

# StayCONNECTED

January 2024

## Pastor's Corner

### Ponder and Pray

I want to share with you some thoughts about our devotional book for this year along with some general thoughts on our personal devotions.

A. We ordered and sold 200 copies of "Daily Light" for this year's devotional. If you did not have a chance to pick one up you can order your own copy from Christian Book or Amazon. They come in various translations and coverings. This devotional is different from most where an author writes devotional thoughts on a piece or passage of scripture. The Daily Light is a short compilation of just scripture verses on a given topic. It was compiled originally in 1794 by Samuel Bagster in the King James Version and has a forward written by Anne Graham Lotz.

B. Many of us have just finished the "Bible Recap". We read through the entire Bible in a year along with some devotional thoughts by Tara Leigh Cobble. The purpose was to give us an overview of the Bible as a whole. Our goal was to discover His Story in the Bible's history. This year's devotional is very different. Each day the reading is short. It is a compilation of several different scriptures pulled together from numerous places in the Bible. The key for getting the most out of this devotional is to slow down and deliberately ponder the verses and then to pray about what God is revealing to you through His Word.

An outline to follow:

- a. Pray. Ask God to speak into your life through His Word.
- b. Ponder the verses. Meditate on them. Is there a verse that particularly speaks into your life? What is your Father in heaven trying to say to you through His Word? Is there a new truth for you? A truth you know but need to apply to your life this very day? A verse or verses He might want you to share with someone else?
- c. The references to the verses are at the bottom of each page in case you want to look them up and see them in their context.
- d. Pray. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you throughout the day what you have read. Many who have used this devotional comment on how often the verse they read was just what they needed for the day's events. Remember, the writer of Hebrews taught us that the Word of God is "living and active."
- e. Sharon and I will do the morning reading in our own private devotions. We will do the evening reading together as part of our prayer time together.
- f. Like with every year you may have your own favorite devotional or Bible reading plan. Whether it's the "Daily Light" or something else, the important thing is that you have your time alone with God in His Word and prayer every day.

Blessings on this New Year,  
Pastor Bob

# January 2024 EVENTS

Jan 7	<b>New Classes</b> 9:30 am	Jan 8/9	<b>Texas RoadHouse</b> Dine In	Jan 20	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> 7 am	Jan 25	<b>Light House</b> Home Schoolers
Jan 7	<b>Baby Dedication</b> Class 9:30 am	Jan 12	<b>YG Nintendo Night</b> 7-9 pm	Jan 21	<b>YA Potluck</b> 12-2 pm	Jan 26-28	<b>Prayer weekend</b>



**January 7 New Classes - 9:30am Sunday**  
We begin a new semester of 9:30 am Sunday classes  
See the list of classes on page 3.



**January 7 Child Dedication Class - Room 220**  
We will be having a child dedication on January 14 during the service. If you would like your child to be dedicated please let Alice know. [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us)



**January 8 or 9 Texas Road House Dine In**  
A percentage of your meal will go toward Youth Group activities. You will need to present a flyer to your server in order for us to get credit. Be sure to bring your flyer with you. It will be available at church or in an email.



**January 12 Youth Group Nintendo Night - 7-9PM**  
Teens, come on out and play video games with your friends!



**January 20- Men's Breakfast 7-8:30 AM**  
Brian Weigers will be sharing on Proverbs 3:5-7 and E. H. M. I. Come find out how important these four practices are to our relationships. Brian will also have copies of his book "Leaping into the Unknowns of Friendship". Pastor Bob will conclude our time together with a challenge for our men for the new year.



**January 21- Young Adult Potluck**  
Are you a young adult or a senior adult? Mark your calendars for an intergenerational potluck on January 21 in the Café from 12-2pm. Contact Pastor Matt ([pastormatt@valleychapel.us](mailto:pastormatt@valleychapel.us)) for more details.



**January 25 Lighthouse Homeschool Spring Semester Begins**  
Spring Semester begins January 25. Email [VCLighthouse@gmail.com](mailto:VCLighthouse@gmail.com) for more



**Jan 26-28 Prayer Weekend**  
Our January prayer weekend on January 26-28 will focus on healing - physical, mental and spiritual. Please consider signing up for a prayer slot to intercede for the health of yourself or loved ones. The corporate prayer meeting will be that weekend with time to be decided.

**Life Group Open** We have an opening in our Bellingham Life Group for a couple (or a couple of singles) wishing to pursue the depth of God's word in fellowship with a pair of mature Christian couples. We will resume our twice-a-month meetings (typically the first and third Friday of each month, 7:00 PM sharp) on January 5th. As we start the new year, we will also embark on a new study. This study is a 16 session DVD course led by Chuck Missler on the Book of Hebrews. This will prove to be both an exciting and challenging time for our group. Please feel welcome to join. Contact Duff and Barb Kirklewski either by e-mail (harbinger@rcn.com) or landline (yes, we still have one: 508-966-1963).

