

# GOD LOVES YOU!



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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**Connect Issue 213**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024**

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

*Romans 8:28*

**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 150 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.

**Mobile Phones:** Please make sure your phone is off or set to silent before the service begins.

- [Next Door Celebration!](#)

Are you aware that TODAY is the 37th birthday of Next Door?

To celebrate there will be free cakes and also on show there will be art work painted by the U3A Art group.

During the morning we wish to dedicate the new front garden, which was created mainly, from the legacy of Terry Sparrow, who was one of our regular customers.

Please call in, if you are able, and have a chat.

Next Door team

- Day Of Prayer 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024

We are planning to have another day of prayer in the coffee lounge. The room will be prepared as a quiet place of sanctuary and we would like people to fill one hour slots, either alone or with a partner. Due to the short notice this will only be during daytime on Saturday. We plan to fill 12 hours from 8am until 8pm, but can easily extend these times if needed. There will be a sign-up sheet available on the front desk this Sunday but if you are unable to complete this please contact either Pat Shanks or Joyce Rinaldi.

- Churchill – Phase 2

Members will have noticed the arrival of a tower crane adjacent to our church. Work has started on phase two of the Churchill Retirement Home development and will continue until June 2025. Churchill apologise in advance for any noise or disruption to users of our premises and will do all they can to minimise inconvenience. Please be aware there will be some noise at times, such as pile driving, but only during daytime working hours and not usually at weekends. We have permitted a pedestrian route into their site via the path to the side of our church main entrance and a temporary gate next to our rear fire escape gate, so do not be alarmed if you see “yellow vest” workmen walking up and down.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.  
John Loader  
Property Secretary

- Worship at the Meadows care home

The next date booked for worship at the Meadows is 23<sup>rd</sup> June, @ 3pm. If you would like to go along and support this work please speak to Alan Carney.

- Music Exams – 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June

Music Exams will be taking place in the church, vestry and coffee lounge all day on these dates. Do not enter these areas and please try to keep noise to a minimum around the site. Be considerate of these (mostly) young people who have worked hard to achieve their grades.

- HMC Tithing Fund Report – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024 to 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

To Tithe is to give. The definition of the tithe was amazingly simple and plainly laid out for Israel. They were to gather their harvest and count the tithe out from what they have gathered. For instance, if you had 100 apples, you must count them out from one-to-ten, and the tenth one you set aside for the Lord – [Leviticus 27:32](#). As is stated in the previous verse, it did not matter if that tenth one was bruised or under-sized, you still set it aside. Note, that you set the tenth one aside, not the first one aside.

However, today, tithes are normally voluntary and paid by cash, cheques, or Direct Debits through the offering of our congregation. Indeed, each month, a percentage of your offerings are put into our Tithing Fund. This is administered by our Tithing Team. Our Tithing funds are managed by Tom Parker. Our team are incredibly grateful to Tom, and we thank him for his loyal service and the management of the fund.

Our account balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 was £956. 97

A detailed list of accounts follows this report. This report can be seen by all members of our church family.

During the year we have made regular donations to the following: Suffolk Mind, Youth for Christ, Reach, and St Nicolas Hospice. Regular donations to the Haverhill Memories are Golden for people in our community living with Dementia, East Anglian Air Ambulance. Easter offering for World Mission, Action for Children, New Foundations and The YMCA. Our disaster donation for this period was £700.00.

This year we have made a generous donation of £500 to Christion Care Centre in South Africa via Penny Cook.

Our Tithing Fund tend to keep a balance of £500 in the float to be prepared for emergencies home or abroad especially to other nations experiencing great problems.

When in need, we have also made gifts to members of our Church family. We are always ready to listen to anyone going through problems. We will direct such requests firstly to other agencies such as 'Reach' especially if there is a family in crisis. By working in partnership with each other, and by applying ourselves diligently, our team can act appropriately on behalf of our Haverhill Methodist Church Tithing Fund. Within our team, we adhere code strict confidence. This method of practice is to protect the identity of any persons which could cause any repercussions especially to the family. No decision to help a member or family of our church would be taken without the Minister's authority and the chairperson of the Tithing fund and then anonymously to the rest of the team.

We welcome ideas of how we can support our community. Therefore, any suggestions from you our congregation, would be gratefully received, not only for our own community but to overseas as well. We have supported the fund for 'Smalls for all' a Scottish charity for providing underwear for girls and women in Africa and at home. A full list of charities our church supports is readily available for our church family to examine.

Rising to terrible situations around the world where much fighting and terrible suffering and loss of lives have been ongoing namely Ukraine our church has donated £500 through The British Red Cross and Christian Care have received a total of £1000 during the period quoted.

This year our church also a donation to the Methodist Church Fund for Human Need (MCFHN)

The work of the Tithing Fund throughout the year, which is noted above, is a particularly important obligation of our church.

