



Striving to be the complete church using its complete gifts completely!

Shalom Baptist Church Newsletter

February 2023



# THE SHALOM NEWSLINE

*This is my command:*



John 15:12

*one another as I  
have loved you.*

## Church Staff

Rev. Mark Miller.....Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dan McFaden.....Associate Pastor  
Jean Dart.....Minister of Music & Worship  
Kelly Bittler.....Ministry Assistant  
Jeff Farrier..... Church Musician

## Contact Us

8116 Walnut Grove Road Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
Phone: 804.746.7737 ♦ Fax: 804.746.7271  
Website: [www.shalombaptist.net](http://www.shalombaptist.net) ♦ Email: [shalombaptistma@gmail.com](mailto:shalombaptistma@gmail.com)  
**Church Office Hours**  
Monday: 7:30am-5pm, Tuesday: 8am-2pm,  
Wednesday: 7:30am-3pm Thursday: 8am-2pm



## Mark's Minute

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As you may know, on Wednesday evenings, after our church-wide meal, a group of us here at Shalom, are working our way through the book, "Devotional Classics". So far, we've delved deeply into the writings of C. S. Lewis, St. Augustine, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen (and many others). In this month's newsletter I want to share with you a prayer of John Baillie (1886-1960). I believe it not only captures "God loving us first" but it also captures how we can "love Him first". (Quite appropriate, I thought, for a month often dubbed "Love Month" because of Valentine's Day). Here is John Baillie's prayer entitled "My First Thought":

"Eternal Father of my soul, let my first thought today be of You,  
Let my first impulse be to worship You,  
Let my first speech be Your name,  
Let my first action be to kneel before You in prayer.

For Your perfect wisdom and perfect goodness:  
For the love with which You love mankind:  
For the love with which You love me:  
For the great and mysterious opportunity of my life:  
For the indwelling of Your Spirit in my heart:  
For the sevenfold gifts of Your Spirit:  
I praise and worship You, O Lord.

Yet let me not, when this morning prayer is said, think my worship ended and spend the day in forgetfulness of You. Rather, from these moments of quietness let light go forth, and joy, and power, that will remain with me through all the honors of the day.

Keeping me chaste in thought:  
Keeping me temperate and truthful in speech:  
Keeping me faithful and diligent in my work:  
Keeping me humble in my estimation of myself:  
Keeping me honorable and generous in my dealings with others:  
Keeping me loyal to every hallowed memory of the past:  
Keeping me mindful of my eternal destiny as a child of Yours.

Through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Happy "Love Month", Shalom!

In Him,  
*Pastor Mark*

"Eternal  
Father of  
my soul,  
let my first  
thought  
today be  
of You..."

John Baillie







Shut-In of the Month:

*Robert Seay*

200 W. Beal Street

Highland Springs, VA 23075

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

Meet our Deacon for the month of February:

*Virginia Ryan*

Virginia is the vice chair of the deacons and also serves in other areas of the church. She is married to Bobby and has 2 children and 5 grandchildren.



February 1st  
HAM

February 8th  
BEEF STROGANOFF

February 15th  
SAUSAGE, PEPPER & ONION BAKE

February 22nd  
SPAGHETTI

**Cost:** \$5.00 for adults  
\$2.00 for children  
\$12.00 per family

## From the Office

- Church Council will meet Tuesday, February 7th at 7pm in the Co-Ed classroom.
- Entries for the March newsletter are due Wednesday, February 22nd.

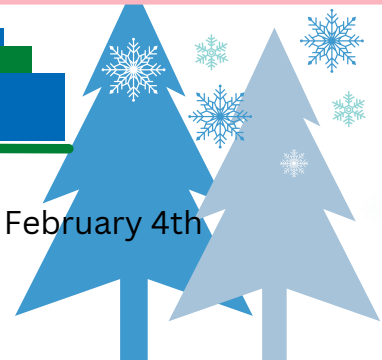


Each week reservation cards will be in the bulletin. Please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate or call the church office with your reservation by 3:00pm Monday and leave a message.



# KIDS CORNER

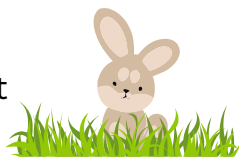
WinterFest Open House-Saturday, February 4th  
10:00 am-2:00 pm



CA's will be recognized in both worship services Sunday, Feb. 12th and (those that have them) should wear their green vests that morning. CA's new to the program will receive their vests during the service.



