

Shalom

Community Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

How to Change Someone's Life

By Joyce Meyer

I'm only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something, and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do that something I can do.

— Edward Everett Hale

The plain and simple truth is that each and every one of us only get one shot at this life. We aren't guaranteed a certain number of days, so we must decide today what we will give our lives to. So the question is, will we choose to live a life of love in service to others or will we refuse to do our part because we feel we can't make a big enough difference? One person has the ability to make a profound difference!

So what will you give your life to? It might be easy or feel like the religious thing to do to say we're going to give it to God, but I'm asking that you take it into your everyday lives. What are you going to give your everyday actions to?

Why Won't God Do Something?

We are an army, and it's going to take everyone doing their part to change this world. And God is calling us to put on love and get to work. One morning I was having my quiet time alone with God, and I said to the Lord, not in a complaining way and not questioning His integrity, but just as a conversation, "God, how can You stand seeing all the pain—starving children, human trafficking, genocide, injustice, degradation, unbelievable pain, poverty—in the world and not do something?"

I don't even know that I was really expecting to get an answer, but I just asked Him. Immediately His answer came back: "I work through people. I'm waiting for My people to arise and do something."

Cont. on page two

Church Events

Football Sunday

On February 3rd during the 9:30am Worship Service we'll hear from some big names in the NFL who want to glorify the Name above all names, Jesus! Tailgating fellowship to follow service. Feel free to wear your favorite team jersey.

Free Movie Matinee

February 23rd
4pm

Starbuck Community Center
See page six for more information

Do It on Purpose

In order to start helping others and reaching them with the love of God, we are going to have to get ourselves off our minds, out of our prayers and out of our conversations. We have to start living life with purpose—on purpose!

Those two little words "on purpose" have become very important to me. They've actually been quite life-changing for me in the last few years, because I have realized that you cannot wait to feel like it. You cannot wait to think it's a good idea. You cannot wait to even want to. You just have to do it on purpose! Now I'm not saying it's bad to ask God for things for yourself, but if you want to receive true victory...if you want to be happy...you are going to have to start thinking of others first.

More Than Your Money

In 2 Corinthians 8 (AMPC), when Paul was talking to the Corinthian believers about their giving, he gave them the example of the churches in Macedonia. He said in verse 5, *Nor [was this gift of theirs merely the contribution] that we expected, but first they gave themselves to the Lord and to us [as His agents] by the will of God [entirely disregarding their personal interests, they gave as much as they possibly could, having put themselves at our disposal to be directed by the will of God].* That just amazed me, because they didn't just give their money—they weren't bucket plunkers—but they gave themselves.

I wonder how many of us are willing to write our name down and stick that in the offering plate. Romans 12:1 (NLT) leaps to my heart. *And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.*

Being part of *The Love Revolution* is going to cost us something, but it doesn't always mean our money...we have to be willing to give ourselves as a sacrifice. And that means loving people on the job, in the neighborhood, in your home and loving the poor, lost, and needy enough to put your time and effort into it. We're going to have to stop complaining because of all the petty inconveniences that come our way and start really loving people.

More Than Words

I once heard a story that many years ago in Russia, an evangelist came and was walking around telling people, "Jesus loves you. Jesus loves you." He was handing out Gospel tracts, and one lady said, "You know what? Your sermon and Gospel tract isn't going to fill my belly." How can they hear about God, when they can't hear past their rumbling bellies? Sometimes we need to just show people love by meeting their needs and meeting their needs and meeting their needs...and then once the pain is gone... we can share with them about Christ.

Our Power

Can I tell you what the power of the Gospel is? Love. Nothing else! Love is the power of the Gospel. It is the highest form of spiritual warfare that we can do. One person—one—totally committed, dedicated and submitted to God makes hell tremble. So just think what a bunch of "ones" can do.

