

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 222

Friday 30th August 2024

*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 (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.

Make sure you've put the date in your diary!

Saturday 31st August @ 3pm

Welcome service for
Rev. Moses John and family

Followed by refreshments

All Welcome!

Tomorrow! Tomorrow! Tomorrow!

- Knife Angel (content borrowed from St Mary's website)



We are pleased to be working with Haverhill Town Council and other community partners to bring the Knife Angel to Haverhill during the month of September.

The Knife Angel is the national monument against knife crime and violence amongst young people, a sculpture created by the [British Ironworks Centre](#) from 100,000 blades surrendered in amnesty, which has been touring the country for the last two years. This will be its first visit to Suffolk, and an opportunity for the community to come together to reflect on the effects of violence, and to show that together we can help and encourage one another to be better.

Here are some of the ways you can join in over the month:

- See the **art exhibition** at St Mary's from prisoners at HMP Highpoint, including some poignant responses to violent crime from those who have been directly involved or affected.
- Use the **prayer station** at St Mary's to reflect on your experience of the Knife Angel and to offer to God any particular people or places on your heart.
- Write in the **book of remembrance** at St Mary's if you know someone who has been lost to acts of violence, or in response to events that affect the whole community.
- Speak to one of the many **local community groups** offering advice and support, including Open Mind who are on Market Square every Saturday during September.
- Follow the monthly **bible study** from St Mary's, looking at responses to violence, available [online](#).
- Fill in an **anti-violence pledge** on a wooden heart and leave it at the railings surrounding the Knife Angel.

There are various services and events happening throughout the month including:

- Saturday **31st August**: Knife Angel arrives in Market Square from Luton.
- Wednesday **4th September** at 6pm: Civic Opening Ceremony, in Market Square.
- Monday **16th September** at 4pm: performance of original rap music from Suffolk artist the Revd Kiran Lotay, in St Mary's Church.
- Saturday **21st September** at 2pm: our Messy Church service for primary school aged children looks at forgiveness, in St Mary's Church.
- Wednesday **25th September** at 8pm (tbc): vigil service with music from St Mary's choir, in Market Square.
- Friday **27th September**: Civic Closing Ceremony, in Market Square.
- Sunday **29th September** at 11am: in-person bible study on responding to violence, in St Mary's Church.
- Monday **30th September**: Knife Angel leaves Market Square for Peterborough.

Check with [Haverhill Town Council](#) for more events and opportunities.

St Mary's will be open regularly at the following times to make use of the opportunities inside the building, and at other times by request or for particular services, events and workshops:

- Sundays 10-12/Wednesdays 10-12/Fridays 10-4/Saturdays 10-2

This is a unique opportunity to come together as a community in response to rising concerns about youth violence and knife crime.. We have already sadly seen the effects of knife crime first hand in Haverhill, and so our hope and prayer is to encourage everyone - and young people in particular - to recognise the damage that acts of violence can cause, and to be moved to respond to one another in peace.

The Knife Angel prayer:

Loving God,
 you call us to turn
 from violence to peace
 and from anger to love:
 work in the hearts
 of all those affected
 by knife crime and violence,
 so that we may all know
 the power of your healing
 and reconciliation;
 through Jesus Christ
 our Saviour.
 Amen.

- Open Mind

As mentioned above, Open Mind will be on the Market Square every Saturday morning throughout September. We would appreciate prayer support and visits too as we support local people processing the many different consequences of violent crime.

Many Thanks,
Charmaine & the OM team.

- Sunday Club



**Please join us for our
Sunday Club
Anniversary Service.**

**Sunday 8th September
10.30am
Followed by a picnic on
the Rec.
Everyone is welcome!**

- Shoe boxes and things to put in them

Members of the Church and Young at Heart have been busy knitting for the Shoe Box appeal, toys, hats etc. We intend to start selling them during September. The first date will be Wednesday 4th September in the Hall from 1.00-3.00pm, this is when Young at Heart meet. We will also be selling them on Sunday 29th September after the service; please remember to bring cash with you. Janet

- Suffolk Churches Sponsored Bike Ride

Saturday 14 September 9.00 to 5.00pm

The annual sponsored bike ride will take place as usual on the second Saturday in September (see poster at end).

Half of the money raised will be returned to our church funds and half will go

to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, which offers grants to help maintain churches in the county.

Sandra and John have sponsor forms for anyone who would like to ride or walk between churches.

We are also looking for volunteers to welcome cyclists to our church on the day, to sign their forms and offer refreshments. Please let us know if you can help for a one or two hour session.

The Britten family are planning to take part again this year and would welcome your donations. Also, Anne Goodchild is hoping to walk between the churches in Haverhill.

Thanks,

Sandra and John Loader

- Charity Bingo Night

In aid of Open Mind, 28th September, 6.30 for 7pm at the Chalkstone Centre. See poster at the end for more info. Please note this is a CASH ONLY event.

- **Your Church needs You !**

There are always jobs to be done around our church premises and we are looking for new blood - younger people (preferable !) - who are willing to give a hand with property tasks, either on a regular or occasional basis.

For example:

internal maintenance = painting, woodworking, repairing, cleaning;

garden maintenance = weeding, trimming shrubs, hedges and trees, digging and flower bed maintenance, clearing ivy, clearing weeds from the rear courtyard.

External maintenance = painting fences, masonry repair, clearing gutters and down pipes, roof maintenance, car park litter and leaf clearance, pathway clearance, repair, and de-icing in snow/frost conditions.

Whether you are very experienced or more of a novice willing to give it a try please talk to John Loader or Moses about ways you might be able to help. Thankyou !

John Loader
Property Secretary

- Photowall

The Photowall is coming along nicely, with well over 100 faces and names already – BUT – is your face among them? If not, **please** send me a selfie asap (head & shoulders, couples together, no kids to 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.

