

2024-2025

YOUTH UNITED FOR CHRIST

ANNUAL REPORT

A MINISTRY OF THE UNIFIED PENTECOSTAL LOCAL CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL INC.

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From Pursuit Conference to Winter Summit, Spring Fellowship, and Campus Ministries

NATIONAL YUFC DIRECTOR LETTER

Greetings Pastors, Ministers, Delegates, Youth Presidents, and UPLCII Family

Thank you for your prayers, financial support, and unwavering encouragement throughout this term. Your partnership has been a vital part of what the Lord has done through this ministry.

The Board of Directors has witnessed a powerful move of the Holy Spirit among our young people, and we believe God will continue to keep the fire burning within YUFC. We did not serve for a title or position. We served with one purpose: to see Jesus glorified.

That's why this year's theme is "Hearts on Fire." Luke 24:32 reminds us, *"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"* This is what Spirit-filled ministry is meant to do: ignite hearts with love for Jesus! His glory, His word, and His mission.

As 2 Timothy 1:6 encourages, *"Stir up the gift..."* We are called to use and grow the spiritual gifts God has entrusted to us, keeping them alive through obedience, discipline, and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

In this report, you will find updates on:

- The first student-led campus ministry event in UPLCII/YUFC history, hosted by H.M. King High School in Kingsville, Texas.
- Growth in campus ministry interest across our districts.
- A fresh approach to Sunrise Devotionals and Breakout Sessions.
- Vision planning for YUFC's future with the Board of Directors.
- A new ministry operations guide developed by our board.
- Updates to our website, YUFC Google phone number, and a YouTube page.

NATIONAL YUFC DIRECTOR LETTER

- Recaps of each ministry event with highlights and accomplishments.
- Official visits by board members as well as our annual financial report.

Pastors, Youth Leaders, and UPLCII Family! I encourage you to support your youth by bringing them to camp and empowering them to launch campus ministries. Watch what the Lord will do when young people say “yes” to His call. This is just the beginning.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the YUFC Board. Ministry often requires us to sacrifice time, finances, and energy. I am so thankful for each of you who have served faithfully and beautifully for the glory of God.

In November 2024, God brought a new season into my life, moving me four hours away from home, yet still connected to this beautiful fellowship we call UPLCII. I want to personally thank Emmanuel Christian Church for your love, support, and encouragement during this transition. To my pastors, Rev. Roel and Deborah Mejia, and my Living Stones World Outreach church family, thank you for your continued love, correction, support, and for being a source of strength in my life as I embrace this season of adulthood.

And above all, I give glory to Jesus Christ, the one we serve with all our heart, soul, and mind. He alone is worthy. Everything we have seen and will continue to witness is because of Him.

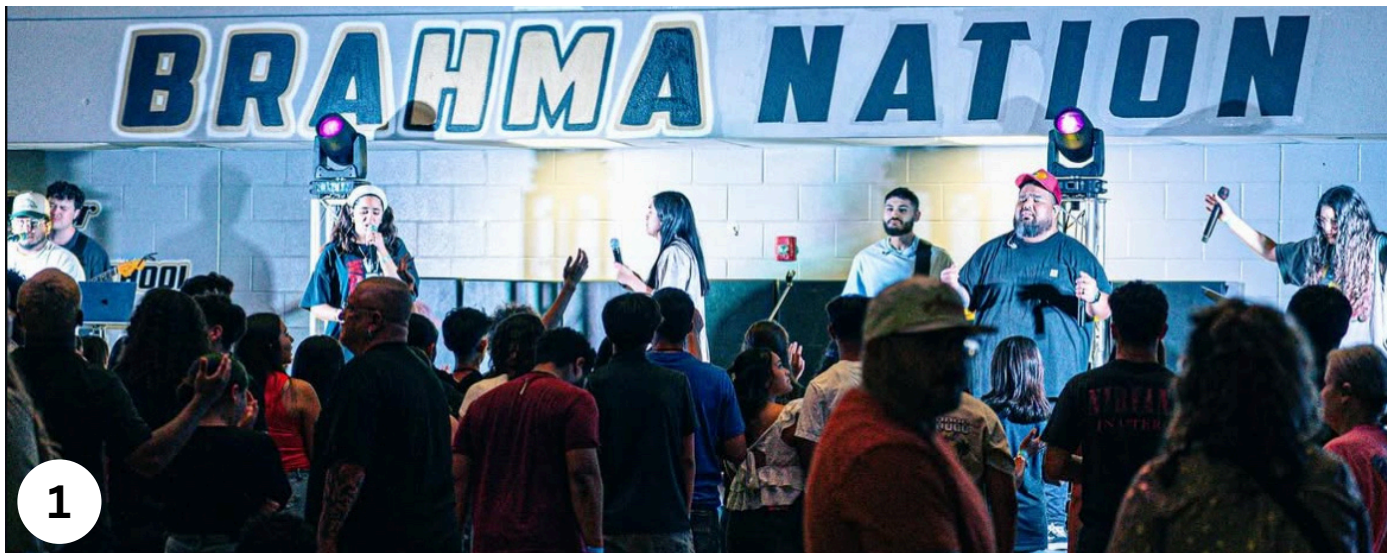
May we continue to fan the flame, stir the gifts, and keep our Hearts on Fire for the glory of God.

