

***We are glad you are here today!***

Fairview Road is a church family that loves God, loves each other, loves our neighbors, and loves people who need Jesus! We gather for worship to honor God, to encourage one another, and to encounter His holy presence together!

***If you are a guest today,*** thanks for being here. We look forward to getting to know you!

**Worship**

Song Leader	David Parker
Opening Prayer	Brian Hajicek
Scripture Reading	Neva Berkey
Communion Meditation	David Parker

*Gluten free communion is available.*

Sermon	Andrew Lough
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***“Longing for Peace”***  
***Luke 1:46 - 55***

Pastoral Prayer	Jim Provence
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*Assistive listening devices are available from the sound room operator. Sermons are available on CD, the church web site, and the FvR app.*

**Our Elders**

Glenn Berkey, Ed Hall, David Parker, Jim Provence

**Our Ministers**

Andrew Lough, Brian Hajicek, Jamey Grimsley

**PRAYER TEAM**



The Prayer Team meets on Sunday mornings from 8:30 - 8:55 a.m. in W2. New members are welcome. Please see Ann Forsee, Teresa Klepac, or Jim Provence for more information. Prayer requests may be left in the decorative wood box on the south credenza at the back of the Auditorium. To forward a request during the week or have a prayer request appear in the bulletin, please contact the office.

**NEWS TO KNOW**



**AN ABUNDANCE FOR OUR LOVE COLUMBIA FAMILIES**

Friends,  
Thank you for your dedication in providing Christmas to those in need. Eighteen children representing nine families will have a brighter Christmas season because of your generosity. And, thanks to the cash provided, gift cards will be provided for last minute families who will check-in with Love Columbia after all other programs have closed the window of opportunity to sign up for help. Together we're better!  
The Chapmans, Jessica Luster, and the Hall's

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

Join us this Christmas Eve for a special celebration of the birth of Jesus. We will gather for fellowship and light refreshments at 9, followed by a candlelight worship service at 10 with song, a reading of the nativity, and a message of hope. God's gift of Jesus into the world shines the light of his love brightly for all creation and we look forward to celebrating that gift together.

**FvR CANCELLATIONS:  
GEARING UP FOR WINTER WEATHER**

If winter weather necessitates canceling services, we will notify the congregation by push notification on our FvR app and by posting a cancellation with KMIZ TV. Our app is available through Apple or Google App stores. If you have the app and are not receiving our notifications, check with Andrew.



FAIRVIEW ROAD  
KID'S MINISTRY



STUDENT MINISTRY

**RIPPLE KID'S MINISTRY**  
**Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.**  
Infants - Preschool ..... S2/S4  
Elementary: .....S3,S13, or S14

**THE WELL  
STUDENT MINISTRY**

**Sunday**  
Devo - 9-9:45 a.m.  
Hot Cocoa & Christmas Lights  
5-7 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
**Mid-Week 6:30 - 8 p.m.**  
“Behold!”

**Special Events**  
Christmas Party - 12/17  
New Year's Eve Hang Out - 12/31

Contacts for Kids' and Student  
Ministries: Jamey or Jacie Grimsley



**ADULT/COLLEGE CLASSES**

**Sunday**  
Built to Know Christ (W2) .....9 a.m.  
Ladies Bible Class (W7) .....9 a.m.

**Wednesday**  
New Testament Letters (W2) .. 7 p.m.



**MORE FAIRVIEW EVENTS**

Family Christmas Adoption gift  
collection ends ..... 12/10  
Bluegrass Terrace Singing ..... 12/17  
Christmas Eve Service ..... 12/24  
Ashland Villa Singing-6 pm..... ..1/7  
FvR Food Pantry ..... 1/13



**Cap Haitien Children's Home-Haiti**  
**David and Sarah Dirrim**

**Mision Para Cristo**  
<http://www.misionparacristo.com>

**Zambia Missions**  
[www.zambiamission.org](http://www.zambiamission.org)

**Sam & Nancy Shewmaker-Africa**



**food pantry**  
FAIRVIEW ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Thanks for supporting our FvR Food Pantry since November 2009.  
The next Food Pantry is Saturday, January 13, 2024.

