

Annual Report 2022 -23

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Meeting Agenda

September 24, 2023
12:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Reflections from Pastor Daniel
3. Approval of Minutes from 2022
4. Election of Elders
5. Resolution Regarding Election of Elders
6. Election of Members for Nominating Committee
7. Financial Report
8. Appointing of the Auditor for 2023-2024
9. Presentation of the 2023-2024 Budget
10. Report of the Tellers
11. Other Business
12. Prayer
13. Adjournment

Minutes from 2022

Sunday, September 25, 2022

Call to Order

1. The Chair, Johnny Chan Kin called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm.
2. He first thanked the congregation for their support and Pastor Daniel for his leadership. He thanked and praised the staff for their hard work and also the volunteers for their service and sacrifice.
3. He also thanked the Nominating Committee for their prayerful consideration of elder candidates and their recommendation to the Board.
4. He then opened in prayer.

Reflections from Pastor Daniel Mills

1. He thanked the ministry leaders for their contributions to the Ministry Report and encouraged all members to read it for all the information and stories.
2. He thanked the elders, staff, ministry leaders, and the congregation for their involvement and support.
3. He reminded us of our focus on prayer and missions. He is thankful for the progress that we have made.

Approval of Minutes of 2021 AGM

1. Moved by Terry Doner. Seconded by Tony Miles. Motion carried. (Vote by showing of hands.)

Election of Elders

1. The Nominating Committee has put forward one elder candidate, Claude Mathieu. His bio was included with the pre-AGM information package sent to members.
2. The Chair noted that Kris Wong will assist members with electronic voting if they do not have a phone or tablet.
3. Vote results will be announced at the end of the meeting.

Election of Members for Nominating Committee for 2023

1. Johnny Chan Kin reviewed the composition and purpose of the Nominating Committee.
2. Bev Gonsalves' and Barb Doner's names have been put forward as nominees to the Nominating Committee for the 2023 AGM.
3. Voting results will be given at the end of the meeting.

Financial Report

1. Nesa Gulasekharam reviewed key elements of the audited financial statements provided by Norton McMullen and approved by the Board of Elders.

Appointing of the Auditor for 2022-2023

1. Moved by Nesa Gulasekharam that Norton McMullen be appointed as our auditors for the fiscal year 2022-2023. Second: Winston Miller. Voting results will be given at the end of the meeting.

Presentation of 2022-2023 Budget

1. Treasurer Nesa Gulasekharam reviewed the 2022-2023 budget given in the pre-AGM package to members.
2. Salaries and benefits are anticipated to be higher due to a full complement of staff compared to previous year and current year salary increases.
3. The Operating Fund is more or less in balance, in addition we have budgeted \$107,000 for capital expenditures. The total of restricted funds are anticipated to be in a deficit position due mostly to increased expenditures for missions.
4. He reviewed the proposed Capital Expenditures. He noted that the largest expenditure of \$48,000 was for the replacement of outside doors. He also mentioned that we have an older building that requires many upgrades. Currently capital expenditures are paid for from the Operating Fund. The Board is in discussion about raising funds separately for major projects such as the replacement of the sound system and sewer hookup. The Board will keep the congregation informed.
5. Nesa also fielded some questions from the membership on the budget.
6. Electronic voting closed.

Women as Elders - Next Steps

1. The Board has asked Pastor Daniel Mills to present this issue today.
2. Unity of the body will be most important. This will reflect the love of Jesus.
3. Unity will also be demonstrated by prayer. A team specifically for this issue will be assembled. Members were encouraged to send a note to Daniel if they wished to participate on that team. Next, he outlined the steps in the process:
 - i. First step: a roundtable discussion on Monday October 24, 2022 at 7 pm. This is intended to give our congregation an opportunity for discussion and to share their thoughts. Feedback and comments will be collected and given to the Board.
 - ii. After that roundtable, educational and theological material will be provided on both positions. Congregants will be encouraged to pray and read those materials.
 - iii. Public teaching will be the next step. Dates to be announced later. Unity again will be emphasized.
 - iv. Before the summer 2023 another Roundtable discussion will be held so that feedback and comments can be collected.
 - v. Voting will occur according to the C&MA Constitution. Therefore a 2/3 majority vote of members will be required. The goal is to have this vote at the 2023 AGM.
4. Daniel fielded questions from the membership on the above process.

Voting Results

1. Vote: Claude Mathieu was confirmed as an elder.
2. Vote: Barb Doner and Bev Gonsalves were confirmed as members of Nominating Committee.
3. Vote: Norton McMullen has been confirmed as auditors for 2022-2023.

OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

1. There were no questions from the floor.

MEETING CLOSED

1. Winston Miller closed in prayer.
2. The meeting was adjourned by the Chair, Johnny Chan Kin at 1:34 pm.

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

This past ministry year we have been able to focus on Jesus as we studied his birth story, his experiences, his resurrection, and his teachings. We have pressed deeper into intimacy with Christ and seen the beauty of Jesus in so many wonderful ways. Jesus is the central figure in the Christian faith and the solid foundation on which we can build our lives, our families, and our church. In this season of rebuilding, there is no better person to focus on than our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! We desire to touch our world through Jesus, one life at a time.

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalms 27:4

After years of the Covid pandemic, we realized that we needed to rebuild, revitalize, renew, restore, refresh, reinvigorate, repair, and rejuvenate our ministries and our church. The work is not done, but we continue to build with Jesus leading the way. We started by reflecting on the rebuilding work of Ezra and Nehemiah and used their methods and principles to refocus on what is important and critical in our spiritual journey. As we looked to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, we dove deeper into knowing him, loving him, and serving him. This meets the first part of our mission statement - to lead people to know Jesus Christ.

Throughout this ministry year our staff has continued to work diligently, faithfully, and effectively. We have tried to serve by exemplifying a saying of the early church fathers: "pray as if everything depends on God,

and work as if everything depends on you." I'm grateful for the ways in which our staff serves and supports one another and our congregation. We seek to be generous with kindness, listen with love, innovate with excellence, be proactive with vision, and remain joyful with faith. This past year we added Justin Hsu as our Pastor of Youth and Young Adults and he has made an immediate impact on our church community. Justin is a relational pastor who seeks to build community in an authentic and sincere way. I'm excited to see both our youth and young adults continue to grow and make an impact for Jesus in our world.

