

**Fellowship with Church Leaders.** The NCCS leadership believes in building bridges of understanding and friendship with other church leaders. The third in the series of fellowship with church leaders over lunch was held on 19 July, hosted by Exco members Bishop Lu Guan Hoe (President), Bishop Dr Titus Chung (Vice-President), Rev Dr Ngoei Foong Nghian (Gen Sec), Elder Kevin Lee (Treasurer) and Rev Edwin Tan (Assoc Gen Sec). Our guests at the leaders' lunch were:

- Senior Pastor Jeremy Seaward of Victory Family Centre
- Senior Pastor Rev Daniel Khong of Faith Community Baptist Church
- Senior Pastor Charleston Lim of Heart of God Church
- Pastor Edric Sng, Chief Editor of Salt and Light, and Deputy Senior Pastor of Bethesda Bedok-Tampines Church
- Mr Chua Kok Wan, Executive Director of Prison Fellowship Services

NCCS leaders were heartened to learn that church attendance had mostly recovered to pre-pandemic levels and that the return to onsite worship was appreciated by younger worshippers. It was interesting to hear from the younger generation of senior pastors and how they minister to parishioners much older than them. The church leaders also appreciated the opportunity to meet other church leaders and to hear from each other's unique contributions as represented around the table. While we are united in purpose, we all recognise that God has blessed the church in Singapore through a wide variety of ministries and services. Indeed, the warm fellowship was both encouraging and inspiring. [PHOTO](#)

**Visitors to NCCS Office.** Several leaders of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore paid a visit to the NCCS office on 28 June 2023. They were welcomed by Rev Dr Ngoei and Rev Edwin Tan who shared about the service and ministry of NCCS, and also the organisational structure of the Council. Our visitors also shared about their work and the Catholic Spirituality Centre for spiritual direction, retreat and lay training. It was a wonderful time of exchanging updates on the Christian scene in Singapore and also the developments within the Catholic church.

We appreciate the visit and the friendship of Monsignor Peter Zhang (Vicar General, Inter-religious and Ecumenical Relations), Arthur Goh (Academic Director, Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore), Dr Kevin Wee (Lecturer, Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore) and Gerald Kong (Executive Secretary, Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Ecumenical Dialogue and Archdiocesan Catholic Council for Inter-religious Dialogue). [PHOTO](#)

**14<sup>th</sup> Harmony Games** was held on Saturday, 15 July 2023 at the Northlight School. This year, the Harmony Games was held under the auspices of the Hindu Endowments Board and Hindu Advisory Board. With the support of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), the Harmony Games have been helmed by various faith communities in Singapore on a rotational basis since 2008, when NCCS organised the first in the series.

With the theme “Playing Our Hearts Out Harmoniously”, the event galvanised some 200 participants from different ethnic and faith communities who came together to play a suite of competitive and non-competitive games. Next year’s Harmony Games will be organised by the Catholic Church. [PHOTOS](#)

**Big Data Science and AI:** In May 2023, the Bioethics Advisory Committee (BAC) published a consultation paper ‘Ethical, Legal and Social Issues Arising from Big Data and Artificial Intelligence Use in Human Biomedical Research’. NCCS accepted the invitation from the BAC to comment on the paper and participate in the consultation.

The Council begins its paper by commending the BAC for a substantive and well-thought contribution to the ongoing discourse on the use of big data and artificial intelligence in human biomedical research. It then presents a theological framework informed by Scripture and tradition within which Christian reflections on these issues must be conducted. The paper then proceeds to discuss two fundamental principles from the Christian perspective, namely, human dignity and the common good, and their implications to big data science and the use of A.I. for human biomedical research. To read the NCCS paper, please visit this [LINK](#).

**NDTS 2023:** The 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 preach from Psalm 67: 1-7 on the topic “May all the people praise you, God”. Bishop Lu’s message will be in Mandarin with English interpretation. Participants include the music team of Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church and the choir of God’s Kingdom Bread of Life Church. The Exco of NCCS will also lead the congregation in a time of prayer.

We thank you for your early responses and appreciate the churches that have requested for group seat reservations. Our office will be in touch with you at the appropriate time. We will also be serving light refreshments after the service to encourage fellowship among worshippers at the NDTS. Let us come to worship and to pray together as Christians in Singapore at the NDTS 2023.

You may use these publicity posters to share with your congregation. They are in two languages: [ENGLISH](#) [CHINESE](#)