

2020 Youth Ministry

Pastor Eric Sandberg & Pastor Ivan Yu

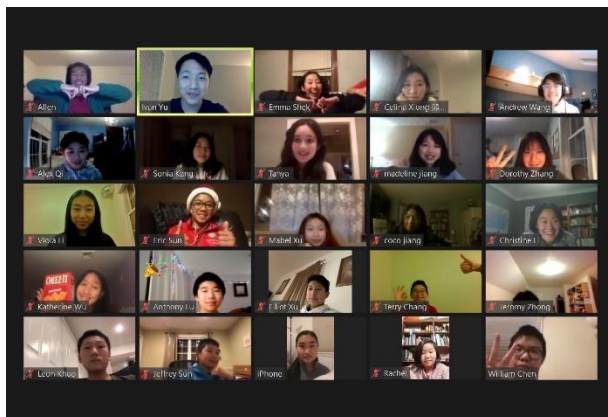
The CGCM Youth Ministry, like everything else, was greatly affected by COVID-19. While there were many challenges of serving the youth online, we praise God for how He was able to still work in the lives of the youth through our ministries. Thank you to the faithful coworkers and leaders who continue to serve the youth whole-heartedly with the love of Christ! We are also grateful that God brought Pastor Ivan Yu to CGCM in November to serve as the Youth Pastor.

Youth Fellowship

At the beginning of this year, Pastor Eric finished up the Alpha Series. This was followed by a study in the Book of Ephesians in March when the Youth Fellowship began meeting online via Zoom due to the pandemic. Since then, many of the upper high school students showed tremendous leadership by leading the Youth Fellowship from April to October. While we were waiting for a youth pastor, their hard work and commitment helped shoulder a tremendous amount of responsibility. They covered various topics each week, including Westminster Catechism, Spectrum, and Apologetics. On May 15, the students participated in a virtual 30 Hour Famine.



In November, Pastor Ivan Yu joined the church and implemented a new format for the Youth Fellowship involving games, worship, a sermon, small groups, and prayer. He preached a five-part sermon series called “Dealings with Temptation” (<http://bit.ly/39woFHo>). The Youth Fellowship ended the year with a Secret Santa Gift Exchange on December 18. Students prepared and secretly delivered a Christmas gift to another student’s home. The gifts were opened one by one during the fellowship on Zoom in front of everyone and the students had to guess who gave them their gifts.



Sunday School

This year, the *Middle School Girls* were taught by Zhai Pei, Leona Leighton, and Ning Zhang. During the spring, they did a Bible Study of verses about building up fellowship. In the fall, they did a study on C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia* Book 1 called "The Magician's Nephew". Each class involved listening to an audio reading of a chapter from the book and discussing the Christian themes and how it relates to the Bible.

The *Middle School Boys* were taught by Jonathan Shek who led discussions about the Sunday sermons with them. On December 6, Pastor Ivan did a Bible Study on John 15:1-8 and encourage the students to grow in their relationship with God by having a daily time set aside to read the Bible and pray.

In the beginning of the year, Anna Li led the *High School Students* in a discipleship class. Afterwards, for the rest of the year Elder Joe Xu taught the students through all fifty chapters of the Book of Genesis.

Winter Teen Conference 2020

Winter Teen Conference happened as usual at Camp Brookwoods in NH, as it was before all the mandatory shut downs. Even though we had no idea what the upcoming months would look like, God continued to remind us those weekends that He was in control and working in the lives of the students. The theme this year was called "Walking on Water" (Matthew 14:22-33) that focused on a life of faith and taking the focus off of the self.

Twenty-five students from CGCM attended the High School WTC from February 14-17. The guest speaker was Mike Yeh. Twenty-two students from CGCM attended the Middle School WTC from February 21-23. The guest speaker was Steve Coddington.

WorkCampNE

WorkcampNE was held in Westborough, at Chapel of the Cross from August 9 to 14. With the exception of limited numbers, masks, social distancing and other precautions, it was a great week of local service that felt surprisingly "normal"! The students got to see old friends and make new ones as churches from all over the Metrowest area gathered to paint and help with other cleaning tasks for needy families.

Prayers for 2021

We continue to look forward to see how God will work in the Youth Ministry in 2021. While we continue to serve the youth online, we pray that Lord willing, the pandemic will be over soon, and we can be able to slowly return to in-person meetings. Please pray for Pastor Ivan and his family as they continue to transition into the area and the church while getting to know more church members. Thank you to Pastor Eric for faithfully serving the youth these past five years!