



# stayCONNECTED

MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF VALLEY CHAPEL

May 2022 Edition

## PASTOR'S CORNER

I grew up in a conservative Christian home. Every morning my mother would have radio preachers on our radio. After they went off the air, she would often plan Christian hymns and gospel songs on the family record player. The calendar that hung on our refrigerator was a scripture calendar with a verse printed on each day. From time to time, my mother would attempt to have us memorize the verse of the day before we left for school. Like many conservative Christian families, we always went to Sunday School, Morning Worship Service, Sunday Evening service, Wednesday night prayer meeting, and when we were older, Friday night Youth Group. Revival services were at least a week-long, and we never missed a night. Wow, that was a lot of church, and I sure have a lot of memories, mostly good. I do remember one radio preacher who would always say, "God is still on the throne, and prayer changes things."

I heard that over and over again. I never forgot it. As I reflect on that statement, I believe it to be true. God is, in fact, still on His throne. He is the only true God, creator, and sustainer of all life. He is all-powerful and eternally existent. We are reminded of these truths in the Book of Revelation. "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last. I am the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys to death and Hades." (Rev. 1:17&18 NIV)

He is right now and has been since his death and resurrection, in the process of taking back, restoring, renewing, and returning everything to himself.

He is on the throne.

I believe the second part of the statement is also true. "Prayer changes things." Prayer, first of all, should

change us. It will draw us closer to God, increase our faith, and keep us hopeful. It will also move the Holy Spirit to move on hearts, churches, and even nations.

On Sunday, May 1, we will join over 500,000 other believers in Nazarene churches in daily prayer. We will be specifically focusing on spiritual renewal and revival in our churches. We will be praying that pastors will preach the Word of God with conviction. We will be praying that our churches will experience the power of God to help us be his witnesses in our world.

We will have a daily prayer guide available for you to use. You can receive it online at <https://usacanadaregion.org/pray> or pick up a copy at the Welcome desk.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob

### NEW ISRAEL TRIP DATES

May 18-28, 2023

Due to all that is taking place with international travel to Israel, our guide, Dr. Dan Glick, has scheduled our group to Israel for 2023.

Save the date! If you're interested in going with Pastor Bob & Sharon, email Sharon Howard at [Sharon@valleychapel.us](mailto:Sharon@valleychapel.us).



Valley Chapel

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VISIT US ONLINE [valleychapel.us](http://valleychapel.us)

If you would like something in the June edition of "Stay Connected" Please send your information to Alice by May 20. [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us)

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Church family,  
"Hope Springs Eternal"

I found myself thinking about these words several times throughout the pandemic year of 2021. I guess I found them comforting in a spiritual sort of way.

It's actually a line from a poem entitled "An Essay on Man" by Alexander Pope.

Now, I am certainly no expert on poetry. In fact, I thought the line may have come from the Bible. Similar to other lines we may hear from time to time, such as "Apple of my eye" Deuteronomy 32:10 and Psalms 17:8 or "A man after my own heart" 1 Samuel 13:14 and Acts 13:12.

Even though "Hope Springs Eternal" is not from the Bible, I think there are some similarities to Biblical truths.

The world may use the words as wishful thinking when the odds are not favorable for a positive outcome. But what about Biblical hope? Does it spring eternal?

The word hope is used many times in both the Old and New Testaments though with somewhat different meanings. In the Old Testament, the word hope refers to waiting and enduring. In the New Testament, the word hope refers to expectation, trust and confidence.

In other words, Biblical hope is based on faith and trust.

We, as a church body, relied on our faith and trusted in the Lord our God to make it through a difficult year. Indeed hope does spring eternal as we enter into a post-pandemic world.

Since this is my annual treasures report, I guess I should mention some financial information.

Thank you for continuing to give of your time, talents, and financial resources under difficult circumstances. Thank you for praying and helping others.

Many of our financial goals and objectives were met. In fact, we exceeded our budgeted goals well beyond my expectations. To God be the Glory!

