GOD LOVES YOU!





Connect Issue 225

Haverhill Methodist Church

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Friday 20th September 2024

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24

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.

Town Pastors

The Town Pastors are on the streets **tonight**, Friday 20th September, from 9pm to midnight. Please keep them in your prayers and support those who bring this important ministry to our streets.

If you are interested in becoming part of this aspect of God's work in our town please speak to Kathy, Angela Proctor, David Payne, Phoebe, Mary Thake, Pat Shanks, Dot Parker, Sarah Glasswell, Paula Tappin or Jack Tappin, we can all tell you about our experiences as home prayers, base leaders or actually being out on the streets. Or contact the chairman, lan Levett.

• 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 <u>website</u> 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 <u>online</u>.

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 <u>online</u>.
- 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 **21st September** at 2pm: our Messy Church service for primary schochildren 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.

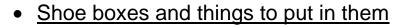
Many Thanks,

Charmaine & the OM team.

McMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 27th September, between 10.30-2.30pm
@ Gill and Dave's house
8 Victoria Road
Haverhill
CB9 9PS

Pop in if you can.



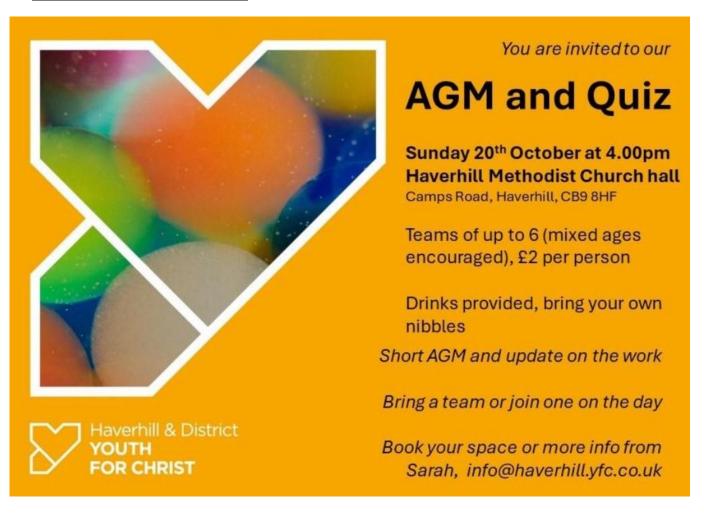


Members of the Church and Young at Heart have been busy knitting for the Shoe Box appeal, toys, hats etc. We will be selling them again on Sunday 29th September after the service; please remember to bring cash with you. Janet

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 AGM & Quiz



• 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/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

IN CONCERT

East Anglia's Premier Brass Band . MD Paul Filby



mix of music



4pm, Sunday 22nd September



Haverhill Arts Centre

Book Now



Concessions: £10 Under 18s: £5

Haverhill Arts Centre Box Office





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



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 OJB

6.30 PM **EYES DOWN AT 7PM**

£10 for 6 Games

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

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.

Dates for your Diary

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| September | | |
| 20 th | 10.30-12.30 | Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door |
| | 9pm - midnight | Town Pastors on Patrol |
| 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 |
| | 10.30-2.30 | Macmillan Coffee Morning @ Gill & Dave's – see above |
| | | Knife Angel: Civic Closing Ceremony on Market Square |
| 28 th | 6.30pm | Charity Bingo Night in aid of Open Mind |
| 29 th | 10.30am | Preacher: Revd Moses John Flowers: Vacant* |
| | | Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge |
| | | Handmade items for shoeboxes on sale at coffee time |
| | 11am | Knife Angel: bible study on responding to violence-St Mary's |
| 30 th | | Knife Angel leaves Market Square for Peterborough |
| October | | |
| 1 st | 11am-12 | Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home) |
| | 7.30pm | Pastoral Meeting for all Pastoral Visitors - Coffee Lounge |
| 2 nd | 10am-12 | Open Mind in the Church Hall |
| | 1-3pm | Young at Heart in the Church Hall |
| 4 th | 10.30-12.30 | Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door |
| | 8pm - midnight | Town Pastors on Patrol |
| 5 th | 5.30pm | Harvest Supper – don't forget to sign up in the Church foyer! |
| 6 th | 10.30am | Preacher: Revd Moses John – Harvest All Age Worship |
| | | Flowers: Church Harvest Flowers |
| | | Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge |
| 8 th | 11am-12 | Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home) |
| 9 th | 10am-12 | Open Mind in the Church Hall |
| | 1-3pm | Young at Heart in the Church Hall |
| | 7.30pm | Church & Circuit Council in the Church Hall |
| 11 th | 10.30-12.30 | Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door |
| 13 th | 10.30am | Preacher: Revd Moses John – Holy Communion |
| | | Flowers: Church Harvest Flowers |
| | | Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge |
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^{*} If you would like to join the Flower Rota, please contact Sue Symonds 01440 763613 or harrys62@sky.com