



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 81

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

*The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.*

*Psalm 119:130,160*

**Prayer Chain:** If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email [kathy.cohen@btinternet.com](mailto: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/>

- Next Door

Next Door will be open for ½ an hour after each morning service in November to allow those who can't get there during normal opening hours (Tue/Wed/Fri 10-12.30) to browse & make purchases. Christmas stock is now available (cards, candles, small gifts etc). Please remember Next Door does not have the facility to take credit/debit cards. You can pay with cash or cheque – please come prepared!

Members and friends of our congregation are very welcome to attend, for what is sure to be a very interesting evening.

- Music Exams

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November there will be Music Exams in the Church. They will also be using the Vestry & the

Coffee Lounge. You **must not** enter the church while these exams are in progress. Keeping noise down in the car park would also be appreciated.

- Toy Service Sunday 5th December 10.30am

Once again you are invited to purchase new toys, which may be sourced in local supermarkets or online, to be given as gifts from our church to local families in need this Christmas.

They are to be brought to church at our morning service on Sunday 5th December please. Our town mayor Liz Smith and her husband will be in attendance.

Please note that **all toys must be brand new and unwrapped** (Social Services instructions) and it would be good if we can cover all ages, from babies to 18 year olds, so that all children in a family are able to be given a gift. We thank Kay Smith for her help in arranging this once again. We pray that many local families in need will be reached and blessed this Christmas. Thank you all for your generosity.

- Beetle Drive and Pudding Evening

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 5.00pm in the Hall.

We will be holding a Pudding Evening, and invite you to bring along a pudding to share, either homemade or bought. If bringing along a bought one, could you please make sure it is already cooked, we will be able to warm it up in Microwave or Oven, but would prefer not to have to cook it on the evening.

We will also be playing a game of Beetle during the evening. All ages and abilities are welcome. Come along and enjoy a social evening, and enjoy sharing time together.

There is a list at the back of the church for you to put your name on and how many of you intend coming and what pudding you intend bringing.

Further information from Janet or Mick.

- Pastoral Friends

Our church is blessed with those willing to be a Pastoral Friend to a number of others in our church family.

It is our goal that everyone will be assigned a Pastoral Friend who will pray, share joys and sorrows and offer support in time of need.

All our Pastoral Friends will be affirmed and commissioned in our morning service on Sunday 7th November.

We hope as many as possible of our Pastoral Friends can attend.

*We need several more Pastoral Friends, especially men. If you can respond, please speak to Peter or Janet.* Thank you.

- Church Membership

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

- Big Christmas Card

There will again be a 'Big Christmas Card' available in the Church foyer during December, for everyone to write their messages to the fellowship. Donations from the money saved by not sending individual cards will be given to the REACH Winter Crisis fund.

- Christmas Event Dec 3rd in the evening

This Christmas, for the first time, we are delighted to be working with all the churches of Haverhill, in creating a new community event.

This takes place during the late-night Christmas shopping evening on December 3rd. Haverhill Silver Band is combining with Haverhill Singers and St Mary's choir and will be singing from several locations in the High St and Queen St. I hope that people feel enthralled by the familiar carols; we want to inspire the community of Haverhill to join in en-masse!

So I need your help! No surprise I'm sure!

Firstly, please come and lend your voices to the songs. The more singers that we have, the more of a joyful occasion we create. We need volume and enthusiasm!

Secondly I need a lot of people to be there as volunteers as the choir moves through town, to hand out carol sheets. These sheets are doubly-important because they will have details of the Christmas church services. Please tell me if you can commit for some if not all of the evening?

Will you please lend your support, ideally by coming along bringing your whole family, maybe encouraging your neighbours and

friends? This is a really big and to be honest, quite experimental event and will succeed or fail by the number of people who join in! There will be advertising in the paper, on social media and we are being interviewed on BBC Radio Suffolk on Sunday 28th!

These plans are still evolving so please read about us in Connect in the next few weeks, changes may need to be made.

So please talk to me? In person or on my mobile 07875 749441. If you can help on Friday evening that would be amazing!

God bless!

*Cham – Lay Pioneer*

- Online Retreat Day 27<sup>th</sup> November

An online retreat entitled 'Renewing Sabbath' will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> November, hosted by the Northampton Methodist District and led by Dr Roger Walton. Please see the attached poster for further details.

- Request for help

A retired Methodist Minister from Thetford Ken Nicholls and his wife Heather are in the process of buying a property in Haverhill.

While the purchase of their house is going through, they are looking to rent a 2-bedroom property in this area.

If you know of any suitable property for rent, Ken & Heather will be pleased to hear from you. Ken's phone number is 07808066733.

We look forward to welcoming Ken & Heather to our church in the future and we pray for God's provision.

- Report from the District Day of Prayer on October 30th

To watch the first session - which included 5 video clips - click [here](#). Around 55 people attended from across the District.

To participate in the vigil for creation (either for the first time or for a second time) click [here](#). Around 30 people participated in a short liturgy which included two 10 minute periods of silent prayer.

