



Ruislip Manor Methodist Church

Sunday 28th June 2020

www.rmmc.org.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/tempRMMC/

The Mighty Oak

We can sometimes wonder whether it is worth signing petitions.

One encouraging email I received recently was from Christian Aid:

'During Lent 2019 you joined thousands of people, spurred on by a belief in a more just world, to call on HSBC to make the Big Shift out of fossil fuels. In particular you asked them to close a loophole allowing the bank to fund coal power in Indonesia, Vietnam and Bangladesh. At their AGM last month, HSBC announced they have closed this exact loophole! Wins like this help to build the movement for climate justice. They also remind me that campaigning success can often come weeks, months or even years after the act, and that we must persevere as we strive for a more fair and just world.'

(Luke Harman, Campaigns and Activism Manager, Christian Aid'.)

So a good reminder to myself of the poem I learnt years ago:

Don't worry if your job is small,

And your rewards are few.

Remember that the mighty oak,

Was once a nut like you!

Though more significantly the Bible is of course full of stories of ordinary people being used in wonderful ways by God. So we can all say with the psalmist, *'I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.'* (Psalm 139:14).

Joy to you in Christ,

Roger

Evening Service & 'Ruislip Manor Coffee': Sunday 28th June 6pm.

This week's one click link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86111806855>

Landline: 0203 051 2874 Meeting ID: 861 1180 6855

The Bible Course: Monday 29th June 7:30pm '***Revelation & Review***'.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83866660161>

Landline: 0203 051 2874 Meeting ID: 838 6666 0161

Lovely that June joined us by landline for the first time last week. Don't miss the final opportunity to experience a Zoom Bible course!

You & a Zoom Group! – what course or study series or midweek church group would interest you? Do you have any ideas for what we should do having completed the Bible Course? Please let me know.

Attached to this email is our weekly newsletter but also a letter from the Circuit Superintendent to members of the Circuit Meeting but hopefully including news that is of interest to all in the **Circuit**.

Every day at 1.17pm, **All We Can** is sharing positive and uplifting content on the theme of 'Colossians 1:17 – All Things Hold Together' – a series of encouraging broadcasts that you can watch and join in with from the comfort of your home. You can catch them every day on our Facebook page" (also on YouTube and previous broadcasts are available). <https://www.allwecan.org.uk/all-we-can-1-17-programme-all-things-hold-together/>

All we Can have issued their Partner Church Spring Update 2020 giving details of their work responding to the Coronavirus pandemic featuring their work in Ethiopia. https://www.allwecan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/AWC_PC_Spring2020vWeb-version.pdf



June and Bob would like to thank our Church Family at Ruislip Manor for all that made our Diamond Wedding Anniversary very special.

In spite of 'lockdown' we had several doorstep visitors – braving the rain on Thursday, then a delivery of a lovely bouquet of yellow roses from you all. We also had lots of cards, some hand made, all delightful, with so many kind messages and phone calls. During the day we had more flowers delivered and other gifts. The sun eventually shone, and at 4.0 o'clock we went to our daughter and family in Ickenham for a celebratory buffet, 'social distancing observed'.

A very memorable day – thank you for helping to make it such a special day.

I will be getting in touch with holders of **Network boxes** soon, to ask if I can collect them from your home, I will phone first. June Briggs.

My Recommendations

I suspect that our 'lockdown' experience has been very different from many in the congregation. As NHS workers we have continued going to work as we normally did, although there have been many fast moving changes and challenges along the way. Amelia and Hannah have continued at school provision 3 days a week, an extended day from 8-5. The other 2 days I have been the teacher (my hat definitely goes off to our teaching staff!). Isabel has been disciplined about working from home. They have all adapted amazingly well given these strange times. Added to that we've completed a 50km walking challenge in May (see photo) and are currently working on a 50 mile cycle challenge for June

So we haven't had a huge amount of time to access all the Christian material that has been available. We have watched the weekly service from Wesley's chapel (it has to be said I quite enjoy church in my PJ's with a cup of coffee). We've accessed some of the articles/videos which people have linked via the church facebook page and it's been great to keep up with other people's news via this page and also the weekly newsletter. Stay safe Kathryn Coleman



If Jesus Came To Your House

Sue Mangan has suggested this for us to ponder, it's certainly thought provoking:-

<http://www.godswork.org/enpoem4.htm>

We have a few Christian books at Church if you would like to borrow one or would like some more information about the books we have please contact Janet Fairclough.

World Church/JMA

It has been a topsy turvey second half of the year and I am trying to get the World Missions back on track. This is a very important part of our church life.

I would like, if possible, to have all World Church boxes and JMA boxes returned to me by Sunday, 26 July. This enables me to arrange awards, to work out my accounts, and to give Graham time to work out the end of year accounts. If there is a problem in returning to me World Church and JMA boxes, I will try to collect them. Please contact me on my home phone number or drop an email to Andrew or Susan..

