

# GOD LOVES YOU!



## Haverhill Methodist Church

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## Connect Issue 233

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

*Psalm 1:1-2*

**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.

- [Town Pastors](#)



The Town Pastors are on the streets tonight, Friday 15th November, from 8pm 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, Ian Levett.

- Jacqueline & Stefan

Unfortunately Jacqueline & Stefan are still waiting for a date to move to Scotland. They are still in Haverhill and very much missing the church family. Do not be surprised if you see them in church while they wait for a moving date. Your prayers for their move would also be very much appreciated.

- Cake Sunday 17th November – this Sunday!

On Sunday 17th November there will be new people welcomed in to our church family therefore we would like to have cakes served with the refreshments after the service. This will give us all an opportunity to welcome and chat with our new members. We are looking for donations of cakes please. Any type of 'finger' cakes would be most welcome. If you could supply an ingredients list please to assist anyone with dietary/allergy needs.

Thank you as always for your help.  
Susan Marren

- Toy Service – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Our annual Toy Service this year will be held on the 1st December. For the benefit of those people who are new to this church I will give you a brief outline of what happens. Everyone is invited to bring a toy/gift to the service and these will be accepted by the Town Mayor, Councillor David Smith, on behalf of social services. These will then be passed to social services who will distribute the gifts to children in the town who would otherwise get very little at Christmas. The only stipulation by social services is that the toys are new and unwrapped, and cover the age range 0-18 years, as they like to be able to give a gift to each child in the family. They assure me that these are very much appreciated.

Kay

- Messy Church Christmas – Helpers needed!

We are hosting a Messy Church Christmas event, Sunday 8th December 4-6pm, and would love some more helpers please. There are many ways to help – with crafts or activities, preparing/serving food in the kitchen, on the welcome desk and so on. Please email Claire ([claire@evans-mail.co.uk](mailto:claire@evans-mail.co.uk)) if you are able to help.



**Please join us for our  
Messy Church  
Christmas Party!**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 4-6pm  
Haverhill Methodist Church Hall**

**Fun Christmas themed activities, games, crafts and food.**

**Activities aimed at Primary school children and below.  
All children must be accompanied by an adult.**

**For more information or to book email:  
[hcmessychurch@gmail.com](mailto:hcmessychurch@gmail.com)  
Please include any dietary requirements**

- **IT'S PANTO TIME!**

We have reserved a block of seats for Snow White on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 1pm.

We are pleased to have secured a group discount – Adults are £12, Sunday Club Children are £7 per ticket (as Sunday Club are further subsidising £5 per ticket)

Please contact Claire to reserve your tickets - [claire@evans-mail.co.uk](mailto:claire@evans-mail.co.uk) or 07734 298 247

Payment can be made to the Sunday Club account:

Methodist Church Sunday Club  
Sort Code 30-93-99

Account number 00079805

**Tickets must be reserved by Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November, payment can be made at later date if required.**



- Music Exams

Please note: There will be Music Exams in the church on November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. The church, vestry and Coffee Lounge will be in use, please take notice of the signs and do not enter these areas. Also, please keep noise to a minimum around the site and in the car park'  
Many thanks!

- Living Nativity – Saturday 30th November

The Living Nativity coincides with the town's Christmas events that day. The format is different to previous years, with a group of actors and live animals making their way through the High Street to engage people in the story of Jesus's birth, finishing with a Christmas message and carols with the Haverhill Youth and Community Band.



CHURCHES  
TOGETHER

NOVEMBER  
30TH 2024

LIVING  
NATIVITY

Meet at the Old Independent Church  
at 11.15  
travel with Mary & Joseph along  
the High Street to St Mary's Church  
where there will be  
a short outside service at 12 noon.  
Followed by carols with  
Haverhill Youth and Community Band.

Free gift for  
small children

The poster features a dark blue background with gold stars and a gold diagonal stripe. On the right, there is an illustration of Joseph, Mary, and the infant Jesus in a manger. The text is white and gold, providing details about the event's location, time, and activities.

