

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

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

Great is Thy Faithfulness,
continued

for us. We “have strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,” because of what the Lord is still doing in our little corner of Charlottesville.

Overall we shared a blessed afternoon, in which young and old enjoyed each others’ company. We are so thankful for now having a ‘front porch on Prospect’ to share with the community and that so many people participated in the celebration.

Preparing the property has truly been a group effort and many people have dedicated time, money and physical labor throughout the process. However, we want to give a special thanks to Michael Deel and Alex Rogers, two AmeriCorps/VISTA workers who worked day after day to clear the land, make improvements to the houses, and prepare for us to open our doors. Their contributions have been invaluable!

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Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries

NEWS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD

Fall 2008

Great is Thy Faithfulness

By Claire Moore

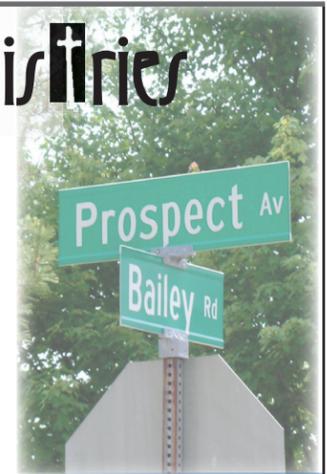
Two little houses, one church, and three acres of land -- and it’s all ours after many months of praying and planning and hard work. All of us at Abundant Life are very proud to have officially opened our doors to the Prospect community with a physical space to share, for both youth and adults.

The property was purchased in June of 2008 with a vision of creating a community facility to provide services for the neighborhood. Our first Open House on the new property was just for our neighbors in Prospect, on Saturday, September 27th. The day was rainy, so we all piled into the small white house and shared food and conversation. Many of the kids played outside in the rain and mud or scurried through the house in search of candy apples, balloon animals and face painters. Through an activity by volunteer Carissa Henriques we were able to survey all those who came, to get their ideas and visions for future development. We wanted the Prospect neighborhood to be co-dreamers with us in this grand plan for our community.

On Sunday, October 29th, we held a second Open House, this time for the wider Charlottesville community to come and see what’s going on at Prospect and 5th Street. We were joined by neighbors, board members, supporting church members, and community friends. We were thankful for the beautiful weather, which allowed us all to enjoy the day to the fullest. We had moon bounces, face painting, balloons, and cotton candy for the kids, and homemade donuts, BBQ, hamburgers, and hotdogs for all while we enjoyed live local music, by Eli Cook and Billy Wells and his Go-Go Band.

Halfway through the day, we held a dedication ceremony which opened with a heartfelt poem about the work of CALM by Vaughn Yountz. Rydell Payne and Trinity Presbyterian pastors Wade Bradshaw and Greg Thompson all offered words about the vision and work of CALM and prayers of thanks for the new property. The ceremony ended after remarks by Chairman of the Board Ed Botchwey, when all of us present sang “Great is Thy Faithfulness.” The Open House beautifully illustrated the true faithfulness of the Lord over the years to CALM and the Prospect community. Our trust is that He will continue to provide

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VISION

To bring the glory of God to the Prospect Avenue community by reflecting the values of God’s Kingdom.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Edward Botchwey
Chair
- Bob Luck
Vice Chair
- Joseph Magri
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- Lois Zollinhofer
Secretary
- Rydell Payne,
Executive Director
- Dave Phillips
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Unsung Heroes at After-School Tutoring

Most Years of Service: Martha Montague



Martha and Judith

I have no doubt that the Abundant Life tutoring program has been as big a blessing in my life as it has been in the lives of the children that I have tutored. This is my seventh year as a tutor. The children teach me as much about life as I teach them about math and reading. They have taught me patience, dedication, perseverance and much more.

The relationships I have formed with the staff and volunteers have also been invaluable; they always have a positive attitude and are quick to offer support and encouragement, whether about tutoring or about my life in general.

