

**National Day Thanksgiving Service 2022:** Christians in Singapore will gather for worship and prayer on Thursday, 18 August to celebrate Singapore's 57<sup>th</sup> National Day at St Andrew's Cathedral New Sanctuary. Organised annually by NCCS, it will be open to a larger gathering of worshippers since the easing of Covid-19 restrictive measures for places of worship. Over the years, the National Day Thanksgiving Service (NDTS) has been attended by pastors and church leaders and Christians from all walks of life, including Christian Members of Parliament. This year's speaker will be Bishop Dr Gordon Wong, Bishop of the Methodist Church in Singapore and Vice-President of NCCS. He will preach on the topic "Peaceful Peacemakers" based on James 3: 13 –18. Invitations will be sent to pastors and churches in due course.

**NCCS Office:** The existing NCCS office has been located at The Adelphi since August 2002. After nearly 20 years, we are moving our office to a new location just across the road at #06-14/15/16 Peninsular Plaza. It promises to be a more conducive place to hold meetings and to welcome local and overseas visitors. Presently, renovation work is being carried out at the new premises and we hope to move the NCCS office by mid-August. We shall inform you when re-location is completed.

**Advance Care Planning (ACP)** is a national programme anchored by Agency for Integrated Care (AIC). ACP is the process of planning for one's current and future healthcare. As pastors, in addition to caring for the spiritual needs of our flock, we may also wish to consider matters concerning their general and physical well-being. Some of the benefits of ACP are:

- ACP helps individuals to communicate to significant people (for example, family members) and the healthcare team about their values and how these values shape their healthcare preferences. However, ACP is non-legally binding.
- In the event that the individual is no longer able to make decisions or speak for themselves, the ACP guides the decision makers to act in their best interest.
- Individuals who have done their ACP avoided unnecessary or overly aggressive medical treatments.
- Families of people who have done their ACP experienced less anxiety, less stress, and were clearer about what decisions to make.
- Anyone can start their ACP today regardless of their age or health condition. But ACP is particularly important for people who have a chronic illness, an early cognitive impairment, are frail or approaching the end of life.

For more information on ACP, you may visit the webpage <https://www.aic.sg/care-services/advance-care-planning>

**What is Creation Care SG?:** This is a Christian community that aims to inspire and equip fellow believers and churches in Singapore to love and care for God's creation. They educate interested persons about creation care, guide others to experience God's love through His creation, and engage with local churches and schools to catalyse practical change. Here is an excellent opportunity to find out more about Creation Care by attending their inaugural conference from 9 – 10 September 2022. The theme for the conference is *The Garden of Eden: Christ's Creation, Our Care*. The meaning of the theme is threefold: firstly, a reminder of our creation mandate to steward God's creation, the earth; secondly, a prayer for God to breathe new life into the Church's effort to reclaim our roles as caretakers of creation; thirdly, to point us to our future hope when all creation is renewed upon Christ's return.

The conference will feature keynote and plenary sessions, 12 workshops across four tracks, marketplace booths, and cross-pollination sessions. The four tracks are: (1) Living Sustainably: Tending to the Garden; (2) Theology of Creation Care: Digging into Scripture; (3) Missions & Environmental Justice: Sowing Seeds of Justice; (4) Appreciation & Rest: Resting in the Garden. We invite you to find out more about the conference at <https://bit.ly/CCCONFERENCE22>

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*NCCS appreciates your positive feedback on its monthly e-newsletter. We encourage you to share this e-newsletter with other church leaders and members of your congregation for their information. Thank you.*