God said to me once, "Why don't you study the Bible to see how Jesus did spiritual warfare, instead of screaming at demons all day?" Jesus didn't have to go in and clean out the demons. When He came in, they left. Romans 12:21 (AMP) says, *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

One thing is for sure, Jesus went about doing good, and we should too. That's walking in love!

Let's Go to War

Every single one of us needs to decide right now to declare war on selfishness. Let's declare war on selfishness in our families, in our homes, at the workplace... Let's get up every day and say, "God, I give myself to You. I dedicate myself to You."

Let's make an announcement to the kingdom of darkness: "I will not live a little bitty life where there's only room in it for me. I will not be a selfish, self-centered person. I've got the love of God in me and everywhere I go, it is going to ooze out." When we see a need, we are going to meet it. We don't need a 12-hour prayer meeting; we are going to meet people's needs, unless God tells us otherwise.

We are going to saturate everyone around us with the love of Christ through simple acts of love, every single day—on purpose.

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed
3 9:30am Worship 10:45am Tailgating Fellowship	4	5 9:30am Text Study	6 3:30pm Soul Food 7pm Deacons Meeting	7	8 Office Closed	9 Office Closed
10 9:30am Worship 10:45am Fellowship 10:50 Education	11	12 9:30am Text Study 7pm Kingdom Builders	13 3:30pm Soul Food 6pm Prayer	14	15 Office Closed	16 Office Closed
17 9:30am Worship 10:40am SON Distribution 10:45am Fellowship 10:50am Ed.	18	19 9:30am Text Study	20 3:30pm Soul Food 6pm Prayer	21	22 Office Closed	23 4pm Community Movie Matinee
24 9:30am Worship 10:45am Fellowship 10:50 Education	25	26 9:30am Text Study 7pm Women's Group	27 3:30pm Soul Food 6pm Prayer	28		

Date	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistance & Servers	Coffee Server
02/03	Bob Moore Jack Tharaldson	Eric Danielson	Dalen Gosseling Faith Anderson Mike Troen +Josh Troen *+Cindy Owen	Monica Gosseling Dalen Gosseling
02/10	Jack Tharaldson Karen Tharaldson	Paul Anderson	Bill Goldenstein Nancy Bakewell Gene Hacker +Tim Carlson +Kay Hacker	Linda Meulebroeck Jill Troen
02/17	Mike Troen Jill Troen	Rolinda Sanders	Jack Tharaldson Dianne Halvorson Marlene Kennedy +Karen Tharaldson *+ Carolyn Holte	Carrie Jepma Dennis Jepma
02/24	Linda Meulebroeck Jill Troen	Tim Carlson	Gene Hacker Kay Hacker Roger Anderson +Carolyn Holte *+Linda Meulebroeck	Michelle Ward Beth Moore Steven Talberg

*Please clean the Communion utensils + please pick-up empty Communion cups

February Birthdays

02/03 Dennis Forbord
 02/04 Lowell Hacker
 02/05 Bob Moore
 02/11 Carrie Jepma
 02/12 Cally Jergenson
 02/14 Audrey and Emoreigh Payne
 02/16 Jennie Stai
 02/18 Linda Meulebroeck
 02/24 Norm Lien

February Anniversaries

02/14 Red & Linda Meulebroeck

Shalom Community Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2019

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

President Rolinda Sanders opened the meeting with prayer.

Ministry Highlights of 2018

Rolinda pointed out the slide show of pictures from 2018, commenting on the many opportunities to for study and growth, baptisms, Don Hacker's funeral, special events such as Shalom movie matinees and joint ministry events listed on page 3 of the annual meeting handout. She thanked the women's group for the birthday, anniversary, encouragement and get well cards they send.

Committee Reports

Dalen Gosseling gave the Building Committee report, saying that work is still being done to clarify our property line south of the Ministry Center, but documentation has been found indicating the disputed land belongs with the property Shalom purchased. Ken and Michelle Knutson have been asked to draft a building design that could function as worship space and address other needs, and the congregation will be invited to share reactions and decide whether to proceed with expanding our facility.

