

The 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the National Council of Churches of Singapore will be held on 24 July 2024. We are honoured to have Senior Minister Lee Hsien Loong as our Guest of Honour. NCCS member churches and organisations and guests will be receiving the invitation to the Golden Jubilee celebrations from the middle of May.

NCCS was established in 1974, a few years after the independence of Singapore. The Thanksgiving Dinner programme will include:

- A 50th Anniversary commemorative booklet
- A fund-raising project for two charities
- The launch of a new NCCS logo
- Video clips to share the story of NCCS
- Pre-recorded well wishes from member churches and organisations

We also look forward to a blessed time of fellowship at this significant milestone of NCCS.

NFF Update. The Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) is gearing up for the National Family Festival (NFF) throughout the month of June, coinciding with the school holidays. This festival boasts an array of engaging events held from 25 May to 17 June at Garden by the Bay, and on several June weekends at different venues on our island.

It is an opportune moment for churches to take the lead in promoting strong family values within their communities, aligning with the ethos that Christians uphold beyond merely addressing negative family issues. Here are some ways in which churches can work with MSF:

- Plan camps, programmes and activities in June that emphasise the importance of family bonds. MSF can provide support through materials and parent-child activity kits.
- Coordinate with MSF to reserve slots for church members to participate in NFF events, ensuring that they can actively engage in the festivities.
- Integrate church family-centric events with the broader offerings of the NFF, maximising synergy and community involvement.
- Publicise family activities leveraging church communication channels to encourage members' participation using MSF's marketing kit as in this [LINK](#).

We encourage churches to plan their June activities with NFF in mind.

The Annual General Meeting of NCCS was held on 25 April. The AGM for the 2023-2025 term of office was held at the Chapel For All Peoples, St Andrew's Cathedral since our office was not large enough to accommodate the attendance of more than 40 persons. Members heard the President, Bishop Lu Guan Hoe's message and presentations of several reports, including the Council's representative to the Board of Visitors for SAF Detention Barracks, Rev Eric Ang. The meeting also heard Rev Dr Chris Chia (Vice-President) share about the challenges that many churches are facing in the area of Preschool Ministries. The Exco has submitted an appeal to the authorities to help address some major difficulties for churches operating Preschool Ministries. We thank God for this opportunity to continue laying sound and solid foundations for young lives in our society.

After the AGM, members adjourned for a time of fellowship over light refreshments as church leaders renewed friendships and made new acquaintances. [Message Bishop's Message & Photos](#)

Annual Submissions by Charities (Churches and Christian organisations). The Commissioner of Charities (COC) would like to remind all churches that the annual submission of annual reports and the annual financial statements to the COC is mandatory. All annual submissions are due within six months from the charity's financial year end. Churches and Christian organisations are encouraged to respond as part of Christian responsibility and good governance.