







An occasional newsletter to keep you in contact with Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church

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Rev Dr Michael Moon's 15th (and last) Pastoral Letter

THE POST CORONAVIRUS VISION

"If anything kills over 10 million people in the next few decades, it's most likely to be a highly infectious virus rather than a war. Not missiles, but microbes." Billionaire philanthropist and Microsoft founder Bill Gates predicted (Or prophesied?) in 2015 that the next global disaster would come up with the form of a highly contagious pandemic caused by a virus. In addition, Gates noted even though this world was working for years to decrease the risk of nuclear war but was not paying attention to a global mobilisation against a killer virus: "We've actually invested very little in a system to stop an epidemic... We're not ready for the next epidemic." By surprise, it happened precisely to what he worried years ago. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a pandemic on 11th March 2020. This invisible virus has reshaped our global landscape, causing ghost cities and towns on the globe. The City of London has gone to sleep for months. Saint Mark's Square in Venice has been deserted. And the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem was shut down on Good Friday for the first time since the 1349 Black Death.

This world has overlooked the warning signs of a possible disaster, and the world has forgotten lessons, for example, from the Spanish flu (Spanish in name only). The flu claimed the deaths of 50 million people, with the victims of 2 per cent of the world's population at that time. This present generation is in the middle of another pandemic of which will be recorded in the history book. The incident of September 11 was one of the shocking events in the modern era. And we absorb a critical lesson that such a human-caused disaster could have stuck the world. Now the current virus attack boasts about the degree of shock is significantly higher than before not only in size but also other matters, perhaps the most extensive loss of money in human history. In the meantime, many people question whether this pandemic was avoidable? Or others try reminding by the so-called 'black swan' denoted by Nassim Taleb. The 'black swan' reminds at least three characteristics— 'A sense of shock,' 'an extremely violent crisis,' and 'efforts to rationalise it.' The current virus pandemic carries the same metaphors of gloomy factors somehow.

After the coronavirus, the world will not be the same. After the coronavirus, the world will be required to reset up a renewed vision. In the midst of the confusion of the COVID-19, we are not supposed to decide for any hurried

assumptions. And we are also not supposed to stay in the dungeon of the pandemic crying in fear by witnessing the mass of the pandemic. Instead, we need to start renovating the next move of our life in a post-coronavirus world. We need standing up to rebuild an effective modification in many different areas.

One of the questions would be in a new social investigation. I hope, soon this world will be required to prepare a package of the aftermath in the pandemic. We are witnessing that the coronavirus has been touching almost every aspect of our lives, such as in our health, social activities, economic challenges, and the routine of our Christian life. This pandemic teaches us vital lessons in many areas for us to rethink the things of the world we took for granted in this modern day. Accordingly, many institutes on earth tend to explore the pandemic in terms of social investigation. They are committed to re-examining the consequences of the pandemic in various areas from the world economy to mental health. Lessons should be valued and remembered not to rehearse the same errors in the future.

The political scientist Mark Lilla asks questions in political science: "How different will the future be?" "What kind of democracy would be ideal for practising with the nations?" Mark suggests particularly for Europe that after the pandemic, we will have to reconsider existing geopolitical dynamics and strength of Europe's democratic systems. This is a monumental task for Britain to consider how to work together with other European nations after the Brexit deal. The nations may need setting up a novel type of globalisation to adopt beneficial cooperation such as in communal markets and security of countries, etc. For this reason, various organisations are committed to seeking profitable solutions for the behalf of the next generation as a post-lockdown future. In fact, the future doesn't exist today, but we are the future-makers. We are the ones to commit the future to exist in the given time and space.

People say in doubt: "I wonder what will happen to my job." "Will anyone be hiring when I require working?" The coronavirus is messing up the world economy so badly. The damage is extremely massive to measure. Lockdown is causing a deep recession in the world economy. Concerning the economic aftermath of the coronavirus is upon countries according to their financial capacities. The world has to commit to restoring the economy at all cost. However, the world has to determine at the same time to reconsider the modern slavery in labour as people have been forced to gain more money than to be more human. For example, the world has accentuated to get productive by planting industries in China and other third

world countries. I hear that more than 300 of the world's 500 leading companies have placed their shares in Wuhan, where the pandemic started. Is there any sign of message here?

