

## Hot Summer Days...



## Cool Summer Fun!

**The Child Care Program** is a ministry of Fairmount Christian Church. Their mission is to provide a safe environment where students are taught to love God, love people, and are introduced to Christ. Under the direction of Larry Haake, IV, the Child Care Program offers before and after school care and a full-day summer program.

This year, the program hosted more than 100 children; from 5 year-olds to rising 7th graders. The summer of 2011 was special for a variety of reasons. First, this was their 15th year offering a summer program for children. Theme weeks were also introduced this summer that set the stage for activities, field trips, decorations and more. Throw in a few days of 100+ degree weather and an earthquake and you have one very special and unique summer! Turn the page to see and read more...

*"Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Luke 18:17*

by Larry Haake, IV

Can you believe that summer is winding down? For me, it seems like just yesterday it was May and the summer was fast approaching. Now here we are less than a week before school begins. I think what made the summer go by so quickly was how busy it has been. Here at the Fairmount Child Care, we have been so busy the calendar has quickly passed the summer months.

This summer we designed the program to have themed weeks. Each week the activities and field trips revolved around the designated theme. We started off with “Welcome to Summer Week” and did activities to kick off the summer. Following that was “Beach Week” where we tied into the theme of Vacation Bible School, encouraging the children to attend each night. We were pleased that we averaged 30 children staying all day at Child Care then attending VBS each evening. There was a “God & Glory Week” which included field trips to visit the monuments in Washington, DC and a boat tour of the Norfolk Naval Base.

One of my personal favorite weeks was “1950s Week”. We decorated the gym with 50s themed trivia and set our “1950s Living Room” where kids could watch *I Love Lucy*, *Howdy Doody*, and *Looney Tunes* on TV. That week also featured a “Celebrate the 50s day” where children learned to play jacks and

marbles, played with Slinkys and sampled candy similar to what kids had in the 50s. We had a 50s style sock hop and we also did a Box Car Drive-In similar to what the Children’s Ministry does each year. Children were able to turn a cardboard box into a car and to watch a 1950s movie while sitting in their cars.

**For more information on the Fairmount Child Care Program or to enroll, contact the church office at 559-8070.**

We also celebrated the holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s during “Celebrate the Holidays Week” which featured a Halloween Costume fashion show and a surprise visit from Santa himself. During “Farm Week” we taught children how to make butter and had a real tractor and dairy cows on site for children to interact with. We visited the Keystone Tractor Works Museum in Colonial Heights which is a great place to visit if you have an interest in farming or farm equipment. They have a huge display of tractors from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the 1960s.

Another fun week was “Planes, Trains, and Automobiles Week” where we visited some neat places and saw a lot of old cars and planes. We visited the Roaring Twenties Car Museum in Hood, VA. This is probably one of the best places to see authentic cars and trucks from nearly 100 years ago. One of the highlights of the week was when children were able to board an Amtrak train in Ashland and ride it up to Fredericksburg where our bus met us to bring

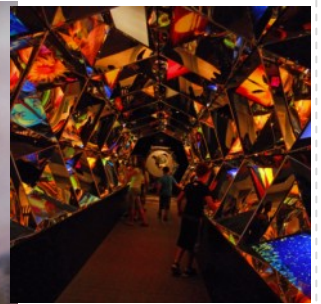
us home. For many, it was their first time on a train and it was a great time.

But now summer is drawing to a close and we begin to turn our attention to the fall. We offer child care all throughout the year. During the school year we have children enrolled from seven different schools ranging from Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We currently have 107 students enrolled for the fall. New this year, we will be picking up students from Washington-Henry Elementary School.

The Fairmount Child Care Program began 15 years ago thanks to the generosity of anonymous individuals who saw a need for a church based after-school program for students in our area. Since then the program has grown and evolved into one where children can come and enjoy themselves each afternoon and during the summers and at the same time learn about Christ and how they can apply His teachings to their lives.

In recent years we’ve begun taking advantage of an online presence to get information out to parents and individuals interested in our program and what we do. We’re on Facebook ([facebook.com/fairmount](https://www.facebook.com/fairmount)) and also have our own Twitter feed ([twitter.com/fairmount](https://twitter.com/fairmount)). Information is available at the church’s website and we also publish a periodic newsletter named the Fairmount *Focus*.

In the next few weeks we’ll be posting pictures from our summer program on our bulletin board just outside the Family Life Center, so be sure to check it out. If you are interested in Fairmount’s Child Care Program, call the church office at 559-8070.



The summer started with learning how to make authentic tie dye shirts which the kids then wore on field trips.



Field Trip Fun! The kids visited many cool places like the Virginia Aquarium, Keystone Tractor Works Museum, and the Washington Monument.



During Beach Week, many stayed in the evening to participate in VBS. There was also a Beach Party with water balloons, squirt guns and lots of other beachy fun.



Friends were made, games were played and masterpieces were created. And a few naps were thrown in too.

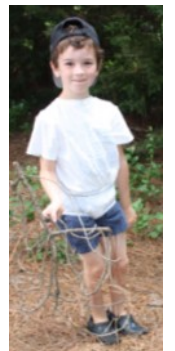


Holiday week featured a Halloween fashion show and a visit from Santa!



During Random Week, kids did fun things like wear their clothes backwards, make their hair look crazy, and wear their pajamas all day.

1950s week included a Sock Hop and a Box Car Drive-In.





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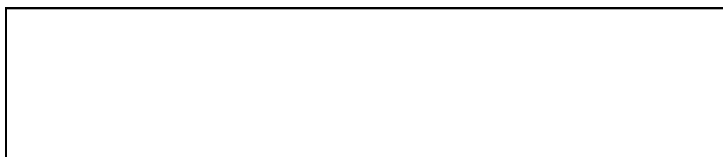
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P.O. Box 788  
MECHANICSVILLE, VA 23111  
PHONE: (804) 559-8070  
FAX: (804) 559-8072  
EMAIL:  
[INFO@FAIRMOUNTCHRISTIAN.ORG](mailto:INFO@FAIRMOUNTCHRISTIAN.ORG)

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](http://www.fairmountchristian.org)

## Our Church: August 28, 2011

### Welcome to our New Members.

Welcome to **Glenn Thacker** and his grandson **Eric Kearse**. Both were baptized on August 25th.

### Attendance & Giving.

8:15 No Service or Bible School  
9:30 No service or Bible School  
11:00 Worship Service: 178  
Children's Worship: 46

Total: 224  
Bible School: 0

Budget Requirements: \$34,405.00

Budget Receipts for August 28 will be reported in the Sunday, September 4, bulletin. This change is made for this week only since our church fiscal year ends on August 31. All gifts received from Sunday, August 28 through Wednesday, August 31 will be included in this report.



Sermon Series continues.

### 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  
Larry Haake, IV - Child Care Program Director  
Jef Powell - Facilities & Grounds Manager  
Barry Will - Technology Director  
Veronica Brewster - Office Manager  
Bob Massey - Business Administrator

## Fall Kick Off Family Picnic

Sunday, September 11th  
5:30-7pm ~ FLC

Sign up on the Children's or Teen Bulletin Board to let us know how many are coming!

