



Mid-Wyedean Churches

serving Coleford, Clearwell,
Newland, Redbrook, Staunton
and surrounding communities

Sunday October 19th
18th Sunday after Trinity

BIBLE READINGS

Genesis 32.22-31

Psalms 121

2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.5

Luke 18.1-8

PRAYER FOR THIS SUNDAY

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

REFLECTIONS.....MARIAN IVENS

Pain is Pain

In the reading from Genesis 32, Jacob's strange wrestling has a lot to say about personal struggles and what happens when we face trauma and difficulties. Often when we face deep trauma there are no answers at all; we just have to grit our teeth and get through it.

An unknown man struggles with Jacob in a shadowy fight, "until daybreak." A long time! This fight reflects the mystery of trauma when we are faced with emotional enemies we cannot see or name.

The story shows that even in darkness, God is there because Jacob "keeps up the conversation," praying if you like. So, keep talking to God even when it all seems hopeless and painful; talk to God and he listens. Trauma is a lonely business, but this conversation shows we are not alone.

CONTINUED....

Jacob is transformed by the fight. He is given a new identity. He is no longer, "Jacob the cheater," but "Israel," which means "protected by God." Even "in the valley of the shadow of death" (Psalm 23) God is with us and transforming us. But what about the "the Limp?" There is a temptation, having suffered deep trauma, for it to define us. This story shows that trauma need not define us, but refine our relationship with God.

The promise, wherever we are in our struggles of life, is that each one of us may know the healing and transforming love of God who protects and leads each one into a new future.

Love Marian.

SERVICES THIS SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER

The Good Shepherd, Broadwell 10.30am

Parish Harvest Communion

Do bring non-perishable foods to donate to the Foodbank and the Salvation Army. Fresh produce welcome too, either to be taken for a donation, or can be given for the Friday table at Cafe 16.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER

There is no service at **The Good Shepherd, Broadwell**, but you are welcome to attend one of our other services below or Coleford Baptist at 10.30am

All Saints, Staunton 9.30am

Communion

All Saints, Newland 10.30am

Communion

PRAYERS AND NOTICES

GIVE THANKS....

for the abundant fruit harvest in the West of England this year. Also for the onset of Autumn, and the amazing colours that we see in the Forest of Dean.

PRAY....

- for Sue R. and the inspiration she is giving to others, Jackie. Monica. Dean and family. Elijah and family, the family of Ken and Margaret Winter
- for renewed engagement with baptism families, that these early encounters may spark an amazing adventure with Jesus Christ; and for all who nurture under-5s and their families, **particularly at Mustard Seeds**, but also across Coleford.
- for children and youth across the Forest of Dean (see below)

Please let me know of any people or situations who need to be added to (or taken off!) the prayer requests above.

Many Thanks. John- midwyedeannews@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITY

Don't forget there are Christian books at the back of The Good Shepherd Church which you can take away to study over a cuppa at home.



Good Shepherd Fashion Show

The fashion show at Teri Chances boutique recently was a great success despite the awful weather- people came and a good time was had by all. We raised £500 towards the work needed on the doors at the Good Shepherd.

Thanks are due to many people but especially the models, and Teri and her team for making it all possible.

Ann



Wednesday October 22, 7:00 - 8:00 pm at Five Acres School, Coleford.

Mobilising Christians to support their school communities in the Forest of Dean through prayer. Includes guest speakers, a time of prayer and networking for Christians, teachers, school staff, those involved with schools work and who want to pray for their local schools.

For more information contact Jonathan@togetherforyouth.co.uk

REGULAR EVENTS + MEETINGS



MUSTARD SEEDS

Stay & Play for 0-5 years old.

Tuesdays in term time, 9.45-11.30am at Coleford Baptist Church.

TOGETHER FOR PRAYER

Tuesdays 12.00- 1.00 at The Vicarage.

All Welcome



CRAFT CLUB

Crafts in Good Company at The Good Shepherd, Broadwell,

Thursdays, 2- 4 pm

BROADWELL CHAT

Coffee and chat

Every 1st Thursday of the month 10.00-

12.00 at The Good Shepherd Church, Broadwell. Children & pets welcome.

Next meeting Thursday 6th November

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE



Craft stalls, Raffle, Cake Stall, light Lunches & Refreshments

Saturday 8th november

10.00-2.00pm

at The Good Shepherd

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR REQUESTS

I'd appreciate it if we could continue to have donations of raffle prizes (thanks for everything so far), and also now, offers of cakes for the cake stall & as refreshments. Donations can be left in the basket in the vestry at the Good Shepherd.

Many thanks. Ann

REDBROOK MUSIC NIGHTS

Family friendly food & open mic. All Welcome

5.30pm-7.30pm

Second Saturdays-

8th Nov, 13th Dec

at St.Saviours, Redbrook



Any enquiries, contact Nicholette at the Parish Office on Fridays 8.30-3.00 or phone 07933 935534,

Newsletter Items should be emailed by Wed 12 Noon to John- midwyedeannews@gmail.com