During this pandemic, we witness that the world economy is like an endangered creature. The economy can be sick and die like a living creature. We realise that economy is closely connected with environmental factors. A big lesson we are learning is to maintain the economy is to support the balance of nature and its order. We are still mainly debating climate change. Now we are learning that failing the order in nature is to lose a great deal of our money too. They are closely related to each other. Last decades this world had been talking and talking about the issue but not much improvement to respond realistically towards the environmental issues. Pope Frances recently delivered his message that "(we have met a chance) to slow down the rate of production and consumption and to learn to understand and contemplate the natural world." Now the coronavirus has given us a global challenge to seize the opportunity to reduce air pollution and eventually to safeguard public health. If we don't listen to this lesson, we may face an even bigger crisis than coronavirus. This pandemic tells us if we commit together for a common purpose to protect the earth, our wellbeing of our families and communities would be more thriving in the future.

One of the beautiful human activities we have witnessed during the pandemic is massive networking of cooperation to defeat the coronavirus — Partnerships in government officials, hospitals and people's response. Then again, we need to build a future partnership to re-erect the pillars of a fallen society. Global cooperation has given to the world to build a global anti-pandemic system. Some countries behaved to see the fire over the river at the beginning of the pandemic—"We are far out of the reach of the fire!" (A Korean saying for not sharing someone else's pain or suffering). Soon the world realised that "We are in the fire too, and we are one on earth!" Now I hear that the nations are in queues for securing the vaccines. Another worry is that a blame game might be brewing later on between China and other countries. This will cause another division, not cooperation. As the people in Britain wanted to rebuild a new vision after the war, we need a similar idea for post-virus concept now. For more comprehensive collaboration, there should be a strong tie with countries to build our post-virus vision. South Korean President Jae-in Moon challenged his nation, "Turn crisis into an opportunity... to take the current crisis as a driving force for new opportunities and development."

As I conclude my pastoral letter to my churches, I now prompt myself and our churches with what Pope Francis warns the poor have become part of a critical pandemic landscape: In the midst of the quarantine, a policeman said to a man in Rome: "You can't be on the street, go home." He said: "I have no home. I live in the street."

To Pope Francis, the poor are severely disconnected from society in the coronavirus pandemic. This hideous face of modern society has shown us its hypocrite manner. The nations have been committed to producing more materials to get rich and eventually to manufacture more weapons for their military muscle. Still, the same world has not much paid attention to see the problem of hunger in the world. During the pandemic conceivably, God has unveiled the world the suffering of the poor. For our church, if there is no heartfelt touch for the poor, there may not be a genuine conversion in our society.

The COVID-19 is threatening the very foundations upon which people have established their lives and hopes. The fatal virus tells us the foundations of human civilisation are not permanent but can be collapsed. At any time they can be swayed and torn down. To me, the world has been summoned to undergo the anguish of crucifixion. The whole world has been nailed for a grave purpose on a cross as Jesus did for the world.

As we have been expecting a post-pandemic vision, we may need a thoughtful reflection on Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection for the world and also for our churches at this time. The pandemic itself appears to be the agony of crucifixion. However, it is not the end of its journey but to encounter the joy of the resurrection of which is about to rise over the Calvary Hill. Therefore, as we are on a journey of post-resurrection, I yearn for the world and our churches to meet the risen Lord as He met His friends wrapped in fear and disappointment. Jesus visits His friends one by one after the resurrection: For Mary who is weeping at the graveside; for disciples who are trembling in fear confined in a room (like our lockdown situation in fear and doubt); for Thomas who is doubtful in faith; for the two disciples walking home in despair; and for the disciples are fishing in great disappointment. The end of a happy ending, as well as the beginning of solid commitment, is the story of post-resurrection. Very well, Jesus' suffering and crucifixion was not the end of His journey but rather a new beginning for a higher life and glorious journey! For the disciples, the new journey meets a new system of the Holy Spirit to govern their Spirit-filled life. The day of Pentecost challenged the world to embrace the nation in God's love and hope - a global embrace indeed! Now God is challenging

the world to lay down the material pursuit and to come back to the Word and to embrace God's Spirit—"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

*Many thanks for being with my pastoral letters so far. Bless your new journey.

