



For the word of God is alive and active.  
Sharper than any double-edged sword,  
it penetrates even to dividing  
soul and spirit, joints and marrow;  
it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

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# Kelly's Korner

## Sharing Jesus with More Than a Sound Bite

By: Kelly Keith

I've never seen an episode of the hit TV series *Lost*, that aired from 2004-2010. It was wildly popular, and viewers would often discuss the story lines together, wondering what would happen next. However, as someone who had never seen the show, their conversations seemed almost cryptic to me.

People would often tell me, "You should watch it." But they never really gave me enough of the story line to interest me to watch.

As Christians, I worry that we sometimes act as the viewers of a popular television series. We talk about Jesus in sound bites and clips, and assure non-believers they should just "try him," without offering any depth into the real story line.

Equally troubling, is the assumption in group settings like church, Bible study and Bible school, that everyone in the room is familiar with the Bible and all of its truths. We

don't give the new believer opportunity to gain wisdom when we shortcut the story into a soundbite.

Have you ever heard another believer, after giving the briefest synopsis or even just the title of a Bible story, proceed with the summary? "You know the story of the healing of the Centurion's servant..."

But what if they don't know the story?

As a seasoned believer who's been reading the Bible my entire life, I'm worried that my sound bites and summaries aren't enough to engage the unbeliever. They certainly aren't enough to teach the new believer. And the phrase, "I'm sure you've heard the story of..." should leave our vocabulary. Because who wants to admit to being the one person in the room who doesn't know the story?

But what about those in the group who have heard the story? Repetition is the key to learning. After all, haven't you ever been in a class where someone shared about a Bible story you'd heard before, but you received a new revelation or insight into the story?



Couple that with the fact that the Word of God is living. According to Hebrews 4:12, "the word of God is alive and active." Hearing it again isn't like watching that same old rerun. Every time you hear it, it is another opportunity to hear the voice of God.

The story of Jesus is amazing. So the next time you're tempted to assume everyone in the group has heard a popular Bible story, instead tell it again. If time allows, reread it from the Bible text. Or ask if someone in the group will volunteer to share it in their own words. No matter how you do it, just TELL the story. This time the one who learns something new might be you.

*For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 ■*



## BLOOD DRIVE - Sunday, Sept. 24th

8am-1pm - Bloodmobile

Fairmount hosts four blood drives each year with Virginia Blood Services. At our June 18th drive, we fell just short of our goal of collecting 16 units, with 14 units being donated. As you know, the need is always great. Reserve your time today at <https://donateblood.vablood.org> or call the church office. Appointments preferred, walk-ins always welcome. ■



## The next Impact work trip to Mountain Mission School in Grundy, VA is scheduled for September 28-30, 2017.

All are welcome to volunteer to help with both general and special maintenance projects at the school and church. Contact Guy Cumby at 380-2033 or [guycumby@msn.com](mailto:guycumby@msn.com). ■



**August 6 is Manna Sunday!** Families are often in greater need during the summer months since children are home all day. Please consider donating to help us meet our goal of sending 1 ton of food to the pantry on the first Sunday of each month. **Non-food items are also needed such as diapers, baby wipes, sanitary supplies, soap, etc.** Please remember to cross out the UPC codes on all items donated. **Drop donations off at the tent outside the front entrance or in one of the shopping carts located in the Worship Center lobby.\*\***

## \*\*Building Usage Announcement\*\*

In order to use space in the building at any time, for any reason, it must first be reserved through the church office. To reserve space, complete and sign a Building Usage Agreement, which can be found on the counter in the church office. All expectations and rules regarding usage are outlined in the Building Usage Guidelines sheet which is also in the church office.



**A new form must be filled out each fiscal year for all groups using space in the church, including Ministry Team meetings, Bible Studies, Small Groups, individuals, etc.** A fee is charged for all personal use events.

Check for availability or have a form forwarded to you by contacting [reservations@fairmountchristian.org](mailto:reservations@fairmountchristian.org). **All inquiries and requests must be made in writing.** Thanks! ■

## Flying Squirrel's Faith Night

### Thursday, August 10th, 6:35pm

Join your Fairmount family and friends for a great evening of faith, fellowship, and baseball! Hear how the players have used their faith to help shape their sports careers on the field and their lives off the field. Pre-game activities include a live band and player testimonies followed by the game against the Portland Sea Dogs, and ending



with the Diamond's *In Your Face* Fireworks. Fairmount has obtained a block of 200 reserved seats.

**Tickets are \$5.00 each and are on sale in the Worship Center lobby on Sunday mornings through Aug. 6th. Tickets can also be purchased from the church office during the week through Aug. 10th.** Because you have to choose your preferred seats, you will need to come in to purchase and receive your tickets. ■

**Tickets are selling fast - less than 15 are left!**



# FAIRMOUNT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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The  
**FORECASTER**  
best viewed online @  
[fairmountchristian.org](http://fairmountchristian.org)

## OUR CHURCH - July 23, 2017

### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members:

**July 23**

Jaime Thomas - Baptism

### Coming Events

- Aug. 6th ..... Manna Sunday
- Aug. 10th ..... Flying Squirrels Game
- Aug. 13th ..... SCRIP Table Open  
Shares Store Open
- Aug. 15th ..... Middle School Pool Party  
6-8pm (Miles)
- Aug. 17th ..... High School Pool Party  
6-8pm (Sickinger)
- Aug. 20th ..... JC Crew Pool Party  
Noon-3:30pm (Miles)
- Aug. 21st ..... Feed His Sheep Meal
- Aug. 23rd ..... Children's Ministry  
Volunteer Dinner
- Sep. 10th ..... Promotion Sunday &  
Family Fish Fry Kickoff

### ATTENDANCE & GIVING

- 8:15** Traditional Worship: 129  
Children's Worship: 4
- 9:30** Contemporary Worship: 396  
Children's Worship: 31
- 11:00** Traditional Worship: 117  
Children's Worship: 68
- 11:15** Modern Worship: 333
- Total: 1,078**
- Bible School: 583**
- Budget Requirements: \$41,653**
- Budget Receipts: \$33,676**

Summer Series Continues Sunday!

# JESUS

IN HD

### FAIRMOUNT CHRISTIAN CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Rick Raines** - Senior Minister
- Chris Santasiere** - Associate Minister
- Mike Langley** - Associate Minister
- Tracy Thomas** - Worship/Music Minister
- Kevin Tucker** - Associate Worship Minister
- Josh Smith** - Interim Youth Minister
- Ashley Sears** - Children's Director
- Amber Grubbs** - Early Childhood Director