










# CCIC LIFE Newsletter

## What's In This Issue

- August 2025 Calendar
- Summer Retreat Q&A
- "Lost in the Cosmos" Cafe Night (22 Aug 2025 7:30 PM)
- August 2025 Youth Events
- Prayer Requests



CCIC-CU LIFE						
August 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Senior Send Off (Home Edition)	2
3 ImpactCF (Pastor O) Park Day (2-4 PM)	4	5	6 Music Practice (7:30 PM)	7	8 "Be Encouraged" (Windy Chou)	9
10 ImpactCF (Pastor O) Park Day (2-4 PM)	11	12	13 Music Practice (7:30 PM)	14	15 "Be Encouraged" (Adrian Barailee)	16
17 ImpactCF (Pastor O)	18	19	20 Music Practice (CANCELLED)	21 	22 Cafe Night: "Lost In the Cosmos" 	
24 ImpactCF: Pastor O Joint @ Sanctuary A	25	26	27 Music Practice (CANCELLED)	28	29 No Youth Group (Labor Day Wknd)	30
31 ImpactCF (Peter H)		<b>COLOR KEY</b>  Youth  Bonding  ImpactCF  AWANA  Parents  No Youth Group  Missions				

# Summer Retreat 2025 Q&A



Our youth group just came back from an all-CCIC summer retreat at Redwood Christian Park (RCP). We enjoyed a long weekend with 200+ people across five (5) different CCIC churches, and I experienced joy and encouragement at every turn during those three nights. Here are some reflections in a Question & Answers format. I hope you are encouraged by our youth! :)



*Garvin (8th) and Johnny (9th) dabbing it up after scoring a point (Photo: E. Young)*

## What was a highlight and a lowlight about retreat?

- **Lowligh** was **BATS**: On the first day, as some youth boys and I moved into our cabin, we were looking up at the ceiling and saw two black hinge-like circles above the door. Suddenly, they started twitching, and we realized we had young bats! Fortunately, the RCP staff quickly resolved the issue, and we did not see or hear from those creatures of the night again.
- **Highlight** was **One-on-Ones**: I really enjoyed 1:1 conversations with the youth students. I was very encouraged to speak with some of our rising junior and senior boys, and to pray with them. Typically at summer retreat, we want every student to have a 1:1 conversation with a youth leader. It provides youth with the space to share openly and honestly about their life and their relationship with God. It also allows for questions and prayer requests that leaders can then respond personally for each youth.

## What do you plan to continue and carry forward from summer retreat?

- **Creating Community**: Pastor Tim Lo shared a lot of practical ways to live out a life changed and formed by Christ that I would like to continue forward from retreat. From the Saturday AM session, he emphasized how “communities are made, not found.” Each of us play a role in building our communities, for in Jesus, it is not “me,” but “we.”
- **Four (4) Practical Tips from Pastor Tim**: (A) show up, (B) connect with and welcome others, (C) no closed circles, (D) be intentional.



*Pastor Tim sharing a parable about CCIC-F, or Chinese Inland Church Crab Feast (Photo E. Young)*





# Q&A continued (2 of 3)

## What surprised you during the retreat?

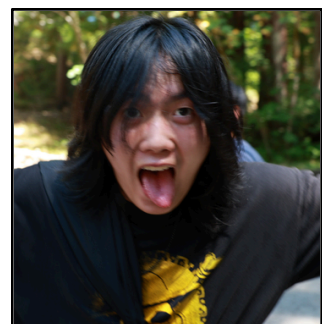
- **Inter-church Bonding (and the bats)!** I was very surprised by how well the youth across all the churches bonded over the retreat. I could really feel and see how united our churches have become over the past few years!
- I attribute part of this to the unity to the leaders across the various churches, including across many of the collegians who have come back to volunteer as counselors and interns. I also think we have students from many churches that go to the same school or have similar extracurricular activities. Either way, it is another side of youth ministry that I have really enjoyed these past few years!



Left to Right: Erica (6th) doing morning devotions; David (12th) & Max (11th) laughing during Hot Seat; Isla (7th), Kate (7th), Ada (5th), Michelle, Naomi (8th), Calleigh (8th), and Erica strategizing during group game time (Photos: E. Young)

## What were you grateful about at retreat, and why?

- **Space Away From Technology:** I used to work in the tech industry, and the power of tech is definitely a double-edged sword. It has drastically improved our way of life, while at the same time creating a culture that can negatively impacts us (e.g., doomscrolling, shortened attention spans, prolonged adolescence). Retreat provided a space for youth to experience boredom, discomfort, creativity, and peace in an environment that centered and focused on God. At the start of most retreats, I often hear complaints here and there about the lack of phone usage, laptops, and other tech. However, at the end, I always hear many people pleasantly surprised by how they were able to disconnect, and really enjoy being present in community with their friends, church, and God.



