

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

Shalom Baptist Church Newsletter

January 2023



THE SHALOM NEWSLINE



*Happy
New Year*



"YOU CROWN THE YEAR
WITH YOUR GOODNESS;
YOUR CARTS OVERFLOW
WITH PLENTY."
PSALM 65:11

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

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



Mark's Minute

When I was growing up, our neighborhood set up luminaries on Christmas Eve. Luminaries are made by putting about a cup of sand in the bottom of a small, brown, paper lunch bag...and then setting a tealight in that sand. In that neighborhood, every one of our neighbors would come to a designated house in order to get the number of bags needed, as well as enough tea lights and sand for their bags. And then...as the sun disappeared and the cold set in... those bags would be placed between the sidewalk and street about 2 feet apart. And soon after that...lighters or matches would be used for the "grand illumination." I remember as a child, looking down the hill in front of my house...and seeing countless bags flanking the road...an orange flickering dancing in each bag under the moonlight. It was a magical sight!

But...after a few hours...those tealights burned down to nothing and went out...by the next morning, those bags were saggy and damp. In other words, the light was only temporary.

As we move into January...(and into 2023)... many of us will be "taking down the lights". We will take down our lighted Christmas trees, remove candles from our windows, take down the lights that flank our houses and front yards, deflate the lit inflatables, and remove the spotlights from our yards. January is often a time of "light removal" isn't it?

But...I would encourage you to KEEP your spiritual Christmas light shining on into...and through 2023. Continue to remind yourself each day in this new year that Jesus came into this dark world to be "the light of the world" (John 8:12). Remind yourself that He is the light to the nations (Isaiah 49:6).But, don't forget that He ALSO commissioned you and me to be His light as well (Matthew 5:14; Acts 13:47).

So, in January...as you "take down your lights"...make sure to keep one very important light burning. Your SPIRITUAL light!

Happy New Year!

In Him,
Pastor Mark

"...make sure to keep one very important light burning. Your SPIRITUAL light!"
-Pastor Mark





Shut-In of the Month:

Lois Dipaola

6088 McClellan Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

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

From the Office:

- The church office will be closed Monday, January 2nd in observance of the New Year.
- Church council will meet Tuesday, January 3rd at 7:00pm in the Co-Ed classroom.
- February Newsletter entries are due Wednesday, January 25th.
- Please update your records. The church e-mail address had changed to shalombaptistma@gmail.com.



Meet our Deacon for the month of January:

Rhonda Neal



January 4th
HAMBURGER STEAK WITH GRAVY

January 11th
SHEPHERDS PIE

January 18th
CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS

January 25th
CHILI

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

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.



MEN'S UPDATE



All Shalom men are invited to join us for our annual trip to Nanny's for dinner on Saturday, January 14. We will meet at Shalom at 4:30, leave to travel to Nanny's at 5:00, with reservations for 6:00. If you haven't been to Nanny's before, it offers BBQ and much more from their buffet. Come and fellowship and eat.

The Mens Ministry will be preparing the church's Wednesday night dinner on Wednesday, January 25th. Please let Ken Hein know if you can assist with setup, food preparation, serving or cleanup.

The Ignite Men's Impact Weekend is returning to Lynchburg on March 10-11. They have a dynamite group of presenters to include Big Daddy Weave, former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Chad Robichaux, Rick Rigsby, Tim Timberlake, Coach Tom Mullins and host, Zach Clinton. Prior to Covid, Shalom had nearly 30 men attend an Ignite weekend. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Ken Hein.



- Beloved Women's Group: **January 5th at 6:30 pm** at church.
- WMU Morning Group: **January 9th at 10:00 am** at church.
- Lottie Moon offering we have raised **\$16,700. Our goal is \$25,000.** Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk in the church lobby.
- **Sunday, January 1st**, guest speakers at both services will be missionaries from Brazil. They were commissioned by Fairmount Baptist Church.
- **February 12th**: Women's Day at Shalom! The "Most sought after Soup Can Trophy" will be presented to the Sunday School class that has collected the greatest number of cans!
- Upcoming events: **April 15th**-Ladies Tea. Guest speakers will be from the East End Pregnancy Center.
- **May 11th**: Dover WMU Meeting-more information to follow

Don't forget about our Athletics & Recreation Opportunities

Walking: every Tuesday from 9 am-11 am

Indoor Soccer: Every Friday at 6pm (5th-8th Grade)

Basketball: 1st & 2nd Wednesday at 7:30pm



Happy New Year from the Deacons at Shalom!

We are excited to ring in the New Year by welcoming four new members: Mitzi Hubble, Christy Lane, Josh Lester and Vicki Trice-Romano. We invite you to participate in the ordination of new deacons, Sunday, January 8th at the 8:30a.m. service.

