

StayCONNECTED

January 2023 Edition

Pastor's Corner

On Sunday morning, January first, we are going to share in the Word of God in a slightly different way than usual. Rather than one of our pastors preaching, we are going to have a pastoral "discussion" with all of our pastors. We are going to spend the 'sermon' part of the service sharing about the life of John the Baptist or the Baptizer. John is chosen by God, filled with the Holy Spirit from birth, as the person who would prepare the way for the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah. His ministry is so critical that he has written about it in all four of the gospels.

Matthew's gospel 3:3 quotes the prophet Isaiah "A voice of one calling in the desert, prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him." Mark, unlike Matthew and Luke, does not begin his gospel with the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. He begins with John in the midst of his ministry, introducing Jesus as he begins his public ministry.

Mark again quotes the prophets Isaiah and Malachi "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way: "a voice of one calling in the desert prepare the way for the Lord make straight paths for him." Luke quotes the same Isaiah passage with some additional verses, including "And all mankind will see God's salvation."

One of the questions I will ask our pastors on January first is, "In this new year, 2023, how can their specific areas of ministry make straight paths for the way of the Lord? How can our ministries help mankind see the salvation of the Lord? Our pastors have different areas of ministry in our church body, yet each of us has a heart to see our ministry used by God to help others come to Christ as their Savior and Lord. I'm really looking forward to our sharing together.

May I ask you the same question? As we enter the year

2023, how can your life, your testimony, and your ministry "prepare the way for the Lord to enter someone's life? How can you help make a straight spiritual path for someone to find Christ? Help to answer the questions and dispel their doubts? Help them to experience the love and grace of God in their lives? Let's ministry together this year, pastors and people.

Blessings
Pastor Bob

Thank You!

"Thank you!" From the Pastors and Staff

It means so much to us that our church family is so loving and supportive all year long. Thank you for your generous Christmas gift.

Pastor Bob, Pastor Josh, Pastor Matt and the entire staff

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VISIT US ONLINE valleychapel.us

Stephen Ministries



*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ
(Galatians 6:2, NRSV).*

Well, hello again...

We haven't had much time to be in touch since October as Bud Lashley, and I have been busy training twenty-three congregants to serve this body here at Valley Chapel as Stephen Ministers.

A Stephen Minister is a person who comes alongside another who is going through a life struggle. They have been trained to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. We have finished most of the main classes and will be working through others as we have continuing education during our supervision group sessions. It has been exciting to grow and learn together as a team.

On January 8th, we will be commissioning these twenty-three Stephen Ministers during the morning worship service. In the beginning, they all stated God called them to this ministry to serve. This commissioning is the conclusion of the past fifteen weeks of preparation and the assurance of the pastoral support and God's presence and blessing as they step out and bring Christ's healing love to those in need.

As stated in 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God who comforts us in all our afflictions, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves have been comforted by God."
May all glory and honor be His.

Linda Prout
Stephen Ministries Director



YOUTH GROUP NINTENDO NIGHT



Friday, January 6 7-9 pm

NEW Thrive Classes begin January 8

NEW CLASS: The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry

How to stay emotionally healthy & spiritually alive in the chaos of the modern world

Video & discussion with Pastor Josh & Jim Mercer. Sundays at 9:30

Starts January 8



NEW ADULT CLASS Sundays at 9:30

FOUNDATIONS

Know the Basics and Live Out your Faith



Phil Rainbow, facilitator

STARTS
JAN 8

- Session 1: God the Father
- Session 2: Jesus Christ
- Session 3: The Holy Spirit
- Session 4: Sin and Salvation
- Session 5: The Church and the Sacraments
- Session 6: The Bible
- Session 7: Prayer and the Holy Life
- Session 8: New Creation

The Life of David

Faith
Connections
Room 225

Led By
Paul Trout
Randy Fields

Repentance

PRAYER WEEKEND

JANUARY 27-29

Corporate prayer Sunday January 29 at 4pm in the Cafe.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. - 2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Our land is desperately in need of healing; please sign up to pray during our January prayer weekend from January 27-29 as we come before the Lord to repent both personally and for our nation and to humble ourselves and seek his face. We will have a time of corporate repentance on Sunday, January 29th, at 4 pm.