Monica Gosseling gave the Worship Planning Team report, saying that the work group generally meets about 3 times per year, discussing issues related to worship. Discussions this year have looked at the declining attendance for Thanksgiving and Lenten services. Participants in 2018 were Monica, Pastor Becky, Roger Anderson, Dorothy Carlson, Jack Tharaldson (Deacon representative) Todd Worner, and Grace Worner. Monica encouraged anyone who has suggestions or concerns about worship to talk to her or Pastor Becky and welcomed anyone interested to join the committee. The next meeting will be Monday, January 28 at 1:00.

Items of Information/Discussion

Rolinda asked Monica to address the two items on the agenda of information/discussion. Monica reported that the timeshare in Bella Vista Arkansas is available to rent for \$650 for week 39 (last Saturday in September through 1st Saturday in October). It is also possible to pay an additional fee to rent it a different week. The option to rent will continue to be offered until payment is received by Shalom.

Monica reported that Shalom has usually sponsored movies for the community 2-3 times per year and asked the congregation if there was continued interest in doing this. Following verbal affirmations, Monica noted that there has been very good turn out of volunteers to help with set up and welcoming guests, but less with delivering movie posters to area businesses or making recommendations/ choosing movies to show. She asked people to please give suggestions. The next movie will be held in February.

Ministry Goals for 2019

Rolinda noted that one of the goals identified by the Deacons for 2019 is to expand outreach, with one strategy being Big Events. Football Sunday on February 3 will be the first Big Event of the year, and a video about the event made by Eric Danielson, Dale Carlson, Wendell Erdman and Dalen Gosseling was shown. Pastor Becky explained that for the past 2 years, a group called Kingdom Builders has been studying how to restructure as a congregation in order to more effectively fulfill our mission. The Kingdom Builders curriculum suggests using "Big Events" where many members are involved in planning a specific special opportunity for members to invite others to attend. Other big events for the year will be Easter and hosting MN Adult and Teen Challenge. Pastor Becky asked people to indicate on a form passed out if they would like to be involved with planning one of these events.

Pastor Becky showed a video about a program called Life Tree Café. This is an opportunity to serve our community by combating loneliness and building community with weekly opportunities to gather and talk together about various topics. There will be training provided, and participants don't need to commit to helping every week. Use the interest form to be contacted about helping with this.

Carrie Jepma reported that having a mission trip was another strategy under the goal of expanding outreach. People interested in going on a mission trip or helping plan can indicate on the available form. Carrie has several sites she has looked into, but more ideas are welcome, and timing will be determined based on who is interested in participating. The trip will be in the United States and is open to adults 18 and older. Carrie is hoping to get discussion going soon so that there is time for fundraising.

Pastor Becky said another Deacon-identified goal is for the congregation to grow as God's stewards. The first part of this goal will be addressed with a sermon series being in February related to stewardship and the blessings of living a life of passing on God's blessings. This sermon series will incorporate member testimonies. Pastor Becky invited people who would like to share a story of personally growing as a steward to contact her. The 3rd goal is to hold conversations about our facility needs. Deacons would like to hear peoples dreams and concerns related to facilities so that the congregation develops consensus on the matter.

Election of Deacons

Rolinda reported that there were 3 deacon positions to be filled: a one-year term due to Michelle Knutson's resignation, and 2 three-year terms as Gene Hacker and Rolinda had fulfilled their terms. Dorothy Carlson, Lowell Hacker and Warren Holte offered their names for consideration. Richard Syverson made motion to cast a unanimous ballot to elect these individuals, Marlene Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion passed by verbal assent of the members with no objections.