Left to Right: Naomi (8th), Koen (8th), Eugene (7th), Steven (college intern), Francis (8th) taking portraits (Photos: E. Young)

# Q&A continued (3 of 3)

## Would you encourage students to come to summer retreat? Why?

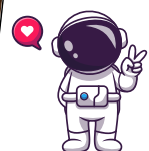
- **YES, for individual and collective growth in God!** I believe followers of Jesus are called to grow in their relationship with God both individually and corporately, and retreat enables youth to experience love with God and with their neighbors.
- The Bible often refers to Christians as sheep, and calls each of them to follow Jesus the Great Shepherd. Jesus not only goes before the sheep, but also lays down his life for his sheep (Ps. 23; John 10:14). Shepherding also implies that Christians (like sheep) live in community with one another, as a herd and a family of believers. In the New Testament, Paul and the apostles also use the term “shepherd” for church leaders, calling them to “pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood” (Acts 20:28 ESV).
- I encourage students to go to retreats, especially summer retreat! Retreats enable youth to focus on following God, growing together in God as a community, and learning how to care for one another as associate shepherds that follow in Jesus’ example.

## What was a retreat experience that was meaningful to you?

- **Leading Music (after a two-year absence):** I had a crazy schedule the past two years, so I did not participate in the music band at last year’s retreat. Looking back, I am thankful for the break, and felt God used the hiatus to remind me of the privilege and the joy in leading music.
- This year, I had the pleasure to lead a couple music sets, and it was so encouraging to see everyone worshipping God together in unity and in one voice. It always gives me a glimpse of the kingdom of heaven, and of what it will look like when we worship God together in the last days (Rev. 14:1-5).

Thanks for reading! I truly appreciate the prayers and support from parents, servant leaders, and our youth. I’m grateful to serve your youth, and be part of these formative years!

Onwards and Upwards,  
Peter Hwang



Group photo of all 200+ people at RCP in front of their beautiful Noah's Ark (Photos: E. Young)



# August Events

## CAFE NIGHT (FRI 22 AUG 2025, 7:30 PM) “LOST IN THE COSMOS”

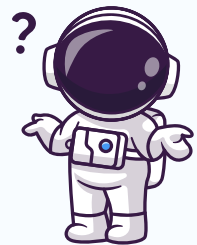
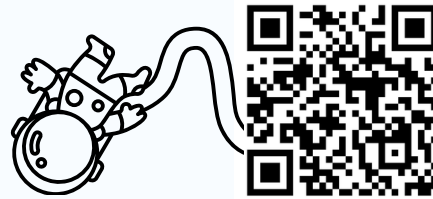


Our church (Impact Christian Fellowship) will host a cafe night, *Lost In The Cosmos*, to share the good news of Jesus Christ through music, drama, and a personal invitation.

The event will feature a drama with five short vignettes between different characters and Jesus Christ at The Cosmos Cafe. Our goal is to create an event that allows non-believers to hear and receive the good news of Jesus Christ!

**RSVP AND INVITE YOUR FAMILY + FRIENDS!**

<https://tinyurl.com/cafenightRSVP>



## PAST EVENT REFLECTIONS Senior Send-Off (Fri 1 Aug 2025)

During the first Friday of August, we hosted a senior-send off event at Evan and Irene's home in the Cupertino Hills for 70+ ppl! It was an incredible night of food, games, worship music, and encouragement from three (3) graduated seniors, Elanor Lin (former youth director), and young adults from Connect! :) The summer interns did a great job planning the whole night! Special thanks to Jim Ji for planning, and the Yuan family for hosting our whole youth group!



Clara (12th) sharing her reflections on her time in youth group to encourage our students as she heads to university later this month (Photo: Y. Fang)



# Prayer Requests

## For Female Youth Staff

Pray that we find 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 staff and counselors, and is a person after God's own heart.

## Cafe Night: Preparation, Spiritual Appointments!

Lots of planning and preparations are happening for Cafe Night (Fri 22 Aug 2025), so please pray for all of the leads, volunteers, musicians, actors, setup team, decoration team, etc.! As we work on this event, pray that we stay united, patient, flexible, and focused on living in a manner where love goes first in actions and deeds to one another. Pray also for those who have been invited to come, especially for non-believers. Pray that they can clearly see and know Jesus from this event, and would have open hearts to receive and hear the good news!



## Staying Rooted In God

Praise God for an incredible summer alongside all of our students. Many of them have already started school, so please pray that they continue to see and know God in their daily lives while at school, at home, at extracurriculars, or even in their free time playing sports, games, etc. Pray that they know that the God of the heavens and the earth is the very same God who loves them and desires them to abide in Him: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5 ESV).

## Spiritual Protection for Leaders

Pray that God continues to keep His hand over our youth ministry. Pray specifically for the leaders and volunteers, that God continues to remind them that He is their Great Shepherd, that He is their refuge, stronghold, and fortress, and they can continue to trust in Him. As the apostle Paul wrote regarding the Lord, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9).

## For incoming Middle + High Schoolers

Pray for the incoming sixth graders (3-5 people), and the rising high schoolers (10+ people) that they would navigate this transition into a new school (and also a new youth group environment) with God and with each other. Please provide the support from friends, family, counselors, so that they can continue to grow mature mentally, physically, and spiritually! Pray that they continue to put God first in their lives, always!



## Wisdom + Rest for Peter

Pray for Peter as he prepares for the upcoming Fall quarter. Pray for wisdom in planning, diligence in preparing, and commitment to rest so that he can continue to pour into the youth ministry and Impact CF!