SAVE THE DATE: Easter Event  
March 25th 10 am-2 pm



**For Children in Grades 1-5**

Join Ms. Jean in the Music Room the 4th Sunday of each month during Sunday School for a fun time of learning and sharing with your friends!



**\*SAVE THE DATE\***  
**JUNE 19-23, 2023**

CentriKid is a high-energy, intentional, gospel-centered overnight camp for 2nd-6th graders. Their mission is to help kids experience the time of their lives and learn more about the message of Jesus Christ. This takes place through track times, rec, worship, Bible study, church group time, and a variety of other fun events. CentriKid Camps are committed to providing content that is rooted in Scripture, a safe location, kid-friendly programming, and staffers who are deeply invested in your kids.

What we see on the surface seems important – appearances, grades, and accomplishments – but God's word shows us that there is something that matters even more – something Beyond the Surface. God see, knows and cares about our hearts. He can give us a new heart for Him – a heart that is pure, humble, trusting, merciful, and willing to obey and follow wherever He leads. Join us in 2023 as we go

**Beyond the Surface!**

For more info, or to let us know you may be interested: email [jjclib@gmail.com](mailto:jjclib@gmail.com)





# DEACONS

Everyone knows there are deacons at churches, however over the past couple of years (especially through changes during the pandemic) many of the ways that deacons have served the church have changed. People may wonder, what does a deacon actually do now that the offering plate and the communion plates are no longer passed? Well, you may be surprised that those are not the only things that deacons do here at Shalom. Here are a few of those things"

The Deacon of the Month gives the offertory prayer at the 11am service even though the offering plates are not officially passed. But there are many ways to give; like: online, through the mail, during the service or in the designated boxes by the doors. The Deacon of the Month is also responsible for finding people to give the invocation prayer at the 11am service. Check out the newsletter monthly to see who the Deacon of the Month is and to learn a little bit more about that person.

At the beginning of the year deacons divide into two groups: One group is a visitation group they call, visit and send cards to those who are in need that month. The other group is the ordinance group. They are responsible for setting up and taking down the communion elements and helping with any baptisms throughout the year (washing of towels and robes, and assisting at the baptism, etc). In addition deacons have been assigned to each Sunday School class and will check in at least once a month to gather prayers, praises and concerns. (See page 6 for the assigned deacons.)

The deacons will also be meeting this month to decide what projects to focus on this year. I will continue to post updates in the newsletter in order to keep you informed and to ask for your help to get involved! If you ever need to reach out to a deacon while on church property, look for our name tags. Which look a little bit different so that you can easily pick us out in a crowd.

While there are a lot of other things that deacons assist with in the background, please know that we are here to be servant leaders at Shalom and in the community.

Have a blessed February filled with lots of Love,  
Rhonda Neal, Deacon Chair



## Sunday School Deacons

<u>Class</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
Youth	Rhonda Neal
Children	Christy Lane & Ken Hein
Believers	Vicki Trice-Romano
Canfield	Gerry Ford
CoEd	Kenny Taylor
Friendship	Virginia Ryan
It Is Written	Mitzi Hubble
Koinonia	Josh Lester & Brian Seebeck
TNT	Kevin Kelly
Young Adults	Harold Clark

## International Mission Emphasis of the Month

**Pray for Christians facing increasing attacks by violent Islamic extremist in Central Sub Saharan Africa.** Occupied churches are being set on fire during services and pastors are being targeted for torture and death. Christian villages are having their major structures destroyed. At the moment the countries with the highest persecution are the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Burkna Faso but violence is increasing in the surrounding countries as well. There are several internet sites which can help direct your prayers. Check the bulletin board located in the foyer for more information.

## PASTORAL PONDERINGS

by  
Pastor Dan

Now that I have returned from my leave of absence, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and expressions of concern for Ann as she recovered from her broken hip. I especially want to thank those of you who showered us with cards and a VERY special thanks to you who saved us from my cooking by supplying meals! God is good, for sure.

February may be short on days, but it is long on service opportunities. Shalom has many plans for events during the month. Please keep up each week with what's going on, and join in the ministries that are available.

