



# DRAWING CLOSER

## SEASONAL

SPRING/SUMMER EDITION  
MAY-AUG 2023

# GETTING READY FOR RENEWAL!

## SUMMER IN RE:23

My word of the year this year is "Remap." It started as a thought about this year being focused on longer-term thinking, like a ship's navigator charting a course, mapping out and remapping the trip. Yet, a few months into the year I am finding that it also is teaching me about my relationship to the past. It's about looking back at where I've been and creating a map so that I can recall the old stories and guide others on their journey.

Our whole RE:23 plan is a lot like a map. It is a charted course that our community would travel through this year. I think it's been a great plan of recovery, renewal, and reimagining and we've already seen so many exciting and encouraging things along the way.

- We've moved no financial cushion to sustaining 1 month worth of expenses (\$25K).
- Our attendance on Sunday morning has increased by 38%
- We've received 10 new folks into membership
- We participated in the baptism of 11 people on Easter
- Even our online engagement through social media has increased by 27%!

Yet, we hit this point in the year, facing Phase 3 ("Renewal"), and things are no longer "fitting" the original plan. We have fallen about \$10K behind schedule on the financial recovery plan, yet It is clear that God is working on other things right now. So the BOA decided to pray together, inviting the Spirit to lead our hearts toward his direction in our summer of Renewal.



What seemed good to the BOA and The Spirit was to spend this summer focused on renewal of vision. We believe we are being invited to focus our efforts on transforming into a community through whom God's love flows. Bringing people into a Transforming relationship with Jesus Christ, renewing the health and joy found in our community and striving to go with the flow of Love pouring out of God's Spirit.



So, let's consider what that will look like in practice.

- Renewing our focus on transformation through small groups, volunteering, and training at conferences and retreats.
- Renewing our sense of community through preparation for Summer Jam as well as spontaneous community gatherings.
- Renewing our efforts to be in tune with the flow of the Holy Spirit through our sermon series and continued prayer with one another.

Please join your community in prayer for all these things, but most importantly that we would pay close attention to the wisdom of one of our church's guiding scriptures, Romans 12:2

**"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**COMMUNION** 5/7; 6/4; 7/2; 8/6



We remember Christ's work for us, welcoming all who seek to draw closer to God, no matter their belief or ability to articulate it.

**KIDZ MINISTRY** SUNDAYS



Toddlers - 5th Grade

On Sundays, our kidz worship with us. After a special lesson designed just for them, our volunteers help them "play out" what they've learned before they return to worship.

**YOUTH GROUP** 2nd & 4th SUNDAYS @ 5PM



A place for teens to come together for some fun and fellowship. Check the weekly emails for special outings this summer.

**Piecemakers** FRIDAYS @ 10AM



QUILT GROUP & MORE


We learn and practice the art of quilting as well as other handwork skills believing that our creator God has given everyone the ability to create.

**GRIEF SHARE** THURSDAYS 5/4 - 7/27 @ 6PM




GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences.

**Alpha** WEDNESDAYS 5/17-7/26 @ 5:30PM



Alpha is a series of conversations about things we all question in life: Why do bad things happen to good people? What's the purpose of life? What's next? If you're looking for a judgment-free space to ask hard questions and share your own opinion, there's a place for you.

**BIBLE: Intro/Review** SUNDAYS 5/21-6/11 @ 11:30AM



Grab a coffee (or tea) and your Bible and join us for this 4-week intro (or review) to the Bible. If you don't have a Bible, we can provide one for you.

**L. I. F. T.** 5/22; 6/26; 7/31; 8/28 @ 5:30PM



Ladies in Fellowship Together meets once a month to learn a craft and enjoy each other's company.

VISIT [VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG/](http://VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG/)

# ING THIS SEASON



5/22; 6/26; TBA @ 3PM

Free food distribution. Let's make sure that neither shame nor poverty leave our neighbors hungry. Help and/or collect.



6/15 @ 12PM

We're partnering with The Parish Community of St Michael in Warsaw to offer a free lunch to have and to share.



7/7 @ 6-7pm; 7/8 @ 9-11:30am & 1-3:30pm; 7/9 @ 10-11am

A summer celebration BIG enough for the whole family!

We're hosting an event for your family to experience together where you'll sing songs, play crazy games, laugh until your sides hurt, and learn ways to talk about faith in ways that engage every age. We truly cannot wait to experience Summer Jam with you!

Rehearsal Dates

- 6/11 @ 1-3pm
- 6/25 @ 1-3pm
- 7/2 @ 1-3pm
- 7/5 @ 6-9pm



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

5/11-12

Join Pastors & leaders from all over Central & Western NY in Pittsford to worship, learn & pray.



6/11-12

We are called to rebuild, reconcile, reimagine, and renew the Church. Join us as we explore why people are leaving the church, the reasons behind the trends, and how we can rebuild the ruins. Contact the office for registration details.



7/25-28

The General Conference is a gathering of Free Methodist Pastors & leaders from all over the US that happens every four years. We wrestle with important cultural conversations, worship together, & make national decisions including adjustments to our Book of Discipline. Please keep this important event in your prayer.

EVENTS FOR MORE DETAILS



# SERMONS & LECTIIONARY



Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospels
5/7	Acts 7:55-60	Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
5/14	Acts 17:22-31	Psalms 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
5/21	Acts 1:6-14	Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11



Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospels
5/28	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39
6/4	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalms 8	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
6/11	Genesis 12:1-9 or Hosea 5:15-6:6	Psalms 33:1-12 or Psalm 50:7-15	Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
6/18	Genesis 18:1-15 or Exodus 19:2-8a	Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19 or Psalm 100	Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:23
6/25	Genesis 21:8-21 or Jeremiah 20:7-13	Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17 or Psalm 69:7-18	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
7/2	Genesis 22:1-14 or Jeremiah 28:5-9	Psalms 13 or Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

# SCRIPTURE READINGS



## Summer

Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospels
7/9	Genesis 24:34-38, 43-49, 58-67 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13 or Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalms 45:10-17 or Psalm 145:8-14	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
7/16	Genesis 25:19-34 or Isaiah 55:10-13	Psalms 119:105-112 or Psalm 65:1-13	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
7/23	Genesis 28:10-19a or Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 or Isaiah 44:6-8	Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24 or Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
7/30	Genesis 29:15-28 or 1 Kings 3:5-12	Psalms 105:1-11 or Psalm 128 or Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



Date	Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospels
8/6	Genesis 32:22-31 or Isaiah 55:1-5	Psalms 17:1-7, 15 or Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
8/13	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 or 1 Kings 19:9-18	Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b or Psalm 85:8-13	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
8/20	Genesis 45:1-15 or Isaiah 56:1, 6-8	Psalms 133 or Psalm 67	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15:10-28
8/27	Exodus 1:8-2:10 or Isaiah 51:1-6	Psalms 124 or Psalm 138	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20

## HOW WILL THE APP HELP ME?



Direct link to Sunday's sermon online.

This week's scripture.

Read the Bible and look up scripture.

Connect to anything from events to meeting with Pastor Ryan.

Past sermons.

Self-guided Bible studies.

Connect with your community with in-app messaging.

Pray for others.

Add you own prayer requests.

Much more.



Apple



Google



Amazon



Roku



WWW.VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG

3415 RT 19S, WARSAW, NY 14569

EMAIL: [CONNECT@VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG](mailto:CONNECT@VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG)

PHONE: (585) 786-5445