



Weekly Prayer Focus: 21st November 2021

Hadleigh Baptist Church

Hadleigh is a town in South East Essex known for its ruined castle which has extensive views overlooking the Thames Estuary.

Hadleigh Baptist Church was built in 1928 and at present the fellowship has a good range of young and old, together with a number of families. For the past fifteen years Revd Paul Stow has been the Minister. He is currently supported by the Minister in Training Michael Collins who completes his time at Spurgeon's College in 2022.

During the COVID pandemic the church went online and only felt confident to reopen in July. Sunday services have seen a mixed attendance and getting back to normal is taking time because there is still a fear of coming out by some of the more vulnerable within the congregation. Many of the weekday activities started again in September, with meetings for babies and toddlers, the ladies fellowship group, needlework and craft group, and community indoor bowls happening regularly. Bible study and prayer meetings have also recommenced and are continuing to be streamed on Zoom.

The church has been impacted significantly by Covid and is now planning on how to adapt to the new environment and the implications this has for their fellowship and outreach programmes. They are currently working towards Christmas and looking at ways to get back to normal with seasonal events that reach the wider community.

For Prayer:

- For staying safe. For those in the fellowship who are vulnerable, and especially for those who are continuing to stay away, that they will take steps of faith and return to the Fellowship.
- For wisdom on outreach to the community, and how traditional events for Christmas will happen post-lockdown.
- For the leadership team, that there may be unity in planning, and as they continue to seek God's will for the future.