To God be the glory, in the Church and forevermore.



Exht. Joshua Macareno

YEAR AT A GLANCE



For the first time in UPLCII and YUFC history, a student-led event was organized by Jeremiah Macareno of the Corpus Christi District and H.M. King Young Ambassadors Campus Ministry. Over 200 attended, with more than 150 responding to the gospel and over 20 baptized.



We have witnessed a growing move in campus ministries, and we are excited to see what the Lord is doing. Several ministries have now even begun taking root in intermediate schools, reaching students at a younger age.



This year, the Board of Directors made the decision to take a new approach to our Sunrise Devotionals. In order to create a more personal experience and foster stronger relationships with other churches, we have restructured the schedule. On Day 1, the gathering will begin with Coffee Chats. Following that, Day 2 will feature a meaningful time of prayer and worship in the Great Hall. Finally, the series will conclude on the last day with a special Sunrise Service.



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4. The board has been actively discussing ways to improve camp operations, cast vision for YUFC's future, and create resources to empower future leaders.

6. Recaps of each ministry event featuring highlights, accomplishments, and official visits from board members.

5. YUFC has been refreshing our website to include photos from past events, a resources page to support churches, and a calendar of upcoming events. We have also launched a Google phone number for official YUFC business and documentation purposes: (830) 299-7586, where texts and calls are answered by our National Director. Additionally, we have also created a YUFC YouTube channel featuring past Ezra Generation videos, with more content on the way.

YUFC MINISTRIES



YUFC RECAPS

1. College & Career - Pursuit 2024 (Nov 22-23, Cathedral of Faith Church, San Antonio)

Marked only the second year of this new young adult conference. Centered on the theme *“Remnants”*, attendees were called to embrace the conviction and faithfulness exemplified by biblical figures like Caleb, who had a *“different spirit”* and *“followed God fully”* (Numbers 13-14). Stories of remnants such as Abraham, Moses, and Pentecost illustrated that where faithful followers remain, God’s fire continues to burn. The conference also featured RealTalk breakout sessions addressing topics such as deconstruction, the book of Revelation, and spiritual laziness. The event concluded with calls for salvation, repentance, and confirmation of ministry callings. Many surrendered their lives to Christ while others answered “yes” to the call to preach, teach, disciple, serve, and even pastor. *Special thanks to Roger Castillo Jr., Elias Colunga, Tarik Whitmore, and the entire Cathedral of Faith team.*

2. College & Career - Spring Fellowship 2025 (Mar 21-22, SeaWorld San Antonio)

Took us into uncharted, refreshing territory, transforming a theme park into a tent of worship. The opening night reflected on Paul’s storm-tossed journey in Acts 27. The message was clear: “What voice are you really listening to?” Like the sailors, young adults were urged to release the cargo that does not give life. The night ended in freedom as burdens, excuses, and addictions were laid down at the cross. The following day featured a group picnic, a team-building scavenger hunt, roller coasters, and killer whales, all serving as a reminder of God’s unexpected but beautiful design. After the picnic, the group built an altar, worshiped, and read the Word of God. Taking inspiration from Matthew 14, the fellowship prayed, “Lord, if it is You, command me and I will go.”

Efforts continued to start-up and guide both college campuses and broader young adult ministries. A six-part curriculum titled “Secured: The Assurance of an All-Sufficient Shepherd,” a verse-by-verse study of Psalm 23, was developed and made freely available online at uplciiyufc.com/kappachi/. This resource has been successfully implemented across several young adult groups.

From worship in cathedrals to Bible studies beside whales, each gathering has been a testimony to the God who still calls, equips, and sends. As the ministry looks ahead, the vision remains rooted in trust, obedience, and a firm belief that He who began a good work is faithful to complete it.

