



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



THE SHALOM NEWSLINE

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10



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: 8:00am-5pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:00am-3pm, Thursday: 8:00am-2:00pm



Mark's Minute

As you may know (or maybe you weren't aware), we will be on Sabbatical a year from now. I say "we" because you, Shalom, are coming with me on Sabbatical. In other words, we will ALL be entering into a time of spiritual renewal. Therefore, during this year leading up to the Sabbatical (which will take place from May 1, 2022 – August 15, 2022), you will be learning more and more about "SHALOM on Sabbatical."

Now, perhaps that term "Sabbatical" is new to you. You may even be asking, "What IS a Sabbatical, exactly?" The word "Sabbatical", of course, is connected to the word "Sabbath" and "Sabbath", in a Biblical context, is related to rest. So, a sabbatical, then (or, more precisely, a "sabbatical leave") is a period of rest and renewal. Maybe you've heard this word used in academic circles—where a college professor, perhaps, is granted a sabbatical in order to write a book. An academic sabbatical differs somewhat from a religious renewal sabbatical. The religious renewal sabbatical is designed to renew, reinvigorate, re-sharpen, retool, and relaunch clergy into the NEXT years of ministry ahead. So...in THAT sense, it's a win-win for both clergy AND congregation. Furthermore, Sabbaticals may be a new concept if you've been a Baptist all of your life. They are much more prevalent in some of our sister denominations (Presbyterian, Lutheran, even Methodist (in fact, Pastor Chad from NewSong, one of our neighbor churches, is on his sabbatical now). However, more and more of our Dover churches have offered sabbaticals (Emmaus Baptist, New Highland Baptist).

"How and why did Shalom choose to make a clergy renewal sabbatical possible?" It all began back in 2005/2006 when our Shalom congregation decided to enter into a covenant with me as your pastor. Part of that covenant included a clergy renewal sabbatical every 7 years. (Sabbath = 7th day of the week—Exodus 16:26; The Sabbatical year = the 7th year –Leviticus 25:4). In 2013, our church (at the 6395 Mechanicsville Turnpike location) was getting ready to move into a time of expansion and so it didn't seem to me (or to leadership) to be the right time. Of course, THAT focus shifted when we received a phone call from LIDL...which ultimately led into a church relocation and building project. Again, not the most opportune time to take a sabbatical. Finally, in 2018, we moved into our new facility. And so, in 2019, the deacon...

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**"Sabbatical
is a period
of rest and
renewal."**





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leadership brought up the idea of a sabbatical again. I started to do some research regarding how to pay for a sabbatical and learned about the CTS Eli Lilly Foundation Clergy Renewal Grant. Because the grant application would need to be completed in the year PRIOR to the sabbatical, it was agreed upon that I would work towards a sabbatical in the summer of 2021. And then COVID struck. And again, it was determined by both myself and our leadership that I needed to pastor through this time of uncertainty. And that brings us to our current timeframe—"Shalom on Sabbatical" will be May 1, 2022 through August 15, 2022.

So...that's WHAT a sabbatical is...and that's how and why Shalom arrived at this place in the sabbatical process. Several months ago, a "Sabbatical Advisory Team" was put in place. They will be at the "tip of the spear" in helping to provide information, communication and preparedness in this "Shalom on Sabbatical" process. The team members are: Ron Bowles (Personnel representative); Jane Snead (Deacon Chair); Ken Cliborne (Deacon Vice Chair); Allen Broaddus (Stewardship Chair); Geraldine Ford (Trustee Representative); Jean Dart (Staff) and Kelly Bittler (Staff). Please feel free to connect with me or any of these leaders if you have any questions. Now...let's get ready for "Shalom on Sabbatical"!

In Him,
Pastor Mark

Shut-in of the Month:

Nancy Williams



Our Lady of Hope
13700 Gayton Road
Richmond, VA 23233

Please remember Nancy 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.

Meet our Deacon for
the month of May:



Brian Seebeck





Hi folks,

Please continue to bring **bar soap, deodorant and feminine hygiene products** during the months of April, May and June for MCEF.

