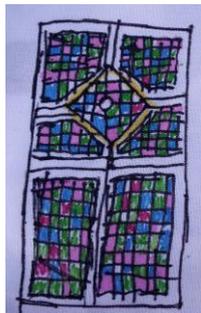




HADLEIGH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Great Meeting
WITH MONKS ELEIGH



*Providing Family, Celebrating Diversity and Serving the community
Through and For the LOVE of Jesus Christ*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
August 2022

VISIT THE WEBSITE:
www.hadleighurc.org.uk



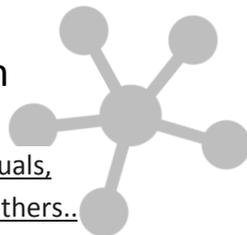
FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Hadleigh United Reformed Church
Hadleigh URC Messy Church

August 2022 – Newsletter No. 812

WORSHIP SERVICES AT GREAT MEETING, HADLEIGH URC

Sunday Worship

10.30 am in the Church



COVID Protection now left to individuals,
but please do be considered towards others..

Online worship, CDs and paper copies will also be available.

August 7 Led by Rev Mary Playford

August 14 Led by Ronnie Howson with Communion

August 21 Morning Worship

August 28 Morning Worship

September 4 Led by Michael Tillet

Also in Church & On Line **MID WEEK PRAYER**
Wednesdays at 10.30am (See Web Site for LINK)

Please could you let me have all items for the
September 2022 Newsletter before

Thursday 18 August PLEASE

Email to nigel_crisp@hotmail.com

or post to 85 Angel Street, Hadleigh, IP7 5EY.



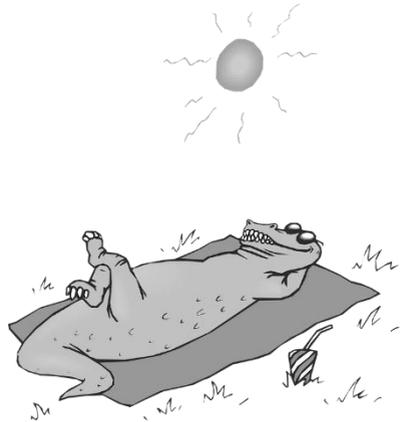
Working to become
**Dementia
Friendly**
2015-2018

**HADLEIGH
FOOD BANK**
SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



From the Minister

You've no doubt seen it on 'Christian merch': it's usually printed onto a panoramic sunset mug or set amongst some cuddly animals on a poster... 'Be still, and know that I am God'. The well-known verse is often quoted as a mantra of tranquillity. And yet, if we want to be true to its meaning in the psalm from which it comes, it should really be printed onto a devastating hurricane or set on a bloody scene of war. For in Psalm 46 the call to 'be still' is more like a command to simmer down and shut up – as the Good News version put it: "Stop fighting and know that I am God!"



And that's actually quite encouraging! It means we're being called to find peace in God in a world of turbulence not tranquillity. Last month I wrote about the importance of rest. But if we're honest, it's not always easy to find moments of quiet and stillness – as anyone who's ever taken kids away on holiday will understand! But we shouldn't get too hung up about that; the theological significance of 'be still' is that in all the chaos of our lives, in all our actions and strivings, we need to stop imagining that everything depends on us and recognise that God is God. That doesn't necessarily entail that we drop everything we're doing and take up silent contemplation; it means that *in the midst of* our daily turbulence we acknowledge that God is present and that God is in charge.

And this is good to remember when we return from the summer break and get stuck back into implementing our church *Action Plan* (cf. Goals below). We need to make sure that all our *action* associated with it is done out of a place of reverence for and trust in God. Only then will it be blessing! So, with that in mind, what will we be busying ourselves with?...

We'll be following up our Lent-and-beyond prayers for 3 friends who don't know Jesus and our sermon and workshop series 'Good News to Tell' by

running a *Christianity Explored* or *Alpha course* from mid-October (Goal #1). You can already be thinking and praying about who you might invite to that! And if you weren't able to attend the workshops but would like to hear some testimonies or short answers to difficult questions, then look up the *Christianity Explored* webpage (see 'Real Life Stories' and 'Tough Questions').

