Halesworth



and Bramfield URC



September 2025

What we believe

We believe that in obedience to Christ's command, we must proclaim the Gospel to the world in the power and at the direction of the Holy Spirit.

We are called out of darkness to live as children of light, reflecting God's glory all around.

We recognise that as a Church, the bride of Christ, we are commanded to love and encourage one another and ensure that no root of bitterness divides us.

We acknowledge our absolute dependence on Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father made us, Jesus has redeemed us and the Spirit sustains and provides all we need on our pilgrimage.

We acknowledge our commitment to the Bible, as the authoritative word of God able to teach us, guide us and inspire us as we discover God's perfect will for our lives

If you have something for the October magazine, please email smedleybigal@aol.com (preferably) or hand it to me by 22nd September

Blessings, Alan

Our Vision:
"To know Jesus Christ;
to make Him known."

Dear Friends

Thank you for your prayer support – for me, Jo & the team, as we have been on mission in Uganda, God was powerfully at work. There will be an event to see some of our pictures & videos, get a flavour of the exuberant worship and hear our testimonies: Saturday 20 September, 7.30p.m in church. Invite friends.

And now we all look forward to another great excitement, the mission here. Awake Suffolk Coastal Mission is 6-14 September: See details of events throughout this magazine.

Please let the Mission Team know of your offers to help – stewarding at events, being available to pray with folk, hosting team members with your other guests for a meal, helping with catering etc.

And use the flyer. Invite friends. Pray and let the Lord lead you who to invite.

Blessings

Jon



6th-14th September 2025p 9 Days of Events @ Halesworth United Reformed Church

Quay Street, by the roundabout, IP19 8EP



Please pray for Jo Moreira – along with Stu Precious, Josie Lynn & Lisa Lawson, as they process the culture shock and all the exciting things they experienced with me in Uganda.

And for the Families who have been at Holiday Club, that God is making a difference in their lives, as they experience His presence and grow closer to Jesus. Children AND parents.

And keep praying for Alex Instone-Brewer. His placement concluded with supporting Elizabeth and the team for the Holiday Club. We bless him in his ongoing training.

Judy Morton has been facing a number of recent health difficulties recently and has been diagnosed with Osteoarthritis. Please hold her in prayer.

Please continue to pray for Kathryn Bones, Margeret Long, Moira Cooke, Christine Dominic, Michael Gilbert and others you know of in need.

Blessings Jon

> **Thank you** to everyone who sent me cards and best wishes on my 65th birthday, I had a lovely day God bless

Rosemary x



6th-14th September 2025p 9 Days of Events @ **Halesworth United Reformed Church**

Ouay Street, by the roundabout, IP19 8EP

Sat 6: 12 noon BBQ (no charge, donations welcome)

Sun 7: 11am Worship for Everyone

Mon 8: 3.00pm Healing Service

Tue 9: 9am Parents & Toddlers

3.30pm Messy Church (Book using contacts below)

Wed 10: School assemblies

Thu 11: 7pm "Grill a Christian" (no questions off limits)

Fri 12: 9.45am Prayer meeting

10.30am Coffee morning

3.30pm Tea and Cakes with former Gladiator "Ace" (Warren Furman) 7pm Gladiator "Ace" tells his story (no charge, donations welcome)

Sat 13: All day Heritage Day and 'Ride & Stride'

10am "Crafty Cuppa" - crafts, drinks and cakes for everyone

7pm "Where Can I Find Peace?" with Victor Jack

Sun 14: 11am Worship Celebrations

In the weeks after we will run the Alpha Course -"Explore the meaning of life"

More info: pastorjonsermon@gmail.com

familyhurc@gmail.com





We invite you to a

BBQ



(no charge – donations welcome)



When? Sat 6 September from 12 noon

Where? Halesworth United Reformed Church Quay Street IP19 8EP

Why? For the fun of it!

To get to know each other

Maybe start new friendships...

More info: pastorjonsermon@gmail.com

familyhurc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Hurc

Sun 7th: 11am

Worship for Everyone

1pm Fun in Halesworth Park

(bring a picnic)



An Evening with JB Gill

(JLS, Strictly Come Dancing, regular TV

presenter)

JB talks
about his
life, career
and faith

- Sat 6 Sept
- 7.30pm
- Tickets £3 (cash on the door please)



 Venue: Halesworth URC, Quay Street, Halesworth IP19 8EP

(Subject to professional commitments)

For more info:

<u>pastorjonsermon@gmail.com</u> <u>familyhurc@gmail.com</u>

I Elizabeth Hurc



Healing?



