

SATELLITE CAMPUS

2024 was a fantastic year for many reasons. I had the opportunity and honour to oversee our young adult ministry; continue leading our senior high youth group, The Student Life (TSL); and say yes to the call of God to move into a new area of ministry for me of church planting!

The Student Life (TSL)

To start, TSL was in a very special place as we were establishing a healthy amount of students who were beginning to grow in their maturity in Christ and some others who were beginning to walk out the gifts that the Lord gave them to serve their peers. In February, we did our very own baptism service at youth where we got to baptize six students who were ready to take the next step in their faith journey. Our fall retreat the previous year was with other churches from the city of Barrie, and one of the things we had done was a reunion. This event was special for a lot of our students who had formed friendships with others from other groups. It is a very special way to continue to unify and solidify a young person's faith when they see peers from the community growing in faith too.

One of the goals that we had set out to achieve and accomplish was the biblical literacy of this next generation. We focused the messages on getting the students to open the text for themselves and read and learn where things are in the Bible. We have had positive feedback from a lot of students and are

beginning to see their improvement. Another thing we did was hear from a student at the end of every month. We aimed to have our grade 12 students do this and impart some wisdom to the younger students. Hearing students' testimonies was powerful and will continue to be an amazing tool in encouraging students to grow in their faith.

I was also blown away by the generosity and faithfulness of our student body. We took up an offering regularly at youth and, at the end of the school year in 2024, had received \$350.00. It was cool to see students come prepared with their offerings too.

Once July started, I began to work with Ashley and helped prepare her for this group, and we agreed that come September the mantle would be passed, so the summer months were full of connections and community. We got to see salvations at our summer camp called Activate, and we had the privilege to take part in two baptisms at Wasaga Beach with the students! My heart is full to see new kids come around and get connected, as well as seeing these students passionate about bringing their friends into this place.

God has orchestrated this year beautifully because what is to come is something that I believe Ashley and her team are equipped to bring in and steward well.

The Young Life (TYL)

When the year kicked off, I wasn't sure how long I was going to be helping lead these amazing people. In January I began to meet with the team responsible for all that happens with TYL and hear their heart for this community. Out of this came a clear direction and vision for the next few months. 18 to 30-year-olds give this group a dynamic that has a lot of different needs, but one thing that we know to be true is everyone had a desire to grow in their faith and learn practical tips to flourish in their life and relationship with Christ. We had a series on this topic, and then we shifted in the springtime where we started a trial of meeting in small groups every week. The fruit of those times led to seeing the greater TYL body begin to connect in a more genuine, and authentic way. It was so cool to see the shift.

We held a city-wide worship night at the church for all young adults. We had roughly 150 young adults come out in attendance. We then pulled each pastor from the local churches up to introduce themselves so that no matter where they live in the area, a person attending would know that they can go to one of the churches, and see a familiar face to help them connect with the church body.

TYL during the summer months does an event night and then a service night. This was such a fruitful time for the group as community and memories were formed and made each week. New people were coming around and getting connected, and to this day there is a group of people who came for the first time to our Rec Room outing and are in

attendance every week now because of that. The final event of the summer is our special patio worship night. This night was powerful as we worshipped; there was a tangible sense that God was moving in the hearts of people that night. We held an altar call as I felt the spirit prompt and there were close to 15 decisions to follow Jesus that night. What a powerful night to wrap up the summer.

Tim Cummins started with us in September, and he and I led for the month together, and then I stepped away. I've loved getting to hear what Tim is doing and will continue to do in the years to come!

Satellite Campus

Once I was done with youth and young adults, I shifted my attention full-time to the satellite campus. Coming into the fall, I was meeting with people who were church planters, picking their brains and gaining insight, but one of the most exciting moments was our launch team's first meeting. This happened at the end of October, and since then we've been running monthly meetings where we share updates as well as cast visions for what is to come.

In the last few months of 2024, we were able to lock in our logo, name, location, and a core team of 20 people. The November meeting we held was a prayer time and was absolutely crucial to the connection of our team. We made 500 door-knockers with information about how we can serve this community, and on December 6th, a team member handed out all of them in one and a half

hours. We are now beginning to see the fruit of those door-knockers.

There is still much work to do, but it's exciting to see what God is already doing and what is to come!

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Will Ferguson
Satellite Campus Pastor