I'm thankful for our elders who have continued to serve with distinction, humility, and grace. They have supported and encouraged the staff in numerous ways and have been a source of wisdom and knowledge to me personally. I'm grateful for the addition of Claude Mathieu to our board as he brings a variety of talents, spiritual insight, and servant leadership to our team.

This past year has been challenging as we've navigated a topic of interest that has been brought up numerous times at our previous annual meetings. We laid out a pathway of study, reflection, and teaching on the topic of eldership with a focus on two different leadership models: complementarianism and egalitarianism. Our desire was to address this topic with love, grace, and wisdom, realizing that it can be a divisive issue. I'm grateful for everyone who has engaged in this process and helped us to seek the will of God as a church with unity and humility. We are a local body of believers desiring to be faithful to Jesus in all that he is calling us to do to reach our community and our world with the message of the gospel.

Our church is not a building, but a community of people who make up the body of Christ.

I'm deeply thankful for each person that calls Unionville Alliance home and has chosen to serve Jesus and others here. We can't do what we do without our passionate, dedicated, and sacrificial volunteers who so freely give of their time, resources, and talents to further the mission of God and reach people with the love of Christ. If you are reading this, you might be one of those volunteers! Thank you for serving with us and shining the light of Christ to others!

Our vision is to touch our world through Jesus, one life at a time. As I meditate on that, I'm reminded about the young adult who started attending this past year, got connected in our community and shared with me recently how grateful he was that we welcomed him with open arms and has found a place to belong. I think about the couple who was totally new to faith in Christ, but then their kids came to camp last year and the parents attended Alpha last Fall. Now they continue to walk with Jesus and grow in their knowledge of God. I reflect on the family that went through difficult times this past year, as well as deaths in their family, but felt so supported, loved, and cared for through our Pastoral Care

Team. I'm humbled that we can touch hundreds of lives through the Master's Pantry by showing them the love of Jesus through the food we distribute. These are just some examples of the many ways in which we have been able to touch, bless, and enrich the lives of those in our church and community.

As part of The Alliance in Canada, we desire to be a Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, Mission-focused people, multiplying disciples everywhere! Thank you for your generous giving, sacrificial service, passionate prayers, and tangible acts of love that help make UAC a beautiful reflection of Jesus. In this coming year, we are going to focus on the second part of our mission statement - to follow Him passionately: being a disciple, growing as a disciple, and making disciples! Christ left us with a Great Commission to reach the nations with the gospel and make disciples. Thank you for journeying with us and being a disciple-making disciple! The task ahead is enormous, but if we can just touch one life, the ripple effect will be eternal. The best is yet to come!



Pastor Daniel Mills

I'd love to stay connected with you!

Here are some ways in which we can stay in touch:

- Subscribe to emails at uachome.org/newsletter
- Send me a "Hello" text to 647-931-0015
- Follow us @unionvillealliance on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube
- Email me at danielm@uachome.org
- Call me at 905-477-4545
- Schedule a time to hang out with me at uachome.org/hangoutwithdaniel

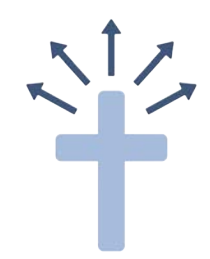
Statement Of Income And Expenses

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

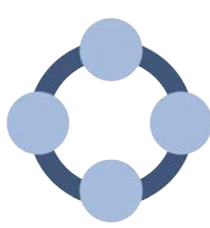
	BUDGET 2024	ACTUAL 2023	ACTUAL 2022
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS - Operating Fund	\$ 790,000	\$ 878,145	\$ 771,092
CONTRIBUTIONS - Missions	\$ 91,000	\$ 88,163	\$ 92,316
CONTRIBUTIONS - Memorial Fund	-	\$ 100	\$ 300
CONTRIBUTIONS - Community Care Fund	\$ 60,000	\$ 66,660	\$ 60,311
PROGRAMMING - Cost Recovery	\$ 94,596	\$ 65,728	\$ 29,086
OTHER INCOME	\$ 3,000	\$ 33,655	\$ 3,325
INTEREST	\$ 5,000	\$ 18,086	\$ 1,939
GOVERNMENT GRANT	-	\$ 10,000	-
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	\$ 100,000	\$ 17,523	\$ 2,597
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,143,596	\$ 1,178,060	\$ 960,966
EXPENSES			
SALARIES and BENEFITS	\$ 495,560	\$ 417,111	\$ 392,367
PROGRAMMING COSTS	\$ 251,350	\$ 137,894	\$ 91,777
OFFICE and ADMINISTRATION	\$ 64,950	\$ 75,491	\$ 74,548
FACILITIES	\$ 127,500	\$ 131,274	\$ 112,681
C&MA DENOMINATIONAL COMMITMENTS	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
MISSION	\$ 90,900	\$ 110,593	\$ 91,263
COMMUNITY CARE	\$ 72,000	\$ 60,652	\$ 56,931
AMORTIZATION	\$ 95,000	\$ 112,711	\$ 90,266
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,209,260	\$ 1,057,726	\$ 921,833
NET INCOME (DEFICIT)	\$ (65,664)	\$ 120,334	\$ 39,133
ADDITION OF CAPITAL 2023	\$ 100,000	\$ 241,992	\$ 114,900
West roof and building upgrades, audio upgrade			

Our Vision

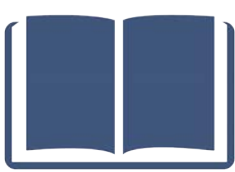
Touching our world through Jesus, one life at a time.



Sharing God's Message of Hope
Our world is severely broken because of our sin and rejection of God, but the hope of the world is Jesus. God’s plan is to reconcile a lost and alienated humanity through Jesus’ death and resurrection. Jesus tasked us with representing him and sharing his life-transforming message with everyone. As a church, we are committed to helping people to know him and to become passionate followers.



Meaningful Community
We were never meant to live in isolation. God created us to be in relationship with other people. We understand that spiritual growth requires journeying together with others in faith. This involves caring for and helping each other, praying for and encouraging one another, holding each other accountable and serving. One way we facilitate this is through Life Groups where people gather together regularly to strengthen each other and grow together in their faith.



Biblical Teaching
We believe that life transformation happens through the Spirit-filled communication of the Bible. We are committed to preaching and teaching the Word of God with integrity, without compromise and in a way that speaks to the relevant issues of our time with love and compassion. The Bible is central to all we do at Unionville Alliance Church.



