



# StayCONNECTED

December 2022 Edition

## *Pastor's Corner*

In Matthew 1-2, we read about two kings: Herod and Jesus. The former was an earthly king. The latter is the Eternal King.

Herod ruled Israel and Judah from 37-4 BC. He was a master builder, constructing many theaters, cities, and fortresses. One of his construction campaigns was his own palace at Jericho. His most famous building project was the rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem. He was known for being ruthless, murdering his own wife, several sons, and other relatives. In order to protect his throne, he ordered for "all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under" to be killed (Matthew 2:16). He was threatened by Jesus, the true King of Kings.

King Jesus was not concerned about protecting His own throne. Rather, Jesus willingly gave up His heavenly throne to come down to earth (Philippians 2:6-7). Unlike Herod, Jesus did

not need the comforts of a palace. Jesus traded in the splendor of glorious heaven to be born in a lowly manger (Luke 2:7). Herod surrounded himself with the wise counsel of chief priests and scribes (Matthew 2:4), while Jesus' first visitors were uneducated shepherds. Herod may have built an earthly temple, but Jesus truly brought God's presence to His people. He is Immanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23). Furthermore, while Herod kills others for his selfish gain, Jesus allowed Himself to be murdered in order to save His people (2 Corinthians 5:21). And that's not even the end of the story. The king that killed others to save himself died from sickness in his palace while Jesus rose from the dead and reigns forever on His heavenly throne (Revelation 3:21). Though there are two kings mentioned in Matthew 1-2, there is no comparison. It is Jesus, the Eternal King, who is worthy of our praise.

This stark contrast between

Herod and Jesus teaches us this: Don't place your hope in an earthly king. Rather, place your hope in the Eternal King. Like Herod, earthly kings and leaders will let us down. Their actions are often selfish, deceptive, and temporary. On the contrary, Jesus rules with humility, in truth, and forevermore. Pray for your earthly kings and leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-2). They certainly need it! And give thanks to God this Christmas season because we have our Eternal King. He will never let us down. Merry Christmas!

Isaiah 9:6 – "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Pastor Matt



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



## ValleyKids' 3rd Annual CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

40+ Gift Ideas to Grow a Child's Faith

Give Them Gifts with Meaning!  
When shopping for the children in your life this Christmas, consider gifting an item that will not only entertain but help inspire, grow, and encourage their faith!

Below you will find ideas for toddlers & preschoolers, elementary-aged children, and even younger middle schoolers as well! Links to all the suggestions are included for your convenience.

Whether you choose from these specific items or use them as a jumping point, I encourage you to invest in items that will have an influence far beyond Christmas morning!

Erin Tubo, ValleyKids Director  
Valley Chapel



**Prison Fellowship Angel Tree™** equips churches to strengthen relationships between incarcerated parents and their children and support the families of prisoners year-round.

November 27 you be able to pick your Angel Tree tag off the tree, and buy a gift or gift card for that child. Gift will need to be returned by December 11.

## Three Special Christmas Concerts



**THE COMPANY CHRISTMAS PARTY TOUR**

**COCHREN & CO.**

WITH \* \* \* \* \*

**DAVID LEONARD**



**THURSDAY  
DEC 8 - 7PM**

Valley Chapel and Fuse Concerts present an unforgettable night of Christmas music and hits along with our special guest David Leonard.

Tickets - \$20 - \$35

Valley Chapel  
14 Hunter Road, Uxbridge, MA

*Blackstone Valley Community Chorus*  
at Valley Chapel

Sunday, December 11 at 3pm



**Birch Alley Brass**

A CONCERT FOR CHRISTMAS  
Friday, December 16 at 7pm  
FREE ADMISSION - VALLEY CHAPEL



Youth Group  
**NERF NIGHT**

Friday  
Dec. 2  
7-9 PM





The purpose of Night to Shine is to create an unforgettable prom experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs. Every guest will enter on a red carpet and be greeted with a warm welcome, friendly crowd, and "paparazzi." Guests will receive the royal treatment with hair and makeup stations, shoe shining stations, limousines rides, corsages and boutonnieres, a karaoke room, a catered dinner, prom favors, a Respite Room for parents and caretakers, and of course dancing! Night to Shine will take place at Faith Fellowship Church. 647 Douglas St, Uxbridge on February 10.

