

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

Shalom Baptist Church Newsletter

June 2021



THE SHALOM NEWSLINE

*"You rule the swelling of the sea;
when its waves rise, you still them."*

Psalm 89:9

Church Staff

Rev. Mark Miller.....Senior 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: 8am-5pm, Tuesday-Wednesday: 8am-3pm, Thursday: 8am-2pm

Mark's Minute

As you may have heard, Shalom, you and I will be on a Sabbatical next summer. And throughout this year, I will be sharing some thoughts about what a "Sabbatical" is, in a Christian context. In their book, Clergy Renewal: The Alban Guide to Sabbatical Planning, A Richard Bullock and Richard J. Bruesehoff picked the perfect title for chapter 1. Chapter 1 is simply entitled: "Renewal Is..." Take note of the "...". In other words, there is a lot of confusion about what "renewal" and "Sabbatical" are all about. Simply stated, the Sabbatical has its roots in the keeping of the Sabbath.

Sabbath traces back to the Hebrew word, Sabbat, and Sabbat encompasses three related practices: 1) The first practice relates to the Sabbath day described in Genesis 1-2 ("God rested on the seventh day"). Therefore, the weekly observance of the Sabbath is connected to nourishing the body, mind and soul of everyone (and everything) in a community. 2) The second sabbatical practice was connected to allowing the land to lie fallow every seventh year (see Leviticus 25:3-4)--this would be similar to crop rotation today. And 3) the third sabbatical practice is linked into the year of Jubilee (Leviticus 25:8-13). Every fiftieth year was to be a year with no harvest, produce or rent--but rather with debt forgiveness and offerings.

Furthermore, for the Jewish people, Sabbath was a time that emphasized rest and playfulness. It was to study the Word, to sing, to dance, to celebrate and to reflect on the previous 6 days. While this emphasis on rest and play may seem countercultural today, without it, we lose the gift of "delight". Work and play are intimately connected. As Bullock and Bruesehoff point out: "Without the gift of work, play can become meaningless. And without the gift of play, work becomes tedium."

In her book Keeping the Sabbath Wholly, Marva Dawn uses three words to describe how Sabbath keeping can be a way of living.

First, it is about *ceasing*. She writes: "We cease not only from work itself, but also from the need to accomplish and be productive, from the worry and tension that accompany our modern criterion for efficiency, from our efforts to be in control of our lives as if we were God..."

"Ceasing,
resting,
embracing and
feasting is more
than just the
weekly rhythm
of work and rest.
It is to be the
rhythm of life."



Second, it is about *embracing*. "Sabbath keeping is not just about negative ceasing. We choose to embrace time instead of space, and giving instead of requiring. In response to the grace of God, we gladly embrace our calling in life and in the fullness of healing brought by our relationship with God we can embrace the wholeness of God's shalom. All these Sabbath gifts set us free to embrace the world..."

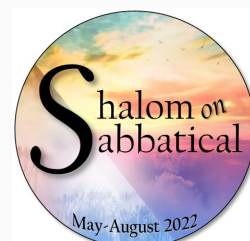
And third, it is about *feasting*. "After the ceasing, the resting and the embracing, comes the feasting. Observing the Sabbath not only includes the freedom from, and repentance for, work and worry (ceasing), the renewal of our whole being in grace-based faith (resting), and the intentionality of our choosing and valuing (embracing), but also the fun and festivity...for both present joy in our feasting and anticipation of the future, eternal...joy."

"Ceasing, resting, embracing and feasting" is more than just the weekly rhythm of work and rest. It is to be the rhythm of life. Without it, ministry (for the pastor) and ministry (for the congregation) can lose its joy, focus, and meaning.

Tune in next month for more...

In Him,

Pastor Mark



KIDS CORNER

Mark your calendars for VBS
August 2nd-6th

We need volunteers, please call the church office and let us know if you are interested in volunteering!



Every 4th Sunday in June, July & August will be Funday Sunday for our children at both worship services. Please have your children dressed in play clothes and tennis shoes on those Sundays.

