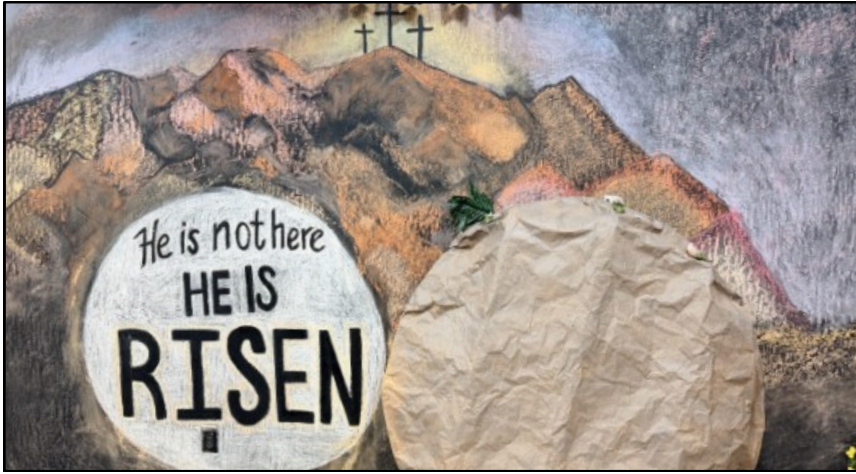


# CCIC-CU LIFE Newsletter



Joseph (11<sup>th</sup>) and Kevin (12<sup>th</sup>) worked with a few Connect Young Adults to create this chalk mural in celebration of Jesus' resurrection for Easter (Photo: G. Lee).

## Inside Insights

- World News Tonight Special for Good Friday, Easter Sunday
- Counselor Spotlight: Michelle R.
- March 2026 Event Photos (AWANA Grand Prix, Praise & Prayer Night)
- Monthly Prayer Requests
- The Easter Story Crossword

## April 2026 Youth Ministry Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Reading Club (7:30 PM)	2 Senior Class Monthly (6:00 PM)	3 Good Friday (7:30 PM)	4
5 Easter Sunday (9:30 AM) + Park Day (1:30 PM)	6	7	8 Bible Reading Club (7:30 PM)	9	10 Youth Group (7:30 PM)	11
12 Sunday Service (9:30 AM)	13	14	15 No Youth Event	16	17 Small Group Bonding (location will vary)	18
19 Sunday Service (9:30 AM)	20	21	22 Bible Reading Club (7:30 PM)	23	24 Youth Group (7:30 PM)	25
26 Sunday Service (9:30 AM) + Music Practice (1 PM)	27	28	29 Bible Reading Club (7:30 PM)	30		
			<b>COLOR KEY</b> Youth Bonding ImpactCF AWANA No Youth Group Missions / Retreat			

# World News Tonight Special

by Peter Hwang (Youth Staff)

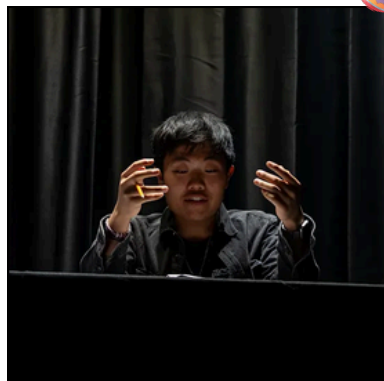
This past Good Friday and Easter Sunday, our English Ministry (Impact Christian Fellowship) participated in an interactive news report to share about the events that happened over two thousand years ago with Jesus Christ. Our youth and young adults got into small groups, and shared as witnesses to the events that happened during Easter week, from the triumphant entry of Jesus to the two women seeing an empty tomb and rejoicing that Jesus has risen!

Our news anchor, Ted Tedman (Johnny, 10<sup>th</sup>) guided the entire night, and made sure that everyone heard about the good news of Jesus, the one who died on the cross out of love, and rose from the grave in victory as the risen Savior and King!