## Night to Shine Volunteers Needed

We need your help for NTS 2024 on Feb, 8 for setup, 9 for the event and 10 for clean up. Sign up here <https://signup.com/go/RzRjEZA>



**Do you homeschool?** Lighthouse Homeschoolers Co-op is a Christ-centered, grace-filled community that provides enrichment, fellowship, and support! Spring Semester begins January 25. Email [VCLighthouse@gmail.com](mailto:VCLighthouse@gmail.com) for more information!



## Exciting News! Women's Conference Here at Valley Chapel



We will be hosting an Aspire Women's Conference on February 23. Aspire is a one-night women's event full of laughter, learning, stories & music with 3 ladies taking the stage.

1 Bible Teacher – 1 Comedian – 1 Musician

For more information about the speakers that are coming use the QR code Join us for an amazing ladies' night out!



We will need 15 volunteers to help with this event. If you are interested to contact Sheri Burke [sherilynnburke@yahoo.com](mailto:sherilynnburke@yahoo.com) or Kara Wiersma [kara.wiersma@gmail.com](mailto:kara.wiersma@gmail.com)

*9:30 am Classes begin Jan 7*



**Help is Here: Finding Fresh Strength and Purpose in the Power of the Holy Spirit. Room 121** Jim Mercer and Jim Gulinello This video series by Max Lucado will explore the Holy Spirit, the heavenly helper sent to us from above. No more walking this path alone. No more carrying weight you were not intended to bear. It is time for you to enjoy the presence of the Holy Spirit and experience the fresh strength, fulfilling purpose, and vigorous life he offers. When you feel powerless to calm life's chaos, remember: Help is Here!



**Cherish - Room 219** David and Cindy Nordquist This video series by Gary Thomas will explore God's purpose for marriage and then dive into the one word that changes everything: cherish. Through the biblical act of cherishing, we can empower our spouses to become who they are called by God to be, and in the process to become more of who we are called to be, creating a marriage that feels more precious, more connected, and more satisfying. If you're ready to revolutionize your relationship, it's time to learn how to truly Cherish it.



**Faith Connections - Room 218** Randy Fields and Paul Trout Studying the parables of Jesus.



**Count It All Joy: Virtual Class** with Ron Cook 8:30-9:30 Beginning Jan 14 "Discovering a Happiness that Circumstances Cannot Change" by David Jeremiah.



**Young Adult Bible Study - Room 225** Led by Jon Robertson & Ed Wojciechowski

If you are interested in learning more about serving in ValleyKids please email [Kerri@valleychapel.us](mailto:Kerri@valleychapel.us) for more information.

Parents, do you receive the ValleyKids newsletter? Email [erin@valleychapel.us](mailto:erin@valleychapel.us) to sign up and stay informed!

## New VBS Theme



### A Big Thank You!

Thank you for the Christmas gifts and cards and prayers.  
~ church staff

### Weekly Bible Studies

Monday - Women - 9:30 am Prayer group  
Wednesday - Women - 9:30-11:30am Prayer group  
Saturday - Men - 7 am Studying the book of Jeremiah

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.

#### SUNDAY

Classes for all ages at 9:30 AM  
SERVICE TIME: 10:30 AM

#### ONLINE SERVICE

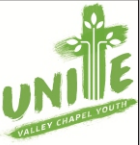
VALLEYCHAPEL.US Watch LIVE.

#### GIVING

We appreciate your giving. Did you know that you can also give online? [www.valleychapel.us/giving](http://www.valleychapel.us/giving), or stop by and drop your offering in the connect box in the sanctuary, lobby, outside at our West entrance.

If you would like something in the January edition of "Stay Connected" Please send your information to Alice by December 22 to [alice@valleychapel.us](mailto:alice@valleychapel.us)

Wednesday night youth group in the Main Campus Cafe from 6:30-8pm. Spend time with friends, enjoy group games, and be encouraged by God's Word.



Sunday morning youth class at the Lower Campus (130 Douglas St. Uxbridge MA 01569) at 9:30am. Doors open at 9am. Join us for a group Bible lesson followed by small group discussion.

Nintendo Night - Friday, January 12 7-9 PM Come play games with us!

Youth Worship - January 28 @ 10:30 am

Jan - Apr Youth Calendar available in the lobby

Thank you for supporting our student ministry through our Texas Roadhouse fundraiser. We sold over \$7,000 worth of gift cards! Remember the dine-in nights at Texas Roadhouse in North Smithfield, RI on January 8 and Texas Roadhouse in Worcester, MA on January 9. A flyer to show to your server will be given out shortly.

VC Young Adults Bible study will continue studying the Gospel of Matthew Sunday's at 9:30 AM in room 225.

Are you a young adult or a senior adult? Mark your calendars for an inter-generational potluck on January 21 in the Cafe from 12-2pm. Contact Pastor Matt ([pastormatt@valleychapel.us](mailto:pastormatt@valleychapel.us)) for more details.

### Coming in February

Welcome Luncheon  
Feb 4

Night to Shine  
Feb 9

Souper Bowl Sunday  
Feb 11

Women's Aspire Conference  
Feb 23