

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

Camp Counselors, continued

To further team bonding, and as a break from the long days of work, the counselors shared many laughs together during night time activities: scavenger hunt, movie night, late-night grocery store runs, games night, etc. Perhaps the highlight of the entire week was the bonfire to roast marshmallows and talk about the bigger questions of race, culture and the gospel that arose from experiences during the week. It was incredible to see the way this group—made up of students from many different backgrounds and from a wide range of ages—was able to think through some of those questions together while listening to each others' perspectives. Although many of the counselors were strangers at the beginning of the week, by the end of camp they became a group of friends.

Join Abundant Life's Tutoring Team!

Needed: adults, college students, mature high school students
For: tutoring of low-income city school students after school
How long? Once/wk commitment to same child for school year. Great opportunity for family members to serve together. Staff oversight for all programs. Individualized lesson plans for K-4th. Carpools available!
Contact: Rebecca at main@charlottesvilleabundantlife.org or 970-2077. Math education background? Be part of the lesson planning team. Contact melville@charlottesvilleabundantlife.org

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

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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

Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries

NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Fall 2008



Let Us Run the Race

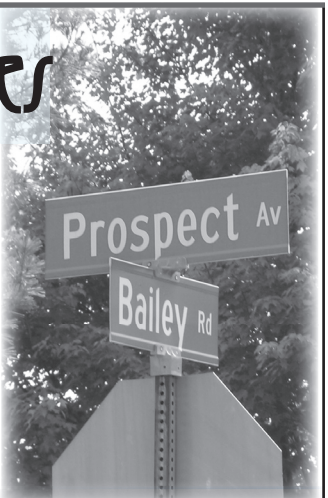
by Meredith Howard and Allison Scott

1 week + 55 energetic kids + 20 caring counselors + countless volunteers = CALM Camp '08

Summer camp has now come and gone, but there are a few things that will never leave us. Friendships were made on a foundation built to last, and Christ's presence was evident throughout the week as His word was presented to young hearts. We look forward to the fruit that will last in the lives of both kids and counselors. Our theme verse for the week was emblazoned on our camp t-shirts: *Fixing our eyes on Jesus, let us run the race marked out for us.* (from Hebrews 12:1-2).

Our week was packed with fun while we learned about God and the plans He has for each of us. Our curriculum from Scripture Union was taken from the gospel of Mark and used the upcoming Olympic Games as a creative way to portray the life of Christ. There were skits, and Bible "visitors" every day, and memory verses to learn and a wonderful banquet celebration at the end. Early in the week we talked about what it means to "turn back to God and believe the good news" (Mark 1:15) and learned that God wants to teach us the right way to live our lives. By the end of the week, we were able to talk about God's plan to offer Jesus as a sacrifice for our sins because He loves us and wants us to live with Him.

At the banquet parents watched a slide show, heard some songs, and learned what their kids had been up to all week. The kids received camp t-shirts sporting their theme verse and awards from their counselors. It was so great to celebrate on our very own church property for the first time in camp history! Thank God for His provision of a beautiful day and the biggest turnout of parents and family members that we have ever had for a summer camp banquet.



CALM
P.O. Box 3482,
Charlottesville, VA 22903
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or 434-970-2077
FAX: 434-220-4955
Main@charlottesvilleabundantlife.org
www.charlottesvilleabundantlife.org

VISION

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- David Phillips
President
- Edward Botchwey
Vice President
- Joseph Magri
Treasurer
- Lois Zollinhofer
Secretary
- Rydell Payne,
Executive Director
- Bob Luck
- Susan Prindle

CALENDAR

- Johnson Tutoring begins Sept 8
- Walker tutoring begins Sept 15
- Buford tutoring begins Sept 15
- CHS tutoring no start date yet

MINISTRY NEEDS

- Volunteers to prepare meals
- Tutors

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- Transitions on the Board
- Families in crisis with expenses
- New Staff
- Strong funding to continue

CALM STAFF

- Rydell Payne
- Rebecca Goodwin
- Lindsay Quinn
- Mary Wilson
- Melville Krebs
- Kerra Thurston
- Richard Feero
- Jawaunta Brown
- Drema Morgan
- Vernon Howard

VISTA

- Andrina Green
- Michael Deel
- Alex Rogers
- Annie Yoder
- Claire Moore

On May 31st we gathered to bid farewell to our dear colleagues, neighbors, and friends, Eddie and Tonya Howard. We were sad at their departure but thankful for their ministry, as we recounted the marvelous works of the Lord over the past eight years. Following the event they finished packing their belongings and drove their family of four to Virginia Beach.

Since moving they have enjoyed a new-found peace, but have also grappled with the challenges of starting over in a new city. Eddie is again making use of his talents as an auto mechanic. As he did at V&V Automotive, a business he owned for several years in Charlottesville, Eddie is seeking to serve God by ministering to his co-workers and customers.

Tonya is home with the children while she continues to discern God's will for her future. Elijah, 13, and Hannah, 6, are enjoying life in Virginia Beach, having joined the local Boys' and Girls' Club for the summer. They look forward to enrolling at their new schools this fall--Elijah in seventh grade and Hannah in first grade.

