



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 96

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

*As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.*

*Psalm 18:30*

**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 [here](#).

- Prayer for Ukraine

Rev Julian Pursehouse, our District Chair, is inviting Methodists across East Anglia to light a candle and pray for Ukraine this Sunday (27th Feb) for 5 mins at 8.30am. The Methodist Church has produced a prayer for this time that people might like to use. We are painfully aware of the distress and destruction of war and are coming together to pray for Ukraine. Please do join us wherever you are.



## **Holy and Gracious God**

**We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia, for their countries and their leaders.**

**We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.**

**We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.**

**We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn swords into ploughshares and to seek peace.**

**We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.**

**Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace in Ukraine.**

**And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.**

**Lord have mercy.  
Amen**

<https://www.facebook.com/eastangliamethodist/>

There are also prayer resources for the Ukrainian situation from the 24-7 Prayer website here: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/a-prayer-for-the-crisis-in-ukraine/>

- Hearing Loop

A new hearing aid loop has been installed, switch your hearing aid to the T position if available



- Sunday 27th February

We are pleased to welcome back our friend Peter Barton who will be updating us on the work of the Christian charity Adopt-A-Child. Through sponsorship programmes they support children and families in poverty in Albania and Guatemala.

You can find out more at their website:

<https://www.livingwateradoptachild.org/uk/>

Last time he visited Peter brought some handmade fundraising items to sell after the service, however, as no-one has been out to Guatemala during the pandemic, there are no crafts on offer but there are various practical gifts available such as chickens, meals or house repairs (as well as others!) so you may wish to bring some extra money with you just in case.

- Funeral of Lily Rawlingson

The funeral service for Lily Rawlingson will take place at our church on Friday 4th March at 11am.

Refreshments will be served in the church hall afterwards.

We continue to uphold Lily's family in prayer.

- Traidcraft Coffee Morning

10-11.30am Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at Clare Baptist Church.

See attached poster for more details.

- Join our Lent Group

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Lent is a time for self-examination, penitence and repentance. It is a time set aside to deepen our life of prayer and faith in God as we journey towards Easter. We do this alone and together.

I invite you to come and join our Lent group which will meet in person at church on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm-9pm. The dates are: March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st & April 7<sup>th</sup>.

This Lent we shall be exploring The Prayers of Jesus using a study guide written by Amy Boucher Pye.

Focusing on six of the prayers of Jesus as he journeyed to the cross, in each session we shall explore the scriptures, share in discussion and have a time of prayer.

Peter and Sarah will be sharing the leadership of the group. We hope you can join us.

*Please sign up on the sheet in the church foyer, or contact Peter by Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February at the latest if you intend to join the group so that sufficient study guides can be ordered.*

Once we know how many are attending, we will decide where on our church premises we shall meet.

May God guide you through Lent and draw you to the wonder of Easter.

- World Day Of Prayer Service

This service will be held on Friday March 4th at 1.30pm at Haverhill Salvation Army on Chantry Road.

All are welcome to attend.

- General Church Meeting- Sunday 13th March

Our next General Church Meeting will be held after morning worship on Sunday 13th March, commencing about 11.45am.

All are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

We shall appoint our Church Officers and share together about the work of God among us.

Reports of church activities are to be emailed/given to John and Sandra Loader no later than Sunday 6th March please.

If you have an item of business for discussion under AOB, please inform Peter before the meeting. The agenda was attached to last week's Connect email.

We trust this meeting will be informative, full of good news stories and be an encouragement to us all.

- Could you become a Pastoral Friend?

At Haverhill Methodist Church we seek to support one another through a network of Pastoral Friends.

A Pastoral Friend supports an agreed number of individuals. We are in need of new Pastoral Friends to support an increasing congregation.

If you are interested, please speak to Peter or to our Pastoral Secretary Janet Etheridge.

The Role of Pastoral Friend at Haverhill Methodist Church:

1. To offer friendship, caring support and encouragement particularly in times of special need.
2. To keep in contact with those you are a pastoral friend to. This contact may happen through Sunday worship, home visits, telephone conversations, email or text or letters/cards.
3. To pray for and perhaps with those you are a pastoral friend to.
4. To make available our Connect newsletter to those unable to access it.
5. To distribute the annual Methodist Church Membership Tickets and Adherent Tickets.
6. As appropriate, to inform the Pastoral Secretary and Church Minister of any serious illness, hospitalisation or if back up support is needed.
7. To inform the Pastoral Secretary of any changes in their contact details.
8. To attend the Pastoral Meeting.

- Vacancy for Safeguarding Officer

Paula Tappin has stepped down from her role as safeguarding officer. We thank Paula for her service to the church.

We take safeguarding seriously and we need to fill this appointment as soon as possible.

We need to appoint Paula's successor and we would value your prayers and consideration for this vacancy.

As a basic outline of this voluntary role, it includes promoting safeguarding practices, facilitating online DBS checks and renewals for those who require them in partnership with Peter and Sarah, attending online safeguarding training and providing safeguarding training for all Haverhill Methodist Church volunteers as needed, again with support from Peter and Sarah.

