



THE SHALOM NEWSLINE



*"Be strong and take
heart, all you who
hope in the Lord."
Psalm 31:24*

Church Staff

- Rev. Mark Miller.....Senior Pastor
- Rev. Dan McFaden.....Associate Pastor
- Jean Dart.....Minister of Music & Worship
- Adam Crigger.....Interim Youth Director
- Kathy Seay.....Children's Ministry Director
- Kelly Bittler.....Ministry Assistant

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Church Office Hours
Monday: 8:30am-5pm, Tuesday: 8:30am-4:30pm,
Wednesday: 8:30am-4:30pm Thursday: 8:30am-2pm

MARK'S MINUTE

I remember, years ago, teaching my older daughter, Morgan, how to play chess. Despite the fact that chess is recommended for age 7 to adult, my then 6-year old Morgan couldn't get enough of it. As we moved rooks, bishops, pawns and knights across the board, I began to reflect on how the game of chess can symbolically represent how we live out our lives on this earth. Here are a few of the lessons that I learned while teaching my daughter how to play chess:

1. You **THINK** more than you **MOVE**: I find that I get into hot water when I “jump” into decisions without fully thinking through their consequences. I certainly have some growing to do in this area, but I noticed that when I play chess, I am not just moving MY piece, I am anticipating what Morgan might do **AFTER** I move. In chess I am always trying to think several moves ahead. In fact, sometimes, I'd spend quite a while thinking (and Morgan would say, “Come on, Dad, move!”), but chess is about thinking through...not moving haphazardly. Matthew 26:41 says, “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” **YET...**
2. You undoubtedly (at some point) will be ambushed by a **SURPRISE ATTACK**: Sometimes, it's just inevitable. I won't see something coming. I thought that I had covered all of my bases, and Morgan would pull a “fast one” on me. As she removed my piece (yes, my 6-year-old often removed MY pieces), I would reel, thinking, “How could I have **MISSED** that.” However, did I continue to stew over that failure? No! I collected myself, and I carried on. Life throws us some curve balls, doesn't it? But what good does it do for us to stay where we are, constantly nursing our wounds, throwing a pity party for one, and complaining continuously? If we do that, the game never resumes...it simply stalls. Isaiah 40:29-31 says, “He {God} gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.”
3. You must have a healthy mix of knowledge and wisdom: To win at the game of chess, you must have a knowledge of the game. There are certain “boundaries” within which Morgan and I had to operate. The board, itself, has boundaries (there are only so many squares), there are rules (boundaries), and there are legal “moves” for certain pieces. We must have a knowledge of those boundaries. But we also combine that knowledge with wisdom. We look at the bigger picture, we have a goal, and we strive to be victorious! Two Scripture verses come to mind: First, in Matthew 10:16, Jesus is sending out his twelve disciples, and He says, “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd (wise) as snakes, and innocent as doves.” (Have **KNOWLEDGE** of your boundaries and act **WISELY** within them). Second, when we **DO** live out a life balancing knowledge of God's boundaries in Scripture...and we live them out wisely, then we too, can proclaim what the apostle Paul proclaims in Philippians 3:14: “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” When Morgan and I played chess, we didn't play for a “prize”. My “prize” was time spent with my daughter (and I pray that her “prize” was her time spent with her daddy). The “goal” simply became teaching and training, so that she would get better (and learn to grow in her enjoyment of the game).

Might part of the “prize” for you and me simply be carving out some time to spend with our Heavenly Father? Might one goal of our spiritual life be in us opening ourselves up to His teaching and training...so that we not only grow, but also so that we might have greater enjoyment in this life? (Living life more abundantly) ...

Checkmate.

Pastor Mark



MIGHT PART OF
THE “PRIZE”
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FATHER?