Although the Howards have visited a number of different churches --and, on their telling, there is one on practically every block-- they have not yet joined a congregation. They continue to look for a community that they can commit to; their commitment to the community was one powerful aspect of their witness in the Prospect neighborhood.

The Howards would be grateful for your continued prayers. The move has been complicated by some recent health problems. May the Lord grant them healing, wisdom and strength, guiding them into the good works He has "prepared beforehand" for them to walk in (Eph. 2:10).

An outstanding group of Camp counselors this summer did a remarkable job of walking alongside our kids. These high school and college students devoted a week of their summer to knowing and loving them well, and serving selflessly at whatever was needed. They wore many different hats as they helped prepare meals, played games with the kids, acted in skits, led the kids in Bible discussions, and constantly made sure that each child was safe and having a good time. The kids were able to get close to their assigned counselors and were noticeably excited upon their arrival each day to see the same faces eager to greet them!

Beyond the scheduled hours of summer camp, most of the counselors were able to spending the whole week with each other. They lived in the community and worked alongside one another doing whatever was needed, going above and beyond what was expected. In the evenings they gathered as a group to discuss everyone's experiences during the day and further support one another. Various speakers throughout the week helped the counselors think about what it means to serve in the Prospect neighborhood and how the Gospel changes the way they relate to people and communities.

Conversations that emerged from these talks helped the team to process the way the week could affect their life choices on a broader scale and how to better love one another.



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Tonya and Eddie, Whatcha doin now?

By Brett Ferrell



Camp Counselors --a bonding experience

by Meredith Howard and Allison Scott

Thanks, Adrian. You made a difference this summer.

By Richard Feero



Adrian Crawford (L) and Richard Feero (R), who is a past VISTA volunteer, now a CALM staff member, who leads the 5/8 Club during the school year and coordinates the Walker and Johnson schools tutoring programs.

I had the pleasure of getting to know Adrian Crawford (AC) this summer when he was hired to help with the 5/8th summer program a couple days before it began. I was thrilled to find out at the last minute that I would have an extra pair of hands. I sized AC up and quickly decided he would be a better athlete than I, which proved to be true. His team almost always won whenever we played with the boys, thus making me the guy no one wanted on his team!

AC proved to be a valuable asset at the summer program, not just because he did a wonderful job humbling me in front of the boys, but because of his history in the neighborhood. AC has grown up in Prospect just like the rest of the boys, which gave him instant credibility with the group, credibility that I have been trying to achieve for a year! In almost every situation -- if AC was cool enough to do it, so were they. He may not have fully realized the extent of his influence over the kids but thankfully he chose to use it well!

AC transitioned into his position with ease, since he's been a part of CALM's ministry since 1996: participating in Bible Club, 5/8, Teen Station, Elevate, and tutoring at all levels. He flowed well with my disorganized style of leadership and was willing to help out with almost anything. Now that the summer is over AC is preparing to attend Virginia Union University in the spring and play baseball with them (I didn't even have to play him in his best sport for him to pummel me.)

The reason AC is college-bound today is because of a promise he made to his grandmother who passed away three years ago from Lou Gehrig's disease. AC promised her that he would be successful in life and do his best to do the right thing. It's what keeps AC going and pushes him to strive for more out of life. He also attributes his success to his relationship with Christ, whom he prays to every day, trusting in Him for his needs and hoping in Him for his future.

Through Abundant Life numerous people have challenged and affirmed him, but the person that he felt was the most influential was Bubby (Eddie Howard). Bubby had a relationship with AC and his family and visited them often. It was important to AC that Bubby grew up in similar circumstances. Seeing Bubby's new life gave AC the optimism to believe he could also achieve more. This year the Lord gave AC the wonderful opportunity to encourage the boys this summer just as Bubby encouraged him growing up. Praise God for AC and his ministry this summer and hopefully the Lord will allow him to continue to impact the lives of youth in the community for years to come.



Together, we did it! Our "front porch" on Prospect.

This existing house on the new property will be used until it can eventually be replaced by a multifaceted center that will provide tutoring, mentoring, job training, Hispanic outreach, space for community worship and meetings, and a safe refuge in the neighborhood.

Update on our Property Purchase!

by Jessica Herbert

Our dream of owning the 1.39 acre parcel on 834 Prospect Ave has finally come pass! Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and donations as we pursued the land acquisition. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to seek funds to for this venture.

The new property joins CALM's 1.74 parcel that fronts on 5th Street SW. With the two parcels combined CALM has the means to introduce a "Prospect College" learning facility, affordable owner-occupied housing and future community development opportunities within the Prospect neighborhood.

Gaining the property gives CALM a chance to have a 'front porch,' both literally and figuratively, in the neighborhood and aligns with our ministry's mission to have a presence in the community and to continually build relationships. It is CALM's hope that this recent milestone will only be the beginning of many positive changes both within the ministry and the community that we serve.