

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 224

Friday 13th September 2024

*But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love;
for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.*

Psalm 59:16

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.

- 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 either in cash or at <https://bit.ly/47hnd8i> . Also, Anne Goodchild is hoping to walk between the churches in Haverhil and would also be grateful for your sponsorship.I.

Thanks,
Sandra and John Loader

- Artworks on display

When you arrive at church on Sunday 15th September, you will see some large paintings placed around the church. They are a celebration of 40 years of caring by St Nicholas Hospice Care Bury St Edmunds. Artist Michael Paul who also works for St Nicholas has created a collection of paintings depicting a Hospice journey. They'll be in our church for a week. Our community here in Haverhill is also supported by St Nicholas Hospice. We have members of our church who carry out voluntary work for this very worthy and needy cause.

Through your generous giving, Haverhill Methodist Church is able to support St Nicholas Hospice on a regular basis.

With Many Blessings, Jacqueline Stewart – Senior Steward

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



The Knife Angel has arrived in Haverhill, and this month's programme of activities and events was launched with a poignant opening ceremony on Wednesday. We heard from those involved in tackling violence and crime, as well as from the family of the late Harley Barfield, who was killed at the beginning of last year.

St Mary's [website](#) is being kept up to date with all the activities and events on offer from the churches. In particular, if you heard the Revd Kiran Lotay's performance last night of his original rap music, and would like to hear more

and speak to him about his work, then you may be interested in coming along on Monday 16th September at 4pm. Sign up for free tickets [online](#).

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:

- 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 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.

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.



- 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 will be selling them again on Sunday 29th September after the service; please remember to bring cash with you. Janet




- 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.

- Illuminate

Illuminate is a Christian youth group welcoming local young people from any church or none. It is run by Haverhill & District Youth for Christ with volunteer leaders from a variety of churches.

The aim is to develop our faith and relationship with Jesus, make friends, invite friends, study the Bible and pray together and discuss relevant life topics from a Christian perspective.
There is always fun to be had with games, activities, tuck shop and social events.




Illuminate

Christian youth group
for 11-18 year olds

Sundays 6.30-8.00pm
Haverhill Methodist
Church Hall

Info from Sarah on
info@haverhill.yfc.co.uk or
07375 240766

 Haverhill & District
YOUTH
FOR CHRIST

A typical evening will start with some free time to chat, play football and buy sweets. We then explore our topic in bite size activities like discussions, games, prayer spaces, Bible studies and creative activities.

We love to hear what everyone has to say, but there is no pressure. The groups is at it's best when the young people come up with ideas and we support them to make it happen.

Our group is very friendly and we would love to see some old faces returning as well as new.

Feedback is always welcome, and we are seeing if we can create a separate group for those in school years 10-13.

Young people don't have to come every week, and it is free. Change for Tuck Shop is a good idea though!

Illuminate runs in term time and our 1st week back is this Sunday (8th September). It will be a relaxed evening with some food. No need to book, just come along to the hall at the back of Haverhill Methodist Church, Camps Rd, CB9 8HF. A registration form needs to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian.

Parents are added to an email group (if you agree) to hear about what we are doing, reminders and any changes to the schedule. If you would like to get this information even if your child isn't sure about the group just let me know.

Sarah Glasswell, Senior Youth Worker, Haverhill & District Youth for Christ
info@haverhill.yfc.co.uk 07375 240766

• Your Church needs You !



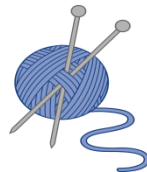
There are always jobs to be done around our church premises and we are looking for new blood - younger people (preferable !) - who are willing to give a hand with property tasks, either on a regular or occasional basis.

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



- Calling all knitters!!

St Nicholas hospice are in need of knitted hearts again. If you could help by knitting or crocheting them I would be very grateful. I have an easy pattern and can supply wool and stuffing. They want yellow. Blue pink and green ones. Please let me know if you can help. Janet

- 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
3. may happen through Sunday worship, home visits, telephone conversations, email or text or letters/cards.
4. To pray for and perhaps with those you are a pastoral friend to.
5. To make available our weekly Connect to those unable to access it.
6. To distribute the annual Methodist Church Membership Tickets and Adherent Tickets.
7. As appropriate, to inform the Pastoral Secretary and Church Minister of any serious illness, hospitalisation or if back up support is needed.
8. To inform the Safeguarding Officer of any concerns
9. To inform the Pastoral Secretary and Communication Team Leader of any changes in their contact details.
10. To attend Pastoral Meeting.

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

- Weekly Offering & Gift Aid



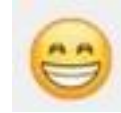
We do not ask visitors for money, however should you wish to give there is an offering bowl just inside the main doors to the church at each service. If you wish to give by standing order/online banking, please ask the duty steward (wearing a purple lanyard) for details of the appropriate church bank 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.

- Sunday Club Anniversary

Thanks to Chinyere for this lovely photo from last Sunday.



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

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride



Suffolk
Historic
Churches
Trust

**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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HARVEST SUPPER

SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER

5.30PM



If you wish to join us for this event please add your name to the list in the Church foyer.

