



NextGen Newsletter



ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

More than half a year has gone by in a blink of an eye and we're excited to share some updates from the NextGen ministry with you!

We pray that this newsletter may give you a glimpse of what God is doing among our children and young people in SAC and help you as you support this ministry in prayer :)

CONTENT

1. Children Ministry Updates
2. Youth Ministry Updates
3. Young Adults Ministry Updates
4. Prayer Requests

To find out more, please visit our website:
cathedral.org.sg/nextgen

Children Ministry



Church Camp 2023

We were delighted to have Mr Darius Foo to conduct the children's program at this year's church camp. Darius is an active associate trainer with organisations like Bible Society and Scripture Union. He is also the co-chairperson of ARISE!. In line with the camp theme, the children learnt what it means to be One Family in Love, One Church with a Purpose and One Voice on a Mission through different activities, songs and dance, and looking into Bible stories on the prodigal son and Paul's missionary journey.

The older children were also given the opportunity to look into what they can do to be a part of the church and its purpose. We were also glad to see the children bonding together and forming new friendships with those whom they were meeting for the first time.



Children Ministry

Fellowship Weekend- July



We had our 2nd Fellowship Weekend in July where the youths were involved in planning and conducting the entire children's program over the weekend. The theme for this round was 'Jesus is the Good Shepherd'. The lesson was presented to the children through a skit, sharing of a Bible passage, games and craft. It was heartwarming to see friendships being forged between the children and the youths and to see them having so much fun together. We thank God for giving us this opportunity to build a bridge between the children and the youths of the Cathedral and for enabling them to serve one another.



New Teachers & Teacher Aides

We praise God for His faithfulness and divine provision towards the ministry which was particularly evident from His response to our prayer for more teachers. Over the past few months, we have recruited 15 new teachers and teacher aides. We thank God for their response to the God's call by stepping forward to serve alongside us in the children ministry. Some of them responded to the call from God even during the church camp that we had this year.

Here is what one of them has to say when asked why they chose to serve in the children ministry.

"Honestly I think it was the right timing and opportunity God provided us during the camp. We happened to encounter our mum's friend who is a teacher at the children's programme during the camp and she told us about the need for help in the children's ministry. At first we were apprehensive about joining, but throughout the camp the message about being a child of God spoke to us. Regardless of your position or status, when it comes to the church, anyone can serve. This made me feel that I should give it a shot."



Isaiah Ma
Teacher Aide at CityKids



Lynette
Teacher at FaithKids 2

God stirred my heart a while before I decided to commit to the children's ministry. It was through a sermon by Revd Christopher Chan, guiding us to seek God for our calling and purpose in church. I hesitated, because I was rather new to Cathedral then. But when the call for new teachers and teacher aides came, I knew it was again God's gentle prompting to come forward to serve. Praise be to God for His goodness!

Youth Ministry

Mid Year Special Services



After concluding our sermon series on Romans (Ch. 1-8), we took the opportunity from May to early July to cover salient youth topics at our youth service. In May, we held a series called "Relationship Matters" where we had dialogues on topics such as, singlehood, boy-girl relationships, and friendships. We were privileged to have speakers such as Joanne Kwok (former creative producer at Thir.st) and two young adult couples from our church community to engage our youths on these topics. Through this series, our youths were able to take away biblical perspectives on approaching the various types of relationships in their lives.

We also collaborated with MemberCare for the Young to hold two workshops, one on holistic emotional health and another on expressive art. Joshua & Sharon Khoo from Forerunners Ministry came to help us understand and break the stigma of mental struggles and impart simple coping mechanisms for the youths. We also had the Creative Arts ministry joining us at youth service to provide an opportunity for the youths to express their emotions through visual art. With mental health issues on the rise, especially among the youth in Singapore, these workshops were timely indeed. We thank God for MemberCare and the Creative Arts ministry for the love and support they've shown towards our youths.



Youth Mission Trip

We had our first youth mission trip since the COVID pandemic to Thailand in June! 8 youths, ranging from 15 to 24 years old, said "yes" to spending their June holidays reaching out to the Thai people. We spent 7 days in Ban Chang, Thailand, being involved in the prison ministry, conducting English programmes for 4 schools, and also organised activities for the children's ministry of Christ Church Banchang (the local Anglican congregation and our gracious host). In total, the team ministered to over 90 prisoners and close to 700 children/youth. While our time there was short, we truly had a blessed time as we experienced God's wondrous provision, His assuring presence, and His heart for the lost through this trip. Praise God!

