

NCCS Update (November 2021)

Families for Life @ Community (FFLC). One of the projects of the Ministry of Social and Family Development is the FFLC. Through its Family Development Group, MSF invites churches to be its partners in the FFLC parenting programmes. So far, NCCS has assisted three member churches to be partners in this project. Should your local church be approached by MSF through NCCS, we encourage pastors and church leaders to consider favourably a partnership in the FFLC's parenting programmes.

NCCS Book Now Available. We communicated in the September E-newsletter that the first print run of 1000 copies of the NCCS book, "Homosexuality, the Bible and the Church", very quickly went out of stock. We are pleased to inform you that a reprint of 500 copies of the book is now available at the Bible House. The price remains at \$10 per copy. You may place your order <u>online</u>. We have also decided that the profits from the sale of these 500 copies will be channelled to the ministry of the <u>Ethos Institute</u> for Public Christianity.

Two Projects. At its General Committee meeting held on 28 October, NCCS endorsed the following two projects and encourages churches to support them. The details are as follows:

- Following the NCCS publication of "Homosexuality, the Bible and the Church" a group of Christians led by Mr Jason Wong felt that it was an appropriate time to develop "The Faith and Sexuality Resource". This is a basic course involving a video series for discussion groups covering the subject of sexuality based on the Biblical narrative. For more information, please visit this <u>link</u>.
- Adullam Life Counselling addresses debt and financial woes among members of the Christian community who are not spared such unfortunate experiences. Rev Vincent Lee, whose team has brought hope to many, is availing this service to churches facing such challenges. For more information, please visit this <u>link</u>.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) 2022. In the past eight years, various Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Orthodox churches and The Salvation Army have hosted prayer services locally. In fact, the Bible Society of Singapore graciously hosted this year's prayer service. The WPCU is observed in Singapore annually from 18 to 25 January. Initiated in 1908 by Father Paul Wattson, SA, founder of the Society of the Atonement at Graymoor, New York, the dates cover the original days of the feasts of the Chair of St. Peter on 18 January and the Conversion of St. Paul on 25 January, and therefore bear symbolic significance.

With a history of more than 113 years, the purpose of the annual week of prayer is to gather Christians throughout the world to pray together and move closer towards the fulfilment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper, "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). The 2022 theme is: "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him" (Matt 2:2). More than ever, during these difficult times, we need a light that shines in the darkness and that light, Christians proclaim, has been manifested in Jesus Christ.

The dates and venues of the host churches for WPCU 2022 are still being finalised. To date, baring any changes, the following prayer services will be held on:

- 18 January (Tue), 7.30pm Church of St. Alphonsus (Novena Church)
- 24 January (Mon), 8pm The Salvation Army Singapore Central Corps
- 25 January (Tue), 8pm Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

Kindly refer to the NCCS website for more information regarding dates and venues. NCCS also encourages your support of other member churches which have been regularly organising prayer meetings or prayer summits to uphold the body of Christ and its witness in our society and in the world.