-PASTOR MARK





Pat Dressel



Opal Pope & Jo Harris



7394 Brandy Creek Drive
Mechanicsville, VA 23111



6177 Rolling Forest Circle
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Please remember Opal and Jo this month by sending them a card. It means so much to our Shut-Ins, that they are remembered and that we still care.

Just Breathe



Just Breathe
Caregivers
Support Meeting

Next Meeting:
Monday, Sept. 28th
7:00 pm
at Shalom



The Cancer
Support Group
meets the 4th
Tuesday of every
month at 11:00
am. Our next
meeting is
September 22nd.



September 2nd
POTLUCK
(CHURCH WILL PROVIDE CHICKEN)

September 9th
PIZZA

September 16th
SAUSAGES & SWEET POTATOES

September 23rd
BBQ

SEPTEMBER 30TH
LASAGNA

Cost: \$5.00 for adults
\$2.00 for children
\$15.00 per family

Each week reservation cards will be in the bulletin. **Please fill out the card insert in the bulletin or call the church office with your reservation by 3:00pm Monday and leave a message.**

We Still Have a Place for YOU to Serve!

As we prepare for the weeks ahead, our Kitchen Ministry still has some important volunteer needs.

We are currently looking for:

 **A Full Kitchen Team**
Serve together once a month to support the Kitchen Lead with meal service, beverages, dishes, kitchen clean-up, and other needs throughout the evening.

 **Dessert Crews**
We need additional volunteers who are willing to provide desserts once a month. Grab a friend or two and make it a team—you can bake together or divide and conquer!

You don't have to serve every Wednesday to make a difference. A once-a-month commitment helps make an entire evening of food and fellowship possible for our church family.

If you've been thinking about getting involved, this is a wonderful way to serve, meet people, and be part of creating the warm and welcoming fellowship we want our Wednesday nights to be.

Please contact Rhonda Neal, Kitchen Ministry Leader, by call or text at 804-241-3863 to learn more or volunteer.



Sisters in Service Circle meets Monday, September 14th at 10:00 am in the Co-Ed classroom.

Beloved Circle meets Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 pm at the home of Lori Glass.

Alma Hunt Offering for VA Missions

September 13th-20th

Offering envelopes and prayer guides will be available in the church lobby.

Our goal for Shalom is

\$3,000.00

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, September 2nd: Jean Madison, our East Richmond Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Coordinator will speak during our regular Bible study hour. She will tell us all about the shoebox ministry. Please make plans to join us.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, December 5th-Lottie Moon Christmas Tea
Save the Date!



Ten ladies traveled to Bland County to serve, trusting God had a plan for us. We sorted and hung donations for the clothes closet, helped fill baskets with fresh and frozen vegetables, and served those in need. The gratitude we received made this a truly humbling and rewarding experience. We can't wait to return next year! Mark your calendars: August 15th-20th. Come GO and help those in need-you may just experience a life-changing week!



Friday, September 11th

Richmond Flying Squirrels Game at Carmax Park

Tickets are \$20/person

Contact Delores Nabors or Ann McFaden for more information.



Our strawberry preserves collection was a huge success. Thank you Shalom for your generosity! The MCEF food pantry is bare of green beans. My collection focus in September is helping to stock the pantry with green beans. Please place donations in the blue cart outside of the Fellowship Hall.
Thank you!

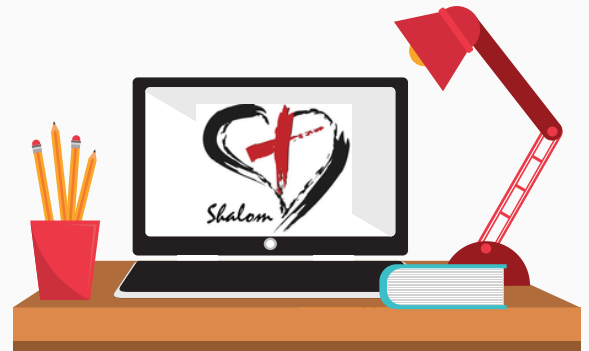


We often hear, “Can you believe it’s almost fall?” On the calendar the autumnal equinox is only a few weeks away, not to mention that we have already begun our new church year, with Wednesday night suppers, new and renewed small groups, Cross Connections dinners, Christmas cantata rehearsals, renewal of Sunday School class studies, and a lot more. I certainly pray that you are taking advantage of many of these opportunities for spiritual growth as part of our Gather, Glorify, GROW, and Go. Even we “seasoned” Christians need to continue in our spiritual growth!