Needs this week:

**Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, & Miscellaneous**

**Plastic shopping bags**

“Miscellaneous” is any non-perishable food item; also household cleaners, personal care items, and paper goods. Our shoppers love our variety! Place donations in the labeled Food Pantry barrels in the main and Fellowship Hall foyers.

Contacts/Coordinators: Britt Newby & Kim Salmons



Sign up to provide food for homeless men at St. Francis House the 1st or 4th Sundays monthly. The sign up sheet is on the west foyer bulletin board.

Contacts: Barbara Miller (Coordinator) or Vicki (to sign up)

**December 24**  
**Meat:** Newbys (2)  
**Vegetable:** Homers (2)

The 2024 Sign-Up list is now up in the west hallway off the foyer

**January 7**  
**Meat:** Berkey; need one more  
**Vegetable:** Berkey; need one more

## SHEPHERD'S CORNER



So much has been written about the birth of Jesus in secular and scriptural accounts that little, if anything, remains hidden. However, the thing that continues to impress me is the part God played in the event. In Matthew's account (Matt. 1:18 – 2:23) God enters the process on several instances.

Initially, as Brian mentioned last Sunday, God had planned at least 400 years in advance, for the delivery of his son to this earth (Malachi 4). God knew the only way to provide access to heaven for humankind was through a blood sacrifice, and that had to come from deity. I am not presupposing to know the mind of God, but judging from the events and purpose of Jesus' birth God decided that his son would be sent to save the world. That decision is difficult for me to understand on several levels; first, how could God love the world that was rejecting him? Why not simply destroy it like he did in the flood of Noah's day? Secondly, sending his son to die is a decision I cannot understand as a parent and a human. That is why I cannot understand the decision, I am not a deity.

Next, God used the Holy Spirit to announce her pregnancy to Mary, and He used an angel to make the same explanation to Joseph. As to the wise men coming from the East, how did they learn of Jesus' birth? Who placed the star in the heavens to direct them if not God? Who appeared to the wise men in a dream to return home by a different route if not God? God intervenes again by sending an angel to direct Joseph in a dream to flee into Egypt with his family and stays there until told by an angel to go to the land of Israel. When he fears for his safety there, God directs him to Galilee.

The rest of the story is, as they say, history. Jesus leaves Nazareth in Galilee, is baptized by John in the Jordan river, affirmed by God in the appearance of a dove, tempted by Satan for forty days then enters his ministry by declaring the message, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand (Matt. 4:17)." This synopsis covers the first thirty years of Jesus' life (Lk. 3:23). What a blessing this baby was!

For the Elders,  
Jim Provence



### ST NICHOLAS VISITS LE PETITE ECOLE

Le Petite Ecole students and their parents enjoyed a visit from St. Nicholas as part of the School Christmas holiday earlier this month. St. Nicholas was a bishop born in Turkey who died on December 6, 343, and became known as a Christian saint. He was remembered for his miracles, work for the poor, and as a protector of children and sailors. With the reformation, the popularity of saints diminished, but, he remained important in Holland. Dutch immigrants to America brought the tradition with them with Santa Claus becoming the eventual result

### FACEGROUP



Be part of the FvR Family Facebook group - a private space to share, encourage, post prayer requests, comment and respond, etc. Search for "Fairview Road Church Family" and select "Request to Join."



Thank you so much for your generous financial support. Give in the auditorium, by mail, on-line with our FvR App, or on our web site.

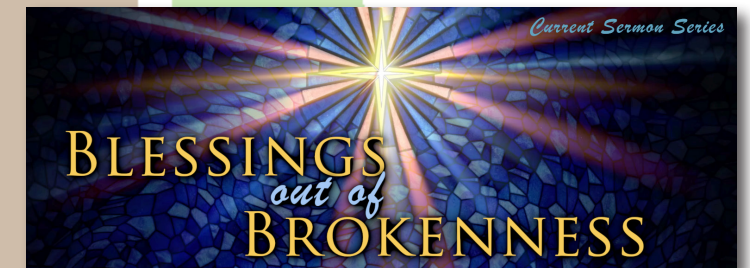
Fairview Road Church of Christ  
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Columbia, MO 65203  
(573) 445-2213



Scan to get our  
Mobile App

Fairview Road Church of Christ  
News for the Family

**New Life  
Every Day  
Because of Jesus**



December 17, 2023

*If any is in Christ, the old has gone. The New Is here!*