Please note the following from All Souls Episcopal:

Help put the Community in the Garden- The All-Souls Community Garden depends on the good hearts of volunteers to plant and harvest the vegetables we donate to MCEF and other Mechanicsville food banks. **Could you help us?** Church and community groups as well as individuals are needed! Your church youth or confirmation group, Sunday School class, Scout group, etc., and individuals are needed throughout the growing season. Students in middle and high school and even college ages are especially welcomed, as are all adults. We can arrange garden lessons for younger kids. There are lots of jobs including planting and picking produce, tilling, pulling weeds, washing and weighing produce, and delivery to food banks, jobs for just about anyone! To schedule a time to volunteer, please contact **Lee Hanchey at lghanchey@gmail.com** or by phone at **804-514-3020**. We appreciate your interest and support for the garden where friends meet friends, and the work of our hands, feeds so many people.

Thank you for your support,
Vicki Crew

FREE



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Contact Vicki Crew at
804-516-8329 or email
crewscollies@msn.com

THANKYOU

The family of Joyce Freed would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, kind words and expressions of sympathy. Your care and concern has meant a lot to us and has helped us get through this difficult time.

Joyce truly loved her Shalom Church Family and appreciated, so much, the friendships and the love you showed to her over the years she was a member.

We sincerely, thank you and may God continue to bless you,

Hunter, Debbie, Stacy and Alex Freed.



check out the **NEW** playground SHELTER



THANK YOU!



Kim Stanley and the staff of Gingerbread Cottage Preschool would like to thank the many hands that came together to make the new playground shelter possible. The Encouragement Ministry Team (EMT), who sought out a need of the preschool; Ken Hein and the Men's Ministry who designed and constructed the shelter; Transit Lumber Co. who donated the lumber; the various church committees who pooled funds to cover extra expenses; John Smithson with Specialty Roofing who shingled the roof; and any others who played a part in making this all come together! We truly appreciate this labor of love and we know it will be enjoyed by the students of GBC and the members of Shalom for many years to come!



♪ Jean's Joy ♪

In her article, *Seven Tips for Engaging with Live-Streamed Worship*, Constance Cherry provides some great suggestions for how we can be more engaged in our worship services remotely. The most fundamental shift to make is moving from watching to participating – from passively observing a produced service to fully engaging as an active worshipper. Please consider these seven practical suggestions for worshipping during a live-streamed service.

1. **Build anticipation.** Talk to your family the night before about how exciting it will be to worship together “live.” For those who live alone, share your joyful anticipation with a friend or neighbor, inviting them to join you from their home at the same time.

2. **Prepare the technology in advance.** Make sure that you have reached the web page at least 15 minutes ahead of the hour of broadcast and that it is functioning well. That way, you won't miss the first moments of the service while you are trouble-shooting any technical difficulties that could arise.

3. **Create a worshipful setting.** Gather what items you have around the house to create a centerpiece for worship. You might place a cutting from your yard, a candle and an open Bible on the table in front of you. What items do you have in your home that can help transform the space you're in to a worship space?

4. **Get settled.** Make sure that the lighting in the room is conducive to avoid screen glare. Position everyone. Grab that cup of coffee or tea.

5. **Pray.** Before the time of service, offer a prayer out loud for whomever is present (even if it is just you), invoking God's presence. Give this special time to God. Pray for your pastor and all worship leaders as they lead.

6. **Enthusiastically participate throughout the entire service!** Don't just watch other people sing, sing! Don't just watch other people pray, pray! If you are invited to engage in certain postures such as kneeling, bowing, standing, stretching out your hands to receive the benediction, do it! Do everything you would do if you were present together at your church—aloud!

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-Jean's Joy continue from page 06

7. **Reflect on the experience.** Mention what happened in worship at various points throughout the rest of the day or the upcoming week. Reflecting on what held meaning or was remarkable (other than the glitches in live streaming that happen to all of us!) is a way to remind ourselves that our weekly worship service at home has real significance.

Worshipping remotely can easily become passive, but biblical worship is never passive. So, let's do what we can to fully engage. How much more enthusiastic our worship will surely be for having made the shift from watching to participating until then.

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Notes of THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for recognizing me on Sunday, April 25! Words cannot express my heartfelt thanks for your love and support for me, my ministry, and our music program over these past 15 years. Thank you, deacons, for your generous, thoughtful gifts, prayers and love. I look forward to what the future holds with God's guidance in the days to come. With a song in my heart for Him!

Love, Jean

.....



Wednesday's at 7:30 PM
in the Sanctuary



WORK DAY

EAST HANOVER VOLUNTEER
RESCUE SQUAD

**SATURDAY, MAY 8TH
AT 9:00AM**

For more information contact David Booth at
804-746-5437.



