



Haverhill Methodist Church

Rev. Peter Goodhall
The Manse
24 Hamlet Road
Haverhill
Suffolk CB9 8EH

T: 01440 702422
E: methodistpeter@gmail.com



Connect Issue 134

Friday 25th November 2022

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

1 Peter 2:15-16

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 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.

Mobile Phones: Please make sure your phone is off or set to silent before the service begins.

- Advent Tree Of Remembrance

This Advent and Christmas, in addition to our church Christmas tree, a small illuminated cherry blossom tree will again appear in our church foyer. This will become our prayer tree of remembrance for our loved ones who we remember and think about at Christmas. You are invited to write their name and any message on the label provided and hang it from one of the tree branches. The tree will be lit up during our Advent and Christmas services. May we all receive the glad tidings of comfort and joy this Advent and Christmas.

- Next Door Christmas items

A few Christmas items will be on display in the hall after the service this Sunday. If you would like to buy anything please come with either cash or a cheque as we do not have the facility for cards. You can also pop in to Next Door and see the full range Tuesday to Friday from 10.30 until 1pm. Why not pop in for a coffee and a browse? Thankyou from Next Door Team

- Service at The Meadows Care Home

Peter and Alan Carney will be leading a short act of worship at The Meadows Care Home this Sunday 27th November at 3pm. If you would like to join us, please meet at The Meadows reception at 2.45pm.

- Music Exams

There will be music exams taking place in the church, vestry and coffee lounge on Wed 30th November and Thurs 1st December. Please do not enter these areas while the exams are in progress.

- Advent Study Group – Humbug And Happiness

To help you on your spiritual journey through Advent, you are invited to join us for something a little bit different.

We are preparing reflections based on 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

The sessions will be on Thursday evenings and will include excerpts from the classic film starring Alistair Sim.

It was made in 1951 and is in black and white.

This should be great fun and will be a beautiful exploration of the truths of Advent and Christmas and highlight the lessons we still need to learn today.

Based on the Advent book 'Humbug and happiness' by Sheila Jacobs, we shall explore the following themes:

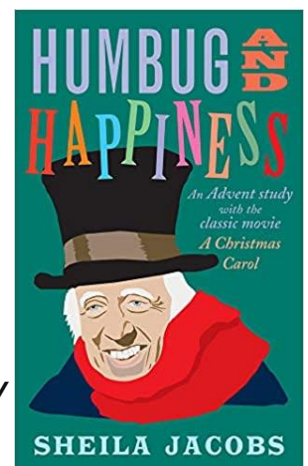
Thursday 1st December 7.30pm

The Chains of Life – living through difficult times and personal circumstances

Thursday 8th December 7.30pm

In the Past – things from the past that hold us back today

Thursday 15th December 7.30pm



Living Now – being aware of God’s call for us in the present

Thursday 22nd December 7.30pm

*Future ...Perfect? – Understanding God’s plan for our whole life:
yesterday, today and tomorrow*

We plan to hold four sessions from 7.30pm to about 9pm starting on Thursday 1st December and for the following three weeks, meeting in the church lounge or in a larger room if everyone wants to come! Hot drinks (and humbugs) will be served from 7.15pm.

If you would like to be part of this please add your name to the list in the church foyer.

If you need a lift or if you can offer a lift to other people please tick the relevant column in the list and we will do our best to make that possible.

You don't need a copy of the study book to take part.

If you get an opportunity to watch a film about "Christmas Carol" on the television that would be a good appetiser.

We look forward to seeing you.

Peter Goodhall and David Frost

- Haverhill Sings!!

Hello everyone!

Our Christmas event, "Haverhill Sings at Christmas!" scheduled for the late-night shopping evening on Dec 2nd is whizzing at breakneck speed towards us and I need your help please?

Specifically I need lots of people to distribute carol sheets on the night itself. We anticipate a very big crowd in the Market Square so please, don't leave me hanging!

Please tell me that you can help as soon as you possibly can. It's going to be a fantastic event to be part of so please either speak to me in person this Sunday or email/phone me using the directory

Thank you!

Charmaine/Cham Lay Pioneer

- Big Christmas Card

From 4th December there will be a BIG Christmas card available for you all to sign and wish each other a happy/merry/blessed/peaceful... Christmas. The idea is that you do this instead of sending individual cards to your church friends and that you put the money saved towards the charity the card is supporting – this year that's the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee, see more here: www.dec.org.uk)

The card will remain available until New Year, so plenty of time for you to sign!

- Toy Service 4th December @ 10.30am

Don't forget! Our Toy Servicer is on Sunday 4th December. All Toys/gifts for 0-18yrs old should be new and unwrapped. The Mayor will be in attendance to receive the Toys on behalf of Social Services. Given the parlous state of the economy, the gifts are likely to be needed even more than in previous years.

- Wednesday Fellowship 7th December 2.30pm

Our meeting on 7th December is our Christmas meeting with Carols & Tea. All welcome, please come and join us in the Coffee Lounge.

- Heather's walker

Heather Ollington (was Darvill) has the wrong walker, she believes she and someone else mistakenly took each other's on Sunday 13th November. If you are that other person, please leave a message in Next Door, or see Heather (or one of the stewards) on Sunday.

- Church Membership

If you would be interested in exploring Church Membership this autumn, please speak to our minister Peter and he would be pleased to have a conversation with you.

