

I would like to help support Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries (CALM).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Can you pledge? _____ (amt. / month or year) _____

Give a one-time amount? _____ (amt enclosed)

Volunteer? _____ (preferred area of service?) _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Mail this form & gift to: Charlottesville Abundant Life,
P.O. Box 3482
Charlottesville, VA 22903

¿Sabes Por Qué, continued

we threw a Christmas party with a focus on literacy. We shared traditional foods, played Christmas-themed Bingo in English (which was a huge hit), and read the Christmas story in both Spanish and English. We shared some American Christmas traditions as well as traditions of Mexico and El Salvador. Each child received a bilingual book to take home when the party was over.

Our vision is to strengthen the Latino community in Charlottesville with both social and literacy activities just for them, but also to hold events that will bring all members of the Prospect community together, Hispanic and non-Hispanic. We'd like to help celebrate their culture and share in their struggles and joys as they try to understand and fit into our country and culture. This is happening small step by small step, but we trust that the Lord is bringing his kingdom into the lives of all of our neighbors in Prospect, as we work and play together. Please continue to pray for our families and our vision of one unified, beloved community.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Spring Break Project – 1st week of March
Volunteer Appreciation Picnic - April 17

Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries
P.O. Box 3482
Charlottesville, VA 22903
www.charlottesvilleabundantlife.org

FALL PROGRAMS

- Elevate
- Buford Tutoring
- Walker Tutoring
- CHS Tutoring
- Johnson Tutoring
- Ladies of Quality Jr
- Ladies of Quality Sr
- Intelligent Girls Club
- 5/8 Club
(Middle and H.S. Guys)
- Fri. Afternoon Bible Club
(6-9 year olds)
- Individual Development
- Accounts (IDA)
- Senior Solutions
- Urban Disciples
- Hispanic Outreach

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charlottesville, VA
Permit No. 689

Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries

Mid-Winter 2009



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P.O. Box 3482,
Charlottesville, VA 22903
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STAFF

- Rydell Payne
- Rebecca Goodwin
- Lindsay Finnegan
- Mary Wilson
- Melville Krebs
- Richard Feero
- Jawaunta Brown
- Drema Morgan
- Laura Comeau
- Adrian Crawford
- Gary Thompson
- Carrie Yoder
- Andrina Green
- Michael Deel
- Alex Rogers
- Annie Yoder
- Claire Moore

BOARD

- Edward Botchwey
Chair
- Bob Luck
- Susan Prindle
- Lois Zollinhofer
- Dave Phillips
- Rydell Payne,
Executive Director

Let it Shine

by Annie Yoder

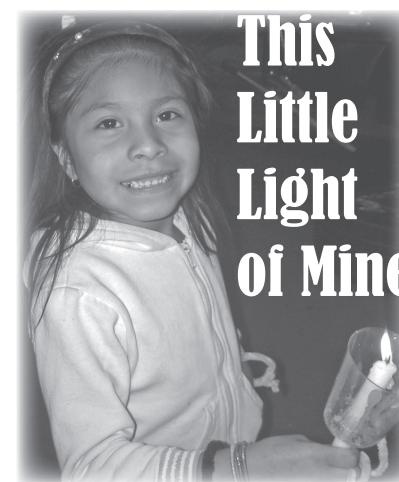
January 19, 2009-- It was the 7th annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration and we gathered at CALM for a day-long event organized by Americorps VISTA staff to celebrate the spirit of service that MLK embodies.

Music and words of remembrance consecrated the day in the front yard of 834 Prospect (CALM Community House) as participants gathered for pizza lunch and a mini-health fair, coordinated by Carey Bailey and Claire Moore. Stations included first aid, blood pressure checks, information on local health services, a kids' hand washing activity, and dental care. Thanks to all the nurses and student nurses who volunteered to help!

Next, service projects commenced starting with a neighborhood walking trash collection. All trash was sorted for recyclables by more than a dozen kids, who then went to the Recycling Center on McIntire Road to see first-hand how trash is collected for reuse.

In the afternoon K-4th graders created the banner for the Memorial March which took place at dusk, while 5th-8th graders worked either on a creative writing/drawing project based on their own dreams for the community, or a music and rhythm workshop, led by Bernard Hankins. Two adult discussion forums were held-- one at the church building about community dreams, and a second at the Blue Ridge Commons Community Center. There Dr. Don Blake encouraged listeners to "act on their potential" with his presentation "Don't let the Dream turn into a Nightmare."