Let me share an observation that I see several times a week as I drive from home to Shalom. As I look at our building. I see three distinct "ships" spread out as our facility: wor-ship, disciple-ship, fellow-ship. Get it? The sanctuary = our place of worship. The Bible study hall is our place of discipleship. The Fairmont Hall is our place of fellowship. I pray that each of you will take advantage of all three "ships".



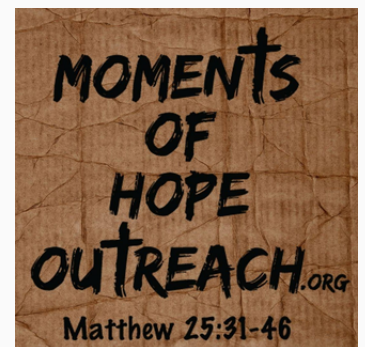




The WMU is sponsoring a canned soup drive for MCEF. Please remember to bring in your canned soup. We are collecting any types but are specifically looking to get vegetable soup. Please try and get the cans that have the pop-top lid. This alleviates the need for a can opener. Thank you!

### Room in the Inn Summary:

This Christmas was FREEZING so it was a double-blessing to be able to put 62 people in motels for this year's Room in the Inn, thanks to your generous support. Heartfelt thanks for all of the donations that made this possible. The high was 14 degrees on Saturday, but we had people that heard about the program from others who already had reservations and lined up in the parking lot at Saturday Serving in hopes there were still rooms available. They were all very thankful to



hear a "yes". After leaving there Saturday afternoon, we happened upon our last guest, who was huddled under blankets behind the laundromat trying to secure some heat from the dryer vents. We love to hear that word of Moments of Hope is spreading, and it's traveled to the North Pole! We had an extra special sponsor-Santa himself-on behalf of a young girl who selflessly put the request on her wish list to him after hearing about our program at her church. Not having an ID is a huge problem with being able to secure a motel room for someone-but another Christmas blessing was that we were able to put a couple of people into rooms who didn't have one.

Special thank you to Sydney for packing the messenger bags that each guest received, which included some microwave meals, a few new pair of socks, toiletries, a gift card, a Mo-Hope hoodie, and some other donated goodies. Thank you to Tobie and Justin for helping to deliver them. We had one little 4 year old girl who received her own pink backpack full of gifts and toys to open on Christmas morning.

We are so thankful and blessed to have such an amazing community who partner with us to show Jesus' love through your monetary donations, time, items donated, and by keeping our ministry and the friends we serve in your prayers. Thank you just doesn't sound like enough.

-Maureen



During February, the Shalom Men's Ministry will find several times to come together to serve and fellowship. We begin our study of the book of James on Tuesday mornings. Please

consider joining us at 8:30 am as we study, discuss and fellowship.

On February 4th the men will prepare chili for Shalom's WinterFest. If you are attending stop by the kitchen and help us serve.

February 11th is a church wide Valentine Breakfast being presented by the Men's Ministry. Breakfast is at 9:00 am and be sure to bring your valentine. ❤️

Finally, we will prepare spaghetti and meat sauce dinner on Wednesday, February 22nd.

On the building and repair side of our ministry we have a few projects scheduled:

- building shelving in the storage area for the decoration committee.
- installing a ramp and other repairs for Agnes Seay.
- repairing Louise Scott's shed.

If you would like to join us as we schedule these projects please let Ken Hein or Gordon Eary know.

You will find a flyer posted in the Canfield classroom with information on the **Ignite Men's weekend** at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg. The dates are Friday evening, March 10th and Saturday, March 11. There is a top notch lineup of speakers as well as a concert by Big Daddy Weave. Let Ken Hein know if you are interested in attending.



# WMUV

Beloved Meeting Thursday, Feb. 2nd at 6:30 pm at church. For more info. contact Virginia Ryan or Mitzi Hubble.

Morning Group Meeting: Monday, Feb. 13th at 10:00 am at church. For more information contact Ann McFaden.

February 12th-**Women's Day** and **Super Bowl Sunday** at Shalom. Our guest speaker is Rhonda Marstin, WMU VA, Missions Strategist: Children/Students. Make plans to support the ladies of our church. We will also be awarding our Golden Soup Trophy to the SS class who collects the most cans of soup! Soup will go to the MCEF food pantry.

### Upcoming Events:

- March 5th-12th: Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Our goal this year is \$3,500.00.
- April 15th: Ladies Tea-guest speakers from the East End Pregnancy Center
- May 11th-Dover WMU Annual Meeting at Shalom.







