



THE SHALOM NEWSLINE



"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."
John 8:12

Church Staff

Rev. Mark Miller.....Senior Pastor
Jean Dart.....Minister of Music & Worship
Kathy Seay.....Children's Ministry Director
Jeff Farrier..... Church Musician
Kelly Bittler.....Ministry Assistant

Contact Us

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Church Office Hours
Monday: 7:30am-5pm, Tuesday: 8am-2pm,
Wednesday: 7:30am-3pm Thursday: 8am-2pm

MARK'S MINUTE

As I sit here thinking ahead about July, I can't help but to think about the many places that I've witnessed fireworks displays over the years. When I was a child, I remember seeing fireworks at a local park...and at neighborhood block parties. Since then, I've seen fireworks explode at theme parks (like Astroworld in Houston; Kings Dominion, and Busch Gardens). I've watched them from porches at various beach houses...and have EVEN watched them from our balcony at the Polynesian Resort overlooking the Lagoon in Walt Disneyworld.

Here are a few things that I've observed about fireworks...

- 1) Fireworks are bright: Have you ever noticed that when some of them explode they really light up the sky-so much so that for a few moments it feels as if it's daylight. They bring such rich, vibrant light into the darkness!
- 2) Fireworks are powerful: Imagine the amount of explosive power that is jammed into each and every firework. It's hard to imagine that something that sits on a shelf will explode into something so vast and wide.
- 3) Fireworks aren't silent: Whether it's a whistle, a series of pops and cracks, or one big loud BOOM, fireworks "speak".

Maybe there's a lesson here for us...as believers in Christ:

First of all, you and I are called to be bright lights in a dark world. In fact, the way that we live as believers should actually contrast with the darkness around us. In Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus said "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." Even though we are all to be Christ's light, each of us is uniquely different- just like how each firework is unique. We all have Christ's light in us to light up the darkness, but our spiritual gifts, talents, and experiences are all different variations of that light!

Second, we each who are believers in Christ, may all look different on the outside, but inside we house the incredible power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:11 says, "...if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead, is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies, through His Spirit, who lives in you." Our physical bodies may just be "jars of clay" (says the apostle Paul), "but we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." The firework packaging is not as important (and as majestic) as the power that is packed within that little box.

Finally, we, as believers, are not to keep silent about our faith. We are to look for opportunities to share our testimonies, bridge conversations to spiritual things and excitedly share with others about what God is doing in our lives. In Acts 18:9-10a, the Lord appears to Paul and says, "Don't be afraid! Speak out! Don't be silent! For I am with you...." May that be the Lord's word to each of us believers, too!

So...this July 4th...as you watch fireworks (or hear them as you are trying to go to sleep)...think about their light, their variety, their power (despite their packaging), and that they aren't silent. Then thank God for His light in you, our variety as believers, His power (despite your packaging), and the message that He has given you to proclaim!

Happy July, Shalom!

In Him,
Pastor Mark





Shut-in of the Month:

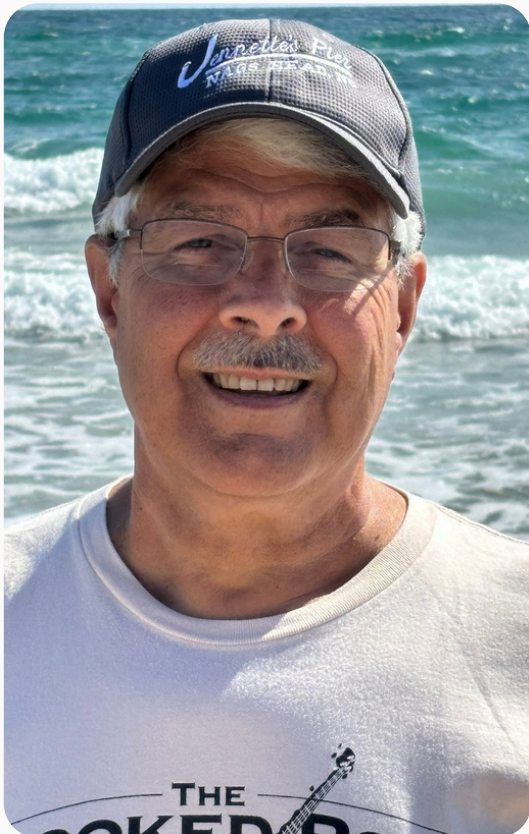
Opal Pope

7394 Brandy Creek Drive
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

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



Deacon of the Month ROY SOUTHARD



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

- Church Council will meet Tuesday, July 1st at 7:00 pm in the Co-Ed classroom.
- The church office will be closed on Friday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.
- August Newsletter entries are due Wednesday, July 23rd.
- Please join us immediately following the 11:00 am worship service on **Sunday, July 20th** for our **Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck Luncheon**. Please remember to bring a side dish to share. If you have any agenda items for this meeting, contact Jane Snead at 804-730-1104 or jasnead@aol.com.