The evening events began with a candlelight march through the Prospect neighborhood, and trumpet accompaniment by Doug Granger, Assistant Principal of Agnor-Hurt Elementary.



Esmerelda, MLK March

continued on page 2

Wasn't it a beautiful party?

By Nancy Humphries

Under a canopy of white lights in a bedecked gymnasium, supporters of CALM enjoyed the annual Christmas Banquet. Pictures of all the children participating in the tutoring program graced the walls. A continuous slide show of the children and the tutoring program reminded guests of the reasons to celebrate.

With my camera clicking away, I viewed much of the evening from behind my lens. What a joy it was to document the occasion! My favorite part was when the children made their grand entrance into the gym. Some were timid when faced with so large a crowd, others raised their hands above their heads and waved, smiling and blowing kisses like movie stars.

It was my first time to attend the Christmas banquet, or to help with publicity and see behind-the-scenes what is involved in making it happen. Planning for the Banquet had begun in late September. Caterers were called, prices compared, gingerbread cookies were ordered, and volunteers were recruited. We brainstormed for student groups that might be interested in coming and then announced it at their respective clubs and organizations. Phone calls were made to local businesses and families asking them to sponsor a table or donate to the event.

On the day of the event, set-up began early, when the tables and chairs were delivered to Memorial Gym. The day passed with a flurry of activity; the caterer arrived, and the stage was assembled. Volunteers came and went in hourly shifts; some donated the majority of their day. The tireless efforts of Brittany Newell and Laura Stocke, two fourth-year UVA students, assured that it was organized and beautiful.

The kids sat with their tutors and enjoyed the delicious meal and program. They enjoyed the yearly tradition of decorating the Centerpiece of gingerbread cookies at each table, before eating them for dessert. Several groups performed throughout the evening including a dance and step group of girls in the tutoring program. The speaker for the evening was Corey Widmer, a former tutor.

Much to the children's delight, Santa arrived right on schedule at the end of the program and gave gifts to each of the children. Santa's visit is always a highlight and youthful enthusiasm in past years has been such that Santa has sometimes needed rescuing! This year, the children had been practicing for weeks standing quietly in line to wait for Santa, and this year he went unscathed! In fact at least one child delivered a rehearsed apology to Santa for a mishap last year.

As the night drew to a close we surveyed the remains of the banquet: half-eaten cookies, deflating balloons and crumbled napkins. And we remembered the looks on the kids faces, the laughter that echoed throughout the gym and the shared experience between tutors and tutees. What a joy to be able to bless a ministry that blesses so many others in Charlottesville.



Mary Carter and McArthur



Rachel Savoy with Tanequa

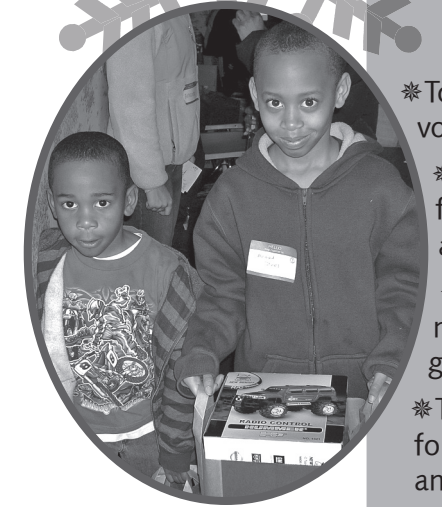


Jennani Dural and Quan

A special "thank you" to all who helped with the December Christmas Store.

Blessings to you!

- *To all the donors and volunteers!
- *To Trinity Presbyterian for their collection site and donations!
- *To Grace Community for their volunteer groups!
- *To Christ Community for their volunteer groups and financial support!



Jabari and Ahmad at the Christmas Store

Thanks to the sponsors of the 9th Annual Abundant Life Christmas Banquet



The UVA Parents Annual Fund
University of Virginia Catering
Jefferson Engraving & Awards
Tuel Jewelers
Hightech Signs



University of Virginia
CATERING



The UVA Parents Annual Fund

Ministry Needs

- Refrigerator
- Math education background? Be part of the lesson planning team! Contact Judi at 245-7027 or JudiEly@gmail.com
- LQ Jr. Leaders. Weds. 7 – 8:30 pm; 7-8th grade girls.
- LQ Sr. Leaders. Thurs. 6:30 – 8:00 pm; 9-12th grade girls.
- Volunteers to prepare 1-2 meals this spring for girls' clubs
- Tutors needed, all ages.