Caring for Those in Need
Jesus identified love of neighbour as a guiding priority for every believer. Our faith is not to be restricted internally but to reflect the care and mercy of God to the poor, hurting and disenfranchised. We will reach out with compassion and practical assistance to those of our community who require help as an expression of faith with works, bringing hope to the hurting.



Prayer
We are cognizant of our inability to effectively live for Christ and to serve him fruitfully in our own strength. We are reminded that without Jesus we can do nothing. Because of this, we are committed to pray fervently for God’s guidance, direction, wisdom and empowerment. We humbly acknowledge our deep need and will bathe the life and ministry of our church in concerted prayer.

A FOCUS ON MISSIONS

Missions Committee:
John Cook, Laura Mills,
Jesse Burnett, Rhys Foy

In Matthew 24, Jesus tells us his return will come after the gospel has been preached to all nations. This is in line with the Great Commission: to go and make disciples of all nations. It is our incredible honour to partner with believers across the world to fulfill this great commandment that we have been given and aid in ushering in His victorious return. This year saw us increase our dedication to this cause by creating a Missions Committee to plan and facilitate more missions-focused events. We continued with our bi-monthly Mission Sundays to point people toward what God is doing globally for the furtherance of his kingdom. We are thankful for the generous missions-minded contributions given by our church that totaled over \$88,000. We increased our missions giving in several avenues this year by partnering with various causes totaling over \$110,000. We praise God for the privilege of supporting so many missional needs!

Mission Sundays

We started out our year with a large overview of Missions by Pastor Daniel during our September Missions Sunday. We were able to see how God is working through the Alliance World Fellowship all the way down to our own missional endeavors through Alpha. In November, we heard from International Workers, **Kevin and Carol Lim**, about how God is breaking down social barriers in Cambodia. On that Sunday evening, they shared personal stories and experiences as we got to interact with their whole family and spend some time in prayer with and for them. In January, **Brian Mullins** from Wycliffe Canada shared how Wycliffe is striving to end Bible poverty, since not having a Bible in

their language leads many language groups to be confined by a deep, spiritual darkness. That evening, we had a Zoom call with **Alan Yam** and he shared about his international work with sign language translation. In March, the Executive Director of the Alliance First Nations churches, **Howard Jolly**, shared his heartfelt testimony of how he and many First Nations peoples suffered in residential schools, resulting in barriers between them and the church. This was followed by a question & answer time in the evening explaining how we can be a part of the solution. In April, International Workers in Taiwan, **Albert and Elaine Lu**, shared with us the importance of

saying yes to God and the impact just one missionary can have on generations of people. They are seeing God work in beautiful ways in Taiwan and through the Taiwan Alliance Churches. In May, we had the privilege of having **Tim and Nancy Moore** visit with us. They shared a little bit about how God is using them in their work to combat human trafficking in Thailand while also leading the Justice

Semester that seeks to enrich young people with practical missional experience and theology.

After a few years of the pandemic, we were excited to bring back Taste of the Nations in May. Through a potluck-style dinner we celebrated the varieties of cultures in our community and were given a global vision of what God is doing in other countries. **Adib** from the Afghan Church in Canada shared his powerful testimony of how God saved him and called him into ministry through challenging times in Afghanistan and other countries. International Worker, **Anne Louie**, from Mexico shared stories in Mandarin

of her work among the Chinese Diaspora in Mexico. The kids also had a fun time with food and games! Finally, June marked the return of **the Burnetts**: one of our Seamless Link families. They returned to Canada for a furlough for the first time in five years. Derek & Bonnie have served in Thailand for a couple of decades and will be investing into various Canadian churches during their one year home assignment.

International Partners

We are thankful for the generous hearts of our congregation that enables us to support a number of international causes. Jesus tells us that we are more blessed to give than to receive, so we give with a thankful and cheerful heart. We gave \$50,000 to the Global Advance Fund to continue to send people to other nations to proclaim the word of God and make multiplying disciples. This fund supports our Alliance International Workers in unreached places. The damage from the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria to not only people's homes but also their lives weighed heavily on our hearts as UAC gave over \$12,000 in support of relief efforts there. The devastation in Ukraine continued to be in our thoughts and prayers as we gave \$1,600 to support relief work. The Jaffrey Project is an Alliance Missions focus, setting its sights on bringing the good news to unreached people groups in South Asia. We were delighted to give \$6,100 to support the effort to reach around two billion people in that region. We continued our support for the anti-trafficking organization For Freedom International in Thailand with \$5,000 which went towards building safe houses for people escaping bondage from trafficking. As our Seamless Link family, we also financially supported the Burnetts directly with \$4,525. Our partnership with Wycliffe Bible Translators continued as we highlighted them on a Mission Sunday and gave over \$3,500 to support their work and that of Alan Yam.

Canadian Partners

Within Canada, we invested into New Ventures with \$25,000 as they seek to empower church planters, new expressions of the church, and innovative methods of reaching people with the gospel in Canada. Locally, we contributed

to the RISE Support Centre (formerly called the Markham-Stouffville Crisis Pregnancy Centre) with \$2,400 in addition to our partnership in the Moms and Tots Program hosted at UAC. In the month of November, through the leadership of Rhys & Naomi Foy, we served as a central drop-off point for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes through Samaritan's Purse. Our congregation packed and collected shoeboxes for children in need around the world and other churches and people in our community dropped off shoe boxes as well. In total, we collected 3,722 shoeboxes, which represents 3,722 children who will be touched and impacted with the love of Jesus through a simple shoebox wrapped with gifts.

*3,722 children were touched
and impacted with the love of
Jesus through a simple shoebox*

As we continue to press deeper into our missional mandate, our desire is for each person at UAC to be a disciple-making disciple. Whether locally or globally, the Lord has given us a Great Commission to fulfill and we will seek the Lord for his grace, wisdom, and empowerment to see the nations reached with the gospel!