In September, at Sunday worship we'll be engaging with community groups that work with 'kingdom values' (Goal #2) – services will include short interviews with representatives from *Memories Café*, *Just Food* and *Hadleigh Environmental Action Team*. We'll find out more about what they do and how we can support them and get involved.

As the new academic year gets underway, we'll be launching our *Link Persons* initiative to ensure closer links between the church and the users of our premises (Goal #3). If you've signed up to help with this, you'll be contacted towards the end of August with more information about what it will involve. And if you haven't signed up, you may still be asked if there is a group you can link with!

We'll also be continuing the different ways we're worshipping together (Goal #4). We're planning to have another service led by *HURC Youth* in September, a Harvest edition of *Online Worship* and investigations are underway for having *Café Church* in a local Café. More to follow.

And finally, (Goal #5!) we want to be learning from growing churches. Elders already have a couple of churches in mind that we'd like to visit but don't forget Claire's request in last month's newsletter: if you're away at another church over the summer and see something that might be useful, then do let us know!

In addition to all these Action Plan related items, this autumn we'll also be continuing – and hopefully bringing a conclusion to – our process of *Exploring Marriage & Sexuality as a Church Family*. So, there's plenty of action ahead! Perhaps this is the 'calm before the storm' (going back to Psalm 46)! May this month give us all a chance to draw breath and recentre ourselves and know that God is God, so that in all the above he will be exalted.

Grace and peace

Bryn

SYNOD BIG DAY OUT – JULY 16TH

Twenty-five of our Church family attended the Synod held at Trinity Park. It was a hot day, but the Synod staff and volunteer stewards had provided as much shade as possible for the outside activities and there was lots of air flow through the inside rooms.

The theme was Celebrate! with the words from Psalm 118 “This is the day that the lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

The day began and ended with worship together. From 11 am until 3:00 pm there were workshops to choose from, time to chat and exhibitions to look at. The children’s activity area included a bouncy castle, games to play and a very talented man who could make balloon sculptures and create the most fantastic bubbles. There was also a trail around the site with a prize for all participants.

Workshops included drumming, hand bells and singing. There was an all-age creative area to make a patchwork banner (see front cover) and Robert excelled at this. He really is most talented and drew one of the stained glass windows from Church. Story telling, a bookshop, Traidcraft stall were also well used by everyone.

I really enjoyed the day, and it was great to feel part of the bigger family of our Eastern Synod, enjoying conversations and learning more about the way God is working.

Grateful thanks to all those who helped to make the event happen.

Claire Coster

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX PACKING

Pop into church and help fill shoeboxes for Blythswood Care on

Tuesday 2nd August 10am-4pm in the church.

Tea, coffee, chat and biscuits will be at hand. Thank you.

Hilary 822208

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride

Saturday 10th September 2022

9:00 am until 5:00pm.

Can you help by cycling or walking and being sponsored to take part?

Can you help by offering to act as a steward to welcome riders and walkers to our Church?

Please see Claire for more details or to sign up. 01473 822850 or email secretary@hadleighurc.org.uk

GREAT MEETING'S

Church Family Weekend Celebrating 50 Years of the URC

Saturday 15th October 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Special Service on Sunday 16th October 10:30 am

Created by Me

On the Saturday there will be the opportunity to display something you have created:

Novice – for anything you have only been making since March 2020

Intermediate – for those with more experience – 5 years or less

Experienced – a hobby you have had for over 5 years

Please think about something you could bring to exhibit – a poem, cake, photograph, piece of wood turning, model in lego, knitted item, etc etc.

SONGS OF PRAISE - AT MONKS ELEIGH CHAPEL

Weds 24th August at 2:30pm - followed by tea and cake!

Come and sing some favourites, old and new - chosen by you and others - with this special time of worship and fellowship.

If you would like to choose a hymn or song and say a few words about what it means to you then email Bryn (minister@hadleighurc.org.uk). If you would like to attend but need help with transport then let Bryn know.

