



# Ruislip Manor Methodist Church

Sunday 17th January 2021

[www.rmmc.org.uk](http://www.rmmc.org.uk) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/tempRMMC/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tempRMMC/)

It's difficult to find the right words in response to recent events in Washington DC.

But one phrase that seems apposite is contained in Joseph Conrad's 1899 novella, *Heart of Darkness*: 'The horror! The horror.'

These words are whispered by Mr Kurtz, a trader in ivory in Africa. Kurtz is on his deathbed as he expresses his final judgement, both on his own life and actions, and on humanity and imperialism.

What are we to make of events in America? Certainly, we should recoil in horror: at the actions of a sitting President who incited insurrection; at the racism exposed through the action or inaction of the authorities (compare this with the response to the Black Lives Matter protests); and at the blasphemy of those who carried a banner displaying an American flag and the words 'Jesus is my Saviour' and 'Trump is my President'.

We should express horror, although it's easy for us to watch events unfold in the States, passing judgement at a distance. We must not be complacent about the state of our own nation. And neither should we ignore what these events reveal about our humanity. Along with Mr Kurtz, our horror should be directed partly at ourselves.

Because in a democracy, we get the leaders we deserve. If we're concerned about the quality of our politics and political leaders, we should get involved and change them. 'Decisions,' as President Bartlett in *The West Wing* reminds us, 'are made by those who show up.' If we oppose racism and double standards, we should redouble our efforts to put into practice the theology we profess, that all human beings are created equally in the image of God. And if we object to the way Christianity is being co-opted by one group, we should avoid the temptation of co-opting it into another. We should be rigorous in critiquing, theologically, our own political assumptions and commitments, and invite others to do the same.

Jesus calls us to live our lives as he would live them if he were us, right here, right now, on our frontline. The kingdom of God is less about getting us into heaven, than getting heaven into us, and into the world. This requires us not only to express horror at wrong, but address those wrongs and become the change we seek.

{Paul Woolley, CEO, London Institute for Contemporary Christianity ([licc.org.uk](http://licc.org.uk) has a regular blog to which you can sign up).}

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**6pm Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January Evening Service. Rekha Cheriyan**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81332285563?pwd=ZVB5YTk2bWVlQUx0RmFsbkxYlg2dz09> Meeting ID: 813 3228 5563. Passcode: 018864 Landline: 0203 051 2874

7.30pm Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February – final session of The Prayer Course

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**CIRCUIT ZOOM SERVICE-** At 10.45am each Sunday morning you are invited to join with others from around the circuit to share in worship. The Circuit Zoom service this Sunday 17th January will be led by Mr Richard Reid. Log into Zoom using the following details :

**Meeting ID: 886 0143 3540**

**Passcode: 611964**

To receive full details of each week's service please e-mail [hahzoomservices@gmail.com](mailto:hahzoomservices@gmail.com)

**CIRCUIT ZOOM JUNIOR CHURCH-** Junior church will now start at **10am** and finish at 10.35am so that members can join the Circuit Zoom Service. The host might show as 'Little Acorn Services' so don't let that confuse you! Young members can join Junior Church: Meeting ID: 852 8828 1958 and passcode is: 487813

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### **WHITECHAPEL MISSION APPEAL CHRISTMAS/NEWYEAR**

It is with great pleasure that I can now inform everyone the amount raised for the above appeal. Over the last month:

CONTRIBUTIONS (Some from non tax payers)	£595-00
GIFT AID RECOVERED	£132-50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£727-50</b>

The above just goes to show the value of Gift Aid.

May I on behalf of The Whitechapel Mission thank you all for your donations during this very difficult time. With so many Charities finding great strain on their finances, I am again amazed at the generosity of everyone at 'The Manor'

Roger Davis Manor Whitechapel Rep.

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### **FUNERAL OF BARBARA AVES - a message from Len**

Thank you for all the kind messages and cards that I have received.

Due to current restrictions, there is a limit to the number of people who can attend the funeral, which is to be held on 14 January at 2.15pm. However it will be live-streamed on the day, and there will be access to view it for the 28 days following as well.