Good communication and administrative skills are needed.

Please speak to Peter if you are interested in finding out more.

- Invitation

Hi church family,

This year is my 70th birthday and I would like to celebrate it with my church family. I have booked the Haverhill rugby club for the 28th

May. If you do wish to attend please could you let me know towards the end of April as I need to know the amount of food to order.  
Hope to see you in church this Sunday  
Keith Barker

- Latest Coronavirus Guidance

As of Thursday 27th January 2022 there is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering.

In response to this change and in the light of ongoing infection rates, it is advised that face coverings continue to be worn on church premises for now.

Good ventilation will continue and hand-sanitizer will be available.

- Prayer Walking prayer meetings

March 13<sup>th</sup> 1.30-2.30pm at the Salvation Army Church

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1.30-2.30pm at the Methodist Church

Do please and attend these if you possibly can so that we have opportunity to hear feedback, be encouraged together and collectively pray for Haverhill. You are also most welcome to invite anyone else along who may not be Prayer Walking but would still like to join us to specifically prayer for our town.

With every blessing, Bill

- REACH – job opportunity



**Community Outreach Adviser**

Details here:

<https://bit.ly/3oF8X49>

- Calling all knitters/crocheters

*St Nic's celebrates  
the Queen's Jubilee*

Join us as we celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee St Nicholas Hospice Care wants to bring people together to create an afternoon tea with a difference.

We are calling on the community to join our staff and grab their knitting (or crochet) needles to help create a wool-inspired afternoon tea display that wouldn't look out of place at one of Her Majesty's Garden Parties.

We are hoping to be able to create woollen displays in our Haverhill Hub and Bury St Edmund's St John's Street shop, and we need everything from knitted quaint cups and saucers to crocheted tempting baked treats.

If you'd like to get involved please get in touch with Janet Etheridge (01440 423263) who will be co-ordinating our Church's efforts.

- Prayer Diary for March

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

### March

3<sup>rd</sup> Lent Course begins, also 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and April 7<sup>th</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> World Day of Prayer at Salvation Army

4<sup>th</sup> Funeral of Lily Rawlingson

4<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Ladies Weekend at Sizewell

6<sup>th</sup> "Bring 'n' Share" lunch

13<sup>th</sup> General Church Meeting

13<sup>th</sup> Town Prayers Prayer Meeting at Salvation Army – Everyone welcome to join in

16<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> Presbyterial District Synod at our Church

27 Mothering Sunday

### 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.

*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. Pray for the need for an extra Circuit Steward.

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

*Volunteers*- Give thanks for those who have volunteered to work in various aspects of Church and Outreach life.

*Sunday Club* – more leaders are still needed

*Town Pastors* – More pastors and pray-ers are still required (people to pray in their own homes)

*Reach* – Volunteers needed to assist in various aspects of this work. Pray the staff will not be overwhelmed as the workload increases and that the right staff will be found to fill new posts.

*Illuminate*- Give thanks for the people who have come forward as leaders. Please keep praying for wisdom for leaders to know how to meet the needs of the 16+ age group.

*Youth for Christ*- Please pray for Sarah as she does Chaplaincy work at Castle Manor School on Wednesdays and one to one mentoring on Thursdays. All lessons and after school clubs are suspended for the time being because of covid.

*Lantern*- Lantern is currently having a 3 month break for the winter season as numbers have dropped very low and the opportunity to communicate gospel truths is increasingly limited. Ask the Lord to show the leaders His direction for the future.

*Open Mind*- Give thanks to God for His provision of so many able and gifted volunteers who are a blessing to each other and the residents of our town. Please pray for them in this challenging role and for residents to be released from their torments.

*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.



- Dates for your Diary

<b>February</b>		
25 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Barton – <a href="#">Adopt-a-Child</a> Flowers: Mr & Mrs J Loader
28 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
<b>March</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 1
4 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
	10-11.30am	Traidcraft Coffee Morning at Clare Baptist (see flyer)
6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter-All Age Worship Flowers: Mr & Mrs N Wray
7 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
8 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
9 <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>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 2
11 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Flowers: Mr & Mrs B Ellicott
14 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
15 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
16 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
17 <sup>th</sup>	7,30-9pm	Lent Course 3
18 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Peter Flowers: Mr & Mrs T Seljamae
21 <sup>st</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
22 <sup>nd</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 4
25 <sup>th</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
26 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Sue & Stephen Symonds Ruby Wedding Celebration service
27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Henry Wilson Flowers: Mr & Mrs S Symonds
28 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
29 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
30 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
31 <sup>st</sup>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 5
<b>April</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah – All Age Worship      Flowers: Miss M Shipp
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Music exams: no entry to Church, Coffee Lounge, Vestry from 8am.
4 <sup>th</sup>	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout in the Church Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
6 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9pm	Lent Course 6
8 <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.