The other sessions were not recorded but Rev James Bamber from St Neots led a mediation for creation at 2pm (around 20 participants); six people prayed together in a prayer room at 4pm; around 35 people took part in a sharing session at 4.30pm (this included hearing from the Ipswich Circuit about their special climate

day with a Methodist delegate to COP26) and around 35 people attended the night prayer at the end of the day. We estimate that, in total, around 75 - 80 people took part in at least one of the zoom opportunities. Many others will have prayed at home around the District or out and about in their normal activities.

### Information and Report from the Ipswich Circuit

The Ipswich Circuit had their own Climate Crisis day on the 30th and David Welbourn and Joan Pell told us all about it in our zoom sharing session. If you would like to hear the talk given by one of the Methodist delegates to COP26 who was in Ipswich en route to Glasgow, then follow this link: <https://methodistic.org.uk/rev-james-bhagwan-presentation>. N.B. Rev James Bhagwan also gave a short talk on this last Sunday's Morning Service on radio 4.

### News of what different Circuits are doing

The Ipswich Circuit has an extensive range of information and suggestions on its website, see [Climate Action – The Methodist Church, Ipswich Circuit \(methodistic.org.uk\)](https://methodistic.org.uk). David Welbourn has helpfully provided a list of important links that go directly to various pages - see the attached document.

The Felixstowe section of the Ipswich Circuit is holding a 2 hour prayer time each day of COP 26 - see [Prayer Vigil – COP26 - Felixstowe Peninsula Methodist Churches \(methodistic.org.uk\)](https://methodistic.org.uk).

Stowmarket Methodists are involved in a local campaigning and action group, the attached document gives a summary of what they have done and how it started (and is a great encouragement to other places to do similar things).

The Central Norfolk Circuit has a dedicated section of its website for the Climate Crisis ([Central Norfolk Methodist Circuit | COP26 and the Climate Crisis](https://methodistic.org.uk)) and is holding short prayer times on zoom (8.45. - 9 am) this week for the final part of COP26. If anyone would like to join us, please email myself or our website for the zoom link - you are particularly invited to participate on Friday and Saturday as the Conference comes to an end.

Several Circuits have been following courses on Climate Change in the run-up to COP26. The Bury St Edmunds Circuit and the Central Norfolk Circuit have used the York Course 'Caring for Creation' (which is highly recommended for providing much food for

thought). Equally recommended is a Tearfund course used by the Royston section of the Cambridge Circuit. Tearfund also have some excellent films on the issue.

If other churches, sections or circuits would like to share news of what they are doing with regard to climate change (as both an encouragement and as a source of ideas for all of us), I am willing to be a channel for collecting and distributing the information.

As always, feedback on the Prayer Day or suggestions about future prayer or climate crisis events is warmly welcomed, just get in touch.

Rev Jacqui Horton - Superintendent of the Central Norfolk Methodist Circuit 01760 720858 / 07912 379101

Links to pages on the Ipswich Circuit's Climate Action website:

There is a template letter to PM here

<https://methodistic.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2021/10/Letter-to-PM.pdf>

The posters which give a summary of our 9-weeks of material are

here <https://methodistic.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Climate-actionposters.pdf>

The full set of educational materials can be accessed

here: <https://methodistic.org.uk/climate-action/learn/climate-action-9-week-cycle/>

Our prayer card linked to the 9-session study can be downloaded

here: <https://methodistic.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Climate-action-prayercard-2.pdf>

I wrote a book review of Bill Gates' book here:

<https://methodistic.org.uk/climateaction/learn/suggested-reading/book-review-how-to-avoid-a-climate-disaster/>

Every day, there is a tip about actions - way to be

green: <https://methodistic.org.uk/category/ways-to-be-green/>

We have a pledge prayer that we have been using throughout the cycle:

We believe in climate justice

We commit ourselves to listen and learn from stories around the world,

to speak out and act for climate justice and

to be ambassadors of hope for creation's richness.

There is further information in the attachments to this email.

# CAROL SING-A-LONG

*Come along join in and share  
some Christmas Spirit*

FEATURING  
HAVERHILL SILVER BAND & THE  
COMBINED CHOIRS OF ALL THE LOCAL  
CHURCHES AND COMMUNITY CHOIRS



**Late Night Shopping  
Friday 3rd December**

**6.00 - 6:15 pm outside the old NatWest bank**

**6.30 - 6.45 pm outside Saffron Insurance**

**7:00 - 7:15 from Queen's Square**



HAVERHILL & DISTRICT  
CHURCHES TOGETHER

Supported by Haverhill Town Council

- Dates to remember:

<b>November</b>		
12 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Meeting about HDCT Prayer Walking at Chalkstone CC
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter-Holy Communion & Remembrance Flowers: Mr L Jacobs
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
15 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
16 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
17 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
19 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell      Flowers: Mr & Mrs R Beaumont
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>	All day	Music exams in the church, vestry, coffee lounge
22 <sup>nd</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer - venue to be advised (or in your own home)
24 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
26 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade      Flowers: Vacant
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
29 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
30 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
<b>December</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
3 <sup>rd</sup>	6-8pm	HDCT Carol Sing-a-long – see poster for details
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age & Toy Service + Bring&Share lunch
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
6 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
7 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
8 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
10 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	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](mailto:kathy.cohen@btinternet.com) or handed directly to Kathy. Please try not to leave it to the last minute to send things.