We have a separate mission trip newsletter that will provide more details about this trip, so do keep a lookout for that :)



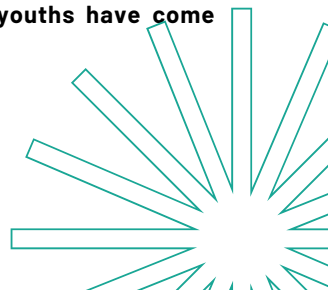
Youth Sunday



We had a special Youth Sunday programme on 2 July to celebrate Cathedral youths! The theme for the day was "Ready to serve - Serve God, serve all" based on Mark 10:43-45. The youths had a great time playing real-life Overcooked which they had to "serve orders" constructed from scripture verses. Ps Wei Kai (from All Saints Church) also preached on 1 Peter 2:4-9 and challenged our youths to step into their calling as a royal priesthood for God.

As a ministry, we have much to give thanks for. It has been amazing to see how God is at work in the lives of our young people. In commemoration of Youth Sunday, a few of our youths have come together to give their testimonies.

Scroll down to read their testimonies



Youth Ministry

TESTIMONIES

—→ YOUTH MONTH 2023



Christine's Testimony

I came to Cathedral Youth last year around late August and found the activities here pretty fun and engaging! The sharings in youth service have also helped to break down the biblical ideas nicely into more digestible pieces for me to understand them better! The youths here are pretty friendly and easy to get along!

I hope that Cathedral Youth will become more bonded and that there can be greater inter-mingling across different cell groups to help foster a greater sense of belonging and identity. With this greater sense of belonging and identity in Christ, I hope that the youths in Cathedral Youth will become beacons of light wherever they are placed, with a greater love for Christ each and every day. To love God with all their heart, soul and mind!

Youth Ministry

Initially, I came to Cathedral Youth because there were people I knew here, but now I feel like I have a place here in the youth ministry. Cathedral Youth has been where I found a community that really supported me. It has been a catalyst for my growth - both in my walk with God and the discovery of my own self-identity. I am here not just for myself or for the people around me but to love and serve God. For Cathedral Youth, I hope that the faith of our youths will extend beyond the youth service itself and overflow into their everyday lives. It is my prayer that we become faithful disciples of Christ that seek after God's own heart and that we remain Christ-centered and live out His truth in all that we say, think, or do.

~Anonymous Youth



Samuel's Testimony



I am here in Cathedral Youth to love and serve God, and as an expression of that worship unto Him, to love and serve His people. In Cathedral Youth, I have found a community of like-minded youths who are passionate for Christ and leaders who genuinely care about discipling and bringing up the next generation. Seeing the youth ministry grow over the last 1.5 years, I see God moving in our church, raising the next generation to be His royal priesthood. Moving forward, I hope to see our youths grow in their love for Christ, to become faithful disciples of Christ who live out their faith in word and deed, giving their all to love and live for God.

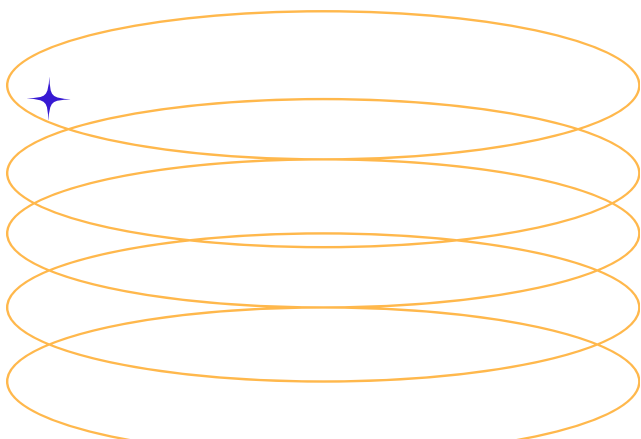
Youth Ministry



My sense of belonging and identity in the youth ministry would be characterised as one of a child, being free and happy to worship God and fellowship with my fellow young brothers and sisters and making more Christian friends, expanding my worldview and acknowledging that I am a part of the body of Christ.

The youth service is where newcomers and youths from different main services can gather to fellowship and talk about God. I chose to stay with Cathedral Youth because I saw the value in supporting the youth service, where I can journey with other youths through the different phases of their lives.