Is it part of our real spiritual



Explore this with us Monday 8th September 2025: 3pm @ Halesworth URC (Quay Street, IP19 8EP)

In a gentle, prayerful environment, in the context of worship centered on Jesus Christ, we pray for People's needs with the option to receive individual prayer *No brash promises. Just an understanding that the healing ministry of Jesus continues through the Church*

More info from Rev'd Jon Sermon (01986) 873761

email: pastorjonsermon@gmail.com



SPECIAL DATES at HURC



Book with Elizabeth - familyhurc@gmail.com



Tuesday 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th



7th all age service followed by Fun in the park 14th, 21st & 28th Back to normal



13th All Day Heritage Day and Ride & Stride 10am "crafty cuppa"





Sunday 7th 11 a.m. Gathered Worship Minister Jon Sermon

Communion

(then in the park) see page 6

Tuesday 9th 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft

followed by Morning Worship

Friday 12th 9.45 a.m. Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom

followed by Coffee Morning

Sunday 14th 11 a.m. Gathered Worship with

"Through Faith Mission Team

3 p.m. Bramfield Chapel

Tuesday 16th 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft

followed by Morning Worship

Friday 19th 9.45 a.m. Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom

followed by Coffee Morning



Saturday 20th 7.30 p.m Uganda Experience

Jon Sermon and team see page 18

Sunday 21st 11.00 a.m. Gathered HARVEST Worship

Minister Jon Sermon

Tuesday 23rd 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft followed by Morning Worship

Friday 26th 9.45 am Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom

followed by Coffee Morning

Sunday 28th 11 a.m. Gathered Worship TBA

Tuesday 30th 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft followed by Morning Worship

We invite you to a

"Grill a Christian



A Chance to explore issues of faith & doubt, the meaning of life, spiritual experiences...

A panel of Christians will answer questions from their knowledge & personal experience.

We have found a relationship with God through Jesus Christ to be a profound life changing experience; we hope to help you find the same!

When: Thursday 11 September @ 7.00pm

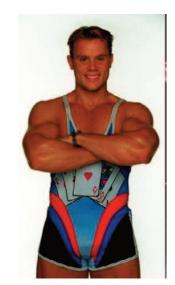
Where? Halesworth United Reformed Church (Quay Street IP19 8EP)

More info: <u>pastorjonsermon@gmail.com</u>
<u>familyhurc@gmail.com</u>



A Chance to meet former Gladiators star "ACE"

Warren Furman, (who played Ace in the original Gladiatiors) is coming here



- Fri 12 Sept
- Afternoon tea & cakes @ 3.30pm
- Evening event @ 7pm
- Venue: Halesworth URC, Quay
 Street, Halesworth IP19 8EP

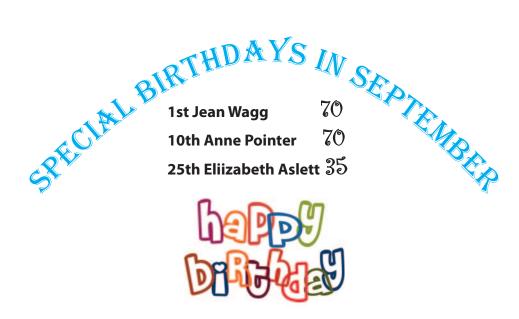
Hear his remarkable experience of fame & fortune that did not satisfy – and what eventually did! (No charge, but donations welcome)



For more info:

pastorjonsermon@gmail.com familyhurc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Hurc



Revealed - Luke 8: 43 - 48

As I walked out of my house today, I couldn't believe that I was actually doing this! I have lived with the knowledge that I must have committed some really awful sin (in the past) because I have suffered an issue of blood for 12 years: spending every penny I had on doctors... None of them made any difference at all, the problem simply continued. At first, everyone was really kind and understanding (even our Rabbi). He had prayed for God to tell me what I had done wrong, but I was no wiser and neither was he. His attitude towards me became increasingly impatient and he eventually ceased visiting me, because I was officially "unclean". I realised that I must have done something terrible and I WISHED I could find out what it was. I would gladly do anything to put things right again but, as it is, I knew that I would simply have to continue to live in isolation from everyone, shamed and unclean....

....Until today that is: When I heard that the young preacher, (Jesus from Nazareth) was in the village, *something very deep inside me* urged me to seek help from him. I really don't know why I thought that he

would want to help me. After all, he is a real, Holy man, he would know that I was unclean: and he would be bound to point me out as sinful: and then everyone would throw stones at me: I would have to die, or run away in disgrace. But, the urge to see him was so strong in me that I left my house, shrouded by my tichel. I walked where I hadn't walked for 12 years, looking down at the floor all the time, so that no-one would recognize me.

I realized that I mustn't approach Him, because He would be bound to admonish me for coming out into the community. He would have to warn everyone that they were in danger of becoming unclean...But I thought that if I could creep up behind him and just touch his cloak?.... Surely that wouldn't make **him** unclean? so I wouldn't actually be sinning, would I?

I pulled my tichel¹ further over my face so that even my eyes were in shadow and, as I walked further into the town, amazingly, there in front of me was a crowd following Jesus and walking with their faces turned away from me!

