

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 73:25-26

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.

- Meadows Care Home service

This Sunday, 19th March, meet in the Meadows foyer at 2.45pm. Please let Peter know if you intend to be there.

- Lent Prayer Meetings in the church lounge

Join us as we set aside time and space to pray together in Lent. This will include prayers for our stationing situation as we seek the Lord's will and way for us.

- Tuesday 21st March 8-9pm
- Thursday 30th March 8-9pm

- Fair Trade Sale – Saturday 25th March

Clare Baptist Church are holding a Fair Trade Sale 10am – 1pm in their church hall.

- Messy Church – Party for Easter

Please see the attached poster for details of the Messy Church Party on the afternoon of Sunday 26th March. Book your child's place!

- Wedding

The wedding of Emma Gleave and Joseph Hanford of River of Life Community Church will take place in our church on Saturday 1st April at 1pm.

- Good Friday arrangements

Peter will lead a short service at the Old Independent Church in Hamlet Road at 10am, which will be followed by a Walk of Witness to the Market Square. We will be singing a simple Taizé chant as we walk, which we will learn on the day. There will be a short act of worship on the Market Square followed by hot cross buns & drinks served in St Mary's church.

We are also hoping to put some a short video on Facebook on Maundy Thursday, explaining why we will be doing the Walk of Witness and the Market Square worship.

- Easter Sunday Breakfast following 8.00am Communion

For catering purposes, could you please put your name on the list at the back of the church if you intend to come.

Thankyou.

Mick

- Foundation safeguarding training.

As you know safeguarding and keeping each other safe is everyone's responsibility in the church.

We will be running the safeguarding foundation training run by specialist trainers, on 15th April 1pm to approximately 4.45 in the church hall. Refreshments will be available in the break.

If you volunteer in any of the clubs and activities run by the church it is important that you complete the training if possible.

Please sign up with the link below

<https://eangliamethodist.org.uk/safeguarding/training-foundation>

If you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to either Peter or myself.

Thank you

Gill

- EDI Training

The Methodist Church is committed to justice, dignity and solidarity. A new online Methodist training programme on equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) is now available and open to all. The 2021 Methodist Conference agreed that this EDI training would be mandatory for those holding certain key roles in the church, including ministers, local preachers, safeguarding officers, circuit stewards, church stewards and pioneers. Those expected to complete the training are required to do this before December 31st 2023. More information, including how to register for the training can be found on the Methodist Church website. Here is the direct link

<https://mcb.theologyx.com/course/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-foundation-module/>

- CHURCH & CIRCUIT FINANCES

As we are now six months into our Church year I feel it is an opportune time to address the subject of our church finances. I know its not the most exciting subject in the world, but in the context of our church life it is important

I think it would be useful to give you a brief outline of how the Methodist Church finances are arranged.

Each church is a member of a circuit. The number of churches in a circuit can vary between two to twenty.

The circuit is responsible for paying the ministers salary, water rates and all other costs related to the manse. In addition, we have to pay an assessment of £2,300.00 per quarter as a district Levy plus a quarterly contribution of £575.00 to the minister's travel fund.

So, every month each church contributes to circuit funds.

On top of this each church is also responsible for meeting the running costs of the church.

Haverhill is unique insofar as it is a single church circuit. Of course, the upside to being a single Church circuit is that we have the

enormous benefit of not having to share our minister with other churches.

The downside is that we have to meet all of the circuit costs plus our own church running costs.

Currently the Circuit costs are running at £4,500 per month (i.e. £54,000 per year)

and the Church running costs are running at £32,000 per year.

We therefore need to raise £86,000 per year to meet our commitments.

The three main sources of income are:

- Monthly/weekly giving £52,000 Per year
- Hall Hire £13,000 Per year
- Tax Rebates (Gift Aid) £10,000 Per year

This amounts to a total of £75,000 per year leaving us with a shortfall of £11,000 per year.

We do have reserves to call on but at the present rate they will be exhausted in 2 years' time.

If we are to remain a single church circuit we need to address this shortfall.

The obvious way to balance the books is to increase our regular giving. By my calculation this would need an increase of 21%

I realise that this is a lot to ask, but I would ask that you think and pray about our financial situation and if you can increase your giving by whatever amount you are able it will be most gratefully received and faithfully applied.

David Rinaldi
Church & Circuit Treasurer

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- Advance Diary Dates To Note

Meadows care Home Services 16th April and 14th May

King's Coronation Weekend – 6/7 May – Coronation Big Lunch after church on Sunday 7 May.

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

- Dates for your Diary

19 th	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell – Mothering Sunday Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Mr & Mrs T Seljame
	3pm	Meadows Care Home service – meet in foyer at 2.45pm
20 th	8.45-11am	One Life Suffolk
21 st		Sound System Engineer in Church
	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
	8-9pm	Lent Prayer Meeting - 5
22 nd – 24 th	All day	Music exams in church, vestry & church lounge–do not enter
22 nd	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
26 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Mr & Mrs J Archibald
	4-6pm	Messy Church in the Hall
27 th – 31 st	All day	Sound System Engineer in Church
27 th	8.45-11am	One Life Suffolk
28 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
29 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	10am-12	Painting for Pleasure in the Loft
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
30 th	8-9pm	Lent Prayer Meeting 6
April		
1 st	1pm	Marriage of Emma Gleave & Joseph Hanford (RoLCC)
2 nd	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Palm Sunday No Bring & Share lunch as Easter Breakfast next week Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Miss M Shipp
3 rd	8.45-11am	One Life Suffolk
4 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
5 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
6 th	7pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion service
7 th	10am	Good Friday Walk of Witness starts at the Old Independent
9 th	8am	Easter Morning Holy Communion
	9am approx	Easter Breakfast - please sign up in the foyer
	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Easter Sunday All Age service Remember to bring a few flowers to decorate the Cross Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Easter Church Flowers
11 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
12 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	10am-12	Painting for Pleasure in the Loft
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!