

A.P. News



Augustine Project

An Outreach Ministry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church



May 25, 2011

Tutor One Child ~ Change Two Lives

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AP's LITERATE GIRLS Program Underway

The Augustine Project has expanded its tutoring program in 2011 through a new initiative, Augustine LITERATE GIRLS (LG). With partial funding from the Women's Fund of Winston-Salem, LITERATE GIRLS will tutor a minimum of 35 girls during the 18-month grant period. In addition, the LG program will provide an educational piece for teachers to highlight patterns that might indicate reading difficulty in girls.

According to dyslexia expert Sally Shaywich, research shows that boys are four times more likely than girls to be identified as having reading problems. Girls who are not learning to read tend to withdraw and internalize their frustration so they remain under-identified.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with the Women's Fund of Winston-Salem," said Brown. "Both our groups understand that early, solid language skills are a prerequisite for academic success and economic security for all women and girls."



Recent Board and Tutor Lunch

2011 Augustine Tutor Training

Sign Up Now!

September 19-30, 2011 (8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m., M-F)
Contact Henri Brown to register at 723-4391, ext. 517 or
augproj@stpauls-ws.org

www.augustineproject-ws.org

Visit our website!

www.augustineproject-ws.org
Find general information, pictures, tutor and parent resources, a page for potential tutors and more!

Amy Smith Joins the Augustine Project Staff



We welcome Amy Smith to the staff of the Augustine Project. Beginning May 16, Amy will join the Project as Assistant Director. Amy took the Augustine training in September 2010 and worked with a child at Cook Elementary during the fall. In the spring, Amy began student teaching full time as the last step for her licensure as a teacher. She will graduate from Salem in May. We are delighted that Amy has joined the Project because she believes deeply in the Project and she has a giant heart for children. She will be a wonderful mentor for new tutors and a great help behind the scenes. “I believe in the Augustine Project and its mission to help struggling readers,” said Amy. “Augustine tutors play a significant role in helping ensure that all students—regardless of socio-economic background—receive the attention and instruction they need to succeed. I am honored to become part of the Augustine family and look forward to working to continue and foster this important work.” In addition to Amy’s excellent academic background, Amy has worked as a marketing director, account executive, and PR writer. We know that Amy will be able to draw on all of her experiences as she helps the Augustine Project move forward. Amy is a native of Winston-Salem and is married to Alex Smith. She has three children, ages 10, 8, and 6. We are elated to have someone with Amy’s credentials and background join the staff of the Project.

Augustine Project Donor Card

Please return to: **St. Paul’s Episcopal Church**
520 Summit Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
ATTN: The Augustine Project

YES! I would like to help **The Augustine Project** provide free literacy tutoring to low-income children in our community.

Attached please find my tax deductible contribution in the amount of \$ _____.

Augustine Angel	\$1000	Donor	\$100
Patron	\$500	Friend	\$50
Sponsor	\$250	Other	

Name _____

Address _____

Name needed for acknowledgment of Donor Honor Roll

OR _____ I prefer that my name not be listed for public acknowledgment.

My gift is _____ in honor _____ in memory of _____

Please send notice of my gift to: _____

Carson Howard Retires; Rejoins Board as Head of the Strategic Plan



Don’t worry... Carson isn’t going far away! Although Carson decided to return to volunteer status with Augustine in January, she will remain in our midst! As the newly appointed Head of the Au-

gustine Strategic Plan, Carson will continue to provide strong leadership and service to the Project. She continues to tutor at South Fork and will continue to mentor new and returning tutors. While we will miss her everyday presence and unflappable style, we are grateful her heart and energy remain with Augustine.

Mission Statement for Augustine Project for Literacy/WS

The mission of the Augustine Project for Literacy/WS is to improve the reading, writing and spelling abilities of low-income children and teens who struggle with literacy skills. The Project trains and supports volunteer tutors who provide free, long-term, 1-to-1 instruction using the Orton-Gillingham approach and Wilson Reading System® materials. Orton-Gillingham is a structured, multisensory, phonetic teaching approach that has been proven to work with those who have language-related learning difficulties. Augustine lessons include the five essential components of research-based reading instruction as defined by the National Reading Panel: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.

Honoring Sid and Bea....