The breakdown:

\$50,000	Global Advance Fund
\$25,000	New Ventures
\$12,000	Relief efforts in Turkey & Syria
\$6,100	The Jaffray Project
\$5,000	For Freedom International
\$4,525	The Burnetts
\$3,500	Wycliffe Bible Translators
\$2,400	RISE Support Centre
\$1,600	Relief efforts in Ukraine

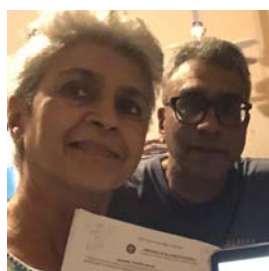
A HOUSE OF PRAYER

Prayer Team Leadership:
Cheryl Roe, Donna Rawana,
Salome Alagaratnam

We seek to not just be a church that prays but a house of prayer meaning “that the church’s primary identifying mark is prayer” (D.A. Kamstra). Though, we are still “a work in progress”, we’ve seen significant growth and movement towards our goal in this ministry year.

Prayer undergirds the vision of our church. As such, we had prayer teams backing up our two major outreach ministries - Alpha and Summer Camps. As well, the Prayer Team Leaders (PTL) committed to regularly pray for the staff, Board of Elders, ongoing events and concerns, along with praises and thanksgiving for the Lord’s watch, care, and work on our behalf.

Through our prayer ministry, we also prayed for God to prepare hearts for Jesus. Summer prayer walks took place in the community surrounding the church from June to August. This summer, we expanded that to invite people to walk and pray in their own home neighbourhoods. We may not recognize results from these prayer walks but we trust that God our Father is working as we pray.



Ken & Donna doing a prayer walk in in their neighbourhood... in Trinidad!

As we sought to become a house of prayer, we found ways to encourage and grow prayerful habits. This included a Sunday morning prayer service in September and a 40 day prayer challenge run by Pastor Daniel in the New Year. We also initiated a bi-weekly Tuesday evening Zoom prayer meeting. It doesn’t sound like a lot, but as it says in Zechariah 4:10 (NLT) - “Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...” Nevertheless, opportunities are provided for all - of any age

and stage to share and to grow in exploring and embracing the rich gift of prayer.

One Sunday, a neighbourhood woman walked into the church asking for prayer. A UAC couple took it upon themselves to stay back to listen and pray with her... for hours!

In the spring, 30 people attended a “Prayer Ministry Luncheon”. There, they heard about our prayer ministry and were challenged to consider joining the team. The response was wonderful! We now have teams of:

- 5 people in ‘Before Service Prayer’ (BSP)
- 16 people in ‘After Service Prayer’ (ASP)

One new initiative is “Mobile ASP”. Each week a prayer team member can be found in the midst of the congregation after the service. This way prayer can be immediately available to the people rather than having to step up to the front. Thank you to each person who has now joined the team!

“What mighty praise, O God, belongs to you in Zion. We will fulfill our vows to you, for you answer our prayers. All of us must come to you” (Psalm 65:1-2 NLT). We pray because He hears us. We pray because He answers. We pray because He loves us and all His answers come out of that love. We will continue to seek His guidance, direction, wisdom and empowerment. In this we rest assured and we carry on. It is truly a privilege to serve by praying!

I know you are a people who pray and that encourages me.

- Donna Edwards

THE IMPACT OF ALPHA

Alpha continues to be the core component of sharing the good news of the Gospel. Through Alpha people are provided with gracious hospitality and a safe environment for discussing big questions of life. When gathering for Alpha, participants share a meal together then watch a video presentation followed by discussions in small groups. Some topics include: “Is there more to life than this?” “Who is Jesus?” “Who is the Holy Spirit?”, “How can I Make the Most of the Rest of my Life?”

Fall Term

During the fall term, Alpha was incorporated into the Gather and Grow initiative where families came together to share stress free nutritiously delicious meals before dividing into age-appropriate programs. One life group plus the hospitality team served and prepared meals to as many as 80 people per evening. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for Regie and Hector’s Life Group, for all the hospitality volunteers and all those who demonstrated commitment, hard work, and dedication to making the Alpha experience delightful. The fall term saw forty-five people participating as guests with eight leaders and co-leaders. Thank you to all leaders for ministering in this vital ministry. From this Alpha session, one person became less antagonistic to the gospel while another further committed to following Jesus.

Youth

A youth Alpha course was integrated into the Extension Sunday morning class. This youth class allowed youth to understand, that they must decide to follow Jesus for themselves instead of relying on the faith of their parents.

From this Alpha session, one person became less antagonistic to the gospel while another further committed to following Jesus.

Winter Term

The winter Alpha sessions took place online, with seven participants and four group leaders. A significant highlight was witnessing a non-Christian join a Bible study at the conclusion of the sessions. Deep conversations took place, fostering a closer relationship with Jesus among the participants.

A significant highlight was witnessing a non-Christian join a Bible study at the conclusion of the sessions.

The Marriage Course

During spring, Johnny and Shirley Chan Kin along with Wesley and Sharon Roberts co-led the Alpha Marriage Course. Similar to the Alpha program, The Marriage Course centres around couple led discussion based on video presentations. We experienced exponential growth over the previous years with fifteen couples attending. Feedback from this course was overwhelmingly positive with participants expressing the pertinence and usefulness of topics. We thank the leaders for their commitment and vulnerability to support strong marriages.

Prayer

Lastly, we would like to thank the prayer supporters who prayed through every Alpha session. It is our hope that Alpha will continue to be an avenue where people can meet Jesus and deepen their faith. As UAC’s main evangelical tool, we pray everyone can get involved in one of its many roles.

MORE THAN JUST PRACTICAL NEEDS

Master's Pantry Director:
Nancy Wilson

Master's Pantry

We have seen God at work in the lives of many people this year. Our Master's Pantry helps people in a practical way by providing them monthly food, which includes non-perishable items, produce, dairy, meat and sometimes eggs when available. Through meeting these needs, we are demonstrating the love of Jesus which opens the door to minister to them in a deeper way, both spiritually and emotionally. As we see these clients every month, a big part of the ministry is to have our volunteers mingle with the clients and build a bit of a relationship with them. Many often say that they feel uplifted, knowing we genuinely care and will take the time to listen and pray with them. We are reaching lives for Jesus through this ministry.

We serve around 100 to 115 families each month. Our two pantries offer delivery service to people who are unable to pick up due to physical disabilities. Since Covid, we have seen on average 1 to 2 new families each time we open. We are privileged to have a wonderful group of volunteers of about 25 at each pantry serving faithfully. This includes those who help with the

Thursday set up, our shoppers, and those who do the deliveries. Amongst the group of volunteers, the dedicated Unionville Youth Council, under the leadership of Don Roe, also faithfully serve, often twice a month! This past year we have had former students, now at university, come back to help when they are in town which goes to show how much Master's Pantry has influenced even the lives of our volunteers. All our volunteers are a huge blessing, and it would not run without them.

