

Youth Ministry

Minister Eric Sandberg

2016 has been an exciting year in youth ministry. Where there have been challenges, God's grace has supplied our needs. We recently graduated a large class of seniors who were very involved the youth ministry. And it has been very evident that even though they are missed, they had spent time while in High School setting good examples for younger students by showing them what it looks like to trust and follow Jesus in their lives.

Many of the students have continued to take positions of leadership in the youth group. We have had students lead worship on Friday night, Sunday morning, plan activities, prayer, and VBS. Several students have starting serving with the children's ministry on Sunday morning by helping lead worship. In addition to this, there are several High School students who have been instrumental in starting weekly prayer groups at their school with other Christians. The student leadership team continues meet monthly to pray, plan, encourage, and take a hands on approach in developing a more effective youth ministry program that prepares students to become effective disciple makers!

Looking Back on 2016

- We were excited to celebrate the baptism of Anthony Cai, as well as several other students who are interested in learning more about their faith and looking to be baptized in the future.
- 30 High Students and 17 Middle School were able to attend WTC and be encouraged by the Word and worship with students from other churches.
- Hosted Student led night of worship and testimony for other Chinese Churches in the Boston area.
- 12 High Students participated in a week long service and outreach project in the town of Berlin, NH with Workcamp New England Ministries
- Coordination and Participation with Children's Ministry to pack and ship 100 boxes for Operation Christmas Child
- In depth studies of the books of 2 Corinthians, 1 John, And the Gospel of Matthew.
- 11 Students plus adults participated in a Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack. As a result of their hard work 300 + children across the globe will be provided with lifesaving meals for a year!

I am excited to see what God is going to do in the lives of the student in 2017. The students face numerous challenges in their lives. Their schedules are incredibly busy and they are faced with a tremendous amount of pressure. It is so easy to see how the enemy is working to distract students from

following Christ. 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 the goal of the those serving in the youth ministry of the church to help the students see that to believe in the Gospel and the authority of God's word is not to "turn your brain off" but rather to use your brain to seek to know God, His word, and his creation.

Please keep them in their prayers and don't forget to let them know how proud of them you are!

For the next year, with all of the changes that will come our way, let us pray for the students (and ourselves).

"Seek first the Kingdom of God and it's righteousness" Matthew 6:33