Shut-in of the Month:

Doris Lowry

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

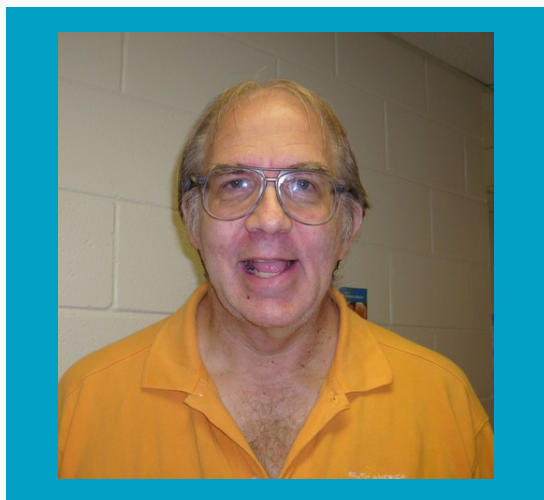
6198 Cold Harbor Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111



Deacon of the Month

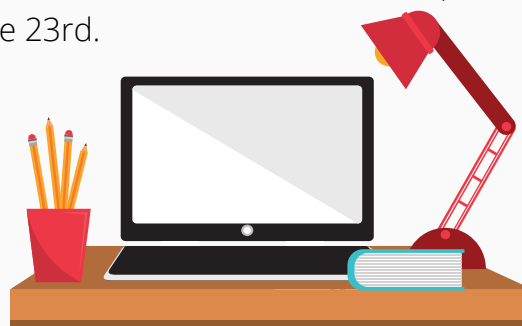


DAVID BOOTH



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

- The week of June 14-18, Kelly will be out of the office on vacation. Jane Snead will be filling in Monday-Thursday, 9 am-12 pm if you should need to contact the church office.
- June Church Council meeting is Tuesday, June 1st at 7:00 PM.
- July Newsletter entries are due, Wednesday, June 23rd.





Upcoming WMU Meetings:

- The Morning Group Meetings will not meet until September. Everyone is welcome at the evening meeting.
- Evening Group: Thursday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm-Mitzi Hubble's home: 8164 Greenview Road, Mechanicsville. For more information contact Virginia Ryan at 804-370-0583 or Mitzi Hubble at 804-937-4515.

In addition to the "Hygiene Kits", other summer mission projects included hope baskets for caregivers, cards of encouragement and prayer support for a counselor at Crossroads and Christmas in August. We need you at WMU. Please join us!



CROSSROADS™

30 volunteers from Shalom attended Camp Crossroads Volunteer Weekend May 21-23. A big THANK YOU goes out to all who attended.



"Hygiene Kits" for Standing Rock Mission Kick-Off

June 6th



June is the last month for FEMININE HYGIENE ITEMS, BAR SOAP AND DEODORANT. Thank you all so much for your support of this ministry as it helps so many folks.

Get Your Questions Ready!



QUA begins on Wednesday nights in a couple of weeks!



Stewardship Snippet

When is Debt Acceptable?

At the end of last month's article, we discussed when debt is acceptable. If you recall, in the March Newsletter we listed four criteria for "acceptable debt". Let's expand on those to understand it more clearly.

First, does it make economic sense? Follow these two rules: the cost to borrow must be less than the benefit received and most importantly, there must be a guaranteed way of repayment. Second, if married, both spouses must be in agreement and free from anxiety regarding the debt. If single, you must be free from anxiety because you know you can pay it back. Third, do you have spiritual peace of mind? Is it consistent with biblical principles? And fourthly, am I meeting God given goals and objectives that can't be met any other way?

How do these apply to the five kinds of debt? Credit card debt: If you cannot pay off the card in full every month, it shouldn't be used. It makes no economic sense. Consumer debt: this is debt used to finance lifestyle items like autos, furniture, vacations etc. It is no different than credit card debt and should be avoided. These are not sinful things, unless it is to satisfy greed (see Luke 12:15), but again, it doesn't make economic sense. Mortgage debt: owning a home is not a God given right. We still need to apply our four criteria to its purchase. Not saying you shouldn't have a home, just make sure it is within your means. Home ownership is one of the most stressful debts. But you also don't want it to impact other areas of your spiritual responsibilities. A warning: don't become so attached to the home that if in financial problems, you couldn't give it up. Investment and business debt: is the rate of return better than the cost and is there a guaranteed way to repay. These are often seen as "good deal" on the front end but wind up as "bad deals". Spouses must be in agreement before undertaking investment or business debt.