Since 2020 when the pandemic started, we have been operating Master's Pantry as a drive-through. The clients continue to come in their cars, sometimes with someone who brings them, we register them, chat a bit, and offer prayer. They pull up to the doors and get their boxes of food. Still, they have missed spending time inside where they could fellowship with each other... so now we aim to restart that portion of the ministry and serve coffee, juice, tea, and light snacks. Then we can chat more intentionally, hold a short devotional, and pray with those who want prayer. Please pray that we will have enough volunteers to make this happen.

I had the privilege of walking alongside one of our clients who was very ill and subsequently had an amputation of her right leg above the knee. I was one of the first people she reached out to, so I spent time visiting her in the hospital helping her with things she needed, and supporting her with visits once she entered rehab. We were able to help her with some practical needs in her home, and two of our team and myself went in and helped get her home ready for her return. As I continue to walk alongside her, she has expressed to me how much it has meant to have me encouraging her positively and being with her during this difficult time. I had not realized at the time how important me being there was to her, encouraging her and praying with her, often as she cried and felt like she could not make it. It is so beautiful to be able to have touched this dear woman's life for Jesus.

- Nancy Wilson

Hampers of Hope

In December, our Hampers of Hope program provided Master's Pantry clients and other families in the community with food and gifts for Christmas. It is always a privilege to partner with Hockey with Heart Teams and the Village Grocer and we are extremely grateful for their financial support and practical help. A special thank you to Wayne Nishimura who organized the Hockey with Heart players to deliver hampers. It went so smoothly! And a huge thank you for Russell Foy's effort and personal connection with each corporate sponsor who generously donated both in monetary funds and product, which helped make our hampers extra special. Russell

and Nancy even had the privilege of attending a corporate event where they were presented with a cheque for Hampers of Hope. During the week, we had many volunteers from the congregation that came daily to set up and pack all the hampers. This is a huge job, and we could not have done it without all the help we had. With the support of all our community sponsors and volunteers, we provided 216 families with a Christmas hamper.

God is using all our volunteers as His hands and feet to minister to each and every person and show them the love of Jesus. Their need for Jesus is so evident, and it is such a privilege to be there for them.

IMPROVING OUR FACILITIES

Facilities Committee:
Tony Miles, Terry Doner,
Jason Alvares, Denis Lopes

The Facilities Committee is responsible for overseeing the upgrading of the Unionville Alliance Church facilities and to assist the Director of Communications & Operations in the ongoing maintenance of the Church. We view our role as to create a positive first impression for anybody entering Unionville Alliance Church.



We wish to thank our custodian for his ongoing work in keeping the facilities in the best condition in addition to a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the following projects:

Accessability & Safety

- Replaced the patio stones between the carport and the Youth Building with a concrete walkway
- Removed several dead trees
- Installed ventilation for the Servery

Renovations

- Rooms 1 & 7 were freshly painted, bleachers were removed and carpeting replaced underneath
- Added a concrete pad in front of the garbage and recycling bins

Sewage

- Connected the church to the City of Markham's sewer system. This allows the church to abandon the aging septic system

DELIVERING TO TORONTO

TAC Coordinators:
Vino Gulasekharam,
Claude & Lisa Mathieu

Over the past year we have continued to assist Pastor Andrew and his team from Toronto Alliance Church (TAC) as they minister to people in need in the downtown community. With this ministry still not being held in person, we have continued to provide individually packed lunch bags each containing two sandwiches, a drink box, dessert and fruit. On special occasions, we also provide special treats for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, each accompanied by an encouraging Bible verse. In addition to the many sandwiches, we are also able to provide non-perishable food, clothing, monetary donations and other personal hygiene items all of which are gratefully received.

It has been amazing to see how our church has continued to be very generous in supporting this ministry and on several occasions gone above and beyond what has been requested! Over the past year we have sent over 2,000 sandwiches, boxes and boxes of non-perishable items, many bags of clothing and almost \$900.00 in cash donations. There have been weeks where it seemed we might be short on sandwiches

and have sent out "an SOS", a last minute call to members of UAC asking to help meet the required number of sandwiches needed. Without hesitation, many signed up and fulfilled the needs within a day of sending out the request. We can honestly say that all needs were met and much more.

The TAC Coordinators would like to thank each one who has partnered with this ministry and contributed over the past year, whether through prayer, making sandwiches, donating items or giving financially. The assistance and generosity we've received, has not only touched our lives but they have also touched the lives of the people living downtown. As we look forward to the next year, we will enjoy the privilege to continue to meet the needs of these people who are hungry both physically and spiritually in downtown Toronto.

On one particular occasion, we were short of 6 loaves and whilst we contemplated putting out our usual "SOS", it was suggested that we wait until Wednesday and pray. Wednesday morning came and a family signed up (not knowing what was needed) to make 6 loaves, the EXACT number and EXACT type of sandwiches that were needed!!! God is sooooo good!

A few individuals who have come to our door for lunches, are now being set free from different addiction issues and are finding that God is really speaking to them in our Sunday worship services.

Also, we have been blessed with having a number of refugees from Africa find our church and we are happy to give them volunteer hours that will help their case to stay in country. And we are hopefully soon to find them some training in the trades, followed by good work.

I am filled with joy in my heart over all these stories. The Lord is at work. And we at TAC are so grateful for our partnership with UAC. We are co-laborers in the good works that God has set out for us to do. Thank you!

- Pastor Andrew

EXTENDING PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care Team:

Al & Yvette Davy, Kingsley Alagaratnam,
Bev Gonsalves, Nolly & Lea Cantos, Linus
Robert, Michael Wong, Zenia Spencer,
Franklyn Pietersz

The Pastoral Care Ministry (PCM) continues to be an integral part of our fellowship. The first call of service for PCM is to support our pastors in carrying out their roles and fulfilling their responsibilities at UAC as they feed, fend and fight for the flock. In supporting and standing with our pastors in ministry, we somewhat become their eyes, hands and feet to members of the fellowship who are shut in at homes, hospitals and other convalescent institutions. Members of PCM readily become an extension of pastoral care for those who are struggling and need the dedicated support and attention. At times, when it's not possible to visit a brother or sister, we step in and communicate with them

by making telephone calls; sending emails and cards; blessing them with a bouquet of flowers; or by providing a meal.

