Service

### Extra Prayer Topics

*Peter, Jo and family* - Pray for Peter as he continues to lead us through this time of considerable change and uncertainty. Pray he will be guided by the Lord to bring us hope and to deepen our faith. Give thanks for the support he receives from Jo and ask the Lord to bless them as a family.

*Church & Circuit Steward & Local Preachers* Pray for those who support Peter in the practical and spiritual running of this Church especially in this challenging time of change. Pray for those bringing the Word of God to us each Sunday that we may all be blessed and our faith will deepen. Pray for the need for an extra Circuit Steward.

*Worship Band* – Give thanks for those who lead our worship each Sunday through music.

*Volunteers*- Give thanks for those who have volunteered to work in various aspects of Church and Outreach life.

*Sunday Club* – more leaders are still needed

*Town Pastors* – More pastors and pray-ers are still required (people to pray in their own homes)

*Reach* – Volunteers needed to assist in various aspects of this work. Pray the staff will not be overwhelmed as the workload



increases and that the right staff will be found to fill new posts.

*Illuminate*- Give thanks for the people who have come forward as leaders. Please keep praying for wisdom for leaders to know how to meet the needs of the 16+ age group.

*Youth for Christ*- Please pray for Sarah as she does Chaplaincy work at Castle Manor School on Wednesdays and one to one mentoring on Thursdays. All lessons and after school clubs are suspended for the time being because of covid.

*Lantern*- Lantern is currently having a 3 month break for the winter season as numbers have dropped very low and the opportunity to communicate gospel truths is increasingly limited. Ask the Lord to show the leaders His direction for the future.

*Open Mind*- Give thanks to God for His provision of so many able and gifted volunteers who are a blessing to each other and the residents of our town. Please pray for them in this challenging role and for residents to be released from their torments.

*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.

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

- Dates for your Diary

<b>April</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	10pm-2am	NO Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for the town
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah – All Age Worship      Flowers: Miss M Shipp
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Music exams: no entry to Church, Coffee Lounge, Vestry from 8am.
4 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout in the Church Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
6 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 6
8 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	NO Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for the town
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter      Flowers: Rev & Mrs P Goodhall
	1.30-2.30pm	Prayer Walking prayer meeting
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
11 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout in the Church Hall
12 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
	1.30pm	Thanksgiving service for the life of Paul Smith
13 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
14 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Maundy Thursday Communion service
15 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Meet at Old Independent Church to begin Walk of Witness
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
16 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 1pm	‘Find the Sheep’ event
17 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
	9am	Easter Breakfast – sign up in the Church foyer
	10.30am	Easter Celebration Service – All Age Worship Preacher: Peter      Flowers: Mrs F Parker
19 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
20 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
21 <sup>st</sup>	12noon	Funeral of Nancy Brown
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter      Flowers: Mrs M Hayes
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
25 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout in the Church Hall
26 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
27 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
29 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	NO Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for the town
<b>May</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter      Flowers: tbc