- It is a good land which the Lord is about to give us (Deut. 1:25).
- Don’t give up the ship.
- God did not bring you this far to only bring you this far.
- Kappa Chi Never Dies.

3. Young Ambassadors - Winter Summit 2025 (Feb 22, Camp Zephyr Sandia, Texas)

Young Ambassadors (YA) is a student-led Bible club that empowers students to take initiative in their faith journey by creating a space for worship, biblical teaching, and fellowship on middle and high school campuses. Each meeting is organized and led by students, with the support of a curriculum designed to guide them through essential elements such as icebreakers, a short sermon, and worship planning.

The heart of YA is to develop young leaders who are unashamed to share the Gospel and provide a consistent, Christ-centered environment where students can grow spiritually and build strong, Godly relationships.

Despite the threat of freezing weather, the Winter Summit carried on, growing from 48 attendees last year to over 70 (a **46%** increase). The event featured worship, breakout sessions, and a powerful message, with many students experiencing breakthrough, spiritual renewal, and a renewed boldness to lead on their campuses. This year’s focus centered on spiritual awakening and the fear of the Lord, reminding students of America’s biblical foundation and how recent legal changes have limited religious expression in schools. We challenged them to view their schools as mission fields and to rise up as Christ’s Ambassadors, bringing revival to their campuses.

4. Discovery Expo & Bible Drill

The Discovery Expo encourages the youth of YUFC to use their God-given gifts, offering students an opportunity to develop their talents for the advancement of God's Kingdom in their schools, churches, and communities. In 2024, a total of 10 Discovery Expo participants and 4 Bible Drill participants advanced to Nationals. At Youth Camp, our Discovery Expo session time was reduced to one hour, creating more opportunities for recreation, fellowship, and other activities.

Last year, both Discovery Expo and Bible Drill were able to award the top 3 overall winners with items to help expand their gifts. Discovery Expo prizes included:

- 1st Place: 2023 iPad
- 2nd Place: \$250 gift card / in-ear monitors
- 3rd Place: \$150 gift card / in-ear monitors
-

Bible Drill prizes included:

- 1st Place: Hebrew/Greek Study Bible with a gift basket
- 2nd Place: \$250 gift card and leather journal
- 3rd Place: \$150 gift card and leather journal

These prizes were made possible through prayer, sponsorships, and generous donations.

This year, the guidelines changed from advancing the top 3 participants per district to Nationals to now advancing the top 5, which increases opportunities for students to participate and grow. YUFC has seen strong growth and rising interest in this ministry. For 2025, Discovery Expo will feature 12 participants at Youth Camp (a **20%** increase from last year).

Additionally, we were excited to welcome the Brazos Valley District into the Discovery Expo and Bible Drill family, bringing our total to 8 districts, with 6 of those 8 actively participating in the 2025 events. It is clear that God is doing something powerful in the lives of our youth, and we're grateful to be a part of it.

4. Leadership Roundtable

On January 11, 2025, YUFC hosted its Annual Leadership Roundtable. During this gathering, our team unveiled the theme for the year, shared details about the upcoming Bible Drill and Discovery Expo, and provided valuable resources for Young Ambassadors and Kappa Chi campus ministries. A key focus of the meeting was ensuring every church received the information and materials they needed to thrive in the year ahead.

Despite challenges with some districts hosting conflicting events, we maintained the same number of attendees as last year. A testament to the dedication of our district leaders. Our breakout sessions focused on topics, including cultivating a culture for youth and young adults, discovering your gifts and talents, reaching your campus and community for Jesus, and creating a house of prayer. It was a powerful time of equipping, connection, and vision casting for the year ahead.

4. Ezra Generation

The Ezra Generation initiative continues to challenge and equip young people to boldly live out their faith. Youth groups and individuals alike are invited to enlist by making a simple but meaningful commitment:

For Youth Groups:

- Weekly Prayer: Commit to fasting and praying every Tuesday for the youth of America.
- Bible Reading: Integrate a Bible reading program within your youth ministry.
- Discipleship Month: Set aside one month each year to intentionally teach and equip students in building a personal devotional life.

For Individuals:

Encourage youth to personally enlist by:

- Committing to read the Bible in a year as part of their devotional routine.
- Carrying their Bible to school every day as a bold witness for Christ.

In addition, every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month was dedicated to Zoom Bible studies with pastors, ministers, youth, and young adults from across the nation. Alongside these studies, participants committed to fasting every Tuesday on behalf of the youth and young adults of America.

To make these resources more accessible, our Bible studies are now available for viewing on our official YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@UPLCIIYUFC>.