We want to thank Al Davy from the depths of our hearts for the leadership that he has provided to this team these last couple of years. He has stepped down from this position at the end of August and his wisdom will be sorely missed.

My time of service has been both enriching and rewarding, and I thank the BOE for providing me with the opportunity of serving.

- Al

PROVIDING COMMUNITY CARE

Three significant trends have emerged over the past year as the Community Care Committee seeks to provide financial support to members of our community who have short term financial needs. The first trend is that the committee has been much busier than in past years. There is greater need in our community, as we have had fourteen requests in the last fiscal year compared to just four the previous year.

The second trend is that the requests are typically for higher levels of support. Whereas in the past many requests were for a few hundred dollars to help with a utility bill or provide food, we are now regularly seeing significant four-figure requests for things like rent or dental bills. Unfortunately, credit card debt is not something that we are able to help with, but we regularly counsel clients to seek financial management advice to try and get their debt under control.

The third trend is that, as we review each request, it is becoming increasingly difficult to ascertain that the request is legitimate. We seem to have to probe deeper into the client's lives in order to get a true sense of their request. Please pray that God would continue to grant us wisdom as we seek to be good stewards of the funds available.

While we cannot share specific details about individual cases due to privacy concerns, we have been encouraged by several opportunities this past year to pray with clients on the phone and offer invitations to attend UAC. Our hope is that there will be many more such opportunities in the future.

We extend our thanks to each one who supports the Community Care Fund and makes this ministry possible. We would also like to thank each member of the committee for their valuable service over this past year.

FLOURISHING IN LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups remain an integral part of our mission to be passionate followers of Jesus. Our hope is for these groups to provide an authentic experience of what it truly means to be the church. As people gather to study sermon-based material, pray together, offer mutual support, and care, and encourage one another in following Christ more wholeheartedly, the church comes alive, characterized by love, edification and active participation in Kingdom advancement.

This year, two life groups came to a natural end while two new life groups were formed. A new women's group was started with Lorraine Fish as the leader. Additionally, Les Miyata became the leader of a group that originated from the Gather and Grow initiative (providing Wednesday night programming for the whole family).

As part of their commitment to growth and effectiveness, leaders attended two training sessions. The first session focused on understanding the essential components of a thriving life group, while the second session, provided an opportunity to reflect on building

transformative life groups. At the final year end celebration, leaders enjoyed a tasty meal and shared laughter through some fun games.

Currently there are 37 life group leaders. We thank all these leaders for their dedicated service to their perspective groups. Particularly, we thank Carole Clyne for her faithful service to her group for over 20 years. As she steps down, we are grateful to Dan and Lorna Turney who have stepped up to lead the group.

This year, 10 individuals joined life groups for personal growth in faith, a deeper understanding of the Bible, and increased accountability to our Savior in their daily lives.

I personally grew in my faith and learned much more about the Bible. I am definitely more accountable to our Saviour in my daily life. - LG Member

May life groups continue to flourish and serve as catalysts for spiritual growth and transformation within and without UAC.

CONNECTING SENIORS

OASIS Leaders:
Lois Black, Yvette Davy, Dale Mace,
Carol Mills, Michael Wong

Recognizing the crucial need for connection among seniors post-pandemic, our OASIS (Older Adults Still In Service) leadership team dedicated themselves to fostering meaningful connections throughout the year.

Monthly, seniors were invited to participate in a wide array of activities. These activities involved relaxed board game gatherings to seminars addressing such topics as "Dealing with Loss", "Downsizing" and "Living with Inflation". Additionally, the group organized a few social events that included attending showings of André Rieu concerts and hosting

a festive Christmas Banquet featuring carol singing and a delightful meal. An initiative called "Seniors helping seniors through connection" was launched. Seniors were matched with one other person for whom they committed to make regular connections throughout the winter months.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was the memorable bus trip to St. Jacobs Market. A full bus of seniors reveled in the location's charm, the diverse offerings at the market, and the enlightening tour of Mennonite country.

ACTS OF LOVE

Gifts Team Leaders:
Barb Doner, Joni Miyata,
Verna Proctor, Judy Smith

Food Policy Team:
Barb Doner, Jasmine
Robert, Nancy Wilson

Coffee Lead:
Barb Doner

The Hospitality Ministry exists to show God's love to our church congregation through the act of providing gifts, notes, food, and drink. We are a link in the chain that touches our world through Jesus one life at a time. We may not be front-line evangelists, but we make it possible for people to feel connected, loved, and a part of our Christian community.

There are three teams under the umbrella of this ministry: gifts, food, coffee.

Through Gifts

The leaders of this team love to put their heads together to decide what gifts will bless the congregation during a special event. Last year, it was loot bags for Christmas Eve, Mother's Day, and Father's Day. For Valentine's Day, they took it a step further and issued a challenge to encourage the church to pass along their gift to someone else in their lives, allowing them to show God's love in a tangible way. Several people took up the challenge and provided the recipients' names so that our church could pray over them as well.

We are thankful for the many individuals who help package these gifts and deliver them to people who cannot make it to church. This includes the Pastoral Care team who deliver our gifts to our homebound congregants, helping them enjoy a continued sense of connection to the church body.

Through Food

This area is very active and has many people who help in different ways: preparing or donating food, setting up or cleaning up at events, taking a supervisory or serving role at events, and/or helping with paperwork for events. It takes a lot of people to prepare and serve the hundreds of meals and snacks that have been a part of UAC over the last year. We appreciate every person who has helped in one way or another, either

for one day or repeatedly throughout the year. With many hands, we have been able to support many church functions, safely organizing and serving food, so that people can:

- hear about Jesus (Alpha, Gather and Grow)
- be appreciated for the work they do at UAC (appreciation lunches)
- connect and get to know others (Family Baking event, Easter Sunday and Advent snacks, Welcome lunches)
- support learning and celebration of our church community (Elder leadership presentation lunches, Taste of the Nations Potluck, Prayer information lunch)
- and other events

The "kitchen" is a very busy place and always needs more people to bear the burden of our active church congregation. We are grateful for the understanding support of the staff who work tirelessly to keep us from getting overwhelmed and overworked. We also thank the food policy team who conscientiously make decisions that promote safety and organization for food preparation as we adjust to the many uses of the kitchen during this post-pandemic period.

