

St Andrew's Cathedral

NEXTGEN



NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST!

Praise God for the great things He has done in the lives of our young people in 2024 and we're excited to share with you some highlights from the NextGen Ministry!

We hope these updates would encourage you and we ask for your continued prayer support as we continue to sow into God's kingdom.

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To find out more, please visit our website

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

CHILDREN MINISTRY

CHILDREN MINISTRY RETREAT (AUG. 9-11)

The last Children Ministry teachers' retreat was held before COVID-19, making the 2024 Children Ministry retreat our first in six years. It was an exciting and heartwarming experience! A total of 27 teachers and assistant teachers attended the three-day, two-night retreat in Batam, with some attendees bringing their family members along. In total, we had 41 participants, ranging in age from just 4 to over 70 years old!

The retreat was filled with meaningful activities, devotional sessions, and a delightful seafood dinner that everyone enjoyed together. It was a wonderful time for the team to bond, deepen friendships, and discover the unique and endearing sides of one another.

The evenings were packed with fun activities, including bowling, board games, shopping, and night market adventures. Meanwhile, the younger participants strengthened their friendships over late-night Maggi Mee suppers.

It was truly a lively and unforgettable experience for everyone. We are already looking forward to our next retreat in 2026!



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION (OCT. 6)

The 2024 Children's Day celebration embraced the theme "Faster, Higher, Stronger Together" with Philippians 3:14 as the guiding verse. About 115 children, divided into eight groups, participated in the event, with each group showcasing their creativity through group cheers.

The event was thoughtfully planned by the committee, with the support of 40 dedicated volunteers. Teachers Leah and Shawn led a heartfelt worship session, and Teacher Kuen Wei delivered an engaging message, encouraging the children to trust and rely on God as they navigate through life's race. The fun activities, like crossing an obstacle course and designing medals, helped the children learn to face challenges with faith and to trust in God's rewards.

The highlight of the celebration was the prayer song session, where most children stood with hands clasped in prayer, creating a touching and memorable moment.

A heartfelt thank-you to the 40 volunteers whose tireless efforts made this event unforgettable!



HOME VISITS TO P6s (NOV.)

Reverend Daniel led Justin, from Metamorphosis, and Melinda, from the Children Ministry, to make home visits to 25 P6 students. Each student received a goodie bag, which included an invitation to the Youth Ministry's graduation camp. During the visits, the pastoral team took time to pray with the students, asking for God's guidance, peace and protection as they prepared for their PSLE exams.

In addition, throughout the PSLE exam period, the primary school teachers of the three children programmes came together to form a prayer group, taking turns to intercede for the P6s.

We continue to pray that these young ones will deeply understand God's love and purpose for their lives and have personal encounters with Him.



CITYKIDS' VISIT TO ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL HOME (NOV. 30)

This year, CityKids joyfully resumed their visit to the Home for the Aged, marking a heartwarming return to this cherished tradition. A notable highlight was seeing some of the CityKids' children taking on new roles as teacher aides, serving alongside their teachers and bringing fresh energy to the visit.

Irene, the superintendent of CityKids, spearheaded the initiative, organizing the visit and raising SGD 746 from parents to purchase food, supplies, and gifts for the seniors. Every dollar was thoughtfully spent to bless and bring joy to the residents.

The visit was filled with meaningful activities tailored to the seniors' preferences. CityKids organized worship, games, crafts, and shared a delicious meal, creating an afternoon of connection and delight. The seniors thoroughly enjoyed their time with the children, who brought warmth and cheer to their day.

Truly, community is where Christians come together to serve the Lord and bless one another, and this visit was a beautiful example of that spirit in action.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES (DEC.)

After two years of combined Christmas celebrations across all children's programmes, the Children Ministry decided to try something different this year. Each programme hosted its own Christmas party within their class levels, creating a more intimate and personalised celebration.

The children enjoyed playing games with their classmates and teachers, fostering stronger bonds within their groups. Teachers shared the nativity story in creative and engaging ways, using various methods and styles to captivate the kids and deepen their understanding of the true meaning of Christmas.

These cosy, smaller gatherings brought everyone closer together, making the celebrations both heartfelt and memorable.