**FAR LEFT:** Johnny (10<sup>th</sup>), Colin (12<sup>th</sup>), Ashley (11<sup>th</sup>), Hope (12<sup>th</sup>), and Peter led music together for Good Friday.

**LEFT:** Johnny (10<sup>th</sup>) played the role of Ted Tedman, the news anchor for World News Tonight for Good Friday and Easter Sunday (Photos: E. Young).



**TOP:** Royal (6<sup>th</sup>), Tommy (7<sup>th</sup>), Luke (7<sup>th</sup>) described Passover with Jesus.

**TOP RIGHT:** Mikayla (10<sup>th</sup>), Gabe (10<sup>th</sup>), Michael (10<sup>th</sup>) shared their experience as Roman guards.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** David (12<sup>th</sup>), Kevin (12<sup>th</sup>), and Ethan (12<sup>th</sup>) confirmed Jesus' death (Photos: E. Young).



*“But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.” (Matthew 28:5-6 ESV)*

CCIC-CU LIFE Newsletter

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*Our goal is to share monthly reflections and update about our CCIC-CU LIFE youth ministry to encourage and build up the body of Christ (Eph. 4:1-16 ESV).*

# Counselor Spotlight

*Michelle Rao: Counselor for Class of 2027*

Michelle grew up at CCIC Cupertino, and has been serving as the counselor for the class of 2027 since they were sixth graders! We are so blessed for her heart to serve these students, and hope you learn more about her in this edition of counselor spotlight!

## **Tell us something about your family.**

I think my brother is one of the funniest people I know :)

## **What is the strangest job you've ever had?**

I haven't had a lot of strange jobs but I worked at the Target right next to church one summer during college! I also worked only a month for a boba place called Monster Boba. It doesn't exist anymore though, haha.

## **What is the best gift (besides salvation from God) that you have ever received?**

I'm not really a huge gift person but as I've gotten busier and more things have entered my life I'm most grateful for quality time and the friends who are consistent in my life! I saw a post the other day that said, "To be loved is to be remembered," and that really reflects what I most feel appreciative of!

## **Why did you choose to volunteer in youth ministry?**

After I grew a lot spiritually in college, I reflected on how significant of a time youth was for me in giving me a foundation in having a relationship with God and His church. I wanted to give back in the ways I was given. I also am passionate about the ways that the youth struggle, especially in the Bay Area and with the Asian American background. It is very easy for youth in this area to give their life only to their grades or financial success, but I want to be a part of what God is doing in revealing Himself to them - and show them how much worldly things are fleeting, and how much more satisfying and fulfilling having and following Jesus is!

## **What is your favorite memory in youth ministry? Why?**

There's no one memory that sticks out, but I just really enjoy the relationships I've built with my grade over the past 5 years! I've seen them grow so much- from wanting to turn off the lights during small group in 6th grade to now asking questions about how to apply their faith to their daily lives. It's the most amazing and encouraging thing that God is working in their hearts. I also enjoy seeing their friendships blossoming!

## **How can people pray for you right now in your life?**

Pray for wisdom and guidance as I plan for my wedding and prepare for my marriage with Joshua. This is a transitioning season in my life so please pray for peace and trust in the Lord for the decisions and changes that are happening!



*Michelle enjoying some amazing sunset views at a beach front in Portugal (Photo: M. Rao).*

# March 2026 Event Photos

In March 2026, our church (CCIC Cupertino) hosted the annual AWANA Grand Prix outreach event (Fri 6 Mar 2026). It was a time for AWANA kids to bond with their parents in building, decorating, and racing cars together, and for other families to come partake in the festivities, carnival, food, and the great company. We also partnered with four other CCIC youth groups to have a Praise & Prayer Night (Fri 20 Mar 2026) that focused on finding rest in God in our everyday lives (Matt. 11:28-30). Check out some of the photos from the events, below!