Many thanks to all who have supported these causes.

Ken Bracey.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for Sandra's brother-in-law Mick, he has been newly diagnosed with Covid 19 and has underlying medical conditions.

Thank God for Good News for Chris, Sylvia's son in law, who has been given the 'all clear' .

Please continue to pray :-

anyone suffering from mental issues and from loneliness because of isolation.

all those who have contracted Coronavirus and thank God for all who have survived.

Prayers and Blessings to all at Ruislip Manor and beyond - stay safe.

Friday 25th June:

This week we pray for everyone at Eastcote Methodist Church .

We bring the Christian Aid to God in prayer.

We also pray for the people who live in Victoria Road

We wish many happy returns to all who celebrate a birthday in June



The Methodist Church has launched a FREE phone service.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Content is updated weekly on Thursday evening.

Date for your diary

The next Church Council will be on Tuesday 15th September at 8pm in the Coffee Lounge.

Notice from the Stewards -

We are very pleased that Eileen is joining the Steward's and we look forward to working together,
Janet, Andrew, Ken and Jess.

Online Sunday School

Every week the Hayes Church website has a page with resources and activities for Sunday School. You can find it at <https://www.hayesmethodistchurch.co.uk/sunday-school>

Items for the News sheet for Friday 3rd July to **Janet Miles** , by email newsletter@rmmc.org.uk by
Wednesday 1st July , please



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The Revd Andrew Pottage

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June 2020

Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit Meeting Briefing Paper

Following the decision of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) to cancel this June's Circuit Meeting (CM), the CLT agreed to publish a briefing paper to update members of the Meeting and the Churches of the Circuit on some of the issues under consideration at this time.

Worship

The CLT has concluded that worship will not resume until August at the earliest in the wake of the decision of the Connexion to give out further advice and guidance after the Methodist Conference which ends on 1 July. This is to give adequate time for churches to prepare to make their worship spaces Covid ready and have all the necessary precautions in place. A further update will be made by the Circuit during mid-July. If the Government and or Connexion advice changes further, then this time frame will be updated further.

Special Services

It is with regret and sadness that both the Admission Service for Mr Philip Woods and the Farewell Service for the Revd John Swarbrick have been postponed. Given the current guidelines, it is not feasible at this present time for either service to take place. The Admission Service will now take place in spring 2021, and the Farewell Service at a date to be advised. It is also with regret that I announce due to the current situation, The Revd Ken Kingston decided to apply to have his Reception into Full Connexion and Ordination postponed until Conference 2021, this has been granted. We continue to remember Ken in our prayers at this time.

The Revd John Swarbrick

I would like on behalf of the Circuit, to take this opportunity to offer John our sincerest thanks and prayers, as he prepares to retire, for all the years of service he has given to this Circuit. May you have a long, happy and restful retirement John and we look forward to marking the occasion in due course. We look forward to welcoming Julie King in the autumn, as a new colleague joining the Circuit team.

Sabbaticals

The Revd Andrew Pottage will take the final portion (one month) of his sabbatical this October with the final dates still to be confirmed. Deacon Claire Gill has sought and received permission to postpone her sabbatical until the next calendar year.

The Circuit Hub

The Circuit Hub will now be officially known as 'The Lantern Centre - South Ruislip' and the Circuit Office will reopen there once it is safe and acceptable for the staff to return to the office. Since the CM agreed to South Ruislip being called the Methodist Hub concern was expressed that due to the 'Fairway Hub' around the corner being known locally as 'the Hub', the CLT decided that to avoid confusion we needed a different name. My thanks go to Nicola, Laura and Anthony for all their hard work in making this transition smooth and to Ruislip Methodist Church for their care and support to Nicola and her team over the years.

Finance

Given the situation regarding Church Finances, it has been decided that a meeting of the CLT and Church Treasurers will take place this autumn on Monday 16th November. I should be grateful if the churches could ensure that their accounts are ready for this meeting, in order to help discussions to take place based on accurate figures. Thank you.

Circuit Stewards

My thanks go to Mrs Christine Braithwaite, Mr John Bolton, Mr John Rout Jnr and Mr Rudolph Wontumi for their service as Circuit Stewards in recent years. On behalf of us all, I wish them well and hope they enjoy serving God in new capacities. If you feel called to become a Circuit Steward or know someone who you think would be an asset to the CLT or want to know more about what is involved, please contact me or the Senior Circuit Steward, Mr Freddy Fairclough.

Staff and CLT continue meeting on a regular basis via Zoom, and we recently held a Local Preacher and Worship Leader Fellowship evening too. The Circuit Mission Strategy is being moved forwards and there will be an update at the Autumn CM.

With continued thanks and prayers for all you do for our Circuit,



Andrew Pottage
Superintendent Minister