Also, please take a moment to thank David Booth, Ron Bowles, Ken Cliborne and Courtland Lambert for their faithful service. While they will step down from the current serving deacon board they will always remain an honored and cherished deacon at Shalom.

It is our duty to serve and lead at Shalom and in our community. If you are in need, please reach out to any of our current deacon members.

Happy 2023 - I am looking forward to celebrating and worshiping with you all year long!
-Rhonda Neal

Rhonda Neal, Deacon Chair
Virginia Ryan, Deacon Vice Chair
Harold Clark, Deacon
Gerry Ford, Deacon
Ken Hein, Deacon
Mitzi, Hubble, Deacon
Kevin Kelly, Deacon
Christy Lane, Deacon
Josh Lester, Deacon
Brian Seebeck, Deacon
Kenny Taylor, Deacon
Vicki Trice-Romano, Deacon

New Year Greetings from The Encouragement Ministry

The Encouragement Ministry Team (EMT) had such a blessed year and we couldn't have done it without our faithful supporters so, THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts for supporting this ministry. Darlene Grubbs joined me as co-facilitator this year & has been a great asset. We have truly been blessed in our group with individuals, who demonstrate what it looks like to have a servant's heart.

Some of the Encouragement projects throughout the year included:

- Mugs for Gingerbread Cottage Staff filled with hot chocolate and Hershey kisses.
- Encouragement cards to church members who were going through a tough time
- LED messages for the church sign with encouraging and hopeful sayings.
- Prayer session & party send-off for Mark as he was getting ready to go on Sabbatical.
- Basketball Ministry Ice Cream Social as a surprise for those who play on Wednesday nights.
- A Night of Prayer for Shalom while Mark was on Sabbatical. We prayed for the Staff, leaders and congregation and committed to do so throughout the year. May we encourage you to do the same as a congregation.
- Encouragement gift to Pastor Dan as he was coming in for the home stretch of providing Pastoral coverage during Mark's Sabbatical.
- MUSIC, PRAISE & BBQ for our Shalom congregation. This was a wonderful night of singing and worship led by Amy Ladd and then followed up by a complimentary BBQ dinner served & provided by EMT.
- At Home Care & Hospice bags of goodies. We stuffed 150 bags with encouraging items for the caregivers who volunteer their time for those in need of care.
- Christmas for Pole Green Family with 3 children. We were able to provide a complete Christmas for all 3 children. This was such an exciting project for us and it gave us joy to be able to bless this family during the Christmas season.

Everyone appreciates and needs encouragement to help them through a tough time and/or to achieve goals. Being that someone who provides positivity and encouragement in other's lives is so valuable and can come from anyone. Being an encourager doesn't require anything costly or grandiose. It can simply mean giving an encouraging word, a kind gesture, a hand-written card, a hug, a smile or just simply listening.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:11 it tells us to encourage one another and build each other up. May we challenge you to pray each day that God will put someone in your path that needs encouragement, so that you can bless them in the New Year!

Hope, Love, Joy & Peace to You All in the New Year,

Joan Bowles & The Encouragement Ministry Team





Sep. 2022-Nov. 2022

84 Households

\$336.86

Total Donations

If you shop at Kroger, we encourage you to link your Kroger rewards card to Shalom Baptist Church. If you need help or have questions, please contact the church office at 804-746-7737.

East End Pregnancy Center

UPDATE

A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who donated items for the East End Pregnancy Center Baby Shower. Because of the faithful partnership the EEPCC has completed their fourth year of providing medical services and their eleventh year of providing practical assistance. In the last year:

- 959 appointments made with 75% showing up for the appointment (this is record-setting)
- 1,441 additional patient communications were made (phone calls, emails & texts)
- 59% of our clients are 20-29 years old.
- 12% of our clients are married
- 69% were medical appointments. 31% were support services (classes, emergency supplies)
- 15,668 essential items from our boutique were gifted.
- 924 referrals were made to other support organizations.

THANK YOU AGAIN!



The Encouragement Ministry Team (EMT) will meet Monday, January 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Just Breathe is a group of caregivers who are experiencing some of the same concerns, frustrations & prayers. Join us for an hour and "Just Breathe". For details, please contact the church office at 804-746-7737.



Next Meeting
Monday, January 23rd
7:00 pm



KIDS CORNER

- Children in Action (CA's) and Truth Trackers will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 4th at 6:15 pm.
- Sunday, January 8th immediately following the 11:00 am worship service will be a Children's Church workers and Children's Committee meeting. Lunch and child care will be provided.

To Those Who Bring Small to Children to Church

There you are at church. Your baby or toddler is restless. Perhaps even a little boisterous. You try to silence them, and nothing. You try to pacify them with toys, and nothing. Eventually, you resort to the last thing you wanted to do: you pick them up, and before a watching audience, you make the march out of the church. All the while you're a little embarrassed, maybe a little frustrated too. You might even think to yourself, "There's no point in coming to church. I get nothing out of it because I have to constantly care for my kid."

