



Remembrance Service

Sunday evening, November 27, join us in the Sanctuary at 6pm as we recognize and honor our friends and family who have passed into eternity.

— page two



Help Stock the Food Pantry

The next Manna Sunday is November 6. Donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries are collected in the carts in the front foyer and then taken to the MCEF Food Pantry to help those in need in our community. **Meredith Sutton will also be collecting female health and toiletry supplies for the Pantry as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award project.**



Show Dates & Times

Friday, December 9, 7pm
Saturday, December 10, 2pm & 7pm
Sunday, December 11, 6pm
Friday, December 16, 7pm
Saturday, December 17, 2pm & 7pm
Sunday, December 18, 6pm

Be thinking now of friends, co-workers, and neighbors that you can invite to attend one of our shows. No tickets are necessary this year. Doors open 1 hour prior to show time.

Hand-Made Cards from Haiti



A limited number of Christmas cards and Note cards made by Haitians are available for purchase. Christmas Cards are 5 for \$5.00 and Note cards are 12 for \$7.50. Please contact David Armistead at 746-3023 if you'd like to make a purchase.

By: Mike Langley

The winter holidays are generally perceived as “the most wonderful time of the year”. However, for those who are facing grief after the death of a loved one, the holidays may instead be a time filled with pain and sadness. This is why Fairmount will again be offering a Remembrance Service that hopes to be uplifting and comforting to those who have lost loved ones.

During the service we will sing a few seasonal songs, light remembrance candles, hang ornaments on several remembrance trees and recognize those special loved ones during a pictorial presentation. As you enter you will receive an ornament and during the service you will be given time to write the names of your loved ones on the ornament along with

a message and hang it on the remembrance trees. The service will last



about 45 minutes and afterwards there will be a time of refreshments and an opportunity to view the pictorial presentation again. In addition you will be able to take home the remembrance candles and some helpful holiday tips on grief.

For the pictorial presentation we

would like for you to submit a picture of one or two loved ones you want to especially remember this year. You can begin to turn your photos into the office immediately. Please provide the person’s name and their relationship to you. The last day to submit photos is Sunday, November 20. If you submitted a photo last year and would like to use it again this year, please inform Chris Branch, otherwise the photo will not be in the pictorial presentation. If you want a photo to be part of the presentation, it will be scanned and Chris will make it available for you to pick up the week of November 21.

The service will begin at 6pm on Sunday, November 27 and take place in the Sanctuary. The reception will be held in Room 132 after the service.

Grief can feel very isolating during the holidays, so please come and support and be supported by those who are hurting this year. ■

sharAhope... A Blog

By: Shara Campbell

Let me introduce myself. My name is Shara Campbell and I am married to Michael Campbell who is the Youth Minister here at Fairmount.



I started a blog back in the beginning of 2010 and it started out as a way to share my recipes because I loved to bake and felt that it was my ministry. Well, my second ministry. My first ministry was and will always be my family: my children and my husband. But anyways... I baked and cooked a lot for our church family, and loved doing it. So I thought that I would start writing about it and sharing a few recipes and some pictures of the food I had made, as well as sharing about my family... the good and the not so good.

The not so good showed up a few short months after I started the blog. I was diagnosed with a chronic pain dis-

ease called Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) or Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS). It's turned our entire world upside down. So the title of my blog went from **sharAtreat** to **sharAhope**. I now write about what my struggles are dealing with this extremely painful condition, about the blessings I find in my children (Cade, Reagan, & Clark), my husband (Michael), my four-legged friend (Maggie), and about this new journey, this new ministry God is calling me towards.

If you would like to read what's going on in our family and follow my updates, please go to www.sharacampbell.wordpress.com ■



Martin-Dabney is led by Bill Farmer and Tom & Carla Brignac and meets on Sundays at 9:30am in Room 132A.

Focus on Bible School - Martin-Dabney Class

by Beth Crowe

At 9:30am each Sunday morning, excited voices can be heard in Room 132A as 60 to 70 members of the Martin-Dabney Class share a time of fellowship and delicious refreshments. At 9:45am, a devotional time that includes inspirational thoughts, a hymn, and prayer is held. By 10:00, one of three teachers begins a Bible study focusing on the Standard Publishing Lessons. Bill Farmer, who has been teaching the Martin-Dabney Class for over 48 years, only teaches occasionally now, but is always inspiring and informative as he lectures using a perfect mix of lesson, stories about Fairmount, and his personal testimonies. Carla and Tom Brignac share the majority of the teaching responsibilities using a variety of teaching techniques to peak the class' interest and involvement.