RENEWING THE CHURCH FAMILY DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

Following the decision taken at the last Church Meeting to renew the Family Photographs, a small group of the membership have met to process a way forward to renew the photographs on the Vestibule Notice Board. The Pandemic has interfered with the renewal of the photographs and many changes have taken place including new arrivals to our worshipping community.



Chloe has been commissioned to use her camera and tripod to take individual and group photographs. Mervyn will act as her able assistant to provide record cards to ensure that the correct names are recorded for entry under the photographs. The photographs will be printed on 6x4 photographic paper. There is no pressure to have your photograph taken. It is always helpful to the welcoming Elders, to be able to identify who is approaching the church on Sunday Mornings. It is also helpful for church members to be able to identify new worshipping members.

As you will appreciate this will be a protracted task and will only be completed over a period of months so please be patient.

Robert has been asked to record Special Events in the church so it is hoped that these will be added to the board over time. Bryn has suggested that it would be a good idea to create sections of the board that place relevant photos under 'Residential Care' and 'In Memoriam'.

Karen Harman is mindful of the need to ensure that the photographs are safely stored so there is limited access to the photographs for safeguarding reasons. Once the photographs have been taken, they will be printed out and mounted on card with your designated name(s) and as required the role you may play in the church. Chloe has suggested that once the photographs have been printed that they are stored centrally on the Church Computer.

It is hoped to start the process of taking the photographs on Harvest Sunday and subsequent Sundays. The photographic team.

Contact person: Mervyn 01473 822149

PRAYING THE STREETS DURING AUGUST

This month we will be remembering those in the following streets: Week beginning:

4 Sept	Stockton Close
11 Sept	Glanville Road + Aylward Close + Carlton Walk
18 Sept	High Street + Old Fire Station Yard + Toppesfield Close
25Sept	Market Place + Victoria House + Church Street + Queen Street + Pound Lane, Church Walk, Hadleigh Hall

REPORT OF THE ELDERS' MEETING JULY 11TH 2022

Chloe Elmer was welcomed to the meeting as an Elder and Paul was welcomed back to the team. Bryn led us in active prayer as we moved around the Church praying for different areas of the Church, the Church family and the community. This was very powerful. If you have 10 minutes when you are in Church, I recommend you walk around the building or sit and pray for the different areas of the Church. It helped me focus on different aspects of our Church life.

We spent quite a lot of time looking at the Action Plan and discussing the five goals and what we are working on at present and our focus for the coming months. Bryn is planning a series in September in which representatives from Memories Café, the foodbank and HEAT will be invited to talk during the service (Goal #2) Chloe is hoping to coordinate another youth service for September. Paul, Sammy and Claire are hoping to visit The Quay Church in Woodbridge to see if that is a suitable Church to make a link with (Goal #5).

We also discussed ways that we can grow our faith through the following activities: the Synod Big Day Out on July 16th, our own Church Family weekend in October celebrating 50 years of the URC, Songs of Praise in Monks Eleigh on 24th August and services for healing to be reintroduced.

News from the other Churches in Hadleigh - we were delighted to learn that Alistair Messenger is to be baptised on July 31st at an evening service in the Baptist Church; St Mary's Church is organising a picnic lunch for families in

Hadleigh on a Thursday during the school holidays. Several people from our Church have offered to support this event.

There is no formal Elders' Meeting in August so our next meeting will be on Monday 5th September.

SHOEBOX CAMPAIGN

The shoebox leaflets have arrived, so please do pick one up from church. We have a supply of shoeboxes if you need one, please do ask. Any gifts of items would be gratefully received to help make up boxes.

Thank you.
Blessings Hilary

A HYMN FOR REFLECTION

Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're
shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Erena Murray (1931-2020)

OPEN THE BOOK – Telling Bible Stories in the local primary schools

Please keep the Open The Book team in your prayers, as they make their return in-person into the schools: first time since the pandemic began.



