

Dear Parents,

After months of careful research, planning, and prayerful consideration, we're excited to announce a significant change to our Sunday morning routines at FLC: our Youth Worship Service will join the main Sunday service for the duration of 2025. We will be taking the time to survey both Parents and Teens at the end of the summer, and again at the end of the year to see how this change may or may not increase the sense of unity at FLC.

A summary of Key benefits of this intergenerational integration include:

- **Fostering Lasting Faith & Belonging:** Research shows that meaningful relationships with adults across generations help youth stay connected to the church into adulthood. This fosters a stronger sense of "belonging" within the broader church family. As some sources note, "warm is the new cool" for effectively engaging youth.
- **Empowering Youth for Ministry:** Our teenagers are eager to make a difference now and not just training for 'later.' This integration creates "keychain leadership" opportunities for them to take on "load-bearing roles" in the church, fostering lifelong leadership and a missional lifestyle.
- **Enriching the Entire Church:** Young people bring "vitality," "passion," "creativity," and "energy" that benefits all generations.

We understand concerns about potential loss of ownership or identity that was thought to have been created in a Youth Service. This shift is designed to strengthen these by offering direct participation in the overall church's mission and not just to their peers. Teenagers are asking "Who am I?", "Where do I fit?", and "What difference can I make?". Active involvement in the main service helps them move beyond a "silo-effect" and cultivates a stronger sense of purpose as integral parts of the church family. We are already starting to roll out plans to integrate our teens into our Worship teams, serve as Greeters, Scripture readers etc allowing them to serve the larger body here at FLC.

We will continue dedicated youth programming, including Friday Knights/ACTS Youth Fellowship Groups and Sunday School Classes to support spiritual growth. We believe this holistic approach will deeply root your teens in Christ.

So please partner with us and make this investment in our Teens! There may be a time of 'messiness' while we make the shifts and learn new routines, so please be gracious with each other. We invite you to reach out to the pastoral staff with any questions.

Sincerely,

Pastor Joe Chan and Pastor Nathan Sun