Since many members of the class have known each other since childhood, there is a special bond of love and caring. Exciting fellowship activities are regularly planned and enjoyed. The most rewarding times are those that add new members to the circle of learning and love. Please know that regardless of your age, you will always be welcomed and find inspiration in the Martin-Dabney Class. ■

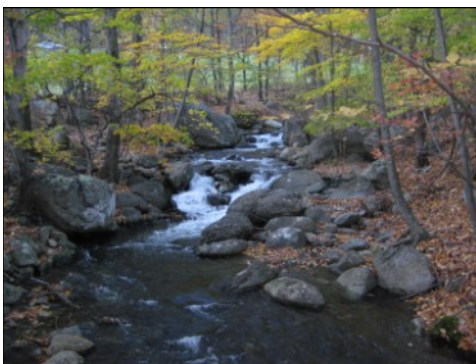
God's Girls: Attempting Good, Accepting Grace

By: Carolyn Holmes

Are you a "good girl" or a "bad girl"? Do you struggle to do what's good and expected, only to fail or learn it's not good enough? Do you sit in judgment on the actions of others and compare them to yourself? These are the questions that were brought forth and pondered at the Fairmount Women's Retreat held at Crossroads Camp and Conference Center on October 14th through 16th.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains about halfway between Charlottesville and Lynchburg, thirty-seven women were treated to glorious fall foliage, crisp mountain air and the beautiful Little Piney River winding throughout the grounds. The weekend was a special treat, offering participants the fellowship of other sisters in Christ and many opportunities for individual, private reflection, prayer and meditation amidst peaceful settings.

Praise and worship sessions, led by Karen Smith-Will and Gina Jacobs, were both uplifting and inspiring and Beverly Beach provided fun break times with "Sword drills" and trivia questions for prizes. Our own Kelly Combs was the featured speaker for the two-night getaway. By sharing her own spiritual journey and experiences of being a "good girl" or a "bad girl" and through the Bible passages of the Prodigal Son and the Woman at the Well, Kelly demonstrated that we can all relate to these situations and can



identify with them in our own life experiences. With various Scripture references, Kelly pointed out NO sin is too big for God's Grace. Her message convicted us and challenged us to examine our own true feelings and attitudes, to realize and accept God's Grace, and to extend it to others. The message rang out clearly that we are each God's special masterpiece and are beautiful in His eyes. HE LOVES US and ACCEPTS US in spite of our shortcomings. We learned to focus on Christ, strive to do our best, admit our sins and weaknesses, to pray and ask for His forgiveness, and above all, to accept His Grace. We are not "good girls" or "bad girls", we are truly, GOD'S GIRLS: ATTEMPTING GOOD, ACCEPTING GRACE. ■



NONPROFIT
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
RICHMOND, VA
PERMIT #1479

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 788
MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23111
PHONE: (804) 559-8070
FAX: (804) 559-8072
EMAIL:
INFO@FAIRMOUNTCHRISTIAN.ORG

The mission of Fairmount Christian Church:

To develop followers of Jesus who:

Love God,
Love People and
Introduce the world
to **Christ**



The Forecaster is
best viewed online @
www.fairmountchristian.org

Our Church: October 23, 2011

Veteran's Day



On Sunday, November 13, we would like to recognize our Veterans who served at some point during the 1960's & 1970's. If you or your spouse served during this period please forward your name, branch of service, and a military-era picture to the church office by November 7th.

Your Church Staff:

- Rick Raines - Senior Minister
- Chris Santasiere - Associate Minister
- Mike Langley - Associate Minister
- Tracy Thomas - Worship/Music Minister
- Mike Campbell - Youth Minister
- Rose Williams - Children's Ministry Director
- Bob Massey - Business Administrator
- Veronica Brewster - Office Manager
- Jef Powell - Facilities & Grounds Manager
- Barry Will - Technology Director
- Larry Haake, IV - Child Care Program Director

Attendance & Giving.

- 8:15 Worship Service: 113
Children's Worship: 15
- 9:30 Worship Service: 503
Children's Worship: 55
- 11:00 Worship Service: 213
Children's Worship: 104

Total: 1003

Bible School: 597

Budget Requirements: \$36,871.00

Budget Receipts: \$24,759.75

Sermon Series Continues...



Week 7: Matthew 6:25-34

Menu for Wednesday, November 2:

- Parmesan Chicken, Broccoli & Rice Casserole, Dessert
- Alternate: PB&J w/ chips
- Real Life Connections - serve
- Christian Homemakers & Friends - clean up

page four ■ Wednesday, October 26, 2011