NIGHT *to* Shine

SPONSORED BY THE **TIM TEBOW**
FOUNDATION™

Celebrating people with special needs - February 10, 2023

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SCAN HERE



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, limousine 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, 6-10 pm for setup
- ~Friday, Feb 10, 4-10 pm for the event
- ~Saturday, February 11, 9-noon for the cleanup

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 on January 28 at 9 am at Faith Fellowship Church 647 Douglas St, Uxbridge, MA 01569



February 5
Visitor Luncheon

Feb 10
Night to Shine

Feb 12
Souper Bowl

Feb 25
Family Game night



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 program.

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>

Clear Way Clinic

About 15% of the women who come to Clearway Clinic for help with an unplanned pregnancy leave our offices and go on to choose abortion. We make it very clear to the women that we love them no matter what they decide. An abortion procedure can cause unexpected emotional pain. For many women who are unprepared for their own emotional reaction, they may carry this pain in secret for years, even decades. 90% of people suffering from post-abortion distress report that they don't know where to go for help. Clearway offers an 11-week Bible study which helps men and women move through stages of grief in a healthy way and to a complete healing and restoration with God. For those interested in facilitating this Bible study in partnership with Clearway, we are offering a one-day training. The training will supply participants with a Leaders Manual, study book and access to audio trainings. The training will take place on Saturday, January 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Those interested in registering should contact Amy Gaudet at amy@clearwayclinic.com. There is a cost of \$25 to cover the materials fee.



	Women's Event: Sight & Sound Video Presentation
	Wednesday January 11
	Noon-2:30pm Room 225
	Bring a lunch Sign up at Welcome Desk

Sight & Sound Movie for women
Wed. Jan 11 @ 12 pm
Bring your lunch
Sign up at the Welcome Desk

The Story of Ruth is a Sight & Sound movie that tells the biblical tale of Ruth, a woman who demonstrates unwavering loyalty and devotion to her family. Set in ancient Israel, the movie follows Ruth's journey as she faces challenges and makes sacrifices to protect those she loves.

The movie is being shown on Wednesday, January 11 at 12 pm.. Bring your lunch to enjoy before the film. If you're interested in attending, be sure to sign up at the Welcome Desk.



Food Drive - January 8

Uxbridge Food Pantry's current needs are personal care like shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and paper goods-toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex. condiments, shelf stable milk like Parmalat, tomato sauce and rice dishes.



Travel to Florida to help with

HURRICANE CLEANUP

ORGANIZED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE

January 21 - 28 or

January 28 - Feb 4

- Cutting trees
- Removing debris
- Interior demolition

SPACE LIMITED. CONTACT SHARON HOWARD FOR DETAILS ASAP

Supported by Valley Chapel Missions Council

Work & Witness Trips

Dates:

January 21-28

January 28-February 4

Teams:

3 teams of a maximum of 7 people per week.

What is provided?

- Transportation to and from work sites and airport
- Housing (at Chris and Shari's home)
- 3 meals a day
- Tools for projects

Cost:

\$325 per person (includes flight and supplies)

What to bring:

- Work clothes
- Personal water bottle
- Toiletries
- Bible

If interested in being a part of one of these work & witness teams, please contact Sharon Howard at 508-278-2315 or email at sharon@valleychapel.us **ASAP!**

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 February edition of "Stay Connected" Please send your information to Alice by Jan. 20 @ alice@valleychapel.us

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



Women's Ministry Event

Would you like to meet other women at Valley Chapel? What better way than to share a meal together with women...with a twist! Sign up for our first ever, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner to be held on Jan. 21st 5-7pm. You know the day and the time, but the twist is that you won't know who you are eating dinner with until you arrive! That is the mystery! Please sign up at the Welcome Desk if you are interested in attending Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. All you have to bring is yourself and your favorite dish. We will give you the details on where to go the morning of Jan. 21st. Looking forward to meeting each other!