

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 235

Friday 29th November 2024

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100:4-5

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.



**FIREWORK DISPLAY ON THE REC
SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER.
NEXT DOOR CAFÉ WILL BE OPEN
FOR HOT DRINKS AND MINCE PIES
FROM**

5.00 PM – 6.15 PM

- Toy Service – Sunday 1st 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

- Living Nativity – Saturday 30th November

The Living Nativity is part of the town's Christmas. 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.

Click the link for lots more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/19a4YKdKv5/>

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

- 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) if you are able to help.

A festive poster for a Messy Church Christmas Party. The background is white with a border of green pine branches, red berries, and gold and red ornaments. On the left, there is a red splatter graphic with the text 'MESSY CHURCH Christmas!' in white and yellow. To the right, the text reads: 'Please join us for our Messy Church Christmas Party!', 'Sunday 8th December 4-6pm', and 'Haverhill Methodist Church Hall'. Below this, it says 'Fun Christmas themed activities, games, crafts and food.', 'Activities aimed at Primary school children and below. All children must be accompanied by an adult.', and 'For more information or to book email: hmcMESSYchurch@gmail.com Please include any dietary requirements'.

- Next Door – Christmas Stock

We now have our Christmas cards and gifts available in Next Door. If you are new to the Church and have not had the opportunity to visit the café we would like to invite you to call in and see what is on offer. Apart from Christmas items, we do carry a good stock of greetings cards and gifts which carry a Christian message and also a range of books and Bibles. Our usual opening times are from 10.30 until 1pm from Tuesday to Friday each week.

We will be displaying the Christmas stock in the hall during coffee time on Sunday 1st December, after the toy service. Please bring cash if you would like to buy as we do not have card facilities.

Next Door is an important opportunity for our Christian outreach in the community and we would welcome new volunteers. If you are available and would be interested in becoming involved in helping, please speak to one of the Stewards who will introduce you to one of our team.

- 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

- 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.

- Town Pastors

The Town Pastors are on the streets **tonight**, Friday 29th 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.

- St Nicholas Hospice Light Up A Life Service

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

- The Torch Trust – Christian sight loss charity

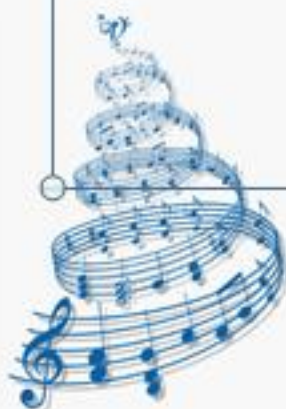
The Torch Trust exists to help those with sight loss at any level to have a fulfilling Christian life. They offer a bespoke service helping you to find the right Bible, Bible reading notes, Christian book for leisure or study or the right Torch community event. They also produce a regular newsletter.

You can find out more at www.torchtrust.org.uk or www.sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk, email them at info@torchtrust.org or call them on 01858 438260

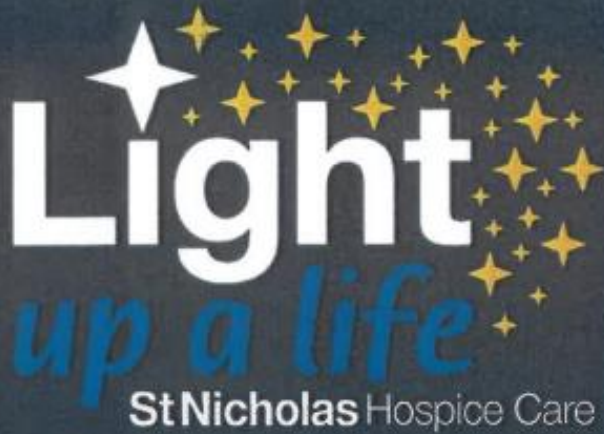
You can also speak to Rev Ken Nicholls for more information.