After a number of names were suggested, WARRIORS was overwhelmingly chosen as Shalom Baptist's Youth Group name. So, what's in a name? Well, according to MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARY a warrior is "someone engaged or experienced in warfare; broadly: a person engaged in some struggle or conflict." CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH DICTIONARY has the definition as "a soldier, usually one who has both experience and skill in fighting, especially as a soldier."; ETYMOLOGY ONLINE DICTIONARY, "c. 1300, from Old North French 'werreier' (Old French 'guerroieor') 'a

warrior, soldier, combatant, one who wages war.' And I LOVE this, guess what present day word comes from the Scottish word 'frieik' "brave man, warrior" OR the Old Middle English word of 'freke' meaning "a bold man, a warrior" (Let me know if you know!!!).

Ah, it's just a name. Yes, it's a name, BUT not just a name. As a Christian, we are to live out the life of Christ in a hostile world (Eph.6:5-20; Col. 3:1-17; and so many more).

Please read throughout this month, Romans 6-8. For as Christians we have a commitment to and trust in God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, to love and live as Christians...and at times to be warriors. As Paul, while imprisoned, wrote to Timothy, "You, therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ". Why? Because of the affairs of all that is going on and can entangle us, especially with our youth and their families.

We are committed, as a church and committee, to prepare our youth for every day battle against Satan.

A Christian Warrior. More than a name or definition.

It's a lifestyle.

In His Love and Service,
The Youth Committee

***CHECK OUT YOUTH EVENTS
ON THE NEXT PAGE!***



May 7th
Friday Night
6-7:30pm

Pizza Party 

 & 

You will make Mom a gift for Mother's Day

UPCOMING



EVENTS

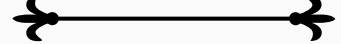


MAY 23RD 3-4:30
CORN HOLE &
FAMILY FEUD

BRING A FRIEND!
AT SHALOM

Poem

by: Amy Childress



The clouds revealed
a mysterious figurehead with wings,
covered in angelic light.

As glory tears took flight,
Darkness all around loomed;
violent thunder boomed.

But the golden sun shone through,
its strong rays reaching,
conquering the dark hatchling's brood.

The sky revealed the war waged below;
spiritual battles with arrow and bow.

A peace offer later appeared;
colors of hope to conquer all pain,
revealing His eternal promise of
victorious reign.

Scripture References:

Romans 8:18

Ephesians 6:12



REMEMBER AND HONOR
**MEMORIAL
DAY**
— ★ ★ ★ —



Evening Group Meeting: Thursday, May 6th at 7:00 PM-Mitzi Hubble's house: 8164 Greenview Road, Mechanicsville. For more information contact Virginia Ryan at 804-370-0583 or Mitzi Hubble at 804-937-4515.



Morning Group Meeting: Monday, May 10th at 10:00 AM at the church in the Prayer Room. For more information, contact Ann McFaden at 804-513-0052.

Upcoming events:

- Crossroads Mission Trip, May 21-23. For more information contact Mitzi Hubble.
- Standing Rock Ministry: Hygiene Kits, June 6-27, information to follow.



Mission Trip to Crossroads Camp Save the Dates: May 21-23, 2021

CROSSROADS™

A group from Shalom will be participating in "Volunteer weekend" at Crossroads Camp and Conference center in beautiful Lowesville, VA. This is a good mission opportunity for family groups, Men's Ministry, Youth group, WMU groups or a group at large from Shalom.

During the weekend we will be preparing the property for Summer Camp. Projects include: cleaning, painting, organizing, landscaping, mulching, yard work and light construction, such as porch and deck repairs. In the evenings we will enjoy a campfire and/or worship service.

Meals and cabin lodging will be provided at no cost. You can upgrade to the hotel room for a \$20 cleaning fee per room for the weekend. All Covid 19 protocols, as mandated by the Governor and the CDC, will be followed.

Sign-up sheets are available at the information desk and in all Sunday School classrooms. Questions? Contact Mitzi Hubble at 804-937-4515 or email to mhubble@qubicamf.us.

You can visit: www.crossroadscamp.com/volunteerweekend2021



KIDS
CORNER

Veggie Tales Afternoon

SATURDAY, MAY 22ND

12 PM - 2:30 PM

K-5th Grade



Sign up by calling the church office at 804-746-7737.



Mark your calendars for VBS
August 2nd-6th



Watch for monthly children's events!



