

English and Youth Ministry

Minister Eric Sandberg

2019 has been an exciting and challenging year in youth ministry. Many of the older high school students continue to take positions of leadership in the youth group. We have had students: lead worship Friday night, Sunday morning, plan activities, prayer, and VBS.

Looking Back on 2019

- We were excited to celebrate the baptisms of Arnold Lin, Kevin Huang, Dorothy Zhang, Casey Zhang, Madeleine Jiang, Coco Jiang, Sonia Kang, Raymond Xu, Jeffery Zhang
- Small Group discussions and studies of the Gospel of John, Alpha Youth Series, and sermon discussion
- Encouraging involvement of students leading worship on Friday nights and Sunday morning.
- 25 High Students and Middle School were able to attend WTC and be encouraged by the Word and worship with students from other churches.
- 20 students participate in 30 Hour Famine
- 30 High School and 2 adults participated in a weeklong service and outreach project in the town of Claremont, NH with Workcamp NE Ministries
- High School and Middle Students helped lead crews during VBS
- 40 students and parents participated in a Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack. As a result of their hard work close to 300 children will be fed for the year!



I am excited to see what God is going to do in the lives of the student in 20. We are planning on continuing many of the same traditions; WTC, 30hr Famine, WorkCamp, Feed My Starving Children. We are also excited to see what new opportunities God might bring our way!

The students face numerous challenges in their lives. Their schedules are incredibly busy and they are faced with a tremendous amount of pressure. Whether it is the increasing secularization in schools or the pressure to reject the Bible's authority in their lives; students are faced with many challenges towards their faith. It is so easy to see how the enemy is working to distract students from following Christ.

In addition to the challenges that students have faced in their lives, this has also been a challenging year for me. Since I have been serving as dual role responsibilities in both youth ministry as well as English ministry for the past year and half, I felt that I have not been able to dedicate the amount of attention on an individual basis. Because of the strain of "splitting focus" there were times when I felt out of touch or the guilt that can come with feeling that I have not been doing 'enough' to help the students.

However, where I felt that I was lacking in what I was able to do, God provided, and His grace shone through! The youth ministry is blessed with a number of dedicated adult volunteers who faithfully have been serving the youth as small group leaders on Friday and Sundays. Without their dedication, there would be no way the youth ministry could survive.

Please continue to pray that the students would be able to see that Christ is better than anything that this world has to offer them; and that their love for Him and each other would continue to grow!