

BRIDGING THE GAP

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF GOD
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“This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.”
Psalm 118:24

From the Pastor's Desk

Well, it is hard to believe we are starting a New Year. Think about it, 2008 is now history. We can't relive it, redo it, or start over again. As we look at this new year, I pray that it will be a good year for all of you. If we dwell on all the problems in our world and our lives today, our faith will become small. The Bible says we walk by faith and not by sight. This is your day, your year, and your time! Some of you will start this year with rejoicing and some in despair. Some of you have no plans as you start this new year.

First, I believe that every day is a gift. So I would encourage you to start each day in this new year with rejoicing. Live in amazement of what God is doing in your life.

Second, I remind you that every day passes quickly. The Psalmist says: *“Make me to know my end, what is the measure of my days that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, you have made my days as hand breadths. And my age is as nothing before you; certainly every man at his best state is but vapor.”* Psalm 39:4-5

Third, I remind you that every day is an opportunity. So do you begin each day with a purpose in mind? Do you have goals for each day or do you just wander through life. Do you have a plan? What is your life? All you have is today! It will pass quickly.

When the day is over, when this year is over, will you make a difference in your world? We have a great opportunity to really grow as a church this next year. But each one of us must do our part to invite people to our church and to tell them our stories. Your story about how God is working in your life is important. A young mother once asked her child if he knew what a church was. With a big smile on his face he said, “Yes, Mommy, that is where God lives.” Wow, what a statement. The church is the body of Christ. In the local congregations we play an important part of the body of Christ. God wants us to work together so that the church, His church, can really reach the world. It really doesn't matter what size the local church is today. What really matters is do we have a heart for the lost and do we realize it is not about us but about Him?

This is the greatest time for the church! So will you be the one? This is the day, this is the year, and this is the time!

Enjoy the Journey,
Pastor Clayton

God whispers into your soul and speaks to your mind. Sometimes when you don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at you. It's your choice: Listen to the whisper, or wait for the brick.

Top Ten Predictions For 2009

1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
2. Prayer will still work.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
4. God will still inhabit the praises of His people.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching.
6. There will still be singing of praise to God.
7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There will still be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus will still love you.
10. Jesus will still save the lost.

January 2009 Sermon Outline

January 4 5 Star Sunday Children's Hand Bells

Morning Service: "To Give or Not to Give,
that is the Question"
Malachi 3:8-10 Pastor Clayton

Evening Service: Small Groups for adults
Youth and Children's program

January 11

Morning Service: "What Does the Bible Say
About Homosexuality?"
Roman's 1:24-26 Pastor Clayton

Evening Service: Small Groups for adults
Youth and Children's program

January 18

Morning Service: "How to Maintain Morals
and Values"
2 Timothy 2:14-26 Pastor Clayton

Evening Service: Small Groups for adults
Youth and Children's program

January 25

Candy Niemeyer will be preaching

Evening Service: Small Groups for adults
Youth and Children's program



I asked God to bless you
As I prayed for you today
To guide you and protect you
As you go along your way....
His love is always with you
His promises are true,
And when we give Him all our cares
You know He will see us through
So when the road you're travelling on
Seems difficult at best
Just remember I'm here praying
And God will do the rest.

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