

NCCS Update (June 2024)

NCCS 50th Anniversary Celebrations. The National Council of Churches of Singapore (NCCS) will celebrate its Golden Jubilee with a Thanksgiving Dinner on 24 July 2024 at The Barracks Hotel, Sentosa.

We are honoured to have as our Guest of Honour, Senior Minister Lee Hsien Loong, to mark this milestone of the NCCS, which was established shortly after the independence of Singapore.

More than 200 persons have already confirmed their attendance and these include representatives of NCCS member churches and organisations, Christian leaders and partners-in-ministry, heads of religious organisations and special guests. As part of the celebrations, all guests will receive a 50th Anniversary commemorative booklet. Video clips of the story of NCCS will be screened during the dinner.

NCCS will also be fund raising for two remarkable charities. They are the Ethos Institute for Public Christianity and New Life Stories. We hope local churches, organisations and individuals will come forward to support the commendable work of these charities. DONATION LINK

NDTS 2024. Join us for the National Day Thanksgiving Service (NDTS) on Thursday 15 August at 7.45 pm in the Cathedral New Sanctuary, St Andrew's Cathedral! During the service, NCCS Vice President Rt Rev Dr Christopher Chia will deliver a message on "Christ, Culture & Country", based on 1 Peter 2:9-12. Toa Payoh Methodist Church's music team and handbell ringers will lead us in uplifting worship. NCCS Exco members will be leading in different parts of the service. The congregation will also be blessed by an inter-denominational Christian choir, the Cantate Domino.

Following the service, do enjoy light refreshments and warm fellowship with other worshippers. Don't miss this opportunity to come together with Christians across Singapore to worship and to pray. Encourage your church members to join us! You may use this publicity poster to share with your congregation. PUBLICITY

Garden of Peace (GOP), the inland ash scattering (IAS) facility at Choa Chu Kang Cemetery will commence ash soil transfer works from June 2024 undertaken by National Environment Agency (NEA). Ash soil from the four lanes will be transferred away in a respectful manner from the scattering lanes and to a designated site within the GOP, so that the lanes can be used once again by other members of the public and for many years into the future. As the works at the lanes will be taking place in phases, affected lanes will be closed. Meanwhile, members of the public can continue to access and use other lanes. For public safety, visitors are reminded to keep out of the closed off areas. NEA will provide updates on details of maintenance works on https://go.gov.sg/inland-ash-scattering.

OnePeople.sg (OPSG) aims to deepen interfaith understanding and collaboration between religious communities at congregant levels. It recently conducted a pilot between St Hilda's Church (Anglican) and Masjid Khalid. It was the first meeting between leaders and followers between the two faith communities and "it brought forth a fruitful engagement". Congregants of both faiths visited each other's places of worship; learning about each other's key tenets, values and norms, engaging in dialogues, as well as facilitated discussions about collaborative ideas to foster interfaith action. Since the engagement, St Hilda's Church has participated in a joint iftar with Masjid Khalid and the pastors have shared about fasting in the Christian faith and observed Ramadan.

OPSG's next initiative is planned with Khong Meng San Phor Kark See Monastery and Zion Bishan Bible-Presbyterian Church. They hope to expand the initiative to more religious institutions. OSPG is open to share more with church leaders on the Inter-religious Open House initiative where ordinary church members can relate with those of other faiths. Here is the brief INFORMATION DECK