



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 66

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*God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.*

Psalms 46:1

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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Dear Friends,

Following a fruitful meeting with our great team of Church Stewards last week in which we carefully and prayerfully considered our options and made decisions about the next step, I am pleased to share with you the following important information you need to know about the management of Sunday morning services.

We would be grateful if you could take time to read and follow the instructions below.

These arrangements will be reviewed in September and may change at short notice according to any new government rulings. If you have any questions, please contact me and I will endeavour to answer them.

We look forward to welcoming you to worship in church.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

Peter Goodhall & Church Stewards

- Management of Sunday Services at Haverhill Methodist Church

Wellbeing & Care for others

If you have Covid symptoms or are feeling unwell on any Sunday, please stay at home and do not enter the church premises.

You may consider taking a lateral flow test before coming to church.

Track and Trace

It is still important for us to know who is attending each and every Sunday service. Everyone who enters the church building will either scan the QR code on their mobile phone and/or have their name and contact phone number recorded on paper.

This includes Sunday Club, who separately record names of those attending.

If a positive case of Covid arises, those who have come into contact with the positive case would be informed so they can arrange a lateral flow test. The church premises would be promptly and carefully cleansed should this occur.

It is still a requirement that people correctly self-isolate if they are instructed to do so by the app. If you are 'pinged', please do not attend church, stay home and follow the self-isolation advice.

Hand Sanitizer

We encourage you to keep on using Hand Sanitizer when you enter the church premises.

Good Ventilation

Some windows will be open in the church and the church hall.

Toilets

All toilets on the church premises are now available to use.

Please maintain good hygiene and careful hand washing.

Corridors

Please help keep the church corridors and the foyer clear.

Church Seating

The existing seating layout in church will remain. 90 seats are set out. With the end to the '1-metre plus' requirement, our system of booking seats has now ended. You will choose where to sit.

When sitting with others, it may be helpful to first ask

'Please may I sit here?'

If you wish to keep a chair's distance between yourself and another worshipper, you may wish to place a bag on the chair next to you.

Face Coverings

No longer compulsory, the decision to wear a face covering or not is now down to individual choice. The government recommends that face coverings be worn in crowded areas.

We encourage the wearing of face coverings and will respect individual choice.

Please use caution and place others before yourselves.

If you are clinically vulnerable or have a weak immune system, we strongly advise that you continue to wear a face covering, or if you find yourself sitting close to someone you know is vulnerable, we also ask that you consider wearing a face covering.

Singing – With face coverings

Singing is permitted and carries a risk of spreading Covid particles.

If you wish to sing in church you must please wear a face covering while singing and remove it afterwards if you wish to do so.

Refreshments after the service

The plan is to resume refreshments in the hall on Sunday September 5th. Our next church meal will be the Harvest Lunch on Sunday 3rd October.

Fellowship after Sunday worship continues outside.

Drivers, please be extra careful around people when leaving the car park.

Worship At Home Printed Sheet

16 months on, the current script of our Sunday service will no longer be produced. It will be replaced by material for Sunday Worship provided and downloadable from the Methodist Church Website.

Video Recording of Services

Services will continue to be recorded and put on the church website and our YouTube channel.

Crèche

There is space for 1 family in our un-staffed crèche each Sunday. An informal arrangement of taking turns each week will replace booking. Toys or books will continue to be brought from home. Babies, infants and their parents are always welcome to join the congregation.

Communion Services

Holy Communion will be included in morning worship approximately every six weeks.

Children and families

All age services will continue to be held in church on the first Sunday of each month. From Sunday 12th September, children will

once again meet in church for the first part of the service before going out to Sunday Club.

- Tuesday Prayer Meeting

The Tuesday prayer meeting will now meet in the church lounge each week.

- Racial Justice Symposium

The Racial Justice Symposium follow up meeting scheduled for the 31st of July has been rescheduled for the 9th of October 2021, at 1000 hrs to 11.30 hrs.

- Flint Wall Repair

I'm pleased to report that Robert Foster plans to start repairing the flint wall on Tuesday next, 3 August. This depends on the weather so could be a day or so delayed.

Please take great care in the car park while this work is going on.
John

- Funeral Service

The funeral service for Mr. Frank Martindale, husband of the late Joan Martindale, will take place in our church on Friday 13th August at 1pm.

The funeral service is being deliberately delayed to enable family from Jamaica to attend.

We remember the Martindale family in our prayers. Frank and Joan were known to a number of our own church family.

- 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.

- REACH needs volunteers!

Want to help support local families in need?

HELP NEEDED!

REACH is urgently in need of volunteers to help in the following roles:

- Foodbank Volunteers – managing donated stock and packing emergency food boxes at the warehouse
- Client Support Volunteer – assisting with issuing food and providing support to people in need at our Resource Centre

We'd love for you to come and join our REACH family – so if you fancy getting involved, click ['Find Out More Now!'](#)

(If you know someone else who you think would be interested, please pass this information on to them.)

- Young at Heart

A red rectangular stamp with the text "NEW!!" in a bold, sans-serif font, tilted slightly to the right.A green rectangular stamp with the text "NEW!!" in a bold, sans-serif font, tilted slightly to the right.A blue rectangular stamp with the text "NEW!!" in a bold, sans-serif font, tilted slightly to the right.

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 **beginning on 8th September**. 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

- Church Café News

We have returned the café to the Next Door Cottage. We are 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.

Many thanks
Next Door Team

- 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

- 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

- Dates to remember:

July		
30 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
August		
Sun 1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – AA Flowers: Mrs M Thake & Mrs A Turner
2 nd	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout– contact Sonja: sonjathiessen1@gmail.com
3 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (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 Lounge (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 Lounge (or in your own home)
Sun 22 nd	10.30am	Preacher: Peter (HC) Flowers: Mrs K Smith
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
23 rd	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
24 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
27 th	9pm-12	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 29 th	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell Flowers: Mr & Mrs R Arrowsmith
30 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
31 st	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
September		
Sun 5 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age Sunday Club Anniversary Flowers: Mrs P Hall
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime

6 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
7 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
10 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.