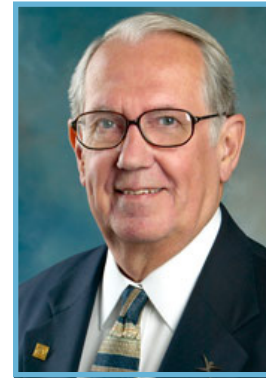
Lifetime of Giving x 2



In January 2011, the Augustine community lost both Bea Ackenbom-Kelly and Sid Kelly, beloved members of our Augustine community. During their many years of tutoring at South Fork, they guided and enriched the lives of many children. They not only served as tutors, but each mentored students with gentle kindness and wisdom. As a presenter in our trainings, Bea helped many of us understand the large role poverty plays in learning weaknesses, and she challenged us to understand the whole child, even as we systematically remediated language-based difficulties. On the Augustine Board, Bea served as a constant source of wisdom,

energy and enthusiasm as we sought to grow the Project. In December 2010, Bea and Sid were presented with the inaugural Augustine Founders Award, given for "Outstanding Dedication and Service to the Augustine Project for Literacy." I know we are all grateful for having known Bea and Sid, and we are thankful for the gifts they shared with us all. Let us all give thanks to God for the extraordinary lives of Bea and Sid Kelly.

Tutors Treated to Seminar with C. Wilson Anderson



In March 2011, Wilson Anderson graciously gave his time to conduct a morning seminar for Augustine Tutors. He covered a variety of topics, but spent most of the morning sharing information

and strategies for working effectively with economically disadvantaged students with reading difficulties. Wilson is President of Educational Consultants of the Midwest, Past President of the of the IDA, an Orton Fellow, and a nationally recognized author and teacher. We are delighted and grateful that he would share this special time with our tutors. Thank you, Wilson!



Why I Tutor....



Working now with Michael for 3 1/2 years and Mahycie for three years, I have had the great fortune to experience how rewarding the Augustine Project can be for both student and tutor. It begins with the random pairing of student and tutor. We meet for the first time knowing little or nothing about each other. But as the students and I work through lesson after lesson, and as we begin to learn about each other, it strikes me that something most valuable has occurred --- a solid bond of trust has been established. Augustine students learn that this place where tutor and student meet is a place of acceptance where stumbling and struggling is OK and encouragement is always offered. Within this environment of trust, learning can become a comfortable thing. After working through several books from the Wilson Reading System®, it is tremendously satisfying to witness the progress that Michael and Mahycie have made. They can both read chapter books and both take pride in their spelling ability (recently Michael glowed as he spelled "misunderstanding"). Mahycie likes to collect poems in a notebook (if you ask, he'll tell you that Shel Silverstein is his favorite poet) and radiates joy whenever he reads these poems. It is quite a wonderful moment when students begin to think to themselves, "I am a reader" and "I like to read." To be part of this process is what makes tutoring so gratifying to me. Pam Bowton, 4th year tutor

The Augustine Project for Literacy - Making a Difference



I grew up in a time when most families were like mine. Everyone had a job. Dads went off to work, moms stayed home and took care of the family's needs and the children attended school. It was a wonderful and simple time. Today, that scenario is more the exception than the norm. Faced with severe economic cutbacks, many families struggle to make ends meet with two incomes. Our public education institutions also suffer when the economy is bad. It is usually one of the first places politicians look to make budget cuts. As a result, less money is available for programs which aid students with learning disabilities. If students make above a particular score, they do not qualify for certain help even if they desperately need it. They are put in classrooms with students who are on or above grade level in reading. Teachers must get through a curriculum that does not allot time for individual tutoring to bring a student up to speed. These students fall farther and farther behind. The Augustine Project for Literacy works with these students to give them a brighter future. Children are identified by their teachers as those who would benefit from one-on-one tutoring. They must meet certain criteria, such as being on free or reduced lunch, and their parents must give permission for them to receive tutoring. Students are put on a list and wait to be matched with an Augustine-trained tutor. Unfortunately, many of these children never get a tutor. The Augustine Project needs your help in order to grow and help these students. Every year training is offered to anyone who would be interested in tutoring children in literacy. I have been involved with many volunteer groups and projects, and most have been quite satisfying. But watching children's faces light up when they finally understand the relationship between letters, sounds and words is unbelievably heartwarming. I leave tutoring sessions feeling like I am truly making a difference. I know that I am getting far more than I am giving. I ask that you consider becoming an Augustine tutor. You do not have to have been a teacher. You just need to have the desire to help a child in need. You will receive excellent training and have continued support as you tutor. Many of our tutors have found the training helpful with their own children or grandchildren. Space is limited in the September training session, so please sign up now to start making a difference in a child's life.

Susan Woodall, *Board Chairman*

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