

NCCS Update (March 2024)

Church and Society in a Post-Truth Era is the title of the ETHOS Seminar 2024. In 2016, Oxford Dictionary named 'post-truth' as the word of the year. In a sense, this development is not surprising. Numerous social commentators have noticed increasing scepticism over objective facts offered by experts and authority figures. What are the implications of this significant shift in cultural sensibility for the church and society in Singapore? This Ethos seminar seeks to explore this and other related issues.

The speakers for this seminar are Mr Edwin Tong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for Law, and Dr Mark Chan, Professor of Systematic Theology at Trinity Theological College. It will be held at Bible House, 7 Armenian Street on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 7.30pm – 9.30pm. For more information, please visit this LINK.

15th **Harmony Games Report.** This year's Harmony Games, organised by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese, was held on 2 March 2024 at the Assumption English School (AES) and Assumption Pathway School, with the support of MCCY. Participants engaged in a variety of games including futsal, captain's ball, and e-sports featuring games like Mobile Legends and Puyo Puyo.

Starting as early as 7:30 am, participants gathered for breakfast together. An Opening Ceremony set the stage for the day's events and by 9 am, participants eagerly took to their respective game areas, prepared for challenging yet enjoyable competition. Under the theme "Getting to Know You More", teams were organised with players from diverse religious and civic backgrounds, fostering friendships among the youths. In addition, there were engaging fringe activities such as DartsLive, HADO, and VR experiences, facilitating further interaction and learning opportunities among participants.

The closing ceremony for participants, graced by MCCY Minister Edwin Tong and hosted by Cardinal William Goh, was attended by various religious leaders, with NCCS represented by Bishop Lu Guan Hoe. The flag for hosting the 2025 Harmony Games was then ceremoniously passed on to next year's organisers, the Singapore Taoist Federation. All guests and participants were then treated to a sumptuous lunch. PHOTOS.

Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA). NCCS, in partnership with the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) is organising a sharing session on the LPA and Advanced