Michael Moon.

Sources:

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- *Chris Bowers, "We need to be working on our post-vision now!" (https://www.libdemvoice.org, 23rd April 2020)
- *Kyodo News, "Moon touts vision for South Korea to lead world in post-virus era" (https://english.kyodonews.net/news, 10th may 2020)
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- *Oliver Burkeman, "The post-coronavirus world is already here" (European Council on Foreign Relations, www.theguardian.com, 28/06/2020)
- *Antonio L. Williams, "How many post crucifixion sightings of Jesus are in the Bible?" (www.cbcfontana.org, 5 September 2017)

Rev Dr Michael Moon

This is Michael's last Pastoral Letter and the Zoom service on Sunday 5th July will be his last such service. **PLEASE TRY TO JOIN US ON SUNDAY. IF YOU HAVENT YET USED ZOOM THERE ARE DETAILS OF HOW TO JOIN THE 10:30am SERVICE ON PAGE 9 – ANY PROBLEMS PHONE MIKE ON 07798948236**

Michael is then on leave till the end of the month and his time with us finishes at the end of August when Rev Calvin Samuel starts his ministry with us. Apparently, tradition has it that a departing minister does not take part in his/her church's activities during August. Jane and Michael are currently moving into a flat in Westcliff. We hope we can have a none-digital farewell get-together sometime later, perhaps in September.

Prayers for this week

For Rev Michael Moon and his wife Jane as they prepare to leave their manse and move into a flat, facing an uncertain future

<u>For churches</u> looking at what worship and church life might be like in the light of the changes and regulations now in place



<u>Those we know</u> who need our prayers – Kay as she continues to improve, Chris and Ron, Olive and Chris, Eunice and Sheila.

For the world and its peoples as country after country struggles to contain the virus, both where there are new infections and where outbreaks have sprung up again. Pray for fortitude in adversity and wisdom and compassion for the common good for those in power.

<u>For all the workers</u> who we now appreciate more than as being essential to our well-being and everyday life.

A Message from Kay

Many thanks for all your concern on hearing about my recent fall. In many ways I was fortunate as I fell backwards down four steps on to the patio, hitting my head on the garden table on route. It's a surprise I didn't break an arm or a leg - just badly bruised. I'm now able to climb the stairs and get into bed more easily. I do say to Michael we are fortunate to belong to two caring families, our own and our church family. I realise just how long we've known each other and been involved in the church. For me it started with an advert in the Southend Standard back in 1946, inviting young people to a new youth club opening at the Hockley Methodist Church......but that's another story.

Kay Deedman

Offers of Help

The Elkington family and Adam and Becky Markham are still willing to run errands if you can't get out. Sally can be contacted at 01702 258288 or sally_elkington@yahoo.co.uk. Adam and Becky can be contacted at 07969522986 or adam.markham01@googlemail.com



CHURCH VIDEOS

Keeping In Touch





Last week we "released" (sounds good!) our third lockdown video. If you haven't seen it yet it's still available, along with the others, at https://www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk/video/

Click on the small picture of whatever video you want to see. The "full screen" control is the small square at the bottom right of the screen. Don't forget to switch on your audio/speakers.

Church History



As we said last week it would be good if we could put together a small exhibition of the history of the Church in Hockley using photos, etc., owned by friends and members.

What have **YOU** got hidden away in the way of historical documents, photos, postcards and memorabilia about the Church and Hockley? Have a

rummage through those boxes, drawers and cupboards and ask your family what they've got. Then send a brief description of any item(s) to Nicola at hmmc1883@gmail.com. If you're not on email phone me 07798948236 and I'll pass on the info. It would help if you could let us know whether you've got an original document or a copy and what media its on — paper, digital, stone tablet, etc. And some idea of size would be useful.

Mike

Why haven't you come to one of our Zoom "meetings"?

They're great opportunities to keep in touch, Rev Michael Moon is leading us in the nearest we can get to a 'real' Sunday service and the social chat and Quizzoom are pleasant ways of passing a bit of lockdown time in good company.