I rushed to join them, easily settling within the group and I soon found myself within touching distance of Jesus! In a daze by how quickly all this had happened, I knew that it was 'all or nothing' and I was right behind him, so I reached down just to touch a fold in his cloak.

The very moment I did this, my body seemed to be flooded with a glorious light. All the familiar surroundings now had intense colour... and every part of me felt **free!** Instead of the constant, draining fatigue, I was now full of energy! I couldn't remember **ever** feeling so wonderful! I knew that I was healed and I turned in order to return home as unobtrusively as possible, when Jesus also stopped, suddenly, and said "Who touched my clothes?"

I froze... completely terrified, I feared the condemnation of this holy man, but also I was afraid of how the crowd would probably "deal" with me! There was no doubt in my mind that I had to confess, but something

¹ Jewish head covering

held me back. Then I heard Jesus say: "I know I was touched, because I felt power being drained from me!" ... The world seemed to have frozen around me, now was the time I would have to own up....

I came before him and bowed down, afraid to look at his face, afraid to admit that it was me who had touched him. I waited for his condemnation, because I had put others in danger. What on earth could have made me think that such a Holy Man would ever want to heal me? I braced myself for his admonishment before everyone but, to my astonishment he didn't speak a word about my "unclean" state, or my sneaking up on him, and my hoping to get away with my bad behaviour. Instead, He addressed me as "DAUGHTER"!

I looked up at his face... How could this be?? He caught my eye and I saw that he was smiling broadly! More than that, it was as though we were both taking part in an amusing "conspiracy" together! He was grinning with ME! He didn't breath a word about my problem, though He must have known, He just went on to say: "Be of good comfort, your faith has brought you healing, now GO! - IN PEACE.." He KNEW that I was in danger of being in trouble with the priests by coming into the crowd, but He didn't say a thing about why I was there. I just looked at him and thanked him again and again, but there was a man walking with him, who looked distracted and he said to Jesus: "Please Lord, my daughter, I left her on the point of death!" Jesus smiled at me again, put his arm on the man's shoulder and turned to go.

Can you imagine how bemused I was? I wasn't even sure what had happened: except that my body felt strong and well for the first time in 12 years! - 12 whole years of never being able to invite my family or friends for a meal, never to be invited to visit family, or those who were once my friends... I had felt guilty because my failure to keep the law: however, **Jesus**, the Man of God, had actually <u>praised me</u>, (for my faith!)... in front of everyone!... AND restored both my physical well-being and my confidence, without me having to pay any kind of sacrifice!

I turned for home, allowing my tichel to fall away from my face. Feeling the sun on my skin for the first time in 12 years rebuilt my ability to enjoy being alive and normal! I actually stepped into the Synagogue!...where the cool, calmness of that special place soothed me and I became aware of a strong Presence. I was reminded of Elohim, my Creator and HIS love for **me!** Then I found myself singing aloud the song of Hannah:

"My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn is lifted up..." *

I stood there and sang the <u>whole</u> of that wonderful song to my Creator God.

I sang it to "JHWH-Rapha" (the LORD my Healer), to "JHWH-JIREH" (The LORD who provides) to "JHWH-M'KADDESH" (The LORD Who Sanctifies) to "ELOHAY SELICHOT" (God Of Forgiveness)....

...and I suddenly realized that all those names of God (which I had learned in childhood) like: **"El Roi" The GOD WHO SEES ME!...**.and so many more names that tumbled around in my mind: are all TRUE!... they are all descriptions of the one, true, unfathomable, indescribable God!

As I was overcome in this awesome moment, I remembered Jesus, who really **SAW ME** in my fear...**He KEPT ME SAFE** (from the crowd).... **He HEALED ME:** he took away my uncleanness and **SANCTIFIED ME...** ...His encompassing grin assured me of **FORGIVENESS**and He spoke to me as a **FATHER**, a Father who smiled with pleasure and love for His Daughter!.......

I HAVE TO WONDER... WHO, then, IS THIS JESUS?

* HANNAH'S SONG - 1 Samuel ch 2: 1-10

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Lorraine



An event not to be missed.

Jon Sermon & the team who are just back Present:

Uganda Experience

Halesworth URC Sat 20 September @7.30 pm

We promise you:

A glimpse of the excitement of the vibrant churches in Uganda

A 'taste' of culture shock

Pictures, stories and song from

situations of great poverty and whole-hearted reliance on God

Opportunities for prayer and involvement

Jon is a minister in the United Reformed Church and Chair of Trustees of Romans 1.11 Trust, fostering mutual encouragement between the UK and Africa. He has travelled extensively in Uganda.

This time, 4 others from our area went with him

Venue: Halesworth URC, Quay St, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8EP

Contact: Jon Sermon 01986 873761

pastorjonsermon@gmail.com







Volunteers

Coffee Mornings (Fridays)

Other Duties Greeting/Prayers etc

Manse Officer

Open the Book Team and organiser

Please speak to an Elder if you would like to volunteer for any of the above