Through Cups of Coffee

The coffee team is responsible for Sunday Morning coffee after the service. Coffee provides an opportunity for people to fellowship after the service, allowing individuals to connect. Inviting a guest to have a cup of coffee can be an excellent way to start a conversation and make them feel welcome. Thank you to the people who arrive very early on Sunday mornings to prepare our coffee and stay late to clean up afterwards.

It is our pleasure to serve you and serve with you as part of UAC, seeking to lead others to know Christ and to follow Him passionately.

- Hospitality Team

A PLACE OF WORSHIP

Worship Team Leaders:
Kesha Wint, Colin Ainsworth,
Kenneth Cheung, Brandy Bayley

Throughout this past year's Jesus series, we have had an amazing team of passionate, hardworking, and dedicated people who served God with their amazing talents. Each member of the team gives of their time not only to come for rehearsal early Sunday morning but also, practicing and learning the songs at home to better lead the congregation in a time of worship. We have seen our team grow as members feel more comfortable to return to the platform and interest from new attendees stepping up to join our team. We are so honoured to have Kesha, Colin, Ken and Brandy lead our worship teams. Brandy has been part of the team since 2007, and first led a worship service for Easter of 2021. Since then, she has continued to show amazing growth in this area. Ken joined the team a couple years before that, and came with the experience of having led worship at his prior church in Winnipeg. Under their leadership, we currently have 23 members serving on the worship team!

Another addition to the team is Anna Goh who has blessed us with her wonderful talent! She created the beautiful original artwork for Holy Week and our Easter services, as well as the murals on the "Pray, Praise, and Word of God" posters. Her art has elevated our décor design encouraging another type of worship through her creative talents. Claude Matthieu, Denis Lopes and Terry Doner have been instrumental in realizing the vision of the set design and bringing it to reality. It's amazing to see how God

can use art and creativity to help people draw closer to Jesus.

Our two biggest services of the year were a wonderful opportunity for us to minister to our community and welcome new faces through our doors. We packed out the sanctuary for our two Christmas services and our Easter services. For our Maundy Thursday service, we intentionally created an intimate setting that focused on filling the place with prayer and hymns.



Kesha, Val and Brandy at a Worship and Media Arts Team gathering in February!

Throughout the year, we held Praise and Prayer nights. One of which was successfully led by our youth, young adults and even included participation from our STEM Club children! It was a great night as we have a passion to mentor the future generation and build up new worship leaders. This is why we have also begun to include our Youth Worship Team in our Sunday services. We feel so inspired by their heart, devotion, and passion for Jesus! We are so grateful to God that we can bless our community and we hope that in the coming years, we can continue to strive to put Jesus first as we lift up His name every Sunday.

It's a journey of self-discovery, where I've learned to express my faith through music and share it with a community of like-minded individuals... this ministry has provided a sanctuary of hope and encouragement, reminding me of the power of faith and the importance of serving others.
- Binu

I love playing music throughout my life. How blessed am I that I can use His wonderful gift.
- Winston

Learning new songs or reviewing old songs allows me more time to reflect on my relationship with the Lord.
- Nolly

ENHANCING OUR WORSHIP

Technical Director:
Terry Doner

The role of the Media Arts Team is to support all aspects of our worship experience in our facilities. The measures of success are: our congregation can hear and see what is helpful in our worship. Worship in its fullness encompasses our entire Sunday morning experience. How do we achieve this? It takes several things working together: people, planning, and technology.

Volunteer staff capacity remained stable with room for a few more. What is needed are three key leaders who can be experts in an area. They would be responsible for training, coaching and its growth. We thank the tireless efforts of those on the team. We all continue to learn how to better use the tools which have been provided to spread the good news.

Serving (...) has enhanced my sense of connection to the church through serving alongside other active members and also allows me to make a difference in reaching out to our community.

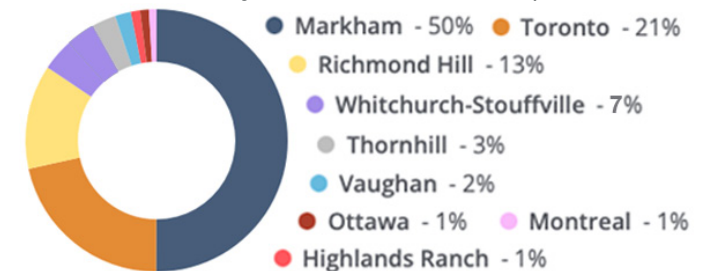
- Daniel

Our online capabilities continue to be a key component of ministry. As many people have returned, our online attendance has decreased. We continue to strive to improve the online experience. People attend online for a variety

There is something so beautiful about coming together and recognizing God's love in unity, leading the congregation to do the same.

- Isabella

of reasons: logistics, economics, social, etc. The challenge for the church is to make disciples of those who rarely or never attend in person.



Most of our viewers are in our local community, and we have several 'regulars' who are spread across north America. We also have visitors who join us from interesting places: including the US, Jamaica, China, Trinidad, and India!

This is a sample of the cities from which people have attended during our Sunday morning service. It represents more than 1500 people and almost 3500 hours of watch time. This doesn't even include the people who watch at other times of the week.

Our God is a creative God. The opening scene in scripture is all about creation. In Genesis 1:3 God speaks and creates light. The rest of the Bible is communicating His story of redemption for mankind. Every Sunday we use sound and light to reinforce that message to as many people as we can and via our recordings, we extend that to the other 167 hours in the week.

Audio Projection

Clear communication is the technical backbone of our services. The audio system has served us well over the years but will need attention.

Lighting Broadcast Video

Proper illumination of our services for the congregation, both in person and through video, is a powerful tool which determines mood and focus.

Projecting song lyrics, graphics, videos, and other media encourages engagement in worship and with the biblical teachings.

Posting our sermons online as well as livestreaming the entire service via Church Online, Facebook and YouTube has been instrumental for those not attending in person.

THE BLESSED CHILDREN

Children's Leaders: Allison Alvares, 45+ volunteers
Camp Team: Sophie Cook, Eleri Schieck, Paris James, Isabella Ignacio, Tosch Birta, Annie Cook, Nia Cantos

Praise God for His faithfulness and goodness! In 2022, Power Up! Children's Ministries sought to help children and their families experience the love of Christ and grow in their relationships with the Lord. With a vision to see the church focus on families and evangelism, we used camps as a tool to reach our community.