Moses is already using it to get to know names and faces!

Many thanks, Kathy

- House Groups

Several of our house groups are now full but there are still spaces with Dot & Tom Parker – 1st and 3rd 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/online banking, 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.

- [Christian Employment Opportunity](#)



The Methodist Church
East Anglia District

DISTRICT FUNDRAISING OFFICER

The East Anglia District is seeking to appoint a lead Fundraising Officer.

We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with excellent communication skills, relevant experience and enthusiasm for mission or community development. They will be responsible for researching and writing funding applications to secure and administer income for a number of exciting projects across the East Anglia District.

This post is home based.
7 Hours per week.
£14 an hour.

This post is a permanent contract; funding has been identified for 3 years, with further funding subject to review.

A satisfactory disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service is required.

For further details and an application pack please email:

DLES@eangliamethodist.org.uk

Closing Date for Applications: Monday 16th September.

Interview Date: Tuesday 1st October.

Start Date: As soon as possible thereafter.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFEGUARDING OF ALL.

- [Prayer Diary](#)

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

September

1-30 Knife Angel on the Market Square

- 4 Young at Heart resumes
- 8 Sunday Club Anniversary followed by picnic on the Rec.
- 14 Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride
- 21 District Synod
- 28 Charity Bingo Night in aid of Open Mind

Extra Prayer Topics

Rev. Moses John – Pray for Rev. Moses John & his family as they settle into life in Haverhill. Pray that they will quickly feel at home here. Pray for the Lord's guidance as he leads us.

Church & Circuit Stewards & Local Preachers – Pray for all those who will be supporting Rev. Moses John in the practical & spiritual running of this church. Give thanks for the Rev. Andy Burrows who has been our titular Superintendent Minister over this past year.

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

Please pray for more musicians to come forward to join the band.

Sunday Club – More leaders and helpers are still needed. Give thanks for the growing numbers of Sunday Club youngsters.

Home groups – Please pray for the Home Groups now that they have restarted. Pray that they will be a means of growing spiritually and in closeness to each other.

Mens Coffee Club – Pray for this new venture to bring men of the Church together.

YFC – Pray for the work of Sarah through YFC as she is involved in lessons, clubs, mentoring and chaplaincy work. Pray also for the work of Illuminate.

Next Door – Now open 4 days a week. Please pray for its ongoing and future work.

Young at Heart – Pray for those leading and attending this group.

Reach – Please pray for all those involved in the work of Reach as it works to alleviate the suffering of so many at this time of financial challenge.

Open Mind – Please pray for the ongoing work of Open Mind. More volunteers needed especially men.

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.

Knife Angel – Pray for all the groups involved with this project, including Open Mind. Pray that there will be a positive and lasting impact in our community and all the communities it visits.

Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: kathy.cohen@btinternet.com

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride



**Saturday,
14 September 2024
9.00am - 5.00pm**

Local Organiser
from whom sponsorship
forms are available:

*Sandra
Loader*

**Visit shct.org.uk for more information.
You can also find us on Facebook and X.**

Sponsorship money raised will be divided between Suffolk Historic Churches Trust
and the church or chapel chosen by the participant.

HAVERHILL IN CONCERT

East Anglia's Premier Brass Band • MD Paul Filby

Silver Band



Enjoy an eclectic
mix of music



4pm, Sunday
22nd September



Haverhill Arts
Centre

Book Now



Adults: £12
Concessions: £10
Under 18s: £5

Haverhill Arts Centre Box Office

HAC Haverhill Arts Centre



With Financial Help From
Haverhill Town Council

Haverhill Silver Band is a Registered Charity (Number: 1182260)



OPEN MIND
MEANINGFUL SUPPORT

**CASH ONLY
EVENT**

BINGO

CHARITY NIGHT

SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Come and join us for an evening of bingo, live music by "Country Connection" (classic Country & Western), licensed bar & raffle!

Cash prizes to be won along with much more!

All money raised will be going to Open Mind Meaningful Support.

**CHALKSTONE
COMMUNITY CENTRE
CB9 0JB**

**6.30 PM
EYES DOWN AT
7PM**

**£10
for
6 Games**

**B
12**

To book a place please contact Debbie either by email or mobile to 07775 740483 or debbie.gibson1972@googlemail.com

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- Dates for your Diary – please take special note of events surrounding the Knife Angel on Market Square during September

August		
30 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
31 st		Knife Angel arrives on the Market Square from Luton
31 st	3pm	Welcome Service for Revd Moses, led by Revd Andy Burrows Chair of District, Helen Hollands preaching
September		
1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – HC Flowers: Linda Arrowsmith Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
3 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
4 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart resumes in the Church Hall – selling items for shoe boxes
	6pm	Knife Angel Civic Opening Ceremony on Market Square
6 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
8 th	10.30am	Sunday Club Anniversary Service followed by picnic on the Rec Flowers: Margaret Taylor Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
10 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
11 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart resumes in the Church Hall
13 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
14 th	All day	Historic Churches Bike Ride – volunteers needed, see poster
15 th	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John Flowers: Phyl Hall Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
16 th	4pm	Knife Angel: Performance of original rap music from Suffolk artist the Revd Kiran Lotay, in St Mary's Church
17 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
18 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart resumes in the Church Hall
20 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
21 st	2pm	Knife Angel: Messy Church at St Mary's for primary school aged children looks at forgiveness
22 nd	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade Flowers: Anthea & David Payne Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
	4pm	Haverhill Silver band in concert – see poster
24 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
25 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
	8pm(tbc)	Knife Angel: Vigil service on Market Square with music from St Mary's Choir
27 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
		Knife Angel: Civic Closing Ceremony on Market Square

