



Summertime at Fairmount

For more information on Fairmount Christian Child Care, contact them directly at 730-1420 or visit them at www.fairmountchildcare.org. See more of their adventures on Facebook - search @Fairmount.

By: Larry Haake, IV, Director

It's mid-August - roughly three weeks until school begins and our lives transition back to a school-year routine. Summer seems like it just flies by each year. One day it's June and the next it's August; July is just a blink of an eye. If you're not careful Christmas will be here next week! Don't tell the stores that, they'll start putting out Christmas decorations in May! All kidding aside, summer is an extremely busy time and seems to just fly by. This is especially true for us here at the Fairmount Christian Child Care. We are just a few weeks away from completing one of our busiest summers to date.

Busy is being kind, it was *extremely* busy, like being on a treadmill for an indefinite amount of time. But that busyness was not a curse but a blessing because it has seen us sharing the Gospel with more kids this summer than we ever have. In fact, this summer was a first for us in a way. It was the first summer we completely filled to capacity with children! We actually had to institute a waiting list and turn folks away (which is really difficult). How wonderful though to have over 140 children coming to us this summer to have fun and learn about Christ.

Just a quick introduction to those who may not know us. The Fairmount Child Care began in 1996 through the generous donations of a family wishing for there to be a safe, Bible-centered place for children to go to after school. That desire has blossomed and grown into a self-supporting, self-incorporated, and self-operating before & after-school program and summer care. We utilize the Family Life Center area of the church and in the last school year and through the summer, as mentioned before, have had upwards of 100 students. Our children come from all walks of life, all different kinds of backgrounds, and many come from very limited exposure to the Gospel or a church family. Essentially, we are their church family.

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Summer is a prime time during the year. We go 110 miles per hour once school lets out, and have activities on-site and over the road as we go on field trips to places all throughout Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, and Washington, DC. We log a lot of miles on the road each summer. This year was no different. To date we've travelled 2,854 miles on field trips.

Each summer we have the "staple" trips that we do every summer: swimming at Pocahontas State Park, a trip to the Virginia Safari Park, the Virginia Zoo, Science Museum of Virginia, Children's Museum, Maymont Park, etc. But we also add new spots to visit, places you probably wouldn't go otherwise, such as:

The Country Doctor Museum, Bailey, NC



This little museum, not too far from Raleigh, is a gem. It showcases the long-ago country doctor who'd make house calls and their own medicine. Children got to see the wagons and Model T Fords the doctors used and learned how remedies were made using herbs and other methods. They even saw an actual iron lung! The folks who run the museum were thrilled we came all the way from



Richmond to see them and treated us great!

Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Kenly, NC



Offering an incredible look back in time, the museum focuses on the life of families that worked the farms including the tools they had and how they lived, played, and went to school. Our kids learned to make candles and play games from long ago like hopscotch and marbles. They toured an actual one room schoolhouse (pictured above). The museum's executive director, Melody Worthington, is a sister of Geoff Johnson who many of you know here at Fairmount. We felt very welcomed and had a great time. We'll definitely be going back!

Military Aviation Museum Virginia Beach, VA



While not officially a "new" field trip spot, this was only our second year going to this phenomenal place in VA Beach. They house military aircraft dating from the birth of flight to 1950s. Many are World War I and World War II vintage aircraft. The best part is the majority of these aircraft work! They've been restored and are flown routinely through the year. Another neat feature is the actual control tower

moved here from England that was used in World War II and an actual German aircraft hangar built in the 1930s that has battle scars from fighting during the war.

American Revolution Museum Yorktown, VA



While we've visited here the last several years, this year they've opened their full museum. It's a great place to learn about life in the Revolutionary period and features costumed interpreters from all aspects of life in the late 1700s. We saw how families of the 18th century lived, worked, and dealt with the Revolutionary War. There's a great interactive movie about the Battle of Yorktown and overall, the grounds are just beautiful. This is a great stop if you're in Williamsburg.

Jamestown Settlement Jamestown, VA



Many of you may have taken a school field trip to Jamestown when you were younger. It's worth a return trip to really get a feel for how the colonists first approached Virginia and the life that awaited them here in the New World.

Yankee Candle, Williamsburg, VA



Yes! We took our youngest group (PreK) to Yankee Candle in Williamsburg where they got to make a wax hand and see Santa Claus! He checked his book to see how the kids were doing on the naughty or nice list.