Again, debt is not a sin. The Bible discourages it but does not prohibit it. The real problems are greed, self-indulgence, impatience, fear, lack of faith or lack of self-discipline.

So, if you're in debt, the question is not how do I get out? But rather the first question is, why am I in this situation? God's message to us is one of hope and encouragement. Assess where you are with regard to debt, make a plan, and trust God to give you hope.

"It is thrifty to prepare today for the wants of tomorrow" Aesop



Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As we begin to emerge out of a long, trying year we need to prepare for some changes. What once worked may not anymore.

The following is a lesson from a simple crab.

If not for God's word the human race may have been forced to learn their virtues from God's other creatures. For example, we learned faithfulness from a dog, we may have learned creativity from a spider.

Thankfully we have God's word, but we can still learn from His creations, even the simple crab. A crab does not grow like other animals. Their body continues to grow, as their outer shell stops growing when it reaches a certain size. As the crab continues to grow, it is forced to find a bigger, better home.

Why is it so natural for the crab to move on to something new, yet so difficult for humans?

To continue growing, we must often step out of whatever is hindering our growth.

If not careful, we may find ourselves clinging to something we have outgrown or no longer works.

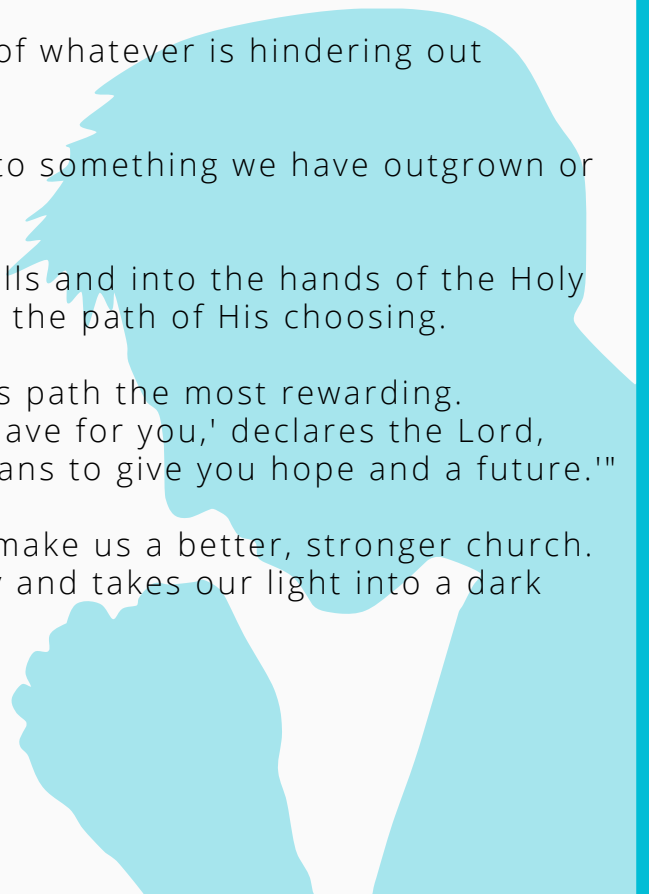
We need to bravely climb out of our small shells and into the hands of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to guide and lead us into the path of His choosing.

As bravely we step out in faith, we will find His path the most rewarding. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

May we pray in unity, praying for the Lord to make us a better, stronger church. A church that reaches out into the community and takes our light into a dark world.

