

## THE STUDENT LIFE

2024 was an incredible year to be part of The Student Life (TSL) at Mapleview. We made so many lifelong memories and our students had fundamental moments of growth in their faith that will mark them for the rest of their lives.

Will Ferguson provided excellent leadership to this ministry for the first half of the year before transitioning roles to Campus Pastor for the Mapleview Southeast location. I am very thankful for Will and the incredible leaders at TSL who patiently helped me as I stepped into this position. Their support and encouragement during this season have been invaluable to me.

Some of the biggest highlights each year are always tied to these three trips we take as a group:

**Overflow:** This youth conference is where students from all across Ontario gather to worship God and grow in their faith. Our students look most forward to this event every year and it's such a privilege to watch them encounter God in new and exciting ways. Foundational spiritual and relational moments take place on this weekend every year and the value of these experiences cannot be truly expressed in words. The financial and spiritual support we receive from each of you is deeply appreciated and directly impacts the lives of these young people. At Overflow we

had several students who accepted Christ as their saviour and many more experienced powerful moments in the presence of God.

**Activate:** This retreat takes place at the end of the summer with a smaller group attending which allows for deeper moments of discipleship. This event is a favourite as it ends the summer focusing the hearts and minds of our students on God's purpose for them before returning to school. 2024 was our third year attending and we took 20 students, several of which were not believers. We saw transformative moments in many of our students who still point to this retreat as a pivotal part of their faith journey. During this weekend we also had a couple of students give their lives to Christ.

**Fall Retreat:** This event is planned by several youth groups in the Barrie area (including Mapleview). Approximately 100 students attend Camp Medeba for a weekend of strengthening their faith and learning who they are in Christ. There was a testimony time on Sunday morning where students lined up if they'd like to briefly share what

God had done in their lives over the weekend. This testimony time lasted for hours. The stories were overwhelming and truly spoke to the goodness of God and how He's moving in, and through, this generation of students.

Beyond our weekends away, TSL is continually growing. Our leadership team has grown and they are incredibly passionate to see each student have a thriving relationship with God. They go above and beyond in how they serve and love these young people. Over the course of 2024, we've had lots of new students who now regularly attend TSL and are growing in their faith.

We had 14 students get baptized last year, two of which were baptized during our Wasaga Beach night in front of their peers and also bystanders at the beach. During the summer months, we have several fun events and activities that our students look forward to including; our school's out party, beach days, campfire worship nights, a camping trip, water wars, an evening hosted by the Quinns, and more. These events provide excellent opportunities for relational development between students.

As we close out 2024 and enter into 2025 I want to say a massive thank you on behalf of TSL. Your financial support, prayers, and continual encouragement are what make this ministry possible. Please continue to pray that God's will is done in and through this ministry in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ashley Cummins  
Director of The Student Life