



Sunday 22nd September 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News

THEN RACHEL SAID, "IN MY GREAT
STRUGGLES, I HAVE WRESTLED
WITH MY SISTER AND WON." SO
SHE NAMED HIM NAPHTALI.

– *GENESIS 30:8*

Live in CHURCH

**Live and online
WITH
CHRIS SHORT**



VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH
to see Jesus Christ honoured in Eastbourne and beyond

HOME

JESUS

ABOUT

SUNDAYS

FAMILIES

CHURCH LIFE

CONTACT US

the latest
sons

CURRENT SERIES



ABOUT US



VBC on Facebook

A TALE OF TWO SISTERS

Then Rachel said, "I have had a great struggle with my sister, and I have won." (Genesis 30:8)

Jacob is not the only wrestler in his story. Rachel and Leah are wrestling too. As the two brothers (Jacob and Esau) had wrestled over the birth-right and blessing, here two sisters wrestle over Jacob's love. It is a sorry tale. The words of Leah, as she names her sons, are painful to read. Rachel's grief and rage at her infertility is no less distressing. In a different world, loving sisters may have comforted and consoled one another - here they compete.



God had promised Jacob a stairway to reconnect heaven and earth. That stairway would make it possible for heaven's love to heal human hearts. This story, and others that follow it, show us just how much that stairway is needed.

And though the times, places and circumstances differ from our own, the sorrows and responses are often the same. We all need God to heal our wounds and heal our world. We need Him just as much as Leah and Rachel needed Him.

NEXT Week (29TH Sept)

Chris Short will be preaching at the 10am service.

BAPTISM It is hoped that we will be having another Baptismal Service shortly. If this is something you would like to consider, please have a word with our Senior Minister, Chris Short. He is planning to start Baptismal classes this afternoon (Sunday 22nd) at 5pm in his office.



Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows

Chris off Tues

Colin off Mon

Kevin off Sat

Tim in Wed & Fri mornings

Nadine in Mon & Thurs mornings

Sandra & Jez annual leave, back on 9th Oct

Phil in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm

Simon off Tues

Julie in Thurs

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

Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

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

christians
against
poverty

CAP

Another 2 debt free clients! We heard this week that 2 more clients have had their debts cleared and are now debt free! Please continue to pray for our clients, as many are on very low incomes and walk a tightrope to avoid further debt. Pray that those who become debt free are able to stay debt free and that they can experience increased hope and a positive future.

- Sun 22 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short
7.00pm Xcav8!
- Mon 23 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tues 24 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit - ladies only
- Wed 25 7.00am Prayer Meeting
8.30am Community Fridge
10.00am Vicky Bees
6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 26 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
10.15am Men's Fellowship - next meeting Oct 3rd
2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Rev. Chris Webster
7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 27 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
10.00am Vicky Bees
5.00pm Kids Club
7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 28
- Sun 29 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short
7.00pm Xcav8!

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

- Francis Bates Sep 22 Punnetts Town, 3pm
Sep 29 Bernhard Baron, 5pm



HARVEST CELEBRATION - Sunday 13th Oct, 10am

Food Hygiene John Demetriou has kindly offered to deliver some Food Hygiene Training for us on Saturday 19th October from 9.30am - 1pm. If you are involved in any ministry where you are handling food, you should make every effort to attend. Please sign up in the Welcome Centre.





fresh streams
KEEPER IN - PRAYER OUT

seba
Growing healthy churches in developing countries

Prayer + FASTING

Thursday 26 September

You are invited to join with others across Great Britain for a day of prayer and fasting for our Baptist family and movement and specifically its mission, including the 'Everyone Everywhere' initiative.

You are welcome to join with the SEBA team online at 8:30-9:15am and again at 4:30-5:15pm to pray together.

Email sue@seba-Baptist.org.uk for more information and a Zoom link.

photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash

Accommodation Needed

A single female church member is looking for accommodation (ideally with fellow Christians), not too far from the church, and ideally not far from bus routes!



For details & discussion, please kindly contact Stef - email address is

stefhknc-uk@yahoo.co.uk

Hope Lebedyn

A reminder that the weekly newsletter re developments in Lebedyn will not be sent for the next couple of weeks as Sandra is away on holiday. Normal service will be resumed on her return.



Safeguarding Training

If you were unable to attend the first session (Sat 14th), please make every effort to attend on **Tuesday 15th Oct** 7-9pm. Do sign up in the Welcome Centre. This is essential training for all Staff, Trustees & Volunteers.

If you did indeed attend the first session last week, please find your certificate in your pigeon hole.



Bible Reading Notes

Bible Reading Notes from Oct to Dec 2024 are now in pigeonholes for those who have ordered them.