Summer Camps

These camps were a church-wide effort, fueled by the prayers of our faithful intercessors, the dedication of our prep team, and the enthusiasm of our on-ground volunteers. The excitement was palpable as we anticipated the arrival of 400 children, including over 60 from unchurched backgrounds. Through the help of the Holy Spirit, the camp team passionately shared the story of Jesus, inviting the children to know Jesus as their Saviour, Lord and Friend. An exciting opportunity to share the Gospel and touch our world through Jesus one child and family at a time! One seed that was planted, took root and this camper had an enthusiasm for the Lord, which led to a ripple effect and their family made the decision to follow Jesus personally.

It was their first time at church (their parents are Buddhist) and the boys listened so attentively. At the end I got a chance to connect with them and ask them what their favorite part was. It was..... PRAYER!!!! Just this morning I was praying for each of the children not even knowing that these two would be coming tonight.

Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.
 Psalm 36:5

Sunday Mornings

On Sunday mornings, our Power Up! program delved into God's Big Story, from the creation of the universe to the resurrection of Jesus to awaiting His return. Children were encouraged to nurture their own spiritual habits through reading the Bible, praying, and memorizing Scripture. As the team prayed for these children, praise God that they desired to grow in their relationship with Him.

STEM Club

Children from the church and community gathered weekly on Wednesdays for STEM Club. This program invited children to see God's intentionality, creativity and sovereignty through His Word. The children also explored and used their creative thinking skills as they interacted with STEM equipment. It was joyous to see the kids from the community hear about Jesus for the first time as they had many questions, and were eager to hear more. During STEM Club, two children had asked for their own personal Bibles where they could read the stories for themselves.



Our kids participating in the Christmas Caroling evening.



Enjoying family skating night!



Support for Parents

Power Up! also invested in parents through parenting seminars and Moms and Tots. The latter, in partnership with Rise Support Centre, grew from a seedling to a sapling. The joy and squeals on Friday morning soon echoed through the Lower Levels and moms found support and comfort in joining the weekly group.

Fun Events

During the year, Power Up! had our fair share of fun and relationship-building activities, including family skating nights, a delightful baking afternoon, and a joyous end of the year celebration. It's a testament to God's grace that our church families have been able to strengthen their bonds and grow in their faith together.

As we look ahead to the future, we do so with hearts full of gratitude. We thank God for His faithfulness, His boundless love, and the wonderful opportunities He has in store for us in the coming year. We trust in His provision and look forward to continuing His vision for what is yet to come.

It was our non-Christian kids especially who thought back and identified miracles in their life - when God had saved a parent's or grandparent's life in an accident or when God had provided healing...



ENCOURAGING WOMEN

Women's Ministry Leaders:
Lorraine Fish, Barb Bitter, Bev Gonsalves,
Janet Jordan-Shagass, Lily Zhang

In our Women's Ministry, we focus on sharing Jesus' life-transforming message with women of all ages. This includes introducing them to Christ, creating opportunities to help them mature in their faith, mentoring them, and equipping them to be disciple-makers. This past year, we continued to hold monthly sessions both in-person and online, enjoying the flexibility that it provides us to have women participate and get to know others. We also made sure to provide encouragement to our growing online audience through our Facebook group which consists of 109 women and through our regular email updates. Many found the seminars and socials encouraging and valued the prayer support. Here some of the events that we held:

- Card Craft socials
- Online Devotionals via Zoom: one led by Donna Rawana and another by Lily Zhang
- Hikes at the Secord Trail during the Fall and at the Rouge River in the Summer
- Zoom Seminar on relationships with Julianne Maslabey
- Advent Tea at the Old Curiosity Tea Shop
- Luncheons together



A table at the Spring Tea

The largest event, was our Annual Spring Tea held over the Mother's Day weekend. We enjoyed the musical entertainment performed by the youth worship team, kitchen and food service by some of our Young Adults, and an encouraging reflection by Elaine Philip. We were so blessed by the number of women who invited their friends & family to attend and we were able to use this opportunity to help support our community partner, RISE Support Centre.



One of the Card Craft socials

Enjoying tea over a Zoom Devotional



RAISING UP THE YOUTH

Youth Leaders:
Justin Hsu, Rhys & Naomi Foy,
Don Roe, Denis Lopes

We aim to lead our next generation into truth and community, centered around the love and teachings of Jesus. By the grace of God our Pastor of Adult Ministries, Leonor Lopes, was willing to step in as the interim youth leader while the search for a new Youth Pastor continued. In February 2023, we hired Pastor Justin Hsu, who immediately heard of epic stories of events such as the In-Church Youth Retreat and Youth Scavenger Hunt that the youth had been enjoying. It came as no surprise that Plugged-In Youth were a quiet bunch when first meeting Pastor Justin, having been through the Covid lockdowns as well as various leadership transitions. However, in the past several months this group has truly come out of their shell and become a vibrant, lively, and at times overly

enthusiastic bunch. Over the past six months, there has been:

- an eagerness to serve those less fortunate than themselves at our St. Francis Table serve function over March Break.
- a willingness to immerse themselves into the larger congregation, as witnessed at the Praise and Prayer Night where the Youth Worship Team sang their hearts out.
- a hunger for a community centered around Jesus, as our leaders saw in prayer times during Youth nights.

Our goal is to continue strengthening their relationship with Christ through intentional discipleship, and to lead them closer to Jesus in a loving, safe, and engaging setting.

THE GROWTH OF YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Leader:
Justin Hsu

With young adults ranging from ages 18 all the way to 35, Reclaimed has proven itself to be a growing community filled with individuals from all stages in their walks of faith. Whether someone is simply curious, new to Christianity, or has years of relationship with Jesus, Reclaimed is the place where they can gather with their peers in a familial, loving, and fun-filled environment. With a rhythm of studying God's word, Prayer and Praise nights, social nights, not to mention the barbeques, pool parties, and beach outings, Reclaimed has certainly proven itself to be a hub for both spiritual growth and excitement. Praise be to God that this community has time

and again shown that they are willing to put on love, as modelled by our Lord Jesus, in being welcoming to newcomers and going above and beyond making everyone who attends feel right at home. Over the past 6 months of being here, various members of this group truly came spiritually alive, embracing prayer, leaning on the power the Holy Spirit, and really allowing Jesus to take charge and be Lord in their lives. With the transition of four of our youth who recently graduated from high school, we'll be excited to see how the existing community pours out their love for the younger generation as we all aim to draw closer to Jesus.



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