I have truly loved tutoring but I would be lying to say that every minute has been fun. There are hard days. It is hard to get a child to sit still and pay attention to her work when she has already been at school for 7 hours. It is hard to get a child excited about doing fractions and spelling. It is hard to watch a child get frustrated over something she does not understand. But I admire these kids. I admire their ability to sit still (for the most part) and listen when they've been sitting at desks all day long. I admire their dedication to learning, even when it's not exciting. I admire their perseverance in struggling to understand hard concepts. It is the children themselves who make all the hard days worthwhile. Their smiling faces are what I look forward to every week.

At the end of the year, being able to see the progress a child has made is immensely rewarding. Books which she first took one look at and pronounced "too hard" have become easy. Multiplication problems have finally clicked and she breezes through them in moments. And yet, the most enjoyable part of tutoring is the relationship that I am able to develop with a child. Hearing her stories and listening to her descriptions of her family give me insight into her life. There is no greater blessing than being a part of someone's life.

Having a child tell me that she wishes I tutored her every day or who is eager to share her day with me; to have one scream excitedly and run to give me a hug when I arrive is an indescribable joy.

This spring, when I graduate from UVA, I don't know what I will be doing or where I will end up. But I do know that if it takes me away from Charlottesville, there are few things that I will miss as dearly as Abundant Life tutoring, which has shaped and enriched the last seven years of my life and for which I will always be thankful.

By Martha Montague

"Who are we?" "Five-Eight!"

By Dylan Rosenthal

"I CAN'T HEAR YOU!" "5/8!" "ONE MORE TIME!" "5/8!"
"Just in case you didn't know."

With this chant the 5/8 Club (5th through 8th grade boys) kicked off its seventh year of weekly meetings this fall. The chant has become a 5/8 tradition whenever someone – child or adult – attends for the first time.

Though the participants have changed over the years, what has not changed is the goal of the 5/8 Club to raise up respectful, responsible, caring young men of God. Our strategy is a highly structured, fun, after-school program with high standards of attendance, behavior, and participation. Plus there are rewards for those who meet those standards, like eligibility to play on the club's YMCA basketball teams, and cool field trips.



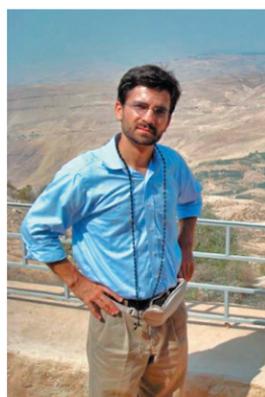
Each meeting includes the basic components of: snack, icebreaker, teaching, activity, and dinner. Variety comes, from week to week, during the teaching and activity times, i.e. the curriculum. Over the years the curriculum has addressed soft skills like self-confidence, service, and leadership; hard skills like photography, writing/recording songs, learning to play guitar, and designing a website; and life skills like handling peer pressure and avoiding drug and alcohol abuse.



Currently, the 5/8 curriculum includes a monthly Bible study, small group discussion and prayer time, and a team competition around the bible lesson. The boys are divided into small groups by grade, with each volunteer leader assigned to one group. Small group leaders have responsibilities outside of club time. For example they try to make contact with parents, and have their small

groups over for dinner once a month. This gives time for mentoring relationships to form.

This fall, the 5/8 Club is missing one of its most-beloved and longest-serving volunteers, Brett Ferrell. Brett, a former Abundant Life employee who graduated from UVA in May, is traveling through the Middle East on a Christian pilgrimage. And while his absence is felt by both boys and leaders, it has created an opportunity. Brett was always one to share his life with the boys-- he even invited them to his graduation party! Now he is sending pictures and videos electronically of his journey for the boys' education and enjoyment.



Brett Ferrell at Mt. Nebo

Each month, Mark Turlington communicates with Brett about the biblically significant locations he's visiting and then plans a bible study. While Mark teaches, Mike Hoovler projects Brett's images and videos onto the wall. And once a month, the boys do a conference call with Brett where they can hear from him directly and ask him questions about the Holy Land. Sites the boys will learn about include Mount Nebo, where God showed Moses the Promised Land; Bethany beyond the Jordan, the site of Jesus' baptism; and Mount Sinai, where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments.

