



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 64

Friday 16th July 2021

*You are my refuge and my shield;
I have put my hope in your word.*

Psalm 119:114

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.
The link is <https://haverhillchurchestogether.wordpress.com/prayer-requests/>

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- [Booking your seats for Sunday services](#)

We will continue to need to book seats for Sunday services until at least Sunday 18th July. Please try to do this by 10pm on the Friday evening before the service using the email address haverhillmethodist.info@gmail.com or phone Kathy on 01440 762536. If the service is full when you try to book you will be offered a seat for the following week.

Seats are still available for this Sunday's service

Each service will be video recorded (front of church only) and put on our YouTube channel and our website on Sunday afternoon. Links will be sent out as usual.

- **Message from Peter – Change in restrictions from Monday July 19th – How will it affect our church?**

As we anticipate lifting of Coronavirus restrictions, like many churches we need to consider our response.

Instead of hard and fast rules, we now have to make our own informed decisions about protecting ourselves and others from a deadly virus that has not gone away.

We shall do this on an individual basis when we each decide 'Will I continue to wear a face covering when I shop?'

When it comes to our church community, our individual choices need to yield to the needs of the whole church body.

We cannot cast off all restraint while the risk to health is still prevalent.

We may have new freedoms but we still have the same responsibility to one another, especially to the clinically vulnerable and those who have not yet received both doses of the vaccination.

Once we have seen the full government guidance for places of worship after Monday 19th July, our church leadership will be in a position to make decisions about the next step.

The church stewards will discuss arrangements with myself next week and make decisions. Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance. Your safety is our priority.

The government has already indicated that the social distance rule of '1 metre plus' will be lifted.

I anticipate that our current system of booking seats for Sunday worship will no longer be in place on and after Sunday 25th July.

I mention this now so you know not to book seats with Kathy next week.

(Seat booking is still required for this coming Sunday 18th July)

I will give an update in our next Connect on Friday 23rd July so that you will know what to expect.

We are thankful to God for advances being made and we put our trust in God for the future.

God bless,

Peter

- Our Grateful Thanks

Dear Friends,

We write to express to you, our deep gratitude for your loving support. During our time of great sadness with the loss of our beloved daughter Dawn Suzanne, you were there for us. We give thanks to Peter and his loving family and to our church family, for prayers and kindness expressed in so many different ways. This has lifted our hearts and has been a great comfort to ourselves and Dawn's family. For the past 18 months since Dawn was first diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer, the lives of Dawn, husband Jeremy and our dear grandchildren and ourselves have been full of hope and anxiety. But now, we are reassured, our beloved Dawn rests in the arms of our Lord Jesus free of pain and suffering. Your prayers, kindness and support will remain with us forever. I would like to share this short poem with you. I wrote this poem when Dawn was first diagnosed and was read out at her funeral. With many Blessings
Jacqueline and Stefan

The Butterfly

*If I were a Butterfly, I would soar away on high.
And sit upon a rainbow that colours the sky.
Then I would fly down again with my little piece of yellow,
And perch upon your shoulder making everything more mellow.
Then I would again, soar high above the clouds,
And sit and watch your every move.
And as you sit a while, I would look and look again .
Until I saw your beautiful smile
This is amazing grace.*

- News of Gweneth

Gweneth has returned home after her stay at Eastcotts.

If you would like to send Gweneth a card or visit she would be pleased to hear from you.

A phone call would not be so helpful as she finds it difficult to hear. Thank you for your prayers and concern for Gweneth.

- Cards

An assortment of cards – birthday, sympathy, anniversary etc - are available from the Church Café when it is open (see below). They are in a box on the counter.

Kim

- Church Café News

As planned and in accordance with the changing Covid regulations, we will be returning the café into Next Door Cottage from week beginning 19th. July.

We will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.30. until 12.30. We would like to extend the number of days but that is entirely due to the numbers of volunteers available. If you feel that the Lord could use you in this work, please speak to Peter or any of the Leadership Team.

We need to give the cottage a spring clean before re-opening and this will be done on Friday

16th and Monday 19th July from 10am. If you are available to help please speak to Pat or Joyce.