Be blessed for I am,

Dee Miller

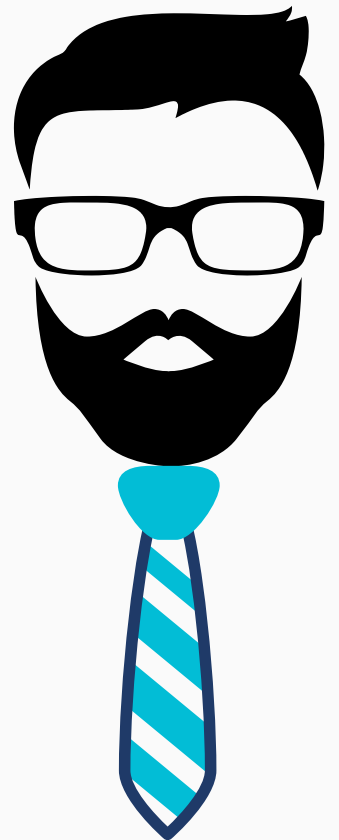


HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 20TH

We are collecting pictures of all DADS to put in a slideshow for Father's Day. Please email pictures to shalombaptist@verizon.net by **Wednesday, June 9th.**

We are also planning a **Parent-Child Dedication** time as part of our morning worship on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20th. If you would like to participate in this, please call the church office at 804-746-7737 by **Wednesday, June 9th.**



Calling All 2021 Graduates

Sunday, June 13th

If you're graduating from high school or college this year, please contact the church office at 804-746-7737 by June 9th so we can honor you on Graduate Recognition Sunday.



Congrats!

CLASS OF 2021

"Trust in the Lord with all of your heart..."
Proverbs 3:5



DRAMA IS COMING TO SHALOM IN JUNE!



Calling all children who are interested in learning more about drama. Drama workshops will be held every 2nd Sunday of the month from 3pm - 4pm starting in June. Workshops will be held outside weather permitting allowing social distancing with no masks to fully experience all aspects of what drama is about. Backup plans will be in place to be held inside, however, mask protocols will be followed.

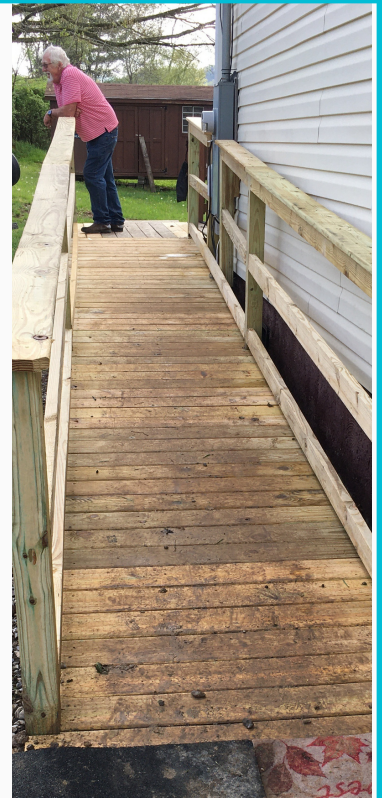
All are welcome but please note this will be geared towards children learning the art of theatre.

Please contact Rhonda Neal at 804-241-3863 or rhonda.s.neal@outlook.com to sign up!



**Bland
Ministry
Center**

The mission team that went to serve on mission with the Bland Ministry Center was able to deliver the donations as well as get two ramps built for those in need.



THANK YOU



Thank you so very much for your generous donation of \$500.00 to Crossroads Camp. This is a true blessing to us as we prepare to launch our Journey 2021 program.

God Bless you all!

Love,
The Crossroads Staff

Shalom,
Thank you for your continued support for our trips to the Bland Ministry Center. It is only through your continued support that we are able to make these trips and spread the love of God through word and deed.

Gordan Eary, Tommy Owens,
Ron Bowles, Ken Hein, Dallas Clayton, Carl Bosher & Jeffery Farrier

June Anniversaries

1st	Brian & Sandra Bartrug
3rd	Doug & Dawn Hansen
9th	Courtland & Peggy Lambert
10th	Ronnie & Lehlia Hardy
11th	Craig & Margene Secor
20th	Bill & Anne Fowler
	Ron & Sandi Palmer
21st	Ray & Jean Gifford
22nd	Kevin & Ashley Clear
	Ed & Vicky Kidder
23rd	Vernon & Mary Beasley
	Charles & Kathy Wingfield
26th	Lin & Kathy Diacont
29th	Harold & Virginia Clark
	John & Desiree Pippin