My main hope for the youth ministry is that it will continue to be a place for youths from all walks of life to discover more about Jesus and have a loving relationship with God and the church community. I hope the church will also lovingly embrace and come alongside the youths to help us grow into men and women who love and fear the Lord.



Youth Ministry

I believe my sense of identity in Cathedral Youth is influenced by my Christian upbringing. Being brought up in the ways of the Lord has given me a strong foundation for my faith, and my identity as a youth is rooted in the knowledge that Jesus Christ has saved me.

I chose to stay in the youth ministry because I truly feel a sense of belonging to the community here and have made wonderful, meaningful connections with people from all walks of life! I feel that the spiritual friendships I have formed in Cathedral Youth are unique and encourage me as a Christian to look to God in all things. Being surrounded by fellow Christians who support me in my journey with God has greatly benefited my faith, and I hope I will be able to do so for others too!

I hope that Cathedral Youth can continue to grow, not just in size but that everyone can also grow in their relationship with God! I look forward to seeing more youths step up and serve our ministry, church, and community - to do God's work and spread the gospel :)



Bethany's
Testimony

Young Adults Ministry

Saturday LIFE



More than 30 young adults joined us at our Saturday LIFE on 12th August to explore workplace evangelism. Sharing our faith in a secular environment can be a mine field - but what if our work is not just a means to earn a living but a mission field where we are called to share the love of Christ with our colleagues? We were glad to have our own Cathedral members, Daniel and Stephanie who are regular worshippers at our Sunday 9.30am service to touch on this subject. Through their sharing of God's Word and personal experiences, the participants gained a better understanding on how they may heed the call of Jesus to "Go" even into their workplaces to fulfil the Great Commission. Let's hear what the participants have to say.

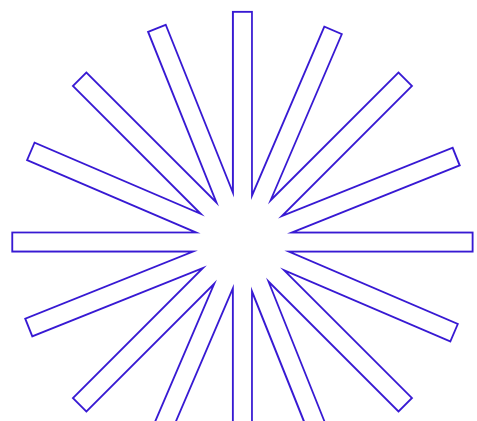
"The personal stories shared by Daniel and Stephanie were encouraging. One of my key takeaways from their sharing is that people do observe our behaviour, even in the little things. Hence, our attitude and character at work is important. We should seek to love others. We may think that our influence is small, but we have a big God!"

- Eunice Tan



Daniel & Stephanie's sharing was undoubtedly insightful. Through their open sharing of their life experiences, I've been better equipped with practical tips on how to make disciples of all nations. My biggest takeaway would be to start by loving our neighbours as ourselves, so that they may take notice of our good works. This would then create opportunities to share the Gospel with them."

- Justin Lee





Prayer Requests

We hope you can join us in prayer as we commit the ministry to the Lord. For we know that without God, our best plans & efforts are all futile as scripture reminds us that "unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain" (Ps 127:1a).

Children Ministry



✦ New Teachers & Teacher Aides

- Thank God for the 15 new volunteers who answered the call to serve
- Pray for all the new teachers and teacher aides as they begin to serve. May God equip and enable them to minister to the children with the gifts that He has blessed them with.

✦ Children

- Pray for the children to grow up knowing God's heart for the church.
- Pray for them to know God's purpose for them to love and serve one another in this spiritual community.

Youth Ministry



✦ Book of Daniel Sermon Series

- Pray for God to speak to the youths through the sermon series on Daniel, for them to know what it means to be people of God amidst a dark and fallen world.
- Pray for open hearts and minds so that the Word of God can take root and transform their lives.

✦ Plans for 2024

- Pray for God to reveal His plans and direction for the ministry in 2024
- Pray for the youth leaders to be able to hear and obey God's leading as they plan for the year ahead

Young Adults Ministry



✦ Deeper Relationships

Pray for the deepening of friendship among the young adults within and across services.

✦ Reliance on the Holy Spirit

Pray for greater awareness and reliance on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit as the young adults steer through the various challenges at work and in society today.

For More Info

<https://cathedral.org.sg/nextgen>