



CONNECT CITY CAMP

CECC has partnered with Connect City Ministries. They are doing their Camp Unity! Summer Camp in our church from **June 30 to August 16**. Please keep them in your prayers.

Camp Unity! is a ministry under the Connect City umbrella focused on providing programming for local refugee and homeless children and youth. They provide a wide range of programming, including a children and youth summer day camp (Camp Unity!), Christmas parties, weekly event nights, Bible studies for youths and evening programs. Their mission is to show kids the love of Jesus while uniting them with Canadian culture.

For more information, visit
www.connectcity.org/unity



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CONNECT WITH US!

[Website](#)

[Youtube](#)

[Facebook](#)

cecc@cecctoronto.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Alpha series - Sept 24 to Nov 26 (Wed 7-9pm)

Curious about faith and Jesus? Whether you are a new follower or have been joining us for a while, Alpha is an opportunity to fellowship, wonder, and deepen your faith. If you are interested, please register by emailing alpha@cecctoronto.com. Registration deadline is **September 3**.



Mental Health Workshops (7:30-8:30pm)

Please join us for two online CECC seminars in supporting Mental Health & Neurodivergence coming this Fall. Our guest speakers are from **Hope Made Strong** who are Christian mental health clinicians.



[Sign Up Link](#)

Sept 10: Caring for Neurodivergent Loved Ones in Church and Family Life

- understanding the range of neurodivergence (e.g. autism, ADHD, etc)
- support caregivers and family members in community life.
- embrace inclusive, strengths-based ministry practices

December 3: Caring for Loved Ones and Church Family Through Mental Health Challenges

- reduce stigma within our church community
- learn practical, faith-integrated strategies for support
- gain tools for navigating crisis moments with confidence.



[Sign Up Link](#)

View the full calendar at
www.cecctoronto.com/events



JULY SERMON RECAP

PSALMS IN THE SUMMER

This July, we took a break from our theme, A Great Cloud of Witnesses, to focus on the book of **Psalms**. What did we talk about?

July 6 You Know Me (Psalm 139):

Was there a time when you were filled with so many emotions – confusion, frustration, sadness, and joys? In **Psalm 139**, David takes a step back, looks back on his own life, and reflects on how God is.

July 13 A Psalm for a Weary Heart (Psalm

23): In Israel's perspective, calling God a shepherd was not a grand or glorious image. Back then, shepherds weren't respected in their economic and social hierarchy. David calls the Lord as his **shepherd** – what did he mean by that?

SERMON SPOTLIGHT

DO YOU SAY ?

**Good Lord
it's morning
or
Good morning,
Lord**

From the message
**NURTURING AN ATTITUDE
OF THANKSGIVING**

July 20 Nurturing an Attitude of

Thanksgiving (Psalm 100): Cultivating thankful hearts... a thankful attitude. Are you a person filled with gratitude or complaints? **Give thanks and praise His name!**

July 27 Prayer and the Practice of Lament

(Lamentations 3:16-27): Are you wrestling with personal struggles or grieving over the state of the world? Guest speaker, Pastor Kevin Ueta, shares a message about a faith-filled perspective shaped by Christ's promise to **restore and renew**.

**Visit our website for full sermons and
monthly recaps**

A JOYFUL SUMMER PICNIC AT RICHMOND GREEN!

What a fantastic afternoon we had on Sunday, July 27! The Mandarin congregation hosted a summer picnic at **Richmond Green Sports Park**, and we were thrilled to have friends from the English congregation join us too. From energetic youth to our beloved seniors, everyone came together to enjoy a wonderful time outdoors.

The food was absolutely amazing—a delicious mix of catered meals, homemade dishes, sweet cakes, and juicy watermelon. A huge **thank-you** to all the brothers and sisters who cooked, ordered, and brought food to share!

Despite the summer heat, we found the perfect shady spot under the trees where a cool breeze made everything feel just right. Some helped carry tables and chairs, others decorated the area, cleaned up afterwards, or gave rides to those who needed them. Everyone pitched in with joyful hearts—it truly felt like **family**.



To top it all off, there was a live band playing nearby! Sofi and Alice couldn't help but dance along to the music, adding even more fun to the afternoon. Laughter and conversation filled the air as we shared food, stories, and fellowship.



Events like this remind us how beautiful it is to belong to CECC church family. We're so thankful for the connections made and the love shared that day.

Let's keep growing together in joy, faith, and friendship!



CECC BOWLING TOURNAMENT

After a long hiatus since our last tournament in 2019, the **CECC Bowling Tournament** returned in full force! We enjoyed a wonderful Sunday afternoon of fun and fellowship with our CECC family.

Eleven teams participated in the tournament, along with two dedicated lanes for the kids. The four teams with the highest average scores advanced to bowl side by side for the coveted trophy.

Everyone brought their A-game, making for an exciting competition. In the end, the team from **Lane 19** emerged victorious, with Uncle Fermin sealing the win in the 10th frame. Thank you to everyone who joined us—**we look forward to seeing you at next year's event!**



WASHED SEASON RECAP

This summer, Washed did more than just play ball – we grew together in **faith** and **fellowship**. With every swing, catch and cheer, we were reminded that it's not just about winning, but about **honoring God** through teamwork, perseverance, and joy. We finished the season with 4 wins and 6 losses, but we gained something far more meaningful: unity, encouragement, and the reminder that in Christ, **we never play alone**.



WASHED SEASON RECAP – TESTIMONIES

I learned how to play first base!