YUFC VISITS AND OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES 2024 - 2025

Note: at least one or more YUFC Board Members were present at any of the events listed below.

July 26-29, 2024 - Evangelism Now UPLCII 89th Convention | Corpus Christi, Texas
July 6, 2024 - Houston District Youth Rally at Templo Trigo Limpio | Houston, Texas
July 7, 2024 - Sunday Morning Church Service at Templo Trigo Limpio | Houston, Texas
July 14, 2024 - Sunday Morning Church Service at Templo Emmanuel | Wasco, California
July 21, 2024 - Bethel Seminary Graduation | UPLCII Headquarters Kenedy, Texas
July 21, 2024 - 70th Kingdom Church Anniversary | Kingsville, Texas
August 9, 2024 - YUFC RGV Summer Pop-Up | Edinburg, Texas
August 9, 2024 - Faith and Victory Church Youth Lock-In | Robstown, Texas
August 10, 2024 - Summer Night Fest at New Wine Church | San Antonio, Texas
August 11, 2024 - Back to School Blessing at New Life Church | Georgetown, Texas
August 17, 2024 - Emmanuel Christian Church Hope Conference | Kingsville, Texas
August 17, 2024 - Central District Back to School Service at Kingsway Church | Beeville, Texas
August 24-25, 2024 - Emmanuel Christian Church 75th Church Anniversary | Kingsville, Texas
September 6-7, 2024 - Celebration of Life of Rev. Rogelio Faragoza Sr. | Kingsville, Texas
September 14, 2024 - Never Lost Again YUFC RGV Tour | Progreso, Texas
September 29, 2024 - Living Stones World Outreach Sunday Service | College Station, Texas
October 5, 2024 - Corpus Christi District Royal Ranger Day Camp | Robstown, Texas
October 11-12, 2024 - National Sunday School Conference | Kenedy, Texas
October 12, 2024 - Maria Lonzo Dedication of Gravestone | Kingsville, Texas
October 23, 2024 - Fields of Faith @ Texas A&M University - Kingsville, Texas
October 24, 2024 - YUFC National Board Meeting | Virtual
November 9, 2024 - National Ministry Leaders Conference | UPLCII Headquarters Kenedy, Texas
November 22-23, 2024 - Pursuit Conference
December 28, 2024 - National UPLCII Royal Ranger Foundation Training | Edinburg, Texas
December 29, 2024 - Emmanuel Christian Church Sunday Morning Service | Kingsville, Texas
December 29, 2024 - ECC Pastoral Installation Service | Kingsville, Texas

YUFC VISITS AND OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES 2024 - 2025

January 11, 2025 - YUFC Leadership Roundtable
January 25, 2025 - YUFC National Board Meeting | Beeville, Texas
February 1, 2025 - Brazos Valley District Youth Rally | Coldwell, Texas
February 6-5, 2025- Pastor's Wives Fellowship | Kenedy, Texas
February 8, 2025 - YUFC National Board Meeting | Virtual
February 12, 2025 - Templo Sulamita Youth Service | Bryan, Texas
February 16, 2025 - Wedding of Mr. Robert & Mrs. Tabitha Gray | Franklin, Texas
February 22, 2025 - Winter Summit
February 22, 2025 - YUFC National Board Meeting
March 1, 2025 - Rio Grande Valley Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Edinburg, Texas
March 7, 2025 - Evergreen Bible Study @ UTRGV | Edinburg, Texas
March 15, 2025 - Corpus Christi District Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Kingsville, Texas
March 21-22, 2025 - YUFC Spring Fellowship
March 29, 2025 - Templo Sulamita 60th Church Anniversary | Bryan, Texas
March 29, 2025 - Austin District Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Virtual
April 5, 2025 - San Antonio District Youth Rally | Pearsall, Texas
April 26, 2025 - Central District Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Beeville, Texas
April 27, 2025 - Emmanuel Christian Church Sunday Service | Kingsville, Texas
May 2, 2025 - H.M. King High School YA Night of Freedom | Kingsville, Texas
May 3, 2025 - Rio Grande Valley YUFC Youth Rally "No Other Name" | Edinburg, Texas
May 10, 2025 - Corpus Christi District Youth Rally | Rockport, Texas
May 11, 2025 - ECC Sunday Service | Kingsville, Texas
May 17, 2025 - Brazos Valley District Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Bryan, Texas
May 24, 2025 - San Antonio District Discovery Expo & Bible Drill | Virtual
May 25, 2025 - Faith and Victory Graduation Sunday Service | Robstown, Texas

Annual Report

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