

Sunday 13th October 2024

**Victoria Baptist Church News** 





## The Wrestler – Limping Along with God Genesis 33:1-20

"There he set up an altar and called it El Elohe Israel." (Genesis 33:20)

This week we're turning to the strange story of Jacob's meeting and reconciliation with Esau. It starts well but takes a surprising turn. In a scene reminiscent of the return of the prodigal son, Esau ran to meet his brother, embraced him, kissed him and together they wept. After introducing his family and persuading Esau to accept his gifts, Jacob agreed to return to Esau's home.

Esau left first and as soon as he was out of sight, Jacob headed off in the opposite direction.



When everything appeared to be going so well, it's a strange thing for Jacob to do. It begs the question why? The answer reveals the privilege and challenge of belonging to God in a fallen world. It also offers encouragement to those who, like Jacob, are limping along with God. I hope you'll be able to join us.

## Next Week (20<sup>th</sup> Oct)

Chris Short will be leading the 10am service and Ian Coffey will be preaching. Our fortnightly Sunday evening Prayer Meeting will be at 6.30pm.

## Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows

Chris off Tues & Thurs

Colin off Mon Phil in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm

Kevin off Sat Simon annual leave-only in on Fri

Tim in Wed & Fri mornings Julie in Thurs

Nadine in Thurs morning Lucy in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am

Sandra off Thurs Jez in Wed & Fri

**Senior Minister** 

**Chris Short** 

**PA to Senior Minister** 

Sandra Taylor

**Family Ministries** 

Simon Grimes - Children

**Church Administrator** 

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

**CAP Debt Centre Manager** 

**Phil Papps** 

**CAP Debt Coach** 

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

**Finance Assistant** 

Julie Hanks

**Ministry Assistants** 

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk (eg chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

**VBC Bank Details** 

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

## 01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

Sun 13 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office

10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short - Harvest Celebration

7.00pm Xcav8!

Mon 14 6.00pm Girls Brigade

Tues 15 Soaking in the Spirit - next meeting, 22<sup>nd</sup>

7.00pm Safeguarding Training

Wed 16 7.00am Prayer Meeting

8.30am Community Fridge

10.00am Vicky Bees

6.30pm Boys Brigade

Thu 17 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)

10.15am Men's Fellowship with Robin Eldridge

2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Stephen Dickson

7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting

7.30pm Bible Journalling

Fri 18 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting

10.00am Vicky Bees

12.30pm Friends, Food & Fellowship

5.00pm Kids Club

7.00pm Xpect

Sat 19 9.30am Food Hygiene Training

Sun 20 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office

10.00am Live and Online with Ian Coffey

7.00pm Xcav8!

## Friends, Food & Fellowship

Please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centre if you would like to attend the next sumptuous lunch - next Friday (18<sup>th</sup>), 12.30pm as usual.

**FOOD HYGIENE**. If you are involved in any ministry where you are handling food, you should make every effort to attend next Saturday's training session. Please sign up in the Welcome Centre.



**LaDies Meal** - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 7pm, Pomodoro e Mozzarella (see sign-up sheet in Welcome Centre)

**Love From Afar** For the first Art Exhibition held at VBC last week, I would like to express my gratitude again to the church for arranging a special trip for my Christian friends from China. Mr. Guoyi Liu (Godwin) said that although he couldn't speak the language, he truly felt the warm welcome and kindness of every person in the church through their eyes. Mr. Jin said that he had never had an exhibition outside of a gallery before, and that this was the most warm-hearted exhibition he had ever participated in. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the local artist friends for their acquaintance and support of the exhibition. I hope to have the opportunity to bring their artworks to the Chinese market. If you allow, I hope we can exchange ideas in our future work.

Yanti Liao



## Apologies! ...

... particularly to Yvonne Broadbent whose name was omitted from the list of local artists in last week's news sheet. As a way of compensation, here are two of the pictures she had on display!

**Accommodation Wanted** Apart from Stef who, as advertised last week, is still looking for accommodation (contact her via e-mail - stefhknc-uk at yahoo.co.uk), we have also had a request from Emma McPhail in Gosport to ask if someone could put up a family - mum, dad, son aged 17, daughter aged 16 - for the weekend of Mission Worship (Fri 15<sup>th</sup> & Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nov). They could split into dad/son and mum/daughter if required. Please contact the office here if you can help - or contact Emma direct if you have her details.



We are delighted to let you know that another client has gone debt free this week! Please pray for them and their future, that hope and freedom will be their story going forward.

## **CLT Vacancies**

The closing date for nominations to the Core Leadership Team is Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Oct so please give some prayerful thought to potential candidates. We have forms available in the office that need to be completed, by both a proposer and a seconder, as well as being signed by the nominee of course.



# Uel For Prayel

## Prayer Diary 14<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> Oct

**Monday** 'I lift up my eyes to the hills-where does my help come from?' Where are we looking for help and what are we relying on? We pray, Lord, that our friends who do not know You will seek You and find You. We pray for those who are lonely and afraid in Eastbourne and beyond; that they may find help, peace and hope in You and Your mighty power.

**Tuesday** 'My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth'. Thank You, Lord, that we can trust in You because You made everything. There is no rival, You are Lord of all. Teach us to acknowledge You in all our ways and lean not on our own understanding. May our neighbours see how we live by faith.

**Wednesday** 'He will not let your foot slip - He who watches over you will not slumber' Thank you, Lord, that we can sleep well because You do not slumber or sleep. You are always watching and protecting. We bring our friends, parents, spouses, children and grandchildren to You Lord and pray that they may learn to rest in You.

**Thursday** 'The LORD watches over you.' Heavenly Father, You are watching over Your children. You know us personally and promise protection to Your people. We ask for Your protection over those who are facing persecution for their faith. May they be aware of Your care and that You are watching over them all the time.

**Friday** 'The LORD will keep you from all harm - He will watch over your life' We think of all the groups for children and youth which meet throughout the week, including Vicky Bees today. We pray that the children and their families may learn, when we trust in Christ, that the Lord will watch over their whole life from infancy.

**Saturday** 'the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.' As we meet with friends and family at the weekend, and are going out to different places, may we be reassured by Your presence. Wherever we go, we are in the grip of the maker of heaven and earth.

**Sunday** We gather together today as true worshippers of God. To glorify Your Name. We thank You for Your living Word and all it teaches us. We ask that You may guide Chris, through Your Holy Spirit, as he continues to share about the life of Jacob.

## National Week of Prayer - Oct 12<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>

NWOP is a moment for the UK to return to God and flourish in the identity found in Him. NWOP is an opportunity to pray for our leaders, our nation and the nations. See <a href="https://www.nationalweekofprayer.uk/">https://www.nationalweekofprayer.uk/</a> for more details.

# The flowers last week were donated by Friends of VBC

# FLOWER MINISTRY





This is to say a big Thank You for the lovely flowers delivered to my dad at Milton Grange. He was very pleased and appreciates the prayers as he also prays for VBC as a whole.. NH



**Vacant Dates** Only one date left to fill this year if you would like to donate the flowers - Dec 1. Please contact Chris McMahon for further details.