Diane and her Uncle Roberto

¿Sabes por qué damos regalos en Navidad?

By Claire Moore

Do you know why we give gifts at Christmas? So starts the story of Christ's birth when read to children— in Spanish or English.

Like lots of her friends, Lorena's heritage is Hispanic but she is being raised in America. She goes to elementary school at Johnson and learns about American culture and language as well as her own Mexican culture. But her parents are another story. Like others of Latino background in Charlottesville, they are still hampered by limited

English. It's hard to learn the language, since the men work long hours every day, usually alongside other Latino workers speaking primarily Spanish. The women often stay home all day caring for children and they too have few opportunities to practice English.

Abundant Life has been building relationships with Latino children through tutoring programs and after-school clubs, and through them has begun to reach out to their parents. English tutors have begun meeting with some of the adults weekly, working one-on-one with them to improve conversation, increase vocabulary, and build confidence.

We've also sponsored social gatherings to bring families together. Last fall CALM had a dinner attended by over 40 people, during which we talked about the work of Abundant Life and how it can serve them. In December,

continued on page 4



Lorena

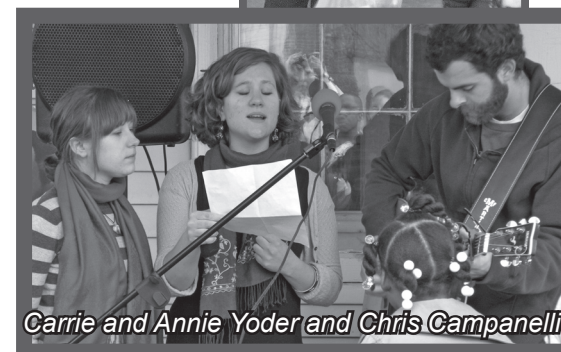
MLK Day, continued

The march finished with a ceremony at Buford. Speaker, Charles Marsh, was too ill to attend but the audience was delighted to hear his words spoken by his wife, Karen. Children's performances included the Music & Rhythm Workshop participants who presented an original rap song, and 5th-8th graders' MLK quote recitation led by Winston Gooding, emcee. Music was provided by a band of local Charlottesville community members who collaborated especially for the event. The evening concluded with a community dinner in the Buford cafeteria.

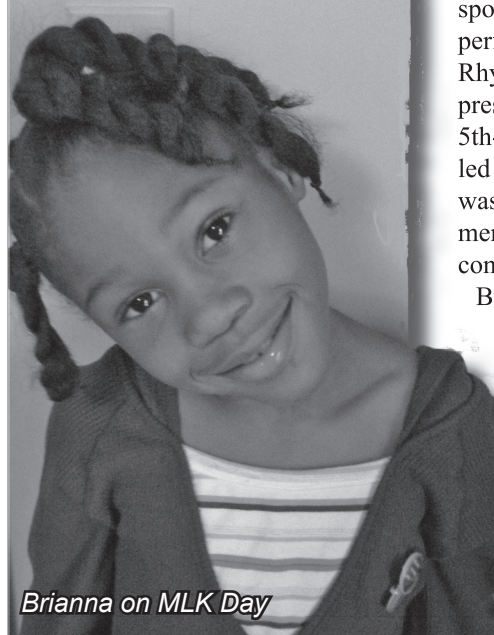
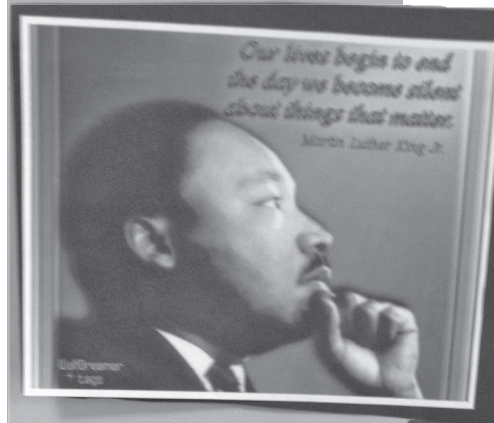
Every year our country is given the challenge to make MLK Day "a day on, not a day off." This year's MLK day was centered on celebration and service. All events were well attended and it certainly proved to be a "day on" for the Fifeville community.



Proud recyclers!



Carrie and Annie Yoder and Chris Campanelli



Brianna on MLK Day