2018 Financial Report/2019 Budget Proposal

Monica covered the 2018 financial report and 2019 proposed budget simultaneously. Most budget lines are projected to be the same from 2018 to 2019. Community Outreach and Publicity is increased primarily due to projected expenses for Life Tree Café. Pastor Becky requested an additional week of leave in lieu of a wage increase. Pastor Continuing Education is increased to accommodate Clergy Coaching. Medical Allowance is decreased due to Todd going off of the plan. Monica requested 2 additional services off in lieu of a financial increase for the Director of Music role. Monica pointed out that we actually did make budget, due to \$15,000 given as a pre-tithe at year-end 2017 for use in 2018. Richard Syverson motioned to approve and Marlene Kennedy seconded. Unanimous verbal approval.

Appreciation for Service

Rolinda directed people to look at the last page of the report, listing the many ways people serve within Shalom, and said she thought everyone who attends actually does serve in some capacity. She highlighted Kris Davis and Pat Peterson who clean Ministry Center every week, and Wendell Erdman for snow removal. She thanked all who serve, and asked people to express appreciation to one another. Rolinda invited Pastor Becky to lead prayer over the Deacons, and Rolinda offered prayer over the meal. The meeting adjourned about 11:30 and fellowship continued with a potluck meal.

Community Movie Event

At Starbuck Community Center

Sat., Feb 23

Movie Starts @ 4:00pm



BASED ON THE EXTRAORDINARY TRUE STORY
Rated PG13

EVERYONE is
INVITED for a time
of community
fellowship and fun!

**No Charge For
Movie &
Concessions.**

Event Sponsored By:

SHALOM
Community Lutheran Church
320-239-3418

Love Quote

The best use of life is love. The best expression of love is time. The best time to love is now.

Rick Warren

Love is not only something you feel, it is something you do.

David Wilkerson

If we have got the true love of God shed abroad in our hearts, we will show it in our lives. We will not have to go up and down the earth proclaiming it. We will show it in everything we say or do.

D.L. Moody

The world does not understand theology or dogma, but it understands love and sympathy.

D. L. Moody

The world is not a play-ground; it is a school-room. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love.

Henry Drummond

Love Verses to Live By

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails."

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Ephesians 4:2-3

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

1 Peter 4:8

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

1 John 4:7

Thrivent Financial Members

Remember you can direct your THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS to Shalom Community Lutheran Church. These dollars add up and really help our congregation. To direct your CHOICE DOLLARS go to Thrivent's website at www.thrivent.com. You will find Thrivent Choice listed under the Making a Difference tab on their homepage. If you have any questions, contact Monica or your Thrivent agent.

ONLINE GIVING

ONLINE GIVING – Did you know that Shalom CLC gives you the option to make your contributions online? For those of you who would like to utilize this option, go to Shalom's website at www.shalomcommunitylc.com. Click on the GIVING tab on the homepage and you will be directed to either select a one-time donation or you may elect to setup an automatic recurring donations. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please contact Monica. Giving is a part of our worship to God. Nearly everything about a person is revealed by the way they spend their money as Jesus says, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Whether you are tithing according Malachi 3:10 or contributing over and above your tithe as an act of sacrificial generosity, your money will help us minister God's hope and healing in our community and beyond. Tithing has been a turning point for many people in learning to trust God more fully – we hope you experience that blessing too! We give out of our love for God and to be a blessing to His world. We're blessed to be a blessing.

Praise Notes

Praise Team – Have you been gifted in the area of music? Is He speaking a calling to you to serve in this area? Whether He has gifted you in singing or in playing an instrument and you wish to find out what all is involved in Shalom's Praise Team, please give me a call. I would be happy to visit with you. My phone numbers are (h) 320-239-4411 or (c) 320-894- 5360. My email is: mkg57@hcinet.net

PowerPoint Assistant: Are you comfortable and efficient with computers and wish to learn more about this area of service? If so, please give me a call.

Monica Gosseling

Inclement Weather Information:

Should we need to cancel a service or event, notification will be given via email, on our website shalomcommunitylc.com. Facebook and the Ministry Center Voicemail Greeting.