



NextGen Newsletter



ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL

Greetings and peace to all of you who are in Christ!

2023 has gone by so fast! But it definitely has been an eventful year for us and we can't wait to share with you how God has been so real to us.

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 :)

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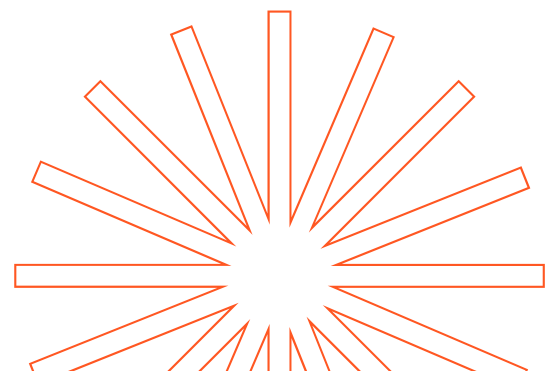
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cathedral.org.sg/nextgen

Children Ministry



Teachers' Retreat

As we approached the end of 2023, the teachers and teacher aides from CityKids, FaithKids 1 and 2 as well as Shalom Friends came together to fellowship and to give thanks to God for an incredible year we've had as a ministry. We reflected on how much God has done in and through the ministry including His provision of new volunteers, resources and also experienced Children Ministry workers who willingly dedicated their time to train us. This retreat also allowed us to look into the plans for 2024 and to surrender it to God. Speaking of new resources, we also had a volunteer from our SAC Mandarin Congregation who came to teach us balloon sculpting and it was an enjoyable time!



Children Ministry

Fellowship Weekend - October

In October, we had our final fellowship weekend of the year! Continuing with the "I am" series, The kids learnt about Jesus who is 'the Way, the Truth and the Life' and what that meant for them. They had a time of praise and worship, games and even made a compass as a reminder that Jesus is the only way to the Father.



As the kids became more familiar with the youths in Cathedral, it was heartwarming to see them opening up and deepening their relationships with the youths. We're looking forward to more fellowship weekends in 2024 and for the bond between the children and youths to grow even deeper!

Children's Day



In celebration of Children's Day, we gathered all the children for a special event to appreciate them and to let them know about the special mission God has for them which is to be the light of the world. The children visited different stations with interesting activities,

including one where they designed their own lightbulb with stickers and fairy lights. This is part of the message on how they can be a light for Christ among their friends, in their family and anywhere they go. During the sharing, the children raised some situations where it can be difficult to share Christ's love. In response to that, an invitation was given at the end of the sharing for the children to ask God to teach them how to share His love even in those situations. It was a great way to end the event as the children not only experienced God's love for them but they also learnt how to share that love with others.

"The Gift" Christmas Event

During our Christmas Celebration, the children got to learn and experience how Christmas is celebrated in different countries around the world. They tried snacks from various countries, learnt Christmas carols, and played games at different stations. After visiting the various countries, they all landed in Bethlehem where they learnt the real reason we celebrate Christmas; Jesus Christ our Saviour who is the special gift that we received.



Just as God has blessed us with the gift on Christmas day and in the spirit of giving, we did a gift exchange where the children designed a Christmas ornament and gave it to another child. As we enter the season of gifts and festivities, we hope the children have learnt the true meaning of the season and how to share Jesus with those who do not know about the greatest gift of Christmas.

Youth Ministry

Combined Leaders Retreat



Over 40 youth leaders from both the English and Mandarin congregations of Cathedral came together for a 3D2N retreat in October. The theme for the retreat was "Seek" where the leaders of both youth congregations gathered to intentionally set aside time to seek the Lord's will for our respective ministries as we reflect on the year that has passed and plan for the next.

This is the first time in a long while that the youth of both congregations got to interact with one another. We had a great time of fellowship, sharing our ministry joys and woes, and even got to break bread together.

Indeed how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! We thank God for this opportunity that we could come together as one Cathedral family and we are certainly hopeful for more to come!



P6 Graduation Camp

Although only a small group of P6s were able to join us for this year's graduation camp as many others had travel plans, we had a great time of bonding and getting to know each other better through games, skits, and supper!

We also had a few sharing sessions on what it means to be the body of Christ and were so blessed by the group discussions that followed after.



On the last night of the camp, we invited the P6s' parents down to join us for a hearty mini-buffet and to watch their children perform a skit based on John 9. On the very last day, we broke camp by bringing the P6s down to join us at the youth service where the youths enthusiastically welcomed them. This was their first time meeting the wider youth community and we were so glad to have them join us.