- Posada

The idea of a Posada comes originally from Central America, probably from Mexico and may go back to the late 16th century. The word 'posada' means 'inn' or 'shelter' in Spanish.

The idea is to use the time of Advent when we prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas, to welcome Mary and Joseph into our homes and remember the time they were trying to find a place for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem.

There is a Posada set (basically a manger scene) which travels around the congregation, moving to a new home each day. Members of the congregation sign up for a day when they can receive the Posada which will be brought to them by the household that precedes them on the list. They will welcome the visitors, provide simple refreshments (tea/coffee + biscuits/cake) and then hold a short act of worship (words provided). The display is usually placed in the window and will be taken to the next household on the list the following day, a suitable time having been agreed. Eventually the Posada is brought to the Church for the Christmas morning service when we all, as a community, welcome Mary, Joseph and Jesus into our lives.

The Posada has perhaps added significance today as we think of the millions of refugees throughout the world who are seeking a safe place to stay.

Sign up for your day, in Church on Sunday or speak to Ken!

- Please Note

As of 19<sup>th</sup> November, our steward Keith Barker will only be contactable on his mobile number. He will no longer have a landline. Please adjust your records accordingly.

- Car Park

The car park has recently been very congested and a few folk were unable to move their cars after the service as they were blocked in.

When parking please:

- Do not block other cars in the car park
- Do not park on the double yellow lines in front of the coffee lounge
- Do not park at the entry to the church between the church and next door.

Note: the car park by the council offices/library is free on Sundays and is only a short walk away.

- Help with tables and chairs :

We still have had no extra help to put tables and chairs out in the hall before church. Help is also needed to put them away again after church. We need more than 1 person. Please see Moses or any of the Church Stewards if you would be able to help.

- House Groups

There are currently 4 House Groups meeting. It would be good to make more available. If there is anyone who would be prepared to host please let me know.  
Heather Nicholls

- Prayer Triplets

I would like to encourage people in the church to form Prayer Triplets. I have been part of one for many years and found it very valuable. You may not feel comfortable praying in a group but with just 2 others it is much easier. You can, of course, pray silently.

If you are interested in forming one or would like to know more please let me know. You may choose to approach people yourself with whom you are comfortable.

Heather Nicholls

- Regular Church Bookings

There have been a few changes to those groups who regularly use the hall/loft/coffee lounge/church – please refer to the Regular Hall Hirers on the notice boards, in the hall, foyer of church, notice board downstairs. Please always check with Mick Etheridge if you wish to use parts of the premises as there could be odd bookings apart from the regular ones.

- 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.

- St Nicholas Hospice Light Up A Life Service

This will take place at St Mary's Church on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3pm.  
Please see the attached poster for all details.

- The Torch Trust – Christian sight loss charity

The Torch Trust exists to help those with sight loss at any level to have a fulfilling Christian life. They offer a bespoke service helping you to find the right Bible, Bible reading notes, Christian book for leisure or study or the right Torch community event. They also produce a regular newsletter.

You can find out more at [www.torchtrust.org.uk](http://www.torchtrust.org.uk) or [www.sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk](http://www.sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk), email them at [info@torchtrust.org](mailto:info@torchtrust.org) or call them on 01858 438260

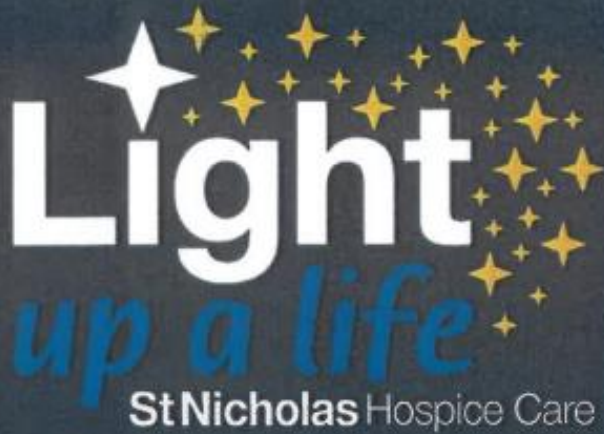
You can also speak to Rev Ken Nicholls for more information.