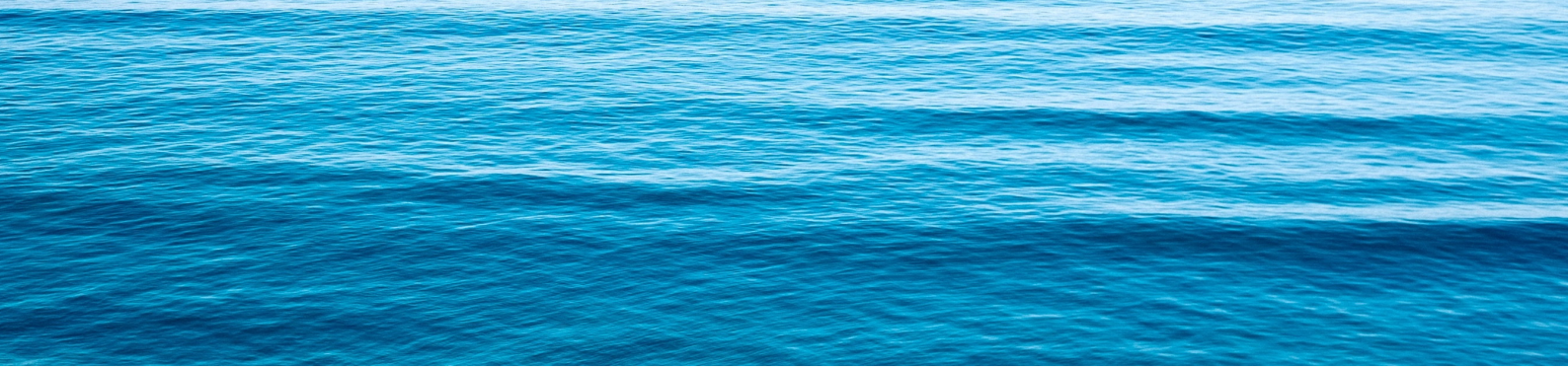
June Birthday's

1st	Bobby Ryan	24th	Jake Bartrug
2nd	Wayne Hufner		Wyatt Byrd
3rd	Alma Wright	25th	Kyleigh Bell
5th	Kay Craft		Rose Broaddus
	Logan Lane	26th	Charlie Blackwell
6th	Kathy Diacont	27th	Gail Hosfeld
8th	Bonnie Blake		Brandon Wilson
	Dottie Layne	28th	Glen Daniel
9th	Aubrey Stratton	29th	Dan McFaden
	Shirley Tyree	30th	Jackie Owens
11th	Bill Frost		
12th	Jean Dart		
	David Nelson		
14th	Harold Clark		
15th	Megan Stoneman		
17th	Angela Farrier		
18th	Chuck Hubble		
	Dee Ober		
	Drew Revere		
	Craig Secor		
19th	Sandra Bartrug		
	Hunter Johnston		
22nd	Robin England		
23rd	Roy Taylor		



June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	31 Church Office Closed	1 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	2 6:15 PM Beloved Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:15 PM Bible Study 6:15 PM Praise Team 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	3 7:00 PM Overcomers Outreach 7:00 PM WMU Meeting	4	5
6 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	7 5:00 PM Staff Meeting	8 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Stewardship Meeting	9 6:15 PM Beloved Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:15 PM Bible Study 6:15 PM Praise Team 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	10 7:00 PM Overcomers Outreach	11 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	12 8:00 AM Men's Ministry Breakfast 3:00 PM Wedding
13 Graduate Recognition Sunday 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 1:30 PM Deacon's Meeting 3:00 PM Children's Drama Workshops	14 5:00 PM Staff Meeting	15 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study	16 6:15 PM Beloved Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:15 PM Bible Study 6:15 PM Praise Team 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	17 7:00 PM Overcomers Outreach	18	19
20 Father's Day/Child-Parent Dedication 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	21 5:00 PM Staff Meeting	22 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study	23 6:15 PM Beloved Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:15 PM Bible Study 6:15 PM Praise Team 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	24 7:00 PM Overcomers Outreach	25	26
27 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	28 9:00 AM Feedmore Truck 5:00 PM Staff Meeting	29 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting	30 6:15 PM Beloved Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:15 PM Bible Study 6:15 PM Praise Team 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	1 7:00 PM Overcomers Outreach 7:00 PM WMU Meeting	2	3



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