To get a Zoom account go to https://us04web.zoom.us/signup - any problems getting it phone Mike on 07798948236. Don't be put off by the technology, once it's going it's not complicated.

Before each Zoom you'll get an email with a meeting ID and password. Just before 10:30am on Sunday log onto Zoom. Full instructions with each email.

There were 19 of us at the **Sunday morning Zoom with Moon** on 21st June, and 15 at the "**social gathering**" on Wednesday morning.



Ray's Quizzoom on Friday 26th June attracted 14 really serious competitors. Michael Deedman was Quizzoomer of the week with a score of 21. Try to join us next Friday 26th June at 7:00pm – Ray puts together a varied set of questions with everything from TV soaps to quantum mathematics, so you'll find a niche somewhere!

Meals-on-Wheels

When we moved from Hawkwell to Woodlands Road just over 50 years ago I saw a poster asking for help with the start-up of Meals on Wheels for Hockley and Hawkwell. It was going to be voluntarily run with only the cost of

petrol paid for and would be for Monday`s Wednesdays and Friday`s and the area being put

into 4 routes. I got in contact with Mrs Dawn Camplin and was soon part of the team. I did Wednesday mornings as I also worked at Potters on the other mornings of the week We were based at the old library which was the building behind the old fire station. On arriving in the morning, I would take the hot charcoal and place it in the hot containers and then drive to the kitchen at Rochford Hospital. I would then find a trolly and enter the kitchen and wait while they placed the food into the containers.

On returning to the centre the table would have been set out with about 50 to 60 small round metal dishes (in those days we did not have foil dishes) ready for us to place the dinners and puddings in. The meals from the hospital were very good. There were always two of us going out to deliver the meals, a driver and an escort - my escort was Mavis Headly.

In those days a lot of the roads in Hockley and Hawkwell were unmade so it meant leaving the car and walking. Plumberow Avenue was bad and most of the dinners were for the bottom half of the road.

One we went to a gentleman lived in a caravan and you had to walk on a plank of wood that was placed on milk crates to enter, and after dishing up his meal he always insisted on washing up the dishes in his sink - the water was brown even before he washed them. Another one I would go to was a wooden cottage that had drums of paraffin stacked all around the outside. The lady would insist that I lighted her stove for her with a taper. Where Spa court is was a caravan park; we went to this caravan park and also the Dome Caravan park.

Times moved on and Mrs Mendoza took over the running of the meals and the hospital closed down. We also now had a delivery van so the meals, now ready-to-serve in foil dishes, came from the Westering School but the food was more suitable for children than adults

I then took over running the Wednesday mornings and our routes got even longer, now going out to Canewdon and Fambridge as well as Hockley and Hawkwell Our meals then came from the Mill in Rayleigh and were cooked just for us and Rayleigh Meals on Wheels so were more suitable for us.

Over the years I got to know a lot of the people that I visited and the stories about the lives that they had led, from gold digging to having been on the stage and top jobs in the government. The Hockley Day Centre opened and many of our clients were able to go there and then Essex County Council decided to take over the Meals-on-Wheels services for all of Essex so we then closed down. Over the years I enjoyed my time helping even if on one

journey back from the hospital the container of hot chocolate sauce tipped over all over the back seat of the car - no it was not my driving; one of my daughters was sitting in the back and knocked it over!

Carolyn Sturgess

A Link to the Past

I am writing this on Tuesday 30th June 2020 - the one hundredth day of lockdown. Not one of us has experienced a time like this before or is ever likely to experience it again. I do hope that is the case. When it's over, I hope too that all of us can get together and meet up once again. Our time apart has been far too long.



For our link to the past I am going back to the Consumer News Issue no. 13 of September 1990.

All the fun of the Fayre

Sunday 22nd July was a day that'll go down in history as being the first Summer Fayre to be staged by the Hockley Traders Association – and it wont be their last, you can be sure!

11.00 a.m. and people had started arriving in large numbers, more and sooner than had been expected. Unfortunately, due to a few last minute hiccups some of the stalls had not been fully prepared but it made little difference, people were having a great time visiting the stalls that had been prepared for the onslaught well in advance.

