

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 151

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Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – If anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

Philippians 4:8

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 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.

Please Note: Connect will be taking a break over Easter, the next edition will be 14th April.

- Easter Offering Envelopes

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 in Partner Churches around the world.

Easter Offering envelopes for your donation are now available in the church foyer. There is a 'Gift Aid' section on the back of the envelope.

They may be returned in the offering plate on Easter Sunday or soon afterwards.

Thank you for your support.

- Palm Sunday 2nd April

Holy Week begins with our all age Palm Sunday service of celebration.

- Maundy Thursday Service 6th April 7pm

You are invited to join us for a reflective service of Holy Communion. We shall remember the night in the upper room when our Lord washed his disciples' feet, shared bread and wine and later prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. David Frost will give the message.

- 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 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 9th April

Our Easter Day celebrations begin with our 8am service of Holy Communion with traditional Easter hymns. This service will be followed by our Easter Breakfast served in the church hall (please put your name on the list at the back of the church if you intend to come).

At 10.30am we begin our all age celebration with joyous songs of praise and worship to our risen Lord and King.

During the service we shall decorate the Lent Cross with cut flowers, so please remember to bring some with you if you can.

- 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

- Spring Synod

Our Spring Synod will be held on Saturday 22nd April at Chapel Field Road Methodist Church, Norwich, with a theme of "Pray 2-3 and Mission". We are delighted that our Synod coincides with the official visit to the District of the President of Conference, Rev Graham Thompson. Graham will be leading our opening worship and a bible study in the afternoon looking at what the Spirit is saying to the Church today. There should not be any confidential business at this Synod in the afternoon, and we therefore welcome visitors that may like to hear and catch-up with Graham. If you would like to join us, please arrive at Chapel Field Road Methodist Church for 1.30pm, we envisage the afternoon will finish at 3pm with refreshments.

- District Celebration Service with the President of Conference
Revd. Graham Thompson

Join us on Sunday 23rd April at 4pm at Trinity Methodist Church in Felixstowe. We shall hear local good news stories, share in uplifting worship, including songs from the Zimbabwe Choir, and hear a message from Revd. Graham Thompson on the Emmaus Road theme 'Walking and Talking with Jesus'. Refreshments will follow.

- Young at Heart outing

Young at Heart are running a coach trip to Norwich on Monday 15th May. Cost is £15, leaving Haverhill bus station at 9.00am and leaving

Norwich at 4pm. If you would like a seat on the coach please see Janet or Mick

- 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/>

For those who are undertaking EDI training, please note that Jacqueline Stewart has agreed to keep a local record of those in our church who have completed this training.

It will be necessary to give Jacqueline a printed copy of the certificate of completion which is issued at the end of the online EDI training.

Thank you.

- Money for Nothing - GIFT AID TAX REFUNDS

Further to my contribution to the Church Annual Meeting held on 12th March 2023.

The amount received for the tax year 2021/22 was £8551.36. This is for those members of the Church that contribute either via their bank or use the envelope scheme and have signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme. A big 'Thank You' for doing this.

The Gift Aid for the loose cash placed on the collection plate is refunded separately and amounted to £917.21 for the same period.

The amount for tax year 2022/23 yet to be claimed will exceed £10,000

In the current economic environment, we need to maximize all income, therefore can I encourage those who pay tax and don't currently Gift Aid their donations to do so. It costs nothing and the Church benefits. For every pound contributed the governments gives us an extra 25p.

If you don't pay tax and currently donate via your bank or envelope scheme, it is better that you place your donation on the collection plate in cash. I can then claim Gift Aid on it.
Ask me or any of the stewards for a form.
Tom Parker – Gift Aid Secretary

- Expertise needed – help!

Is there anyone here who is familiar with the Canva Pro app? I've been given 12 months free access and try as I might I can't work it out! It's an amazing resource that is for designing professional quality images, slides and posters that I would like to use in my various roles within our church. I was told it was idiot proof, clearly not ha-ha!
Please get in touch with me if you can get me started?
Thank you, Cham

- April Prayer Diary

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

April

- 2 Palm Sunday with All Age worship
- 6 Maundy Thursday Communion Service
- 7 Good Friday -10am Service at Old Independent Church followed by Walk of Witness to Market Square. Act of worship on the Square followed by refreshments at St. Mary's
- 9 Easter Sunday – Holy Communion followed by Easter Breakfast with Easter Sunday All Age worship
- 15 Safeguarding Foundation Training
- 16 Afternoon Service at The Meadows
- 22 District Synod
- 26 Stewards Meeting
- 27 Haverhill & District Churches Together AGM

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 later this 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. Help them to face the future sure in the knowledge that the Lord is in control.

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

Sunday Club – More leaders are still needed. Give thanks for the growing numbers of Sunday Club youngsters.

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. Pray also for the work of Illuminate.

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. 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.

- Charity Concert for REACH – 12th May

Last January Henry Wilson gave a very interesting talk at the u3a about this project. Two Haverhill u3a members David and Marie Caulfield are organising a fund raising concert for Reach. The concert will be at the Haverhill Arts Centre on the 12th of May and will feature some excellent musicians and singers. Tickets are priced at £10 each and all proceeds will go to Reach. The Town Council and the Arts Centre have been financially supportive of this event in order to allow us to raise the maximum amount of money. Please look at this link <https://bit.ly/3wzA6sR> for more information. Tickets can be purchased from the Haverhill Arts Centre.

- Chalkstone Fun Day

We are holding a Chalkstone Fun Day 2nd August 2023.

Please save the date in your diary.

Do let me know if you wish to be involved.

Thank you. Jacqueline Lowry, Operations Coordinator

Email: admin.chalkstone@rolcc.org.uk

My working hours are: Monday 8-4, Wednesday 8-4, Friday 8-12

Tel: 01440 707766

- Advance Diary Dates To Note

Meadows care Home Service 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

April		
1 st	1pm	Marriage of Emma Gleave & Joseph Hanford (RoLCC)
2 nd	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – Palm Sunday – All Age Worship No Bring & Share lunch as Easter Breakfast next week Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Miss M Shipp
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!
15 th	1-4.45pm	Safeguarding Training in the Hall or Loft
16 th	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade Flowers: Easter Church Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge
	3pm	Service at the Meadows Care Home – meet in foyer 2.45pm
18 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
19 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall – for everyone!
20 th	All day	REACH training in the Loft
22 nd	All day	Spring Synod @ Norwich
23 rd	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Mr & Mrs P Goodhall
25 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)
26 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	10.30am	Preacher: Ken Nicholls Prayer time from 10am in the church lounge Flowers: Mrs F Parker
May		
2 nd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Next Door (or in your own home)