



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 97

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

*But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold. My feet have closely followed his steps; I have kept to his way without turning aside.*

*Job 23:10-11*

**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](#).

**Hearing Loop:** We have a hearing loop, switch your hearing aid to the T position if available.

- Coronavirus Guidance Update – from 24th February 2022

Though Covid restrictions in England have now lifted, we continue to help one another stay well by reducing the risk of infection. To help everyone feel safe and welcome, the following simple guidance is offered:

- If you are unwell with a risk of infection, please consider others and stay at home, and if you have Covid-10 symptoms take a test.
- We shall continue to keep our premises ventilated to let fresh air circulate
- We shall continue to provide hand sanitizer and encourage good hygiene practice, especially around shared objects, food and drink.

- Face coverings in church are now a personal choice. There is no requirement to wear a face covering when singing.
- 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.

- Sunday 6th March 2022 All Age Service and Bring and Share Lunch

We hope you can join us on Sunday morning for our all age service on the first Sunday in Lent.

The service will be followed by a bring and share lunch. All are welcome to stay.

Food for the lunch may be placed in the church kitchen before the service.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Elizabeth Mitchell into church membership this Sunday.

If you would like to explore church membership also, please speak to Peter.

- 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.

- Pastoral Meeting

There will be a Pastoral Meeting for all Pastoral Friends on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March at **7.45PM** in the coffee lounge.

- Minister's District Synod – Help needed

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March our church hosts the East Anglia Methodist District Ministers Synod meeting, from morning to mid afternoon. If you are please able to help with refreshments, car park marshalling or setting up and clearing away please speak to Peter. Thank you.

- Join our Lent Group – it's not too late to join in!

Lent began 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 if you would like to join the group so that sufficient study guides can be provided.*

We are meeting in the Loft above the Church Hall.

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

- Visit of Peter Barton – Adopt-a-child

It was great to welcome back Peter Barton to our church last Sunday and hear about the important work that Adopt-A-Child are doing.

If you did not manage to get to church or see the resources he brought, or need more information about their child sponsorship

programmes you can you can find out more information from their website:

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

- 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

- 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.



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.