I Peter 2.2 says, “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation...” Most of us are not still “babes in Christ,” but we still need to continue our growth as Christians. Attending worship services and Sunday School are great, but they are not enough for spiritual growth. You may ask, “So, what else do I need to do?” Let me ask you a question: What do you like to do? Is that something that you can use to further your spiritual walk? Spiritual assessment surveys are great, but then what? Follow through with what you have learned about yourself—after you have prayed about it, of course!

So, let this new church year be a new beginning for you, a sport of New Year’s resolution time. I remember a sermon I preached some years ago on the first Sunday in January entitled “Resolved to Be More Like Jesus.” Well, it’s a time of beginning again, so resolve to be more like Jesus and GROW!

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:



- Church Council Meeting-Tuesday, Sept. 1st at 7:00 pm
- The church office will be closed Monday, Sept. 7th in observance of Labor Day.
- GBC Preschool 1st day of classes is Tuesday, September 8th.
- October Newsletter entries are due Wed. Sept. 23rd.
- LifeLine Screening-Monday, October 5th.

Join us for
Sunday Night Light
2nd Sunday of Each Month
SEPTEMBER 13
6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Come as you are!
Youth led for families with children,
youth and young adults.

SHALOM
- YOUTH -



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, September 2nd-CA's and Truth Trackers resume!
- Wednesday, September 9th Parents Meeting immediately following the Prayer Walk.
- Saturday, September 26th-Dad & Me Boys Day at 2:00 pm. This event is for elementary and youth age.
- Saturday, October 24th-Trunk-or-Treat, 5-7 pm

The Men's Tuesday morning Bible Study is continuing our 11-week study of the Book of Daniel. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 in the church conference room. We'd welcome your participation and we Grow in our relationship with Christ.

On Saturday, September 12th, we will be Gathering for a Men's Breakfast at Shalom. If you can help prepare the food, please come between 6:00 – 6:30 am. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 am.

New – Beginning Thursday, September 17th, we will start a monthly Veteran's Coffee Club at Shalom. This monthly meeting will be held on the third Thursday of each month with the intent of Gathering Shalom's military veterans for an hour of sharing and helping each other. While we will pray and talk about God, this is not a Bible study group.

September 19th-Oil Change Ministry at Billy Norman's house at 8:00 am.

Join us in the kitchen on Wednesday, September 23rd, as we prepare a BBQ dinner for our church members. Come around 3:00 to help prepare the meal, or at 3:30 and assist in setting up the tables, stay after dinner and help with the cleanup.

Our next trip to Bland Ministry Center is scheduled for September 27 – 30. We encourage you to join us on this trip as we serve God by serving others.

The Men's Ministry will be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs for the Sunday School picnic in our Pavilion on October 10th. Come help us flip a burger or grill a dog. More information on timing will be provided next month.

We are still in the planning stages for a Men's Conference at Shalom on Saturday, October 17th. The theme for the conference is "The Importance of Community." If you are willing to help with the conference or would be willing to speak, please contact Ken Hein.



Join us every Thursday for pickleball. Children and youth are invited to play at 4:30 pm and adults play at 5:30 pm.

Open Gym Basketball meets every Tuesday at 5:30 pm



GAME NIGHT

Friday, September 18th
5:30 pm-9:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

Bring a game to play as well as an appetizer to share. Encourage your friends to join us for great fun and laughs!