**HAVERHILL VETERANS'  
BRASS BAND**

**CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**

**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
HAVERHILL METHODIST CHURCH  
3 PM  
ADMISSION ON THE DOOR - £5**



St Mary's Church  
Haverhill, CB9 8AX  
14 December, 3pm

Please join us for our special remembrance event, where we will celebrate the love, joy and happiness that those we miss brought into our lives.

*Remember and celebrate the special people in our lives who have died*

*You are invited, should you wish, to have the names of your loved ones read out at an event.*

You can do this by visiting our website:  
[stnicholashospice.org.uk/lightupalife](http://stnicholashospice.org.uk/lightupalife)



Or call Supporter Care on  
01284 715566

because you matter

St Nicholas Hospice Care

A Registered Charity No. 287773

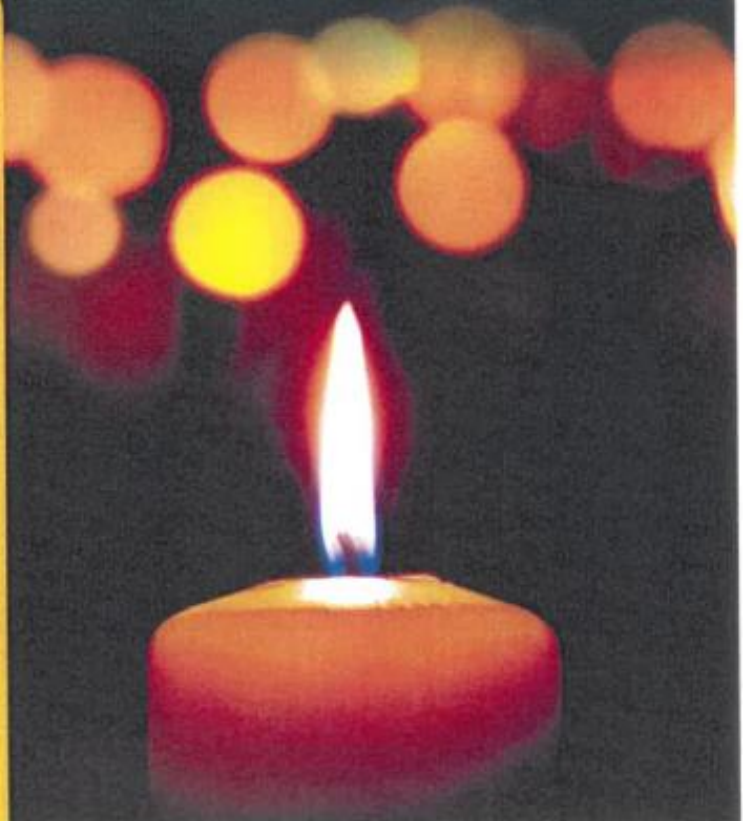
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TRUCK & VAN CENTRES



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>November</b>		
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
	8pm - midnight	Town Pastors on Patrol
17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – welcoming new members Flowers: Roger & Margaret Beaumont Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
19 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
20 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Henry Wilson Flowers: Vacant* Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
26 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Music Exams in Church Please do not enter the signed areas and keep noise to a minimum.
27 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
	8pm - midnight	Town Pastors on Patrol
30 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Living Nativity & Carols on High Street – see notice above
<b>December</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – Toy Service Flowers: Alf Coe Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
3 <sup>rd</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
4 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	Veterans' Brass band Christmas Concert – see poster
6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – HC Flowers: Bryan & Jenny Ellicott Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
10 <sup>th</sup>	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
11 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the Church Hall
13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
14 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	St Nicholas Hospice Light Up a Life service at St Mary's See attached poster for full details
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell – Christingle Service Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge

\* If you would like to join the Flower Rota, please contact Sue Symonds  
01440 763613 or [harrys62@sky.com](mailto:harrys62@sky.com)