## Message from our **Sunday School** Director

Sunday School is just that, time on Sunday to learn about God's word. Small groups meet during this hour, 9:45 am to 10:45 am with children's classes as well. Children's classes meet by grade/age level. There are six adult classes with various topics of study. All would welcome you to visit. A visit to more than one class is encouraged so that you may find the group where you are most comfortable and fits your learning style. Make it a priority this year to dig deeper into the Bible (basic instructions before leaving earth).

Small groups are flexible and can meet anytime and anywhere with Bible study on any chosen subject. If you would like to begin or join a small group, please contact Pastor Dan McFaden or Debbie Taylor. There are SO many subjects to explore with a small group. Also, Shalom has the RightNow Media available, which is loaded with content for a group. Remember, people will be more likely to come if they are invited by you!

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in Sunday school. The teachers, the class prayer/outreach leaders and the substitutes. All of you are vital to the ministry of Shalom's Sunday school. Your faithfulness, dedication and devotion to those you serve is a blessing to all. Your love is on display for all to see and that is the love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for being His light in this place.

*No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 1 John 4:12*

-Debbie Taylor  
Sunday School Director



### ***"To share and provide support in moving forward."***

Widow and Widowers of Shalom, please join others for the first gathering of this new ministry...**"Strength in the Journey"**. It is an informal setting where you can simply share, support and give each other strength in our journey.

Monday, February 20th at 6:00 pm at Shalom Baptist Church.

If you have questions, please contact the church office.



# Thank You

Dear Shalom Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for the love, support, cards and prayers that we received on the passing of our mother, Eva Lee Bryant Taylor.

-Wallace (Darlene), Bruce (Robin), Garry (Debbie) Taylor and Family



## YOUTH

The Youth Committee is hosting a meeting & lunch for youth and their parents on Sunday, February 19th immediately following the 11:00 am worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Craig Secor or the church office to let us know if you will be coming.

### February Anniversaries

- 14th Bobby & Virginia Ryan
- 14th Wallace & Darlene Taylor
- 25th Jason & Tracy Nolan
- Bo & Daniela Robins
- 27th Roy & Katherine Taylor

### February Birthday's

- 1st Ken Hein
- 2nd Lou Bourne
- Leisa George
- 3rd Madison Dickason
- 4th Becky Johnson
- 5th Donna Gammon
- 6th Donna Seay
- Tim Stanley
- Darlene Taylor
- 7th Chip England
- Janet Smith
- 8th Easton Kelly
- 12th Janice Booth
- 13th Christy Lane
- Tracy Nolan
- Terry Woodson
- 16th Gerry Ford
- Von Hubbard
- 17th Darlene Grubbs
- Bob Major
- 18th Kathy Seebeck
- 20th Ken Cliborne
- 22nd Mica Clayton
- Dante DeFeo
- 23rd Courtland Lambert
- Maggie Miller
- 25th Bert Childress
- 26th Tiffany Agee
- 28th Cathy Childress





# February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	<b>30</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>31</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	<b>1</b> 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Basketball 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 6:30pm WMU Meeting	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	<b>4</b> 10:00am Winterfest
<b>5</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	<b>6</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>7</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	<b>8</b> 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	<b>11</b> 9:00am Valentine Breakfast
<b>12</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 1:30pm Deacon's Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:00am WMU Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>14</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting	<b>15</b> 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	<b>18</b> 2:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
<b>19</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Lunch & Meeting for Youth and Parents	<b>20</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Strength in the Journey (Widows & Widowers Group)	<b>21</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	<b>22</b> 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b> 6:00pm Cancer Support Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved
<b>26</b> 8:30am Worship 9:20am He'Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved	<b>27</b> 9:00am Feedmore Truck 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm EMT Meeting 7:00pm Just Breathe Caregiver Support Group	<b>28</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 6:30pm Personnel Meeting	<b>1</b> 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Basketball 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 6:30pm WMU Meeting	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	<b>4</b>



## *Shalom Baptist Church*

8116 Walnut Grove Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

"This is love: not  
that we loved God,  
but that he loved us  
and sent his Son as  
an atoning sacrifice  
for our sins."  
1 John 4:10

Scan the QR  
code to  
access  
Shalom's  
Calendar