**FAR RIGHT:** Michael (10<sup>th</sup>) and Michael (9<sup>th</sup>) take part in the face painting.



**MID-RIGHT:** Tommy (12<sup>th</sup>) and Declan (12<sup>th</sup>) set up the track for the next heat (Photos: E. Young).



Joshua (11<sup>th</sup>) and Victor (11<sup>th</sup>) host the "Higher or Lower" carnival game (Photo: E. Young).



Nicole (11<sup>th</sup>), Clara (collegian) test Elder Scott on his Bible knowledge (Photo: E. Young).



Iris (9<sup>th</sup>) volunteers to face paint for kids, including her sister (Photo: E. Young).



**Praise & Prayer Night (20 Mar 2026, CCIC-SJ):**  
**LEFT** David (12<sup>th</sup>) shared a testimony about having rest with God during a busy senior year.  
**TOP RIGHT** Students across five CCIC churches played "The Price is Right" in teams by their class.  
**RIGHT** Students chatting afterwards over snacks and drinks (Photos: J. Wu).



# April 2026 Events

## BIBLE READING CLUB (BYOB) WEDNESDAYS 7:30 PM, ROOM 142

We are continuing our Bible Reading Club on Wednesday nights in Room 104 (7:30 PM). We made it through the first three chapters of Revelations, and are continuing on to see the hope that God offers all, even in the end times. Come join us, and make sure to Bring Your Own Bible (BYOB)! Snacks provided! :)

## NO SERVANT TEAM MEETING CANCELLED (15 APR 2026)

This month, we will be cancelling our Servant Team meeting because Peter will not be available on Wed 15 Apr 2026, as he will be going to Portland, OR for his graduation from Western Seminary. Sorry about the inconvenience, and we look forward to another meeting in May 2026.

## SMALL GROUP BONDING FRI 17 APR 2026, TBD

On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, all seven of our small groups will host different bonding events with their counselors. Contact the counselor for more info!

- **6/7<sup>th</sup>(B):** Josh (joshuanittajn@gmail.com)
- **8<sup>th</sup>(B):** Edwin (edwinyoungg38@gmail.com), Peter (peter.hwang@cciccu.org)
- **6/7/8<sup>th</sup>(G):** Sarah (sarahxia18@gmail.com)
- **9<sup>th</sup>:** Danny (settpainghtin03@gmail.com), Irene (irene.d.yuan@gmail.com)
- **10<sup>th</sup>:** Michelle (rao.michelle0@gmail.com), Andrew (agurnack@gmail.com)
- **11<sup>th</sup>:** Marisa (changmarisa98@gmail.com)
- **12<sup>th</sup>:** Johanna (johannachen77@gmail.com)

## VOLLEYBALL: LAST MATCH SUN 19 APR 2026, 6:30 PM

Come support our youth volleyball teams as they play their last match of the church league season at Santa Clara HS (Large Gym) on Courts 1 and 3.

## INTERESTED IN GETTING BAPTIZED?

We are hosting another churchwide baptism celebration on 29 May 2026. If you are interested in getting baptized, please reach out to Peter (peter.hwang@cciccu.org) for more information on the baptism classes in May. Students will need to attend three (3) baptism classes prior to getting baptized at CCIC Cupertino.



## MUSIC TEAM PRACTICE SUN 26 APR 2026, 1:00 PM

Come prepared to practice for the upcoming month of May. We now host monthly music team practices after lunch on Sundays at 1:00 PM in Sanctuary B. See you there!

## IMPORTANT!

- **3-5 Apr 2026:** Good Friday and Easter Sunday (Sanc. B)
- **17 Apr 2026:** Small Group Bonding (location varies)
- **16-23 Jun 2026:** Mexico Missions (Ensenada, MX with YWAM San Diego/Baja)
- **31 Jul to 3 Aug 2026:** All-CCIC Summer Youth Retreat (Mount Gilead)



# Prayer Requests

## **Praise God for Amazing Fellowship (Mar 2026)**

It has been a joy to see our church come together in various ways in March 2026 to encourage our neighboring community with the AWANA Grand Prix, and to encourage youth across multiple CCIC churches with our Praise and Prayer Night. Praise God that those events have been sources of joy, rest, and refreshment. We pray for more opportunities to reach out to our neighbors so they can know Jesus Christ, and to help youth bond across churches as they continue to grow in faith in their daily lives.