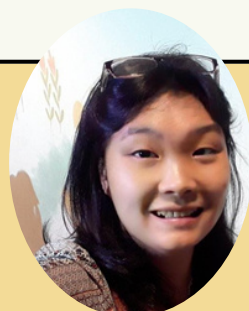


TRANSITION IN CHILDREN MINISTRY

At the end of last December, Irene and Ai Chiat, the superintendents of CityKids and FaithKids 1 respectively, stepped down after many years of faithful service in the Children's Ministry. Their dedication, time, and effort in nurturing the next generation have been a tremendous blessing.

While words cannot fully capture our gratitude, we praise the Lord for their impactful work and unwavering commitment!

in 2025, our Children Ministry pastoral staff, Melinda will take up the superintendent's duties and responsibilities for all three children's programmes. Let us pray that she will seek God's guidance as she steers the ministry into its next chapter.



Irene



Ai Chiat



Melinda

YOUTH MINISTRY



YOUTH WORSHIP NIGHT - CORAM DEO

Cathedral Youth held a worship night on 13 Sep 2024 centred on the theme "Coram Deo" (In the presence of God) based on John 15:1-7. Amidst the exam season, we wanted to carve out a space for our youths to worship and encounter God as our way of proclaiming our desire to pursue God above all else. We had an intimate time of worship and were exhorted to continue abiding in Christ, before we closed the session by ministering to one another through prayer.

LEADERS RETREAT

All our youth leaders, including our Metamorphosis facilitators, gathered for our annual retreat where we came to seek God's will as we evaluated our ministry and planned for 2025.

This year, the youths leaders also had an extended time to practice contemplative spirituality. It was a great time of spiritual refreshment for our leaders as they left the retreat to continue loving and serving the Lord and His people.



P6 GRADUATION CAMP

Metamorphosis held its annual Graduation Camp for the P6s from 8-10th November 2024.

The focus of the camp was to help them discover their identity as sons and daughters of God, and to help them see the importance of a spiritual community. The latter was shown not just through lessons, but also through fun activities and games.

At the end of the camp, they were also able to get a taste of the spiritual community by joining their seniors for a session at Metamorphosis and worshipping together with the wider youth ministry at the youth service.

Having seen and experienced the spiritual community in church, their desire for more was seen through their constant communication with one another even after the camp.





YOUTH CAMP

This year's youth camp theme was "Ignite" based on Romans 12:11 and Revelation 3:16! The committee spent much time seeking the Lord and were led to this theme as they discerned that the Lord wanted to challenge our youths to grow in their love for Him. This was our biggest camp turnout yet (over 70 campers!) where we had a lot of fun through games and fellowship. But beyond the fun and games, our youths really came to know the Father's heart through the sessions conducted by Wayne Sim (YWAM). Many of our youths came to experience God for the first time while others were stirred to live a life committed to Him. Praise God for the great things He is doing!

YOUTH CHRISTMAS SERVICE - A SCANDALOUS AFFAIR?

We had an extra special Christmas service this year titled, "A Scandalous Affair?" This year, we wanted to hold a creative evangelistic service that highlights how scandalous it is for God to condescend and come as man, showing how great His love is for us. We put together a mini production and conveyed the Christmas message through skits, songs, and a sermon. A total of 91 youths turned up for our event, of which around 30 of them were guests! We praise God for those who gave their lives to Jesus at that service and we ask for your prayers as we seek to continue journeying with them as they grow into Christlikeness.



LEADERSHIP UPDATES

As 2024 draws to a close, we also have a few leadership movements within our youth ministry.

Firstly, we would like to thank Aaron Wong, Amanda Pang, and Ketti Tan for their faithful years of service as core leaders of the youth ministry. They have played an instrumental role in shaping the youth ministry over the last 3 years and we pray for God's blessing to be upon them as they transit out of the youth ministry.

On that note, we also warmly welcome Cara Satapornvanit, as she joins the youth core team, succeeding Ketti as the new head of Metamorphosis (programme for Sec 1 & 2)!

Secondly, Isaac Leong and Nicole Boon will be stepping up as cell group leaders for the newly formed Sec 3 cell group. Gabriel Chin will also step up to serve as an assistant cell group leader for his current cell group. Do pray for them as they enter into their new roles.



Aaron & Amanda

Ketti

Cara

Isaac

Nicole

Gabriel

YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY



QUARTERLY MEETING

The Young Adult Ministry looked to continue uniting the Cathedral's Young Adults quarterly, with a talk presented by Dr Tan Soo Inn on the topic: **Spiritual Formation in the midst of Busyness** on the 24th of September. We had a great turnout of about 40 young people to pick Dr Tan's brain and challenged the young adults to prioritise God in the midst of balancing different commitments.