We hope seeing the pictures and videos and interacting with Brett will engage the boys with their faith in a new and exciting way. We also hope 5/8 members will be inspired to give back to their community-- like Bryan

Cornejo, an 11th grader and 5/8 alum who is serving as a volunteer leader this fall. Please pray for Brett's health and safety, and that God would use the 5/8 Club to positively impact the lives of its members and the community.



Unsung Heroes at After-School Tutoring

Top recruiter: Hunter Sinclair

By Richard Feero

Hunter is a 4th year at UVA, studying History and Foreign Affairs. He plans on being in DC next year, doing business or governmental consulting, working in foreign affairs or on Capitol Hill.



Hunter grew up in a Christian home and remembers giving his life to Christ at a very young age. He regularly attends Christ Episcopal Church's late service in downtown Charlottesville. It was through Christ Episcopal and his roommate Drew Macklin that Hunter became involved with CALM three years ago and he has been tutoring or leading Bible Club ever since. For the last 5 semesters he's been working regularly with Jaime Cornejo, maintaining a consistent presence in Jaime's life, and watching him grow and change.

CALM initiatives are impossible without many partners who give graciously of their time and resources. In particular, the tutoring programs are extremely dependent on volunteers from local churches and students from the University. The Lord has greatly blessed CALM through these partnerships, which have continued to develop, even as the need for tutors has doubled in two years as CALM attempts to serve more of Fifeville's children.

Hunter knows how important volunteers are to the tutoring program and at any opportunity he plugs CALM. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, which is where he does most of his plugging. This year alone he was responsible for recruiting roughly 40% of our male tutors, by encouraging guys in his fraternity to volunteer at Walker or Buford after school. Hunter goes the "extra mile" because he understands how crucial it is for the boys to have male tutors, but he also truly believes that getting involved in the lives of the boys is an eye-opening and moving experience for his fraternity brothers, and not to be missed.

Hunter has some great stories, including one about a pledge brother who wanted to get involved with tutoring. Hunter was skeptical, and didn't think that his friend would even last the semester. It turns out Hunter was humbled and his eyes were open to what the Lord can do in any life. Hunter now admits that there may not be a better and more committed tutor than his friend. His friend has a good relationship with his child, and regularly spends time with him outside of tutoring. They do things like throw the football or go on excursions to Kmart to get wrestling action figures.

Tutors have a tremendous positive impact on individual kids, sometimes helping to improve their overall attitude towards school or even life, often taking a kid from feeling hopeless and lost in class, to not just getting by, but excelling. Tutors also have a significant impact on the greater Charlottesville community when they share their experiences of serving with others.

MINISTRY NEEDS

- Leaders for LQ Jr. and LQ Sr.,
- Helpers for Christmas Store
- Volunteers to make an occasional meal or some homemade baked goodies for the evening clubs.
- Tutors
- Donations for the Christmas store, for example:
 - Sporting goods – basketballs, footballs, etc.
 - Remote control cars
 - Dress up costumes
 - Dolls – African-American or Hispanic
 - High School Musical items
 - Bath sets for women
 - Jewelry
 - Cologne
 - Scarves, hats and gloves
 - Gift Certificates – Walmart, Food Lion, the Mall, Kmart
 - Action figures – super hero, wrestling
 - Games

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- Families in crisis with expenses
- Planning for property development
- Strong funding to continue

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Banquet
December 5

Tickets on line:
www.charlottesvilleabundantlife.org

Christmas Store
December 13

Martin Luther King Day
January 19, 2009

CALM STAFF

- Rydell Payne
- Rebecca Goodwin
- Lindsay Quinn
- Mary Wilson
- Melville Krebs
- Kerra Thurston
- Richard Feero
- Jawaunta Brown
- Drema Morgan
- Adrian Crawford
- VISTA
- Andrina Green
- Michael Deel
- Alex Rogers
- Annie Yoder
- Claire Moore