Museum of the Bible Washington, DC



This brand-new museum is a gem - we had an absolute blast touring it. There's really no way to see it all in one day, but we got a good taste of the museum in what we saw. It's very interactive for children and features exhibits that focus not just on the Bible, but on its impact in history.

International Spy Museum Washington, DC

Did you know that Washington, DC has the highest concentration of spies in the world? That's just one of the spy-related things you'll learn at the International Spy Museum. It's three floors of spy fun showcasing the history of spying and spy gadgets and gear. The bottom level has a great James Bond exhibit that can't be missed!

Cold War Museum, Warrenton, VA

This is another of those small, out-of-the-way places you just have to see. It is in a small building but has a big



collection of Cold War-era items and a lot of spy-related things as well. The staff is passionate about getting the story of the men and women who fought the Cold War told and showcased. Open to the public on weekends, they're also worth a visit.

Frontier Culture Museum Staunton, VA



This is another great outdoor museum that showcases life of various cultures on the Virginia frontier. A great look at life in the early years of westward expansion.



The kids also served at one of Fairmount's mission partners, **Moments of Hope**. They set a record of stuffing 668 toiletry bags for the homeless in only 1.5 hours!

We spend a lot of time on-site at Fairmount doing all sorts of exciting things, too. Every morning we begin

with JumpStart, our morning devotion, and have an afternoon devotion called ReCharge. The ice cream truck stops by weekly and we offer art, sewing, and cooking classes as well.



Summers are a very special time for this program - summer is what we do. Then we spend the entire school year talking about last summer and planning next summer. There are families who come here just for our summer program. This summer, we had our largest enrollment ever, 140 children. We were also very excited to have over 40 children stay for FCC's VBS back in June!

Summer - it's a wonderful time of year. It can be hectic and tiresome, but it is so rewarding. God has richly blessed us with wonderful kids and a great staff. Without our staff, this summer would not have been the success it was. I cannot do what I do without their help, support, and energy. Great thanks go to them. Our summers would also not be what they are without the tireless work of our Assistant Director, Barbara Land. Between keeping our finances in order and dealing with whatever child situation might come through the door, Barbara handles everything in a truly Christ-like manner. I also thank our Board of Directors (Fred McGhee, Bonnie Norwood, Stacie Carlisle, Kay Beazley, and Pat Dalton) for the tremendous job they do in supporting our efforts. We've got a great thing going here at Fairmount Christian Child Care and I'm excited for what the future holds for us.



FAIRMOUNT

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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The
FORECASTER
best viewed online @
fairmountchristian.org

OUR CHURCH



Block Party Volunteer Signups begin this Sunday, August 19th! Stop by the Worship Center lobby.



Peer Support Group
Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm
Activity Center

(small building behind the Family Life Center) Childcare not provided.

Confidential Email
freshhope@fairmountchristian.org

| ATTENDANCE & GIVING | | 08/05 | 08/12 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 8:15 | Traditional Worship: | 140 | 114 |
| | Children's Worship: | 4 | 4 |
| 9:30 | Contemporary Worship: | 397 | 367 |
| | Children's Worship: | 32 | 30 |
| | Online Views | 113 | 134 |
| 11:00 | Traditional Worship: | 124 | 104 |
| | Children's Worship: | 72 | 81 |
| 11:15 | Modern Worship: | 280 | 283 |
| | Online Views | 49 | 61 |
| Total: | | 1,211 | 1,178 |
| Bible School: | | 545 | 531 |
| Budget Requirements: | | \$44,862 | \$44,862 |
| Budget Receipts: | | \$44,436 | \$36,231 |

Manna Sunday Update

You gave **2,170 lbs.** of food for the MCEF Food Pantry during August! Thank you for helping us exceed our goal. Our next Manna Sunday is on September 2nd.

SERMON SERIES



FAIRMOUNT CHRISTIAN CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Rick Raines** - Senior Minister
- Chris Santasiere** - Associate Minister
- Mike Langley** - Associate Minister
- Tracy Thomas** - Worship/Music Minister
- Ryan Card** - Associate Worship Minister
- Davis Ellenberger** - Youth Minister
- Ashley Sears** - Children's Director
- Amber Grubbs** - Early Childhood Director
- Brandon Woodard** - Church Executive