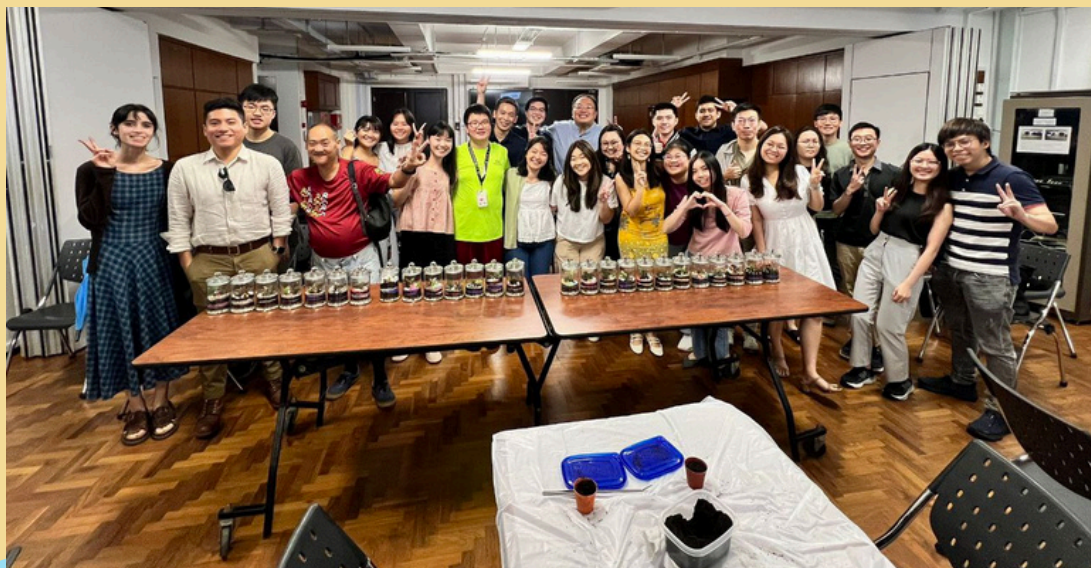
CATHEDRAL-WIDE SURVEY

In October, we did a cathedral-wide survey for the whole month, to seek out what would be most pertinent to meet the needs of the young adults across the services. Up to 60 young adults have given their input, suggesting that community and discipleship were what they desired the most from the young adult programme.



YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

On the 23rd of November, we planned a Young Adult Gathering to remind us of the meaning and purpose of the Young Adult ministry, as well as to look ahead to the new calendar year as a new beginning. We concluded with a Terrarium making exercise to remind us that we are intrinsically made for His purpose and that together, we form a beautiful picture of what a community could look like.



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PRAYER REQUESTS

CHILDREN MINISTRY



CHILDREN

- Pray for the children to store up God's command within them, turn their ears to wisdom and apply their hearts to understanding God's words

TEACHERS & TEACHER AIDES

- Pray for all the volunteers to keep storing up good in their hearts, with a spirit yielding to the lead of the Holy Spirit and to speak and teach from the abundance of their hearts

CAMP (LOWER PRI)

- Pray for the children's camp for the lower primary schoolers to be planned and operated well according to God's will

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY



YA PLANS FOR 2025

- Pray for like-minded people to serve in the YA ministry
- Pray for a smooth transition from a quarterly programme to a monthly programme
- Pray for unity among the young adults across the various services

YOUTH MINISTRY



LEADERSHIP RENEWAL

- Pray for our new leaders (core team & CGLs/ACGLs), for God to be their guide, joy, and strength as they serve God's people. Pray for God to anoint and equip them for His work and to keep them humble before the Lord
- Pray for more youths to step up as we look for more new core leaders to build up our ministry's culture of discipleship
- Pray for God to call more female youths to serve as cell group leaders

DIRECTION FOR 2025 - DRAW NEAR

- Pray for God's Word to transform our youths as we study through the books of Amos, Psalm, and Hebrews
- Pray for the youths to see God's majesty and beauty and draw even closer to Him this year.
- Pray for God to direct and inspire our plans and activities in 2025 so that all we do will glorify Him and build up the body of Christ