Any members of the public that were found wandering around with their minds on other things were soon woken up by two gigantic seven foot Daleks, that sprayed everyone who wandered into their path, with a deadly cocktail of H₂O. Without the Doctor to save them, all one could do to avoid getting drenched was hide behind another unsuspecting visitor.

"Tip the lady out" was what the sign read and try and try they did. A few succeeded, much to the merriment of onlookers, many too bashful to

try for themselves, (perhaps their spouses were nearby). Music blared from the loudspeakers, not too loud as to be unbearable but pleasant nonetheless. Mr. Steward was there with his boys demonstrating the art of turning old tree trunks into attractive garden ornaments using a couple of chainsaws to do most of the work.

Next to J. Steward's display was a rather antiquated tractor, looking as if it had been locked away for fifty years or more, which had been used to tow an extremely large and noisy Stationary Steam Engine to the site. I must say on behalf of the owner, that an engine of this kind cannot be shut down for an hour or so, and then restarted again. It must be started from cold or permanent damage will result, therefore it had to be running for most of the day or stopped completely.

Ice cream, tea or coffee, the obligatory "hot dogs and burgers" were all available along with ploughman's lunches and sandwiches. Fancy gas filled balloons could be purchased but an incompatible gas supply prevented the popcorn from being cooked. High quality jewellery was being sold at half price, the tombola stall was packed with loads of prizes donated by the traders themselves and there was a fine display of rugs on Hockley Carpet's stall helping to give the Fayre the atmosphere of a proper old fashioned market. Next to that was Mr Patrick Warren selling and displaying some of the fine artwork that he has produced using the skills that he unsuccessfully tried to instil into my own thirteen year old head a few years back.

There was a replica steam train giving children rides for a few pence and the queue was pretty long for most of the day. Many side stalls scattered around the site kept people's interest as they tried to win a variety of prizes from sweets to footballs and video cassettes, being won in large numbers from Mike Denny's stall.

At about 1.45 p.m. two great big double doors opened like the curtains at the London Palladium, to reveal our very own magician, Wonderwizard who set about addressing his audience above the noise created by the stationary engine sited close by. He obviously succeeded as over the noise of the engine the sound of "Oh no it isn't" and shouts of laughter could be heard. Congratulations, Wonderwizard, for a magnificent effort.

Many thanks to all the members of the Hockley Traders Association and everyone else involved with the making of this fantastic event and of course, thanks to the members of the public who pushed the takings for the day up and over £1,500.00, all of which go towards the Christmas Lights Fund.

Finally, thanks to Mark Suckling of Suckling Memorials for providing the fete with a very interesting and unusual display of your skills and The Hockley Traders Association with a lasting memento in the shape of an award for The Trader of the Year.

CONSUMER NEWS

More links to the past soon.

Ray Williams

Ray's Quizzoom7 -Friday 26th June

For those of you who didn't Zoom last Friday, here are Ray's Quizzoom questions (no cheating – use of smart phones not allowed!)



ROUND 1- SCOTLAND THE BRAVE

- Q. 1 Ben Nevis is of course U.K.'s highest mountain but which is its nearest town.
- Q. 2 Mel Gibson starred in the 1995 film Braveheart but which Scottish hero did he portray.
- Q.3 Whose seat overlooks Edinburgh and its castle.
- Q. 4 Who is the patron saint of Scotland
- Q. 5 In the midst of the Cairngorms, which town is Britain's main skiing centre.

ROUND 3 - INITIALS

- Q.6 One of our members in particular, is very fond of SCUBA diving, but what do the initials S. C. U. B. A. stand for.
- Q. 7 What does the computer term V D U represent.
- Q. 8 C. B. I. is a powerful organisation in the business world. What do these initials stand for.
- Q. 9 This long running topical programme is also known by its initials HIGNFY. It's regular captains are Paul Merton and Ian Hislop.
- Q. 10 The animal charity WWF stands for what.