## **Female Youth Staff**

Pray that our church finds a female youth staff that can support and minister to the young women in our youth group. Pray that we would find someone that works well alongside our church staff, volunteers and parents, and that they have a heart for youth!

## **Mexico Missions Preparation**

Pray for the planning of the upcoming Mexico short-term mission trip (16-23 June 2026). We have ~24 people planning to attend this year, with majority newcomers (and high school students). Pray that God watches over the leaders (Edwin, Michelle, Peter) as they prepare for the upcoming meetings, fundraisers, and more. Pray also for the youth who are attending, that they desire to learn more about God, and to make God known throughout the preparation leading up to the trip, and also while on the trip as they learn from guest speakers, bond together as a team, and attend outreach events.

## **Students Interested In Getting Baptized in May**

Pray for students who have a desire to get baptized to demonstrate their trust in Jesus as their personal Savior, and their desire to follow Him as their Lord and King. Pray for open hearts to learn and make their faith in Jesus a public declaration and celebration in May 2026!

## **Pray for a Heart of Service for Youth**

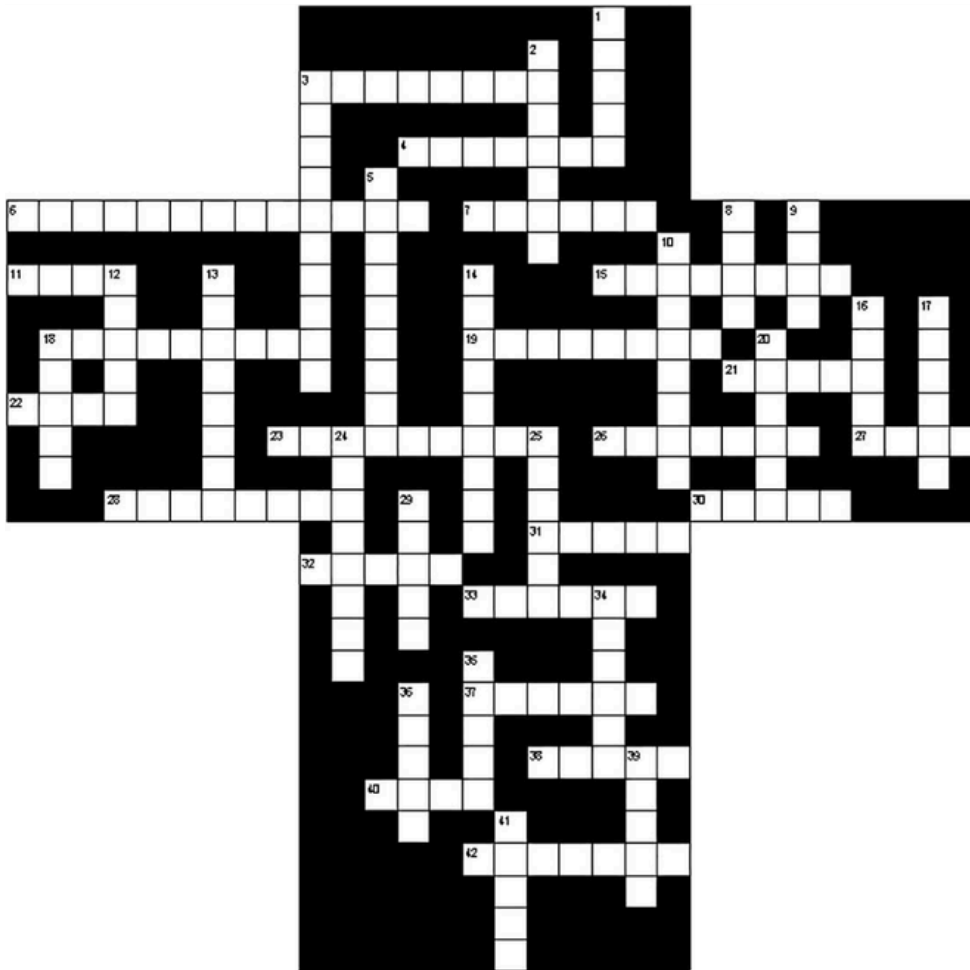
Pray that our youth and their families have a desire to support and serve the youth group. Pray that our students desire to serve one another, to love upon one another, and to make the youth ministry their own. Pray for parents that they would actively look for opportunities to partner with youth leaders and counselors to point students towards God and to see God be glorified through the ministry opportunities available. Pray for protection over those who are serving, that they find spiritual nourishment in God's Word, and serve from a heart overflowing with life.