On a real note, I was reminded this year how invaluable the softball ministry is for Christian communities such as CCSA for its church community building, fellowship, and outreach. I really loved the devotionals after each game, as it gave an opportunity to **connect** with fellow brothers and sisters to **build** new relationships and **share** the gospel. Playing for Washed this year has been an amazing honour and privilege! Thank you Christ Emmanuel Community Church for this opportunity :) - **Louis Yu**

My highlight this softball season was getting the opportunity to lead the devotions. Through competitive, hard-fought games we often lose sight of why we play. However, when leading, I got the chance to **quiet my heart** and **give thanks** to the Lord through prayer and devotion. Because of leading, I got to slow down and really see how God gave us these able bodies to glorify Him in the amazing weather He shines down upon us. Whether it's planting the seed, or bringing others closer to God, I got to see the true purpose on why we play softball and have this fellowship." - **Nicholas Francisco**

I definitely think a highlight of this Washed season was definitely seeing everyone go **from awkward strangers to good friends**. At first when people from our fellowship (ACF) came, the team felt divided since a large portion was from our school fellowship and CECC. But over time, when we had practice together, games, and dinners, we became closer, and from that connection we made with one another, our on field performance got a lot better as well." - **Matthew Koo**

I personally think my highlight of the Washed season was having a time for fellowship after our practices and games where we would just spend time hanging out, eating, and enjoying our time together. I went from knowing only about half of the team to feeling really at home, **surrounded** by my brothers and sisters in Christ. From being a little awkward to now having that **strong bond** where we feel really comfortable with each other. It's always such a blessing! ❤️" - **Iris Zhan**

WASHED SEASON RECAP

Though the season has ended, Washed isn't slowing down! Off-season practices and hangouts are still in the works—maybe even at our favourite post-game spots like Big Way or McDonald's. We're also looking ahead to our end-of-season BBQ, where both returning and new players are welcome to join the fun.

Here's to another season of playing for God, growing in faith, and running together as a team, on and off the field.

Stay tuned for next year! If you've ever thought about joining – this could be your year. Reach out to **Andrew G. or Patrick C.** for more information about Washed.



"Be **devoted** to one another in love. Honour one another **above yourselves**.

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your **spiritual fervour**, serving the Lord."

Romans 12:10-11 (NIV)



LIFE GROUPS + MESSENGERS SUMMER OUTING



THIS SUMMER,

Our Life Group and Messengers stepped outside the usual meeting spaces and gathered at Pingle's Farm Market for a time of **fellowship, laughter, and connection.**

Surrounded by sunflowers, lavender, and God's creation, we shared meals, stories, and moments that reminded us of the joy of walking through life together in Christ.

Why Join our Life Group or Messengers?

Life Group and Messengers (young adults) are all about coming together in community, growing deeper in our relationship with Jesus, and walking through life's ups and downs with support and prayer. If you're looking for a place to belong, be encouraged, and grow in your faith —**Life Groups and Messengers are for you.**

Interested in joining?

Reach out to **Maggie** to join our Life Groups or **Mark** for Messengers—we'd love to welcome you in!

Come as you are. Grow as He leads. Let's share the journey.



VBS TRAINING AND ORIENTATION



The children ministries were excited to kick off this year's Vacation Bible School with our Volunteer Orientation and Training that happened on July 20th!

During this important session, all volunteers walked through the full VBS plan and timeline to prepare for a fun and impactful week. We also completed the **Child Protection Training** to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for every child.

The training was led by **Vicca Duhamel**, a dedicated teacher with over 23 years of experience, who brings both passion and expertise to equipping our volunteers.

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers for your **commitment** and **heart to serve!**

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

July was a busy month for several construction projects at CECC. We are truly blessed and appreciate the work being done by the **Building Committee**.

The Wheelchair Lift platform has been installed but remains pending approval until inspections are completed by TSSA and ESA. Additional safety work is required to ensure the platform meets all permit requirements.

We aim to begin recruitment and training for operating the Wheelchair Platform by **late August** or **early September**. Construction of the ramp is scheduled to start in mid-August.



The Washroom in the foyer is now finally accessible, with the automatic door installed and functional. The exterior automatic door is still in progress. The opening in the Vestry attic is done. Work will continue once we receive the Electric Ladder.

MINISTRY IN MOTION

WHERE FAITH MEETS ACTION

Looking for a way to **serve** and **connect with others**? There are several ministries in need of passionate volunteers! Whether you're gifted in hospitality, teaching, music, or tech, there's a place for you:

AV Team

Help run sound, slides, and livestream during services.

Sunday School Teachers

Teach and care for our children as they grow in faith.

Worship Team

Use your musical talents to lead our congregation in worship.

Coffee & Snack Team

Prep and serve refreshments for fellowship after service.

Usher Ministry

Welcome attendees, assist with seating, and support during service.

Life Group Leaders

Facilitate small groups and build community throughout the week.

**Interested in volunteering or want to learn more?
Please contact chair@cecctoronto.com and we'll
connect you with the right ministry leader.**

PRAYER THREADS

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Let us continue to support one another in prayer as a church family. Here are some ongoing prayer requests:

- For those in our community experiencing health challenges, may God bring **healing, comfort, and strength**.
- For our church leaders and volunteers—especially during this **busy season of ministry and VBS**.
- For **spiritual growth** and **unity** within our congregation.
- For those facing **personal or family struggles**, may they know God's peace and provision.

If you have a **prayer request** or would like someone to **pray with you**, please reach out to our pastors at pastors@cecctoronto.com. Your request will be kept confidential unless you indicate otherwise.

FAMILIES OF THE MONTH

PLEASE LIFT UP THESE FAMILIES IN PRAYER

**REV. DR. ANDREW
BENDICION**

PASTOR JOSEPH LIU

PASTOR HEUSEN LAM

Let's pray for their health, relationships, faith journeys, and for God's presence to be strong in their homes.