We thank God for the work He is doing in their lives and we can't wait for them to join the youth ministry officially!



Youth Ministry

Youth Camp – Into The Deep



We held our annual youth camp at St. Andrew's Mission School, and what an impactful 4D3N experience it was for our youths! The theme for this year was "Into the Deep", which is based on two passages: Matthew 14:22-33 (Jesus calling Peter to walk on water) and Ezekiel 47:1-12 (Living waters flowing from the Temple).

While seeking God for the camp theme, the camp committee noticed how frequently water imagery appeared as the various members were sharing their thoughts. We were deeply convicted that God intended to use this camp as a means of encouraging our young people to leave their comfort zones to go deeper into God's calling for them, bring living waters to those around them, and have faith in God to see them through. Incredibly, as the committee conducted a site recce of the school grounds, they noticed that the interior design and decorations featured a lot of marine motifs. They saw this as a confirmation of God's direction for this camp.

We enjoyed an exciting weekend filled with games (many were wet games, of course), challenges, fellowship, worship, and hearing the Word. We were also glad that our friends from Westside Anglican Church could join us for the camp!

Luke Zachary Ng from Scripture Union, our camp speaker, led an altar call on the final night of the camp. Amazingly, each and every young person responded! We thank the Lord for everything He is doing in the lives of our youths, and there are simply too many testimonies for us to share here. We hope and pray that this will not be just a one-off experience but a spiritual turning point in each of their lives. To God be the glory!



Christmas Celebration - The Greatest Gift of All Time



On 24 December, we held our last youth service of the year and celebrated Christmas. We wanted to highlight (with reference to Matthew 1:18-25) that although gift-giving is a huge part of Christmas, the greatest gift of all is that God sent His Son to earth for our sake.

Since this Christmas celebration was centred on the theme of "gifts", we played games where we had to guess what was inside various creatively wrapped presents. We also played a round of Angel & Mortal, in which the youths had to find ways to bless their "mortal" and "angel". We also invited our dear friend, Revd Hali, who was previously from Cathedral, to share an evangelistic message at this service.



Young Adults Ministry

Hike @ Southern Ridges & Lunch Fellowship



We ended the year with a hike along the southern ridges followed by a lunch at Seah Im Food Centre. We thank God for the lovely weather on that day and a good time of unhurried conversation among 20 young adults across different congregations in SAC. Throughout the hike, we had the chance to walk with and talk to different people in groups of two or three. At one of the resting points, Revd Daniel took the chance to share with the group the plans for 2024. Our conversation continued over lunch which we were all looking forward to after 2.5 hours of exercise!

We are definitely having more of such activity for our young adults in 2024. Our first event will be on 17 February in church and we will resume our Saturday LIFE Talk on 9 March. More details will come your way soon!



Staff Movement



We bade farewell to Dena on 9 December 2023 as she resigned from her position of the pastoral staff in the children ministry and relocated to New Zealand to pursue further education. Her contribution to the children ministry especially in all the combined events has greatly blessed our workers and children in the ministry. We wish her all the best in the new season of her life.

We thank God for Melinda who will be coming in on 19 January to take over the position of the pastoral staff in the children ministry. Melinda has been appointed as a lay superintendent of FaithKids 2 in 2023. We look forward to having her in the ministry as a full time staff.

Additionally, Justin Peng will also be joining the youth ministry pastoral team to head Metamorphosis. We thank God for the labourers He has brought us!





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

Teachers & Teacher Aides

- Pray for the teachers and teacher aides who have recommitted themselves to serve in 2024 that they may have renewed strength and vision to help the children in their spiritual formation and to fulfil God's purpose for this ministry.
- Pray for more members from SAC to respond to the call to serve in this ministry.

Children

- Pray for the children to be eager to return to the children programme and to deepen their relationship with Jesus in 2024.

Youth Ministry

2024 Theme: Empowered Disciples

- Pray for God to speak to the youths through the sermon series on the book of Acts, for them to desire to seek God's face and the heart to love the lost
- Pray for the youths to see how God will empower and emboldened them to bring the gospel to those around them

Youth Leaders

- Pray for wisdom and anointing as they lead the youths under their care.
- Pray for God to increase their capacity to love and sow into their youths so that they might grow in greater spiritual maturity.

Young Adults Ministry

Plans for 2024

Pray for the planning of the programmes for 2024 that will help to deepen friendship among the young adults within and across services as well as their relationship with God in the new year.

Personal Relationship with God

Pray for the young adults in SAC to renew their commitment in their walk with God and in their involvement in church in 2024.

For More Info

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