## **For Peter's Seminary Graduation, finally!**

**Praise God** for the completion of Peter's master's degree in Ministry and Leadership from Western Seminary. Pray that Peter continues to grow in his love for God and God's people, and has spiritual protection as he continues to learn how to lead with the heart of Jesus, a gentle and lowly heart (Matt. 11: 29), and Paul as a servant to all (1 Cor. 9:19).

# The Easter Story Crossword

Source: akidsheart.com



## DOWN

- 1) The father-in-law to the high priest; Jesus was first brought to him
- 2) Another name for the place of His crucifixion
- 3) The garden where Jesus prayed before He was arrested
- 5) And it was the third hour, and they \_\_\_\_ Him
- 8) This was written and set over His head: "\_\_\_\_ of the Jews"
- 9) Judas betrayed Him with a \_\_\_\_
- 10) "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every \_\_\_\_"
- 12) Joseph took His body down and wrapped it in fine \_\_\_\_
- 13) The prisoner released by Pilate instead of Jesus
- 14) The Pharisee that brought spices for His burial
- 16) The apostle who betrayed Jesus Christ
- 17) "Why seek ye the \_\_\_\_ among the dead?"
- 18) He was taken up; and a \_\_\_\_ received Him out of their sight
- 20) Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of \_\_\_\_
- 24) And they crucified Him, and parted His \_\_\_\_, casting lots
- 25) He appeared to two disciples on the way to this village
- 29) Jesus told Peter to feed His \_\_\_\_
- 34) The Roman governor who washed his hands of the whole affair
- 35) This was rolled in front of the tomb and then sealed
- 36) And His sweat was as it were great drops of \_\_\_\_
- 39) The soldier pierced His side with this
- 41) He is not here: for He is \_\_\_\_ as He said

## ACROSS

- 3) "A place of a skull"
- 4) These guys were crucified on each side of Him
- 6) And He was numbered with the \_\_\_\_
- 7) Jesus was anointed with precious ointment in preparation for His \_\_\_\_
- 11) This part of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom
- 15) And when the sixth hour had come, there was \_\_\_\_ over the whole land
- 18) This Roman said, "Truly this was the Son of God"
- 19) The high priest who said it was expedient that one man die for all
- 21) The \_\_\_\_ of blood was purchased with the betrayal money
- 22) The disciple that took Mary home as his own mother
- 23) He appeared first unto Mary \_\_\_\_
- 26) "Father, \_\_\_\_ them; for they know not what they do"
- 27) He shed His blood so our \_\_\_\_ would be forgiven
- 28) The Last Supper was a celebration of this Jewish holiday
- 30) The ruler of Galilee
- 31) This was sent to strengthen Him when He was praying in the garden
- 32) This apostle denied that He knew Jesus three times
- 33) This wealthy man of Arimathea buried Him
- 37) The doubtful apostle
- 38) "A spirit has not \_\_\_\_ and bones as ye see me have."
- 40) And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet \_\_\_\_
- 42) He was given this drink on the cross