All donations listed above would not be possible without the generous giving through the offering system of our church. Your generosity, in giving by cash, our Direct Debit system and standing order is gratefully received. Please see any of the church stewards who will supply a Direct Debit/Standing order form on request. However, Any, method you choose to give is always very welcome.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, the Tithing Fund held a meeting to discuss the year ahead. Jacqueline Stewart requested for a volunteer to take her place as chairperson to which Linda Arrowsmith (already a member of the Tithing team) offered to step into the position of Chairperson. Since this meeting, the Tithing team have welcomed Alan Carney to be a member of the team. My grateful thanks to Linda and Alan for their dedication in taking up these roles.

At the time of our meeting for the General Church Meeting, the Tithing fund balance stands at £1200 Agreed donations have yet to be made.

With Blessings from  
Jacqueline Stewart on behalf of our Haverhill Methodist Tithing Team.

Our Team Members:

Jacqueline Stewart – Chair but will be Linda Arrowsmith to take effect for the General Church Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Heather Nicholls, Kathy Cohen, Linda Arrowsmith, Muritala Abimbola  
Alan Carney, Tom Parker who manages our accounts so well and to whom we are extremely grateful.

## Tithing Fund Accounts 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Opening Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023		£956.97
Transfers to Fund		£6,400.00
<u>Donations Made</u>		
St Nicholas Hospice	5	£500.00
Misc Donation	3	£948.00
HDYFC	6	£1,200.00
Reach	6	£1,200.00
St Mungo's	1	£250.00
Christian Care Centre	1	£500.00
Methodist Church Fund for Human Need	1	£200.00
Salvation Army Christmas Lunch	1	£100.00
MacMillan Nurses	1	£200.00
Disaster Emergency Committee	2	£700.00
British Red Cross	1	£500.00
Easter Offering	1	£150.00
EAAA	1	£150.00
Adopt-a-Child	1	£250.00
<u>Total Donations</u>		£6848.00
<u>Closing Balance 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024</u>		£508.97
Current balance 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2024		£908.97

- Photowall

I have a couple more pictures to add to the photowall, which involves an almost complete reprint in order to keep them in alphabetical order.

If I haven't had your pic yet, please send me a selfie this week (head & shoulders, couples together, no kids to [haverhillmethodist.info@gmail.com](mailto:haverhillmethodist.info@gmail.com)) or ask me to take one on Sunday.

The photowall is really useful for getting to know who's who – not just those with particular roles but the whole church family, but for it to be really helpful we need as many people to be on it as possible. It will be invaluable for Moses as he tries to get to know us all in September.

Many thanks, Kathy

- Civic Events coming up

- Friday 21st June, Suffolk Day, Ceremony at 9.30am on Market Square with county dignitaries, followed by refreshments in St Mary's.

- Monday 24th June, Flag Raising for Armed Forces Day, Ceremony at 2pm on Market Square including prayers for those who serve and for peace.
- Saturday 29th June, Armed Forces Day, Ceremony at 1pm.
- Sunday 7th July, The Haverhill Show is on and we will be leading an Act of Worship at 10am once the Mayor has opened the event.

and in Kedington, details on attached posters:

- Sunday 30th June, Open Gardens.
- Saturday-Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> August, Flower Festival, with an opportunity to participate.

- House Groups

Several of our house groups are now full but there are still spaces in two:

David Frost – First Thursday of the month at 3.30pm

and

Dot & Tom Parker – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 2.30pm

Please speak to Heather or to the group host if you are interested in going along or just want to know more.

- 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 weekly Connect 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 Safeguarding Officer of any concerns
8. To inform the Pastoral Secretary and Communication Team Leader of any changes in their contact details.
9. To attend Pastoral Meeting.

If you are interested in this Role please speak to Janet Etheridge

- Weekly Offering & Gift Aid

We do not ask visitors for money, however should you wish to give there is an offering bowl just inside the main doors to the church at each service. If you wish to give by standing order/onlinebanking, please ask the duty steward (wearing a purple lanyard) for details of the appropriate church bank account. (This type of payment helps us avoid banking costs incurred by paying in cash/cheques.)

If you pay income tax you can fill in a form which allows the church to claim back 25p for every £1 at no cost to yourself. These forms are available from the duty steward on a Sunday morning.

The amount claimed back in recent years has approached £10,000 pa and has often prevented expenditure exceeding income in the annual accounts.

*Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: [kathy.cohen@btinternet.com](mailto:kathy.cohen@btinternet.com)*

- Dates for your Diary

<b>June</b>		
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Suffolk Day Ceremony on Market Square
	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
	10.30-1pm	37 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations in Next Door – free cake!
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Ken Nicholls    Flowers: Bryan & Jenny Ellicott Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
24 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Flag raising ceremony for Armed Forces day on Market Sq.
25 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
26 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Music exams in church, vestry & coffee lounge. Do not enter these areas and please be mindful of noise around the site.
28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
29 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	Armed Forces day ceremony
30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Ian Levett    Flowers: Tracy Creasy Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
	12-6pm	Kedington Open Gardens (see attached poster)
<b>July</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	<b>HDCT Service on the Rec to begin Haverhill Show. No service in Church.</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
10 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell                          Flowers: Dot & Tom Parker Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
16 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee 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
19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Ken Nicholls HC                  Flowers: Claire Guilfoyle Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (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
26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door

***If your group is taking a summer break please let me know dates so I can keep the Diary Dates correct. Thanks, Kathy.***