**Haverhill Veterans'
Brass Band**

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



**THURSDAY 5TH 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



Or call Supporter
Care on
01284 715566

because
you matter

St Nicholas
Hospice Care

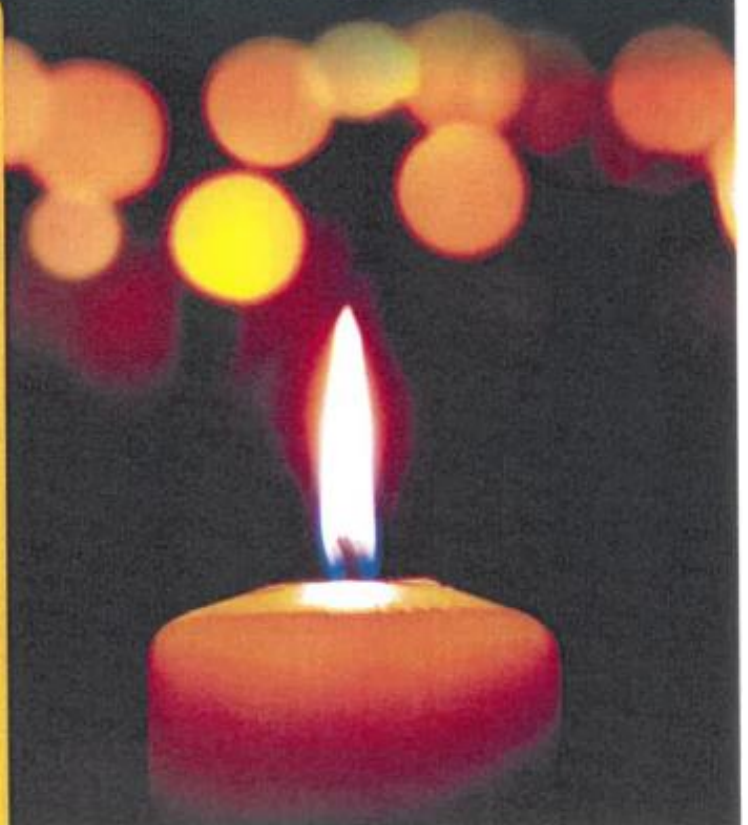
A Registered Charity No. 287773

Sponsored by:



 West Suffolk
WELFARE & COMMUNITY

ChassisCab
TRUCK & VAN CENTRES



- An idea for Advent

Taken from the United Methodist Church website:

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/advent-photo-a-day-2024>

Advent Photo-a-Day 2024

Advent is the season leading up to Christmas. It is 24 days of preparation. This year, we're inviting you to prepare by looking for the visual reminders of God's presence... daily.

Each day during the season of Advent, we'll post a word for reflection (see list below) on both [The United Methodist Church's Facebook page](#) as well as [The UMC Instagram account](#). Take a moment (or several moments) of pause and reflection, then share a response to that word through a picture posted on social media – no explanation necessary. Post your picture on social media with #AdventPhoto--or tag us [directly on Facebook](#) with @TheUnitedMethodistChurch.

ADVENT 2024

PHOTO-A-DAY CHALLENGE

DECEMBER	
1 - PROMISE	15 - HOME
2 - FULFILL	16 - FEAR
3 - TIME	17 - GROW
4 - JUSTICE	18 - GLADNESS
5 - RIGHTEOUSNESS	19 - VICTORY
6 - LIVE	20 - RENEW
7 - CALLED	21 - GATHER
8 - HOPE	22 - AWE
9 - MESSENGER	23 - AMAZED
10 - PREPARE	24 - TREASURED
11 - SEEK	CHRISTMAS DAY
12 - DELIGHT	25 - WORSHIP
13 - ENDURE	
14 - OFFERING	

#ADVENTPHOTO


Don't worry if you miss a day or two--there's no failing this challenge!

- Lost Property!

These keys were found on the doorstep of Next Door when they opened on Tuesday morning and they are waiting in Next Door to be claimed. If they are yours, there is a number on the key fob which you will need to quote when claiming them.



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

• Dates for your Diary

November		
29 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
	8pm - midnight	Town Pastors on Patrol
30 th	11.15am	Living Nativity & Carols on High Street – see notice above
December		
1 st	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – Toy Service Flowers: Alf Coe 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 in the Church Hall
5 th	3pm	Veterans' Brass band Christmas Concert – see poster
6 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
8 th	10.30am	Preacher: Revd Moses John – HC Flowers: Bryan & Jenny Ellicott 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 in the Church Hall – last before Christmas
13 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
14 th	3pm	St Nicholas Hospice Light Up a Life service at St Mary's See attached poster for full details
15 th	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell – D-I-Y Christingle Service Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
17 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
18 th	10am-12	Open Mind in the Church Hall
20 th	10.30-12.30	Men's Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
22 nd	10.30am	Morning Worship: Rev Moses John Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
	5pm	Candlelight Family Carol Service led by the Worship Team
24 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
25 th	10am	Christmas Day Celebration Service – Rev Moses John Church Christmas Flowers
29 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Moses John Church Christmas Flowers Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
31 st	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)

** If you would like to join the Flower Rota, please contact Sue Symonds
01440 763613 or harrys62@sky.com*