- Get Haverhill Talking - Open Mind

Dear Friends,

Open Mind -meaningful support will be launching a campaign called "GET HAVERHILL TALKING" on November 1st. Everywhere you look people are staring into their phones and conversation is becoming a dying art. Loneliness is something we see so often at Open Mind and it doesn't need to be this way..

Below, in italics, is the information we will be sharing from our social media accounts from November 1st 2022. An article will also be in the Haverhill Echo.

GET HAVERHILL TALKING

We all have mental health just as we have physical health.

We need to do what we can to keep well and try to prevent mental health issues from even starting in the first place- Prevention is the key.

Let's all work together and focus on the well-being of ourselves, our friends and our family.

At Open Mind we are launching a campaign in November to GET HAVERHILL TALKING. Each Tuesday we will be posting simple weekly tasks on our social media in the hope that the amazing community of Haverhill will get involved and support our mission to encourage more verbal communication rather than through our phones and computers.

Please share with us any activities that you have done and use the hashtag #gethaverhilltalking or private message us on our social media platforms where we will be able to share your ideas with the local community.

Let us all inspire and be inspired in uniting us all in the mission to support mental wellness.

We all have a big part to play and it all starts by giving someone the time to TALK.

You can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/openmindhaverhill/> or follow us on Instagram at Open Mind Meaningful Support.

If you would like some support with your mental health we are open Weds mornings between 10 and 12 at the Methodist Church Hall. We are completely free of charge, just come as you are.

- Prayer Diary

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

December

- 1st Posada begins
- 2nd Carols on Market Square "Haverhill Sings"
- 3rd Outdoor Nativity Play - Methodist Church to St. Mary's
- 4th Toy Service followed by "Bring 'n' Share" Lunch
- 9th Ladies Meal at the Flying Shuttle
- 11th 5pm – Carol Service
- 11th 3pm – Prayer Walkers Prayer Meeting at River of Life Church
- 16th Funeral of Evelyn Hughes at Sheringham Methodist Church

- 17th 3pm – St. Nicholas Hospice “Light up a Life” Service at St. Mary’s
18th Christingle Service
24th 11.30pm Holy Communion
25th 10am – Christmas Day Family Service

Please also pray for the Advent Study group which is on the 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd

January

- 1st All Age Worship
8th Covenant Service
26th Church Council/Circuit Meeting

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 especially as they prepare themselves for their new appointment next year.

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.

Invitation Committee – Pray for wisdom for the Circuit Stewards and those on the Invitation Committee as they seek the Lord’s will for this Circuit.

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

Sunday Club – more leaders are still needed

Property Committee – Pray for the property committee as they prioritise the work needed to keep all the property in good condition

Town Pastors – Pray for the Town Pastors as they show the love of God to people on the streets on a Friday evening. Pray for wisdom for them and the Lord to protect them.

YFC-Pray for the work of Sarah through YFC as she is involved in lessons, clubs, mentoring and chaplaincy work.

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

Next Door- Now open 4 days a week. Please pray for the future work.

Open Mind- Give thanks to God for His provision of so many able and gifted volunteers and for new volunteers coming on board. Ask the Lord to bless this important and well received work. Continue to pray for the emotional wellbeing of those who attend.

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 Diary Dates To Note

Toy Service Sunday 4th December 10.30am
Church Carol Service Sunday 11th December 5pm
Christingle Sunday 18th December 10.30am
Christmas Eve Communion 11.30pm
Christmas Day 10am
New Year's Day All Age Worship 10.30am
Covenant Service 8th January 2023 10.30am

Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: 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

November		
25 th	10pm-2am	Town Pastors NOT on patrol – please pray for the town
26 th	6pm	Family Quiz Night
27 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Holy Communion 1 st Sunday in Advent Flowers: Bryan & Jenny Ellicott
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
28 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
29 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
30 th	All day	Music exams in church, vestry, coffee lounge DO NOT ENTER
	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
December		
1 st	All day	Music exams in church, vestry, coffee lounge DO NOT ENTER
	7.30-9pm	Advent Study with Peter & David
2 nd	4.30pm on	Christmas Shopping Night with ‘Haverhill Sings’
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
3 rd	12noon on	‘Nativity Live’ starting at HMC
4 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age Worship & Toy Service Flowers: Mr A Coe
	6.30pm	Come& Sing
5 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
6 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
7 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	2.30pm	Wednesday Fellowship - Carols & Tea - all welcome
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
8 th	7.30-9pm	Advent Study with Peter & David
9 th	6.30om	Ladies Night Out @ The Flying Shuttle
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
11 th	10.30am	Preacher: Vivien Sargeant Flowers: Vacant
	5.00pm	Family Carol Service
12 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
13 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
14 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone! Last session before Christmas
	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
15 th	7.30-9pm	Advent Study with Peter & David
16 th	10pm-2am	Town Pastors NOT on patrol – please pray for the town
18 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Christingle Service Flowers: Church Christmas Flowers
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
19 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout

20 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
21 st	10am-12	Open Mind in Church Hall – last session before Christmas
22 nd	7.30-9pm	Advent Study with Peter & David
24 th	11.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion
25th	10am	Christmas Day Family Service Flowers: Church Christmas Flowers
January		
1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age Worship Flowers: Church Christmas Flowers
4 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
8 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Covenant Service Flowers: Mrs G Wadeson
10 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
11 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!

Please let me know if/when your groups are taking a Christmas break and when they will return, so I can keep this Diary accurate
Thanks to those who have already told me,
Kathy