KIDS CORNER



Mark your calendars for VBS

AUGUST 4TH-8TH

6:00 PM-8:30 PM



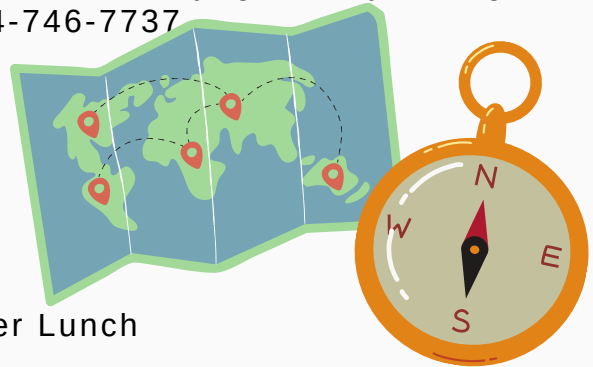
Register online at www.shalombaptist.net by clicking the VBS tab, or call the church office at 804-746-7737. Interested in volunteering? We'd love your help, just reach out to the church office. Stay tuned for the date of our VBS Volunteer Meeting.

Voyagers Summer Program

The Voyagers are off on exciting weekly adventures every Tuesday from 8:45 AM to 2:15 PM, all summer long (except VBS week). This program is open to children in kindergarten through 5th grade. The last Voyagers Day is August 12th. For details, contact Kathy Seay at 804-746-7737.

Voyagers Schedule:

July 1 – Publix Tour
July 8 – State Police Tour
July 15 – Science Museum
July 22 – Water Play at Twin Hickory Park
July 29 – TBD
August 5 – No Voyagers (VBS Week)
August 12 – Maymont Park & End-of-Summer Lunch



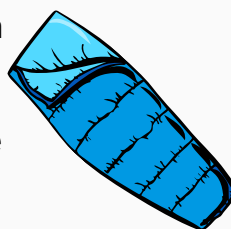
Wednesday Night Children's Ministry

Join us every Wednesday at 6:15 PM as we dive into our summer series on the Fruit of the Spirit. All children are welcome!

Children's Lock-In

Friday, July 18th-Saturday, July 19th
6:00 pm-10:00 am

Children are invited to come to the children's lock-in where we will have a bonfire and water games.





RAISIN' CANES

SENIOR ADULT GROUP



We will not meet in July or August. See everyone in September!



You are invited to join us on July 28th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall to explore ways that we can encourage and reach out to those here at Shalom and in our community. Many hands make light work.



Strength in the Journey

Monday, July 21st

Strength in the Journey is a ministry for those who have lost their spouse and are seeking the support of others who are navigating this path in their life's journey. You are welcome to join our next meeting on **Monday, July 21st**. We will meet at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall at Shalom. Please bring your own lunch and drink.



Youth Choir meets every Wednesday at 5:00 pm.

We will not meet on July 16th.

Just Breathe



Just Breathe Caregiver Support Group
Monday, July 24th
7:00 pm
Shalom Baptist Church



NEW CHURCH VAN

A big **THANKS** to Gary Kirby & Bill Frost for picking up our brand-new church van!





Hanover Ruritan Club & East Hanover Rescue Squad Blood Drive



Saturday, September 13, 2025
9 am-2 pm
East Hanover Rescue Squad
8105 Walnut Grove Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111



Sign-up online:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=hanoverruritan>



The Annual WMU Spiritual Enrichment event is scheduled for August 2nd starting at 6:00 pm-7:30 pm at the Dover Baptist Association office (11006 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland, VA 23005). There will be a snack supper. Guest speakers are Chad & Bridget Knight. Registration ends Thursday, July 31st. For more information contact Ann McFaden.