Many thanks
Next Door Team

Young at Heart



We are planning on starting an afternoon social group in the church hall. This group will be open to anyone, not just church members, but anyone who would like to come along. The way we see this developing is there will be things for people to do, craft, table games, knitting, or just sitting down and enjoying a chat. This group will be run on Wednesdays, 1.00 – 3.00pm in the Hall. You don't have to come for the whole 2 hours, just pop in and out as you wish. Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available for a small suggested donation of £1. We hope this group could be something that everyone could come along to and just enjoy a few hours together, especially after the year we have all had. If anyone has any games or crafts they would like to bring along, that would be good. Further information from Janet or Mick.

Thanks
Janet

- Haverhill Town Pastors

We are in need of a new treasurer as Daniel Summers is stepping down from the position. If you would be interested in the position

yourself or possibly know someone who might be interested then please pass on my details for them to contact me.

Blessings,
Paula

- Sponsored Ride & Stride – Saturday 11th September 2021

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride sponsored bike ride/walk/scooter ride/horse ride takes place on Saturday 11 September 2021. Suffolk originated the idea of a Ride in 1982 and since then most of the country has taken up the fund raising idea.. Over 650 churches in Suffolk will be open and it is hoped to improve on the £180,000 raised last year.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust is a non-denominational Trust helping preserve the county's historic churches and chapels and our chapel at Weston Colville has benefitted in the past.

Sponsorship income is shared equally between the Trust and the rider's nominated church.

Sponsorship paperwork and a list of open churches can be downloaded here: <https://shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Donations can be made on the JustGiving page here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Suffolk-Churches-Ride-and-Stride-2021>

We are looking for volunteer riders, walkers and sponsors. Also for 'recorders' to welcome riders to our church and complete their sponsor forms.

The Britten family will be cycling again this year and will be looking for sponsorship, but more riders would be very welcome.

Please contact us if you are able to do an hour or two as a recorder or require sponsor forms.

Sandra and John Loader

- REACH

Now that we are beginning to come back to church, we are accepting donations to the Food Bank and I shall continue to make sure they are delivered. Please look out for any special items they are looking for. Thank you for your donations in the past.

Mick Etheridge

- Church Car Parking

Haverhill ambulance station is once again hosting training sessions for updates on covid related training starting from July 2021. The training sessions will be only on a Wednesday and Thursday each week for 8 staff and 2 instructors.

There is currently only enough parking for operational staff at Haverhill ambulance station so we have agreed they can use our church car park as an overflow.

This may mean a shortage of parking space on these days so we will monitor the situation and may need to limit their access if difficulties arise.

We apologise for any temporary inconvenience this may cause you. Please let me know if there is a serious problem.

Thanks for your understanding,
John Loader

- Church Premises – Updated Notice

During this time of Covid lockdown our church premises have been closed to everyone. This is because all entry must be accompanied by a strict regime of cleaning/sanitising.

With the gradual relaxing of regulations our premises will begin to open up to hirers and a few are now returning. However, please continue to limit your access to essential visits only, as we have a duty of care to keep everyone safe and clean/sanitise areas that have been used.

Regular users have provided risk assessments and are operating their own approved cleaning plan.

If you think your entry is essential please contact Rev Peter Goodhall or Mick Etheridge for authorization BEFORE your visit.

Thank you,

John Loader - Property Steward

- Dates to remember:

July		
16 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 18 th	10.30am	Preacher: Cham Flowers: Mrs T Westley
19 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout– contact Sonja: sonjathiessen1@gmail.com
20 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
21 st	7.30pm	Extra Stewards’ Meeting
Sun 25 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Flowers: Mrs B Wadsworth
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
26 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
27 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
	7.30pm	Stewards’ Meeting
30 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
August		
Sun 1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age Flowers: Mrs K Smith
2 nd	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
3 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
Sun 8 th	10.30am	Preacher: Cham Slade Flowers: Mrs V Fisher
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
9 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
10 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
13 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 15 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Flowers: Mrs S Webb
	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
Sun 22 nd	10.30am	Preacher: Peter (HC) Flowers: Mrs M Thake & Mrs A Turner
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
23 rd	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
24 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Loft (or in your own home)
27 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them

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.