The Autumn Friday dates are,
16th September with the story of The Lost Coin,
14th October The Widows Coins,
4th November The Unforgiving Servant, and
9th December is all about Christmas Journeys.

Over the pandemic we made eighteen videos that were shown in the schools. They are all still available on You Tube, just search OTB Hadleigh followed by the title and see what you think. The eighteen titles are:

**Waiting for a Friend
Ruth
Ester
Easter Story
Lots of help needed
The Great Escape
Burning Bush
David and Goliath
The Good Shepherd
Who is my Neighbour
The Lockdown Story
The Gardener
Me first
The Friend at Midnight
I can See
The Man who came back
Marvelous Picnic
Christmas 2020**

Thank you,
Hilary & The Team

HADLEIGH - CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

ORGANISATION	TEL	ISSUE
AA National Line	01473 212224 0800 917 7650	Alcoholics Anonymous
Disability Advice Bureau	01473 217313	Local Support and Claims
Leading Lives	07860798362	Support for Learning disability
Wednesday Lunch Club	07719 496112	Lunches
First Lunch Club	01473 808835	Lunches
Samaritans National Line	01473 287727 116 123	Life support concerns
Sue Ryder	01473 295200	Nursing Home
Hadleigh DAA	07976 603805	Local dementia support
Alzheimer's Society	0333 150 3456	National Helpline
Benefit Enquiry Line	0800 882 200	Direct Gov UK
Age UK	0800 678 1602	Support, advice
Frank National Line	0300 123 6600	Advice about drugs
Parentline	0808 800 2222	Parenting Issues
Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247	Women's Aid
Police Suffolk	101	Non -Emergency Number
Sensing Change	01473 260030	Support for independent living
Hadleigh Health Centre	01473 822961	Health
NHS 111	111	Non-emergency issues
Child Helpline	0800 111	Support for children
NSPCC	0808 8005000	Child neglect
Waterfield House	01473 944654	Care Home
Hadleigh Nursing Home	01473 858982	Care Home
Magdalen House	01473 829411	Care Home
Canterbury House	0800 032 1304	Care Home
Babergh District Council	0300 1234000	Local issues
Disability Living All'nce	0800 121 4600	Direct Gov UK benefits
Child Death Helpline	0800 282 986	Support
Gam Care	0808 802 0133	Gambling Issues
National Debt Helpline	0808 808 4000	Debt Issues
Missing People	116 000	Missing relative
Cruse Bereavement	0808 808 1677	Bereaved People helpline
Elder Abuse Helpline	0800 069 9784	Abuse of older people
MIND	0300 123 3393	Mental Well-being
Citizens Advice Bureau	01473 219777	Advice – legal, debt, housing, etc
National Grid	0800 111 999	Report gas leak
UK Power Networks	0800 316 3105 105	Loss of electrical power

Where We Meet

Great Meeting
United Reformed Church
Market Place, Hadleigh,
Suffolk, IP7 5DL



Monks Eleigh Chapel
and HOME Retreat
The Street, Monks Eleigh,
Suffolk, IP7 7JE



Contacts

Minister

Revd Bryn Rickards

23 Ann Beaumont Way, Hadleigh IP7 6SA

t: 01473 829197 **m:** 07510 311900 **e:** minister@hadleighurc.org.uk

Serving Elders

Claire Coster (Church Secretary) 01473 822850

Chloe Elmer

Sammy Apraku Mensah 01473 823118

Ric Lambert 01473 828547

Barbara Robinson 01473 828352

Paul Simon 01473 829171

Ann Swallow 01473 806711

*Please feel free to contact any of the above
at any time of day (or night in case of emergency),
if you have any problem that the church may
be able to help with.*

Treasurer

Tom Gordon
10 Clopton Gardens,
Hadleigh, IP7 5JG
treasurer@hadleighurc.org.uk
07825 641154

Room Bookings - Hadleigh

Ric Lambert 07579 044131
admin@hadleighurc.org.uk

Room Bookings - Monks Eleigh

Ronnie Howson 01473 310168

Newsletter Editor

nigel_crisp@hotmail.com

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