

New Year Brings New Excitement in the life of our church. See what we've been up to. - *INSIDE*

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JANUARY

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Guns, Grease, Rods and God

Wednesday Night Suppers & Classes have begun and continue through March 9. See page 4 for next week's menu.



FEATURE: January 26, 2011

Full speed ahead into the new year



The month of January has seen a lot of action here at Fairmount. It may be the middle of winter, but we're fired up with activity.

By: Larry Haake, IV

If you thought January was a quiet time in the life of Fairmount Christian Church, you'd be mistaken. Sure we have quiet times through the year when activities and programs have taken a break, but January is not one of those times. On the contrary, this is the time when things are fired up as we begin the new calendar year after a tremendously amazing Christmas season.

January has been slammed pack with events, activities and programs beginning with the Fairmount family coming together on January 2nd to celebrate Christmas as a church family. Due to snow the week prior we missed this opportunity on Dec. 26, but we were not going to let that stop us. So on the first Sunday of the New Year, we celebrated Christmas with an awesome performance by our special Hallelujah Choir. It was a great way to conclude the Christmas season here at Fairmount.

But concluding the Christmas season on January 2nd ushered in the new year activity as we continued our Fund Drive to raise money for the next phases of construction here at the church. If you'll recall

our goal was \$200,000. God blessed us immensely and we wrapped up the annual drive with \$252,530. This was an astounding show of support from our church family and the Lord as we begin the process of expanding here at Fairmount.

As the new year raced on, our Children's and Teen programs kicked off with our annual Skate Night at the Ashland Skateland. The entire church family was invited to the event and it continues to be a great start to the new calendar year. The following week, our Children's choirs began their new session with *Jacob's Ladder*, *Branches* and *Joyful Sound* all practicing for their respective spring performance coming this April. It's not too late if you think your children would be interested in participating. Contact the church office to find out how.

We also began our current Sermon Series this month entitled: *G Force*. This sermon series focuses around the scripture from Matthew 19:26, "*With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*"

As mentioned in one of the sermons recently, the leadership is really searching for God's will to help us fulfill our mission here at Fairmount. This year we're focusing on our commitment to growth and the leadership is taking

great efforts to explore how God can use us to grow. In the month of January both the Elders and the Ministerial Staff have taken their own weekend retreats to really focus on what God wants us to be doing with His church here at Fairmount. They continue to search for God's perfect guidance as we embark on new expansion projects and work to be there for the people of this community.

Our Wednesday Night Suppers & Classes began this month as we study the Character of God. The suppers, just as in years past, are served from 5pm-6:15pm and classes run from 6:30pm-7:30pm. This session of Wednesday Night Suppers & Classes last through March 9th.

Another exciting event that began this month is our participation in Upward Basketball. This year Fairmount is again welcoming people of the community as they cheer on their children who compete in the basketball games. We are hosting the 5th grade teams each Saturday now through March.

This past Sunday we took time to welcome all the children born into the church family in 2010. Baby Dedication Sunday is always a big draw for families as all the babies come forward and we take time to praise and thank God for the wonderful miracle of life. It is a great way for the church family to surround new parents and let them know



there is a large group of people here to care for them, pray for them and help show them Christ's love.

This week our church has also opened its doors to families who participate in the CARITAS program. CARITAS (Congregations Around Richmond Involved To Assure Shelter) is sending each evening 26-28 people who spend the night in the church gym.

As you can see, there's a lot going on here at Fairmount in the month of January. Though the weather may be cold and wintry, we do not let that get in the way of serving God and sharing Christ with our community. As we transition from January into February the activities only continue as many of the aforementioned programs carry-on through the beginning of spring. In what may seem a matter of minutes, it'll be spring and the activity here will just keep going at warp speed as we celebrate the Easter season.

You may be asking yourself, "When do we take a break?" and as I look at the calendar, I really can't see anywhere that this church takes a break from activities, programs and ministries. We are constantly on the go and constantly do things for people and for the Lord. ■

A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE



page three ■ Wednesday, January 26, 2011

Pictured: Some the various events that went on throughout the month of January include: Christmas Sunday, our Bridge to the Future fundraiser, Baby Dedication Sunday, Family Skate Night, our G-Force sermon series and much more.





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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: Sunday, January 23, 2011

Welcome to our New Members.

Welcome to **Don & Beverly Beach**.
Don & Beverly transferred membership.

Welcome to **Kenny & Pam Loyall**.
Kenny & Pam transferred membership.

Attendance & Giving.

- 8:15 Worship Service: 137
Children's Worship: 10
- 9:30 Worship Service: 591
Children's Worship: 56
- 11:00 Worship Service: 265
Children's Worship: 128
Breakaway: 60

Total: 1247
Bible School: 689

Budget Requirements: \$34,405.00
Budget Receipts: \$24,509.72

Menu for Wednesday, February 2nd
Spaghetti w/salad. PB&J & chips for kids.
Living Water Class to serve & clean up.



Sermon Series
continues this Sunday.

Your Church Staff:

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