

NCCS Update (May 2023)

National Family Week (NFW) will be observed on 3 - 11 June. A good number of churches will be emphasising the importance of family and family values at their worship services during that week. They will also be highlighting the programmes of their local churches and denominations that promote family values in their announcements and church bulletins. It is our hope that NFW will be an occasion to remind everyone that the Church in Singapore fully supports family values which will invariably strengthen the foundations of church and society.

If your church would like to help publicise the various programmes taking place in and around our island during the National Family Week (3 - 11 June), you may share the information with your congregation using this <u>LINK</u>. In addition, MSF has also provided these messages to be used as quotes for other forms of publicity in your church or organisation. See this <u>LINK</u>

NDTS 2023: This year's National Day Thanksgiving Service will be held on Thursday, 17 August at 7.45pm in the Cathedral New Sanctuary, St Andrew's Cathedral. NCCS President, Bishop Lu Guan Hoe will be the speaker. He was recently interviewed by Salt and Light. See <u>LINK</u>.

NDTS invitations will be sent to churches in due course and we welcome individuals as well as groups representing your church. Seating reservations will be made for your church group if you inform us. It will be the first time that we are resuming light refreshments after the service to encourage fellowship among those who attend the NDTS. We look forward to worship and to pray together as Christians in Singapore at NDTS 2023.

An Engagement Session on the revised Code of Governance, jointly organised by MCCY and NCCS was held on 17 May 2023 at St Andrew's Cathedral. You may recall that the Charity Council published the revised Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of Public Character earlier on 4 April. The revised Code will take effect from the charities' financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2024. It aims to raise the standards of governance in the charity sector and instil confidence in Singaporeans to support charities and their causes.

The engagement session was held to facilitate the sharing of the key changes to the revised Code of Governance and governance best practices. The session included a Panel Discussion and Q & A. On the panel was Mr Desmond Chin (Commissioner of Charities), Ms Theresa Goh (Chairperson, Charity Council), Dr Caroline Lim (Head, SUSS) and Mr Richard Jeremiah (Member, Code Sub-Committee and former Treasurer of NCCS).

Some 230 pastors and church leaders from various churches and Christian organisations attended the session. The sharing was timely and informative and the Q & A following the panel discussion were robust. The opportunity to seek clarification, provide feedback and discuss practical concerns with the Commissioner of Charities and the Charity Council was appreciated by those who attended. See PHOTOS.

You may view the PowerPoint slides of the presentations here <u>PPT</u>. You may also refer to more information on the Code of Governance at this <u>LINK</u>.