Some highlights:

1. As of March 31, 2022, the overall tithes to the church were \$1,103,784.19. To God be the Glory!

2. As of March 31, 2022, \$69,010 was given to support missions. To God be the Glory!

3. As of March 31, 2022, \$105,433 was given to the Common Fund. To God be the Glory!

4. We continue to aggressively pay down the mortgage. In fact, because of your faithfulness, the church board approved a one-time payment of \$100,000 to the principal of the mortgage.

Our monthly mortgage payment now pays more to principal than interest. To God be the Glory!

As of March 31, 2022, \$90,344.18 was given for debt reduction. 100% of this money has gone directly to the principal of the mortgage, further reducing the interest charges. To God be the Glory!

The new fiscal year will no doubt bring new challenges to our families, our church, our jobs, and our communities.

But take heart. Hope springs eternal.

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Blessings.

Ken Kaiser  
Treasurer

## Sunday Morning Adult Classes 9:30-10:20 AM

### Love & Respect Building Blocks

Facilitators: Spud & Dee Durran in Room 218

Have you been looking for a marriage study that is so entertaining and enlightening that your marriage improves almost immediately? Dr. Emerson Eggerich has done it again! Emerson will unpack 5 key principles that will create "Ah Ha" moments and bring fresh insight into your marriage. In this Building Blocks small group study you will learn how to: value your unique differences, resist misleading cultural influences, refocus on what made you friends, understand your spouse's mother tongue, and effectively influence the relationship. Join us and start building up the blocks of your marriage

### Is God to Blame? Moving Beyond Pat Answers to the Problem of Suffering

Facilitator: Michael Swanson Room 219

Is God to blame? This is often the question that comes to mind when we confront real suffering in our own lives or in the lives of those we love. What comes through in *Is God to Blame?* is a hopeful picture of a sovereign God who is relentlessly opposed to evil, who knows our sufferings and who can be trusted to bring us through them to renewed life.

### Road to Freedom—Celebrate Recovery

Facilitator: Amy Levins Volunteer Break Room—next to East side coat room

Open to men and women

Whether you are dealing with substance abuse, relational struggles, or eating challenges, or you simply want to let go of what is holding you back in life, you will find answers in *The Road to Freedom*. *The Road to Freedom* will help you move from coping with hurts, hang-ups, and habits to the hope and health that only Jesus can bring.

### Where Two or More Are Gathered

Facilitators: Suzie McCabe & Lynne Fortin in Prayer Room

Come pray with us!

