

THE YOUNG LIFE

Reflecting on 2022 as a ministry has only filled me with gratitude and hope for the future of The Young Life and young adult ministry at Mapleview. Coming through a challenging season post pandemic, and navigating a short hiatus at the end of 2021, God has brought us a fresh sense of direction and fruitfulness and has demonstrated once again to us that He alone builds His Church. Our missional directives as a ministry team are filtered through three simple objectives. We want to help people discover and build faith, we want to help people build a community around them that edifies others and their faith, and we hope to help people discover their natural God given gifting and purpose for the Kingdom. To that end, we are overjoyed that on a weekly basis we have a vibrant and healthy community of Young Adults 70+ strong.

FAITH

In 2022 we were excited to see an influx of new people to our young adult community. Many of these new people have made new, or renewed faith commitments. Many have had a proximity to faith for many years but are now choosing to make faith the foundation to their decision making in this critical stage of life.

We have been able to create a weekly service with our Collected night, 2 semesters of our TYL Small Group that have been run and lead by their peers and funneled some young adults into the life of the greater church body through programs and groups available in that setting.

COMMUNITY

This year through our second 'Sabbath Summer' and several of our other events throughout the year, we were able to jump start our re-formed core of young adults following a two-month hiatus at the end of 2021.

Although attendance is not our only metric of ministry health, it is an encouraging sign to have 80+ young adults in our sphere of influence on a monthly basis. We have seen the impact of always being an open door on Monday nights for people to find connection and belonging as they navigate some of biggest moments in this stage of life. One of the things we are proud of is the diversity of the people that belong at TYL. I am thankful to our leadership team for their commitment to help make not only Mondays, but all of our events a home for anyone looking to belong.

PURPOSE

In 2022, we have overhauled our teams at The Young Life. With a many new additions to our worship, tech, and cafe teams we have seen more than 30 people involved and serving each month in our ministry. These roles range from serving positions to facilitating small groups. We are excited to help each person who is willing to get involved, find a place that will help them take the next step in their faith journey.

In addition to the growth in our volunteer teams, we were excited to help train the next generations of pastors and leaders through The Young Life.

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We have been able to encourage and help send off three bible college students to Master's College and Seminary for their first year, and give opportunity and training to three additional bible college students who were currently studying to be involved in ministry fulltime. This includes worship leading, preaching, and teaching.

In short, God has been good to us, and he has proven time and time again that he is drawing people to himself. I am thankful for this past year that as the young adults pastor I have had the opportunity to have a front row seat to the move of God happening in our Young Adults ministry. God has been faithful to go before us, and I know He will continue to set us apart at The Young Life as we are well into 2023. Not because of our strategic ministry, nor our hope to be relevant to a younger audience, but rather because we have come together and He has made His presence known to us, and it has transformed our lives as only Jesus can.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Burton