Shalom Gym
Every Thursday
5:30 pm-7:30 pm
We will not meet on July 3rd.

We are continuing our study of the Book of Revelation on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 in the Conference Room at Shalom. Come join us.

Mark your calendars on July 8th for a Men's dinner at Shalom in our pavilion. We will be serving smash burgers, brats and fixings at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 26th, is the date for our next oil change ministry. We will start with some sausage biscuits and donuts at 8:00 and begin changing oil at 8:30. Join us at Billy Norman's garage as we fellowship and serve the Lord by serving others. FYI, we always wrap up before noon leaving time for other activities.



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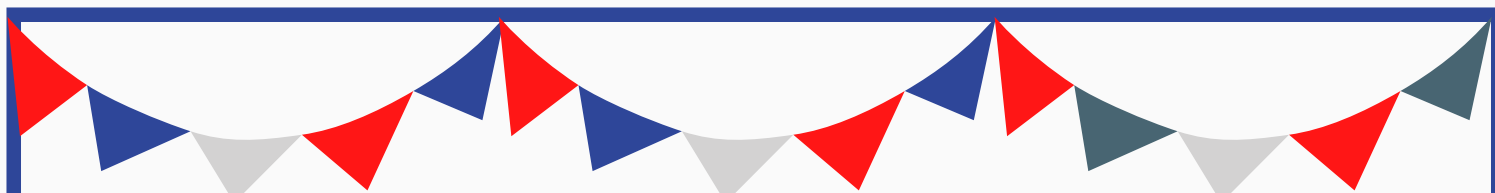
A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who wrote cards,
donated snacks and prayed for our children,
youth and chaperones during their week at camp.





Thank You

I would like to thank my church family for their prayers and God's blessings during my time of a healthcare surgical issue. Also, thanks to the WMU for the food they provided. God's Blessings to each of you.
Joan G. Anderson



July Anniversaries

2nd Doc & Deborah Wright
18th Carl & Carolyn Boshier
23rd Adam & Jamie Crigger
25th Russ & Diane Hoffman



July Birthday's

1 st	Trish Eary	16 th	Erika Seay
	Michele Nelson		Robert Stokes
2 nd	Abbi Nolan	18 th	Alex Butler
	Bo Robins		Allison Butler
3 rd	Amy Neal	19 th	Kim Butler
5 th	Stuart Point	20 th	Bill Fowler
8 th	Christine Norman	21 st	Ethel Johnson
9 th	Liam Crigger		Ethel Metzger
10 th	Ann McFaden	22 nd	Suzie Johnston
12 th	Toni Lane		Pete Logan
	John Wilson	24 th	Bobby Norman
	Kathy Wingfield	25 th	Bob Grubbs
13 th	David Hosfeld		Janet Jarrell
	Larry Seward	27 th	Maggie Alexander
14 th	Lisa Aldrich	28 th	Brian Friedel
	Myra Bentley	29 th	David Beish
15 th	Isabel Ferrer	30 th	Lin Diacont
	Barbara Lecarpentier		Gary Whitt
	John Poindexter		



July 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Girl Scout Meeting	30 11:00am Staff Meeting	1 8:30am Men's Bible Study 8:45am Voyagers 9:00am Walking in the Gym 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	2 5:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Bible Study (Heaven) 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5
6 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	7 11:00am Staff Meeting	8 8:30am Men's Bible Study 8:45am Voyagers 9:00am Walking in the Gym 6:00pm Men's Ministry-Smash Burgers & Brats 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting	9 5:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Bible Study (Heaven) 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 5:30pm Pickleball	11	12 Fellowship Hall Reserved (Crigger)
13 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 1:30pm Deacon's Meeting 2:30pm VBS Volunteer Meeting	14 11:00am Staff Meeting	15 8:30am Men's Bible Study 8:45am Voyagers 9:00am Walking in the Gym 9:45am Properties Committee Meeting	16 6:15pm Bible Study (Heaven) 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	17 5:30pm Pickleball	18 6:00pm Children's Lock-In	19 10:00am Children's Lock-In
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27 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	28 9:00am Feedmore Truck 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm EMT Meeting 7:00pm Just Breathe Caregiver Support Group	29 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking in the Gym	30 5:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm Bible Study (Heaven) 6:15pm Children's Ministry Program 6:15pm Praise Team 6:15pm Youth 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	31 5:30pm Pickleball	1	2



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.