### Faith Connections Bible Study

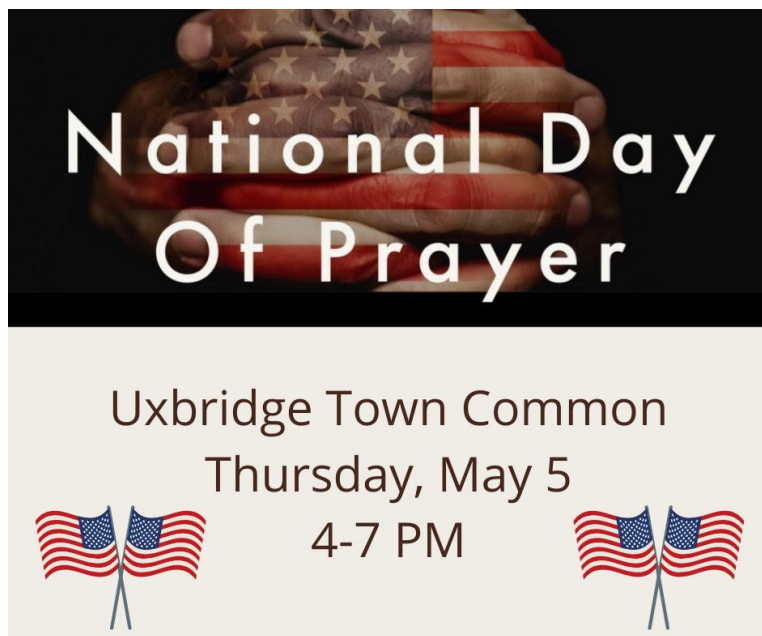
Facilitator: Paul Cnossen In Room 225

Who is Jesus? Gospel of Mark

### Young Adult Group— 9 AM Sunday Mornings

Facilitator: Seth Wojciechowski in Room 220

Anyone 17-25 who wants a group to study the Word

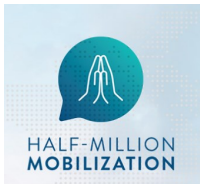


The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. The National Day of Prayer Task Force is a privately funded organization whose purpose is to encourage participation on the National Day of Prayer. It exists to communicate with every individual the need for personal repentance and prayer, to create appropriate materials, and to mobilize the Christian community to intercede for America's leaders and its families. The Task Force represents a Judeo Christian expression of the national observance, based on our understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.

Valley Chapel is Partnering with Faith Fellowship and Cornerstone Church for this important event. Please plan on coming to the Uxbridge Town Common at a time that is convenient for you between 4-7pm.







Half-Million Mobilization is a **Call to Pray** for the future of our denomination and our local churches in Canada and the United States. Pray for the protection, direction, and revelation of the Spirit on our ministries together.

Our prayer is to see renewal and a resurgence of the Nazarene Church and holiness message in our people. The Call to Speak is a prayer response/survey to gather feedback on what the Spirit says to the church during this time of prayer.

From May 1st through Pentecost (June 5th) there will be a daily time of prayer using a Praying Our Way to Pentecost prayer journal.

The prayer journal is available online and in print at the Welcome Desk.



Plan to follow along and anticipate a great outpouring of the Spirit during this season.



June 5  
Visitor's Luncheon  
June 8-10  
District Assembly  
June 11  
Women's Ministry Event  
June 18  
Men's Breakfast



To receive the weekly VC Messenger and prayer requests, give your email to Alice at [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us)



Women's  
Ministry  
Event

**Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**10am-2pm**

Join us for this 2 session video seminar as Kelly Needham challenges us to raise our expectations of what true friendship looks like. With a clear view of Scripture and a been-there perspective, she will help us to identify unhealthy signs, tackle the stumbling blocks to genuine friendships and reorient us to the purposeful relationships each of us craves. Our friendships really can be more than what the world offers!

Women of all ages can grow in their view and knowledge of what healthy Christian friendships should look like. Appropriate for teens on up! Invite your daughters, mothers, sisters and friends.

Lunch will be provided, limited childcare by sign up only. Signups will be located at the welcome desk or you can join our new Valley Chapel Women's Ministry Facebook group page and go to the events tab to register! We hope to see you there!

Please register no later than June 5<sup>th</sup>



SUNDAY

CLASSES FOR ALL: 9:30 AM

SERVICE TIME: 10:30 AM

### ● ONLINE SERVICE

VALLEYCHAPEL.US

Watch LIVE during our service time above.

### ● GIVING

We appreciate your giving. Did you know that you can also give online? Go to our website and click on the giving tab on our homepage. You can also use our APP and the giving tab on the our APP.

You can also stop by and drop your offering in the offering box in the sanctuary, lobby, outside at our west entrance.

### ● SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook.com/VCUxbridge



Instagram.com/VCUxbridge

NEED TO CATCH UP?

Watch all messages on our website at any time. All messages are archived for viewing.



The prayer theme for May will align with the prayer assignment on Awakening and a move of God.

"And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake from your slumber, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed" (Romans 13:11).

Please sign up for our May prayer weekend on May 27-29, focusing on Spiritual awakening and a move of the Holy Spirit. We will have a special prayer and worship meeting the **following** week on Sunday, June 5, from 4-5 pm in the sanctuary to celebrate Pentecost and pray for a move of the Spirit in our church and land.