Stewardship Snippet

Biblical Principles of Borrowing

Now that we have discussed the economic and spiritual dangers of debt, let's see what the Bible says about borrowing. Psalm 37:21 says, "The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously". This implies that not repaying a debt is never an option for a Christian. Our aim as Christians is to be debt free so we live a lifestyle of giving without hesitation or fear. Proverbs 22:7 tells us, "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." This verse doesn't prohibit debt, but it cautions us against using it. 1 Timothy 5:8, "If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially those in his own household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever". The underlying biblical principle here is by taking on debt you may run the risk of not providing for your own. Taking on debt may be used to improve your situation but, that's not always what happens. And it creates negative compounding and can have a negative impact on the future. So, avoid debt if at all possible. Luke 12:15 says, "Then Jesus said to them, Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. "Things" are just pre-trash. Debt makes it easy to fund greed. The question to ask is, am I funding need or greed? The Bible has many passages dealing with money and debt. Why? First, debt is extremely deceptive. Getting into debt is easy, it is also extremely hard to get out of. It may feel impossible to get out of it. Second, it creates bondage. It can affect our lifestyle and we are no longer free to be the witnesses God calls us to be. Lastly, debt is blasphemous. When we rely on debt, we deny God the opportunity to work. Even with all these cautions and warnings against debt, there are times when it may be acceptable, under certain circumstances. And we'll look at those next time.

" A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove you don't need it."
Bob Hope



CALLING ALL DRAMA KIDS (AND THEIR PARENT(S)!!)



I would like to start Drama Workshops for Kids. Since it's getting warmer we can meet outside and socially distance without masks, weather permitting. I need to gauge interest on how many would be interested and how often we can meet on a consistent basis.

What does Drama Workshop mean?

I will work with the children on theatre basics: warmups, reactions, memorization, how to use your voice, stage directions etc.

Why would we do this?

Our children are our future. I feel a sense of duty to pass on the talents that God has given me to whomever is willing to accept them but most importantly the children. Additionally, I would like to work up to performing some skits and/or a short play for the congregation during one of the sermons some time in the new year.

What else do you need to know?

Workshops will be held at the Church. Workshops are FREE / all children are welcome but should try to attend on a regular basis. No experience needed & previous experience okay // plan to have FUN!!

NEXT STEPS!

Contact Rhonda Neal by calling or texting at 804-241-3863 or email at rhonda.s.neal@outlook.com to let her know your child's interest and how often you are willing to meet (weekly, bi-weekly or monthly) – she needs the child's name, parent's name(s) and contact information cell phone and email.

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Happy
Mother's
Day

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

Proverbs 31:25-26

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9th, we will have a photo booth set up outside for mother's to get pictures taken with their families. The photo booth will be available after Sunday School and after both worship services.



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.



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.



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

- The church office will be closed Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.
- 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 Newsletter entries are due, Wednesday, May 19th.



May Anniversaries

- 3rd Wayne & Carolyn Hufner
- 6th Mary Lee & John Wilberger
- 7th Eddie & Wanda Hudson
- 11th Tim & Kim Stanley
- 17th Brad & Liz Crew
- 20th Jean & Michael Dart
- 24th Brian & Karen Friedel
Lewis & Dehlia Jackson
- 27th Dean & Charlotte Blackwell
- 28th Jeff & Angela Farrier



May Birthday's

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 2nd Nolan Baker | 27th Sheila Hein |
| Madeline Miller | 28th Sam Miller |
| Opal Pope | 29th Erin Atkinson |
| 4th Austin Gammon | Bill Trice |
| Jessica Russell | 31st Alyssa Borron |
| 5th Carol Loving | Kevin D. Kelly |
| Darrel Poindexter | |
| 7th Marie Edwards | |
| Gary Kirby | |
| Bob Stoneman | |
| 10th Amy Childress | |
| Ray Durvin | |
| 11th Laura Morris | |
| Zach Neal | |
| Joan Scott | |
| 13th Charlotte Mayhew | |
| 14th Dylan Ryan | |
| 17th Laura Kelly | |
| 19th Krystal Johnston | |
| Dan Thompson | |
| 20th Charlotte Blackwell | |
| Jason Crew | |
| Susan Lewis | |
| 23rd Vernon Beasley | |
| 25th Lexie West | |
| 26th Holly Moore | |





Shalom Baptist Church

8116 Walnut Grove Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