If you would like to participate by viewing this, please go to <https://www.obitus.com/>; the user name is Wive9649 and the password is 421564.

Barbara wished that money should be donated to her favourite charity rather than spent on flowers. There is a dedicated Giving page set up for this if anyone wishes to contribute: <https://barbaraaves.muchloved.com/>.

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### **London District MWiB Presidential Appeal**

The theme this year is "Living Water in Parched Lands".

We are asked to raise funds to support 'Robes' a charity offering shelter and food for homeless people in Southwark and Lambeth and building bore holes in Northern Ghana. Please see the attachment entitled 'Count our Blessings'. Please pass donations to Graham Lee by 24th January, making sure you inform him that they are for the MWiB appeal. Thank you. Please see attachment.

Can you help approximately 600 refugees and asylum seekers who are in temporary accommodation in two Hillingdon hotels? They are especially in need of men's and teenage boys' clothing and waterproof shoes, and clothes for newborn and young babies. For further details contact: [sarah@reap.org.uk](mailto:sarah@reap.org.uk)

**Community Bible Study** – 2 of my churches in the past have had CBS groups that were appreciated. You can now try CBS online. See <https://cbsuk.org/>

## Prayer Requests

We pray for Len and his two daughters after the death of Barbara.

and for Graham and Jess. Graham is at present under the care of Northwick Park Hospital.

for Aoibhin as she recovers from a major operation.

for Tony as he battles against cancer.

for Sue, Ron, Karen and Michael who are enduring some poor health.

and for Jon and Valerie Pope. Jon Pope is now home and is continuing his recovery.

Please also continue to pray for :-

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 15th January:

This week we pray for everyone at Wealdstone Methodist Church

We bring MHA, our partner in the Live-at-Home scheme and all the Methodist Homes to God in prayer.

We also pray for the people who live in Shenley Avenue and Sidmouth Drive

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



For anyone feeling the need of confidential and anonymous support at this time (in addition to our own pastoral support) with a Christian perspective there is Premier Lifeline

Open 9am to midnight every day on 0300 111 0101

"Premier Lifeline: the National Christian Helpline is a confidential telephone helpline offering a listening ear, emotional and spiritual support from a Christian perspective, prayer and signposting.

Premier Lifeline is staffed by Christian volunteers who are able to offer emotional and spiritual support. (Landline Rate - included in call packages where landline calls are included).

Dial a Prayer-A FREE phone service to hear prayers and news from the Methodist Church has been launched. Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514 Listen to news: 0808 281 2478 Content is updated weekly on Thursday evening.

## Some Online Services

Why not try something different?

If you have looked at the main online services listed by the Methodist Church they have suggested some additional ones that may be somewhat different-

The Isle of Man Methodist Church have services, mediations, worship songs and "kids stuff" over at their YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQDYhDDSLuGg3Rzdvu3Ge8g/>

See the Jazz Community Church

<https://www.facebook.com/jazzcommunitychurch/videos/1136852196654959/>

Here's Austin New Church in the USA using Bob Dylan style words on sheets of paper -

<https://www.facebook.com/austinnewchurch/videos/193661242062549/?t=478>

A more extensive list of Methodist Services available on YouTube at: -  
<https://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/sunday-services>

#### Online resources

For **YouTube**- videos follow a link, if given, otherwise go to <https://www.youtube.com/> and enter some keywords that are associated with the video that you are trying to find into the 'Search' box.

When it requests you to sign in or set up an account you can just select 'NO THANKS'. When Adverts appear you can select 'Skip Ads' when it becomes available, or look for a close 'x' in the top right corner of a small banner advert.

When a video is playing press the 'f' key to go to full screen mode and 'Esc' or 'f' again to return to the normal mode.

**Zoom** is a conference program that is now widely used for organising meetings. There are many tutorials on how to use Zoom, e.g.-

[Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time: Fun and Easy Online Connection](#)

**Ken Merrifield**



Items for the News sheet for Friday 22nd January to **Janet Miles** , by email  
[newsletter@rmmc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@rmmc.org.uk) by **Wednesday 20th January**, please