We will need many volunteers:

- ~Thursday Feb 9, 6-10pm for setup
- ~Friday Feb 10, 4-10pm for event
- ~Saturday Feb 11, 9-noon for clean up



This is going to be a lot of fun, and we need your help to pull it off! Use the QR code to sign up to help.

Training for Night to Shine Volunteers will be January 18 at 9am at Faith Fellowship Church. 647 Douglas St, Uxbridge MA 01569

### Thrive Classes - Sundays @ 9:30 am

- ~ Apologetic with Jason Jolin in Room 121
- ~ Colossians with Phil LaFountain in Room 219
- ~ Faith Connections with Randy Fields & Paul Trout in room 225
- ~ Lead Like it Matters with Ron Cook virtual class

**Check out the website for Open Life Groups**  
[www.valleychapel.us/life-groups-new](http://www.valleychapel.us/life-groups-new)



Family Game Night  
TBD

Sight & Sound Movie for women  
Wed. Jan 11 12 pm



Help your neighbors. Ring bells for Salvation Army. Volunteering at the red kettle is a great opportunity for families and individuals of all ages. It only requires 2 hours of your time. It benefits our neighbors who will need fuel, medical or rent assistance this winter. It assists our youth group here at Valley Chapel. You ask how do I help? It's easy! Click on the sign up link on our website or QR code for a list of places, times available and instructions.

Any questions? Call Sharon Howard at 508-278-2315.



Sign up here



Valley Chapel  
is reading  
through the  
Bible in 2023!

For our 2023 Devotional we will be reading through the bible Chronologically together - using the Bible Recap.

Each day there is scripture reading and a short (8 minutes) daily podcast to go with the reading. You can get this on the bible app, Spotify, and more. To learn more information go to <http://www.thebible Recap.com/start>

There is also a book to use if you do not want to do this digitally. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk to pre-order a book (cost of book \$21)

Valley Chapel Women's Ministry Day Trip to Bristol, RI

**Sunday December 11 -- 12:30-7:00 pm**



Leave in church vans right after Sunday service. Explore on your own or stay with the group. Meet back at the vans at 6 pm to head home. Limited spots available, please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

Music, shopping, activities, great food and festive atmosphere

Join us for a fun filled afternoon in beautiful Bristol Rhode Island for the second annual Christmas European style Marketplace.

Enjoy sweet and savory foods along with other delectable European styled fares. Decorate your own Balsam Christmas wreath or take a short walk down to the historic Bristol Maritime Center on the waterfront or visit the large indoor vending area and enjoy holiday shopping for unique last-minute gifts. There will be music and dancing exhibitions, caroling and strolling among the thousands of beautiful lights.

We will be leaving right after Sunday service and will provide water and snacks for the ride. Once there you can set off on your own or stay with the group. We will meet back at the vans at 6:00 pm to head home. **Limited spots available, please sign up at the Welcome Desk.**



"When the enemy comes in like a flood the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19).

Satan is coming like a flood against our families so come and pray that the Spirit of the Lord will raise up a standard against him. We will pray for protection and reconciliation of all family relationships. We will also pray for family unity and for salvation of unsaved family members. Sign up for a slot to pray for our December prayer weekend Dec 16-18 and stand in the gap for your family. Corporate prayer and worship meeting will be Sunday December 18th at 4pm.

## SUNDAY

CLASSES FOR ALL: 9:30 AM

SERVICE TIME: 10:30 AM

## ONLINE SERVICE

VALLEYCHAPEL.US

Watch LIVE during our service time.

## 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 or 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.

If you would like something in the January edition of "Stay Connected" Please send your information to Alice by Dec. 16 [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us)

To receive the weekly VC Messenger email and prayer requests, give your email to Alice at [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us) and let her know you want to be added to the email list.



Advent Sermon Series

## Christmas Services

Saturday

December 24

### Christmas Eve Service

A family-friendly service with singing, drama, candle lighting, and short message from Pastor Bob. In-Person & Livestream | 4pm

Sunday

December 25

### Christmas Morning Service

Join us in celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! (No Children's Classes) In-Person & Livestream | 10:30am