

GOD LOVES YOU!



Haverhill Methodist Church

Revd. Moses John
Superintendent Minister
T: 07881 114293
E: moses.john@methodist.org.uk

HMC Senior Steward
Claire Waller
T: 07825 277542
E: wallerclaire@sky.com



Connect Issue 236

Friday 6th December 2024

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalm 46:10

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.

- [Toy Service –thanks](#)

Thank you to everyone, young and not so young, who supported our recent Toy Service be it by attending, helping or bringing a gift. It was very much appreciated. The tables were overflowing with gifts which will surely make some local children's Christmas rather special. Thank you.

Rosemary

and from our Mayor:

Dear Rosemary,

It is always a pleasure to accept an invitation to visit your wonderful church. As I said on Sunday, Liz and I are always given the warmest of welcomes, and the generosity of your members at the toy service never ceases to amaze us.

God bless you all, and have a happy, and peaceful, Christmas and New Year.

David

- The Big Christmas Card

The Big Christmas Card is available for you to send your Christmas message to the rest of the congregation. It will be in the foyer before the service and up in the hall during coffee time.

The idea is that you save money by not buying lots of cards for lots of people in church and then donate from the money you have saved into the charity pot by the card.

The stewards have decided that this year's charity is to be a small local one, namely Boomerang Pet Foodbank

(<https://www.facebook.com/boomerangspetfoodbank>)

Other charities suggested will be forwarded to the Tithing Fund for consideration.

- 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.



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

**Sunday 8th 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
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.

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.

- Posada

Don't forget to send me a picture of the Holy Family in *your* home so we can have a gallery of photos on the Sunday Scroll, and maybe in here for the New Year edition!

Kathy

- Open Mind – Christmas

Open Mind will be closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day and 8th January (due to electrical work in the hall), re-opening on 15th January assuming all works are complete. Service users will receive a note to this effect but if you know or hear of anyone planning to drop in please let them know.

- 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 once a fortnight on a Friday 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.



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



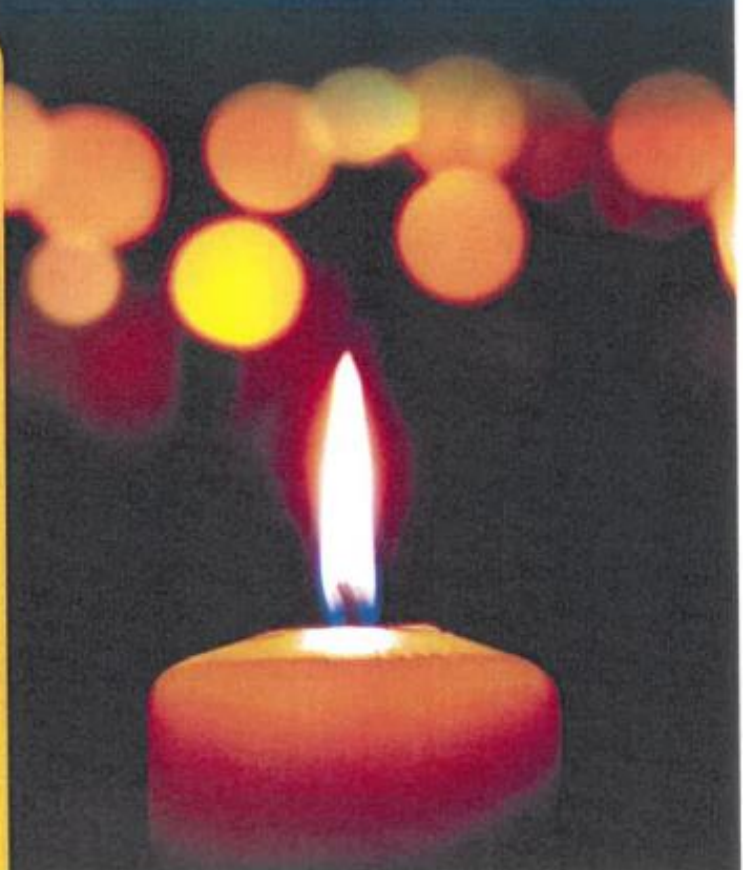
Or call Supporter
Care on
01284 715566

because
you matter

St Nicholas
Hospice Care

A Registered Charity No. 287773

Sponsored by:



- 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 a couple of weeks ago and they are STILL 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

December		
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)
January		
1 st		New Year’s Day – Happy New Year!!
5 th	10.30am	All Age Worship: Ian Levett Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
6 th – 10 th	All day	Electrical work in the Church Hall, please do not enter
7 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
10 th	10.30-12.30	Men’s Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door
12 th	10.30am	Preacher: Rev Moses John – Covenant Service with HC Prayer time from 10am in the Coffee Lounge
14 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in Coffee Lounge (or in your own home)
15 th	10am-12	Open Mind resumes in the Church Hall
	1-3pm	Young at Heart resumes in the Church Hall
17 th	10.30-12.30	Men’s Coffee Club (MCC) in Next Door

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