Strength in the Journey

A support group
for
widows and
widowers



**Monday,
September 21st**

Meet at Roma Restaurant
7240 Bell Creek Road
at 11:30 am.

September Anniversaries

7th Gerald & Debbie Cousins
11th David & Gail Hosfeld
Al & Joan Scott
14th Slip & Rhonda Neal
17th Chad & Samatha Mayhew
Daniel & Hannah McGehee
26th Alvin & Deborah Thomas
27th Drew & Gayle Revere
30th Charles & Vicki Romano



September Birthday's

1st Jo Harris
Samantha Mayhew
2nd Brandy Applewhite
Dee Miller
4th Jackie Harris
5th Sherleen Payne
6th Mark Miller
8th Mason Butler
Madi Butler
9th Pat Dressel
Daniel McGehee
10th Gerald Cousins
Amy England
Jerry Kelly
Megan Seay

11th Hannah McGehee
13th Olivia Trice
15th Gloria Basham
Sandy Webb
16th Terri Felts
Jim Luginbuhl
Roland Pitts
Linda Wade
20th Karen Adam
Sherry Dillard
Reed Glass
Diane Hudson
21st Benji Crigger
Gordon Eary
22nd Roxane Young
23rd Deborah Michalosky

24th Kenny Taylor
29th Mike Dart
Wrenn Mangum
30th Mary Beasley





SEPTEMBER 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Young Adult Sunday School	31 11:00am Staff Meeting	1 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm GBC Parent Orientation (Sanctuary & Children's Hallway) 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	2 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study/Operation Christmas Child Speaker 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Living Waters Bible Study 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3 9:00am GBC-Student Orientation (Fellowship Hall & Children's Hallway) 5:30pm Adult Pickleball	4	5 1:00pm Pavilion Reserved (Tucker)
6 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Young Adult Sunday School 12:30pm Church Incorporation Committee Meeting	7 Church Office Closed Labor Day 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study (Bowles)	8 GBC First Day of School 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym 9:45am Men's Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting	9 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Prayer Walk 7:00pm Children's Parent Meeting 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 4:30pm Children & Youth Pickleball 5:30pm Adult Pickleball	11 Raisin' Canes (Flying Squirrels Baseball Game)	12 Youth Bowling 8:30am Men's Ministry Breakfast
13 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Young Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Deacon's Meeting 3:00pm Christmas Cantata Listen Through 6:00pm Sunday Night Lights	14 10:00am Sisters in Service Circle Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting	15 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball	16 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	17 8:30am Veterans Coffee Club 4:30pm Children & Youth Pickleball 5:30pm Adult Pickleball	18 5:30pm Ladies Game Night (EMT)	19 Christian Village Work Day 8:30am Men's Ministry-Oil Change Ministry
20 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Young Adult Sunday School 3:00pm Christmas Cantata Rehearsal	21 11:00am Staff Meeting 11:30am Strength in the Journey 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study (Bowles)	22 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym 9:45am Men's Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Cancer Support Group 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	23 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	24 4:30pm Children & Youth Pickleball 5:30pm Adult Pickleball	25	26 Dad & Me Boys Day (Children's Ministry)
27 Bland Ministry Center Trip 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Young Adult Sunday School 3:00pm Christmas Cantata Rehearsal	28 Bland Ministry Center Trip Shut-In/Hospital Visitation Day 9:00am Feedmore Truck 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm EMT Meeting 7:00pm Just Breathe Caregiver Support Group	29 Bland Ministry Center Trip 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball	30 Bland Ministry Center Trip 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	1 4:30pm Children & Youth Pickleball 5:30pm Adult Pickleball	2	3



Shalom Baptist Church

8116 Walnut Grove Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Shalom's Calendar

QR Code:

Open your camera on your smart phone. Move your camera so the QR code is in the frame. You'll see the code's URL appear, tap on it to open that URL.