PRAYER DIARY 23RD - 29TH SEPT

“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD, the humble shall hear of it and be glad” [Ps 103:1,2] I love the book of Psalms. They are so real – full of praise, wonder and worship of God; but also questions and contentions about the issues of life. The writers show us the heart of God and voice many of the concerns we have as we walk with the Lord.

Monday “I will lie down and sleep, I awake again because the LORD sustains me” [Psalm 3:5] As we start a new week, we are “awakened” to the new days ahead of us with expectation of hope for new things and the opportunity to see God at work in our lives. Whatever awaits us at the start of this new week, we know that it is the Lord who awakens us from our sleep and who will sustain us during the week. May we live as salt and light to those who need to be awakened to the truth of Jesus Christ.

Tuesday “I will lift up my eyes to the hills where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD who made heaven and earth” [Ps 121:1-2]. The Jews of the OT used the temple and its location as a focal point of worship – to them it was the tangible evidence of God in their midst. Today we are the temple of the Lord and are living evidence of God being present in our society. We thank You for the assurance that our help comes from the One who made the visible heavens and the earth. We thank you LORD that You are our sure help.

Wednesday “But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all Your deeds”. [Psalm 73:28]

Keeping near to God can be a challenge sometimes, especially with very busy lives. Life gets in the way, you could say, and it is very often our church family and community that keeps us near to the Lord. We thank You Lord that You are near to us in our times of troubles. We bring all ministries of the church before You, and thank You for all those involved. We thank You for those out on the mission field – near and far. May our acts of service bring us near to You, and give us many opportunities to tell of Your deeds to those we serve.

Thursday “No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame..” [Ps 25:3] One of the most beautiful aspects of Christianity for me, is the love of Jesus that deals with our guilt – removing its effect from us. As we progress into this week, it is likely we may do or say something that can cause guilt, but we have a loving Saviour who erases the pain of guilt and its effect of shame as soon as we confess to Him. Whilst we are grateful for God’s loving forgiveness and healing to us, we are aware that there are many who live with this pain. Lord, we pray for those around us who are living with guilt and shame. Give us the opportunity to tell them of Your great love for them.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Please bless our ministries to those who don't know You and increase the impact of the work of our church in our local community.

Friday “The heavens declare the glory of God” [Psalm 19:1] Living in Eastbourne, we get to see lovely sunrises and sunsets and marvellous cloud formations - we can look up to the heavens and see and declare the Glory of God. Thank You Lord for the display of Your glory in the skies. We pray that Your glory will cover the earth and that many will see You as the God that You are – good, mighty and loving.

Saturday “Return to your rest my soul for the LORD has been good to you” [Psalm 116:7] Rest is God's idea. After taking six days to make the world, God rested and called the rest day Holy. Whether we rest from work on Saturday or on another day, we thank You Lord for this time of rest. We pray for those who struggle to find that place of rest. We pray for Your healing and peace on those suffering from sickness and other distresses. May we all find rest for our souls as we find that you are good in all circumstances.

Sunday “How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity... for there the LORD bestows His blessing even life for evermore” [Psalm 133:1,3]

Meeting in church on Sunday with fellow believers is the highlight of the week. Thank You Lord for giving us the gift of fellowship. We pray for those leading the services on Sunday; those ministering to the children and young people, and those leading our midweek life groups. We pray for those who are not free to worship as we are, please look after them and bring them freedom to worship in safety.



Church Members' Meeting

Wed 25th Sept, 7.30pm

1. Introduction, Welcome and Prayer
2. Agreement of Minutes and Matters arising
3. Membership Report - **Chris Short**
4. Finance Report – **Mark Evason**
5. Ethos Statement - **Chris Short**
6. Youth Appointment Update & Staff Matters - **Chris Short**
7. Charitable Status and Assets Update – **Andrew Phillips**
8. Forthcoming CLT elections
9. Hope into Action
10. AOB: **Items for consideration to be emailed to the church office by Monday 23rd September**
11. **DONM: 7:30pm, 27th November 2024**

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Joan Wells



Thank you so much for the flowers and kind message I received after my recent accident. The beautiful autumn colours really cheered me up. LH

A very big thank you, not just for the beautiful flowers delivered on Monday, but also for the very appropriate text accompanying them.

With love to you all. J&HB

Vacant Dates We only have a few dates left this year if you would like to donate the flowers one week - Oct 20, Nov 17 & 24, Dec 1 & 15.

Looking ahead, we have already had 4 bookings for 2025! If you too have a special occasion next year and would like to donate around a particular date, we would suggest you let us know as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Please contact Chris McMahon for further details.