I want you-mothers and/or fathers- to know just how encouraging you are to so many. The elderly woman who often feels alone beams with a smile at the sight of you wrestling with your little one. She's been there before. She knows how hard it can be, but she smiles because to hear that brings back precious memories. Seeing young parents and their small children brighten her day; she may have just received bad news about her health but seeing the vitality of young ones removes-if but for a moment-her fears. The older man who always seems to be grouchy notices you too. He's always talking about how children in this day have no respect or sense of goodness. But he sees you-a young family-in church every week. Like clockwork, he can depend on the sight of you and your young family. You give him hope that maybe the Church isn't doomed after all, because there are still young parents who love God enough to bring their restless children to church.

Bring your children to church! If we don't hear crying, the church is dying. As hard as it might be for you as a parent who's half-asleep, keep on doing what you're doing. You are an encouragement, and you're starting off your children's lives as you should. -Author Unknown

PASTORAL PONDERINGS

By Pastor Dan

You probably already know that I am taking a leave of absence until my wife can get back on her feet. Nevertheless, I have been using this time at home to pray for our church and for those of you who have specific issues. Hopefully I will be back as your associate pastor by the middle of January.

As we face another new year, we pray for a “happy” new year. Of course, we don’t know what the new year will bring. That may be a good thing! What we do know about the new year is that God is in charge. We may not always agree with His decisions, but He does know best. Out of the worst of events, God will bring good—just as Paul promised in Romans 8.28. That’s hard to accept when it seems that God doesn’t care. [Haven’t we all been there?] But, He cares for us more than we can begin to imagine—or understand.

If you make no other new year’s resolution, resolve to place more trust in our loving heavenly Father. I know, I am!



For all those who have thought about becoming foster parents or want to know what/how fostering works. The Shalom Youth Ministry will be hosting a Foster Family Orientation at 10:00 am on **Saturday, January 21st** in the youth rooms adjacent to the Fellowship Hall. The Orientation will be conducted by Intercept Health. My wife and I have been foster parents for nearly 20 years, of which 14 of those years have been in Mechanicsville.

We have been with Intercept for nearly four years. They are the best foster parent agency we have been associated with. They provide great training and support. The need is great with over 500,000 children and teens nationwide are in the foster care system. Over 130,000 children and teens are without foster homes. Foster parents are greatly needed! Come on out to see what being a foster parent is really about or come and be informed on this on-going crisis. Either way, it will be very beneficial. Call the church office to reserve a seat-NO COST!

Thank you,
Craig Secor and the Youth Committee

Celebrate!

January Anniversaries

- 7th Mac & Judy Coiner
- 18th Bobby & Christine Norman
- 21st Ray & Joan Durvin
- 28th Josh & Michele Lester



January Birthday's

- 1st Logan Moody
- 2nd Brandon Byrd
- 3rd Lois DiPaola
- 4th Robin Fraley
- 9th Vicky Kidder
- 10th Ryan Crew
- 12th Jamie Crigger
Jeanne Tate
- 13th Paul Michaelosky
- 15th Sidney Norman
- 16th Phyllis Isbell
Doc Wright
- 18th Liz Whitt
- 19th Evelyn Rice
- 23rd Martha Thompson
- 25th Layton Butler
Todd Russell
- 26th Faye Cosby
- 27th Glenn Russell
- 29th Kim Stanley
Rose Wheat
- 31st Wanda Hudson
Faye Ward



January 2023

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	8:30am Worship 9:20am He Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	2 Church Office Closed	3 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	4 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	5 6:30pm WMU Meeting	6 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	7 2:00pm Wedding Ceremony
8	8:30am Worship 9:20am He Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 1:30pm Deacon's Meeting	9 10:00am WMU Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting	10 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting	11 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	12	13 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	14
15	8:30am Worship 9:20am He Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck Lunch	16 11:00am Staff Meeting	17 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	18 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19	20 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	21 10:00am Foster Family Orientation
22	8:30am Worship 9:20am He Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	23 9:00am Feedmore Truck 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm EMT Meeting 7:00pm Just Breathe Caregiver Support Group	24 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	25 5:30pm Supper 6:15pm Bible Study 6:15pm CA's/Truth Trackers 6:15pm Praise Team 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26 6:00pm Cancer Support Group	27 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	28 1:00pm Fellowship Hall Reserved
29	8:30am Worship 9:20am He Brews Cafe 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	30 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm EMT Meeting	31 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Walking 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting	1 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	2 6:30pm WMU Meeting	3 6:00pm Indoor Soccer	4 12:00pm Winterfest



Shalom Baptist Church

8116 Walnut Grove Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111



Happy New Year!