ROUND 3 - ABC

In this round you have three possible answers. A, B or C

- Q. 11 "ABC" was a hit in the 1960's for which of these groups. a) The Three Degrees b) The Four Pennies c) Jackson Five
- Q. 12 In golf, what is the term for potting a ball, two under par, on a hole.
- a) Albatross b) Birdie c) Eagle
- Q. 13 What superhero can Peter Parker turn into. a) Batman b) Spiderman c) Superman
- Q. 14 Which actress said "I want to be alone".
- Q. 15 According to Lonnie Donegan, what loses its flavour on a bedpost overnight, a) Chewing Gum b) Doughnut c) Toothpaste

ROUND 4 - TV CATCHPHRASES

- Q. 16 The phrase "Ooh Betty" was often said by Frank Spencer in the comedy series "Some Mothers Do Ave Em", but which actor played this character.
- Q 17 "Beam me up Scotty" is a phrase from which sci fi series.
- Q. 18 Which suntanned presenter of Bargain Hunt is known by the nickname "The Duke" and his catchphrases "Cheap as Chips" and "Bobby Dazzler."
- Q. 19 "Can I have a P please Bob" is attributed to which game show.
- Q. 20 In the TV programme "Catch phrase", when struggling to solve the puzzle, what are the contestants told to do.

ROUND 5 - MISSING

- Q. 21 Who is missing from this famous quartet. John Lennon, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr.
- Q. 22 This 1981 Derby winning racehorse went missing in 1983 and has never been seen since.
- Q. 23 Which of The Four Musketeers is missing from this list. Porthos, Aramis and D' Artagnan.
- Q. 24 Which of the four Marx brothers is missing from this list. Groucho, Harpo and Zeppo.
- Q. 25 X is the missing number in this sequence of numbers. 4 20 X 500. Identify the missing number.

Answers next week

Ray's Quizzoom 6 - Friday 19th June: ANSWERS

ROUND 1- COLOURS

- Q. BLUE PETER
- Q. 2 YELLOW PAGES
- Q. 3 CILLA BLACK
- Q. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS
- Q. 5 JIMMY WHITE

ROUND TWO - CLASSICAL MUSIC

- Q. 6 MOSCOW
- Q. 7 GUSTAV HOLST
- Q. 8 JOSE CARRERA, LUCIANO PAVAROTTI and PLACIDO DOMINGO
- Q.9 RAVEL'S BOLERO
- Q. 10 JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

ROUND THREE - THE BIBLE (011-15)

- Q. 11 MATTHEW
- Q. 12 MOUNT SINAI
- Q. 13 ISAAC
- Q. 14 THE GUTENBERG BIBLE
- Q. 15 BENJAMIN

ROUND FOUR - TRANSPORT -016 - 20)

- Q.16 THE HIGHWAY CODE
- Q. 17 WATERLOO
- Q. 18 SIR FRANCIS CHICHESTER
- Q. 19 AUSTRALIA
- Q. 20 ISLE OF MAN

ROUND FIVE - NORTH BY NORTHWEST

- Q. 21 MANCHESTER
- Q. 22 BLACKPOOL
- Q. 23 LIVERPOOL
- Q. 24 CHESTER
- Q. 25 WETHERFIELD

Newsletter No. 15 - still going!

Thanks again to everybody who's contributed. Please keep your contributions coming! Send items to us at hmethsLINK@gmail.com or phone 07798948236.

Muriel & Mike

Worship While Church is Closed

We're still sending out a link every Sunday so you can watch and hear the Morning Service at Wesley's Chapel in London. Several Services are "streamed" from there during the week and can be seen at



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA

In addition, Rev Michael Moon is providing a service sheet each week for anybody who prefers reading a service to watching a video. This is a short act of worship for use in people's homes while churches are closed. It will also be available on the Church website at https://www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk/ and on the Face Book pages as, a day or so later, will Michael's own video service.

There are other services you can watch or listen to at home, for instance:

Methodist Central Hall https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents
The Church of England

https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online

plus Songs of Praise every Sunday on BBC1 TV Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8:10am

Also, have a look at the Circuit Newsletter on the Circuit Website where, towards the end, there's a list of other on-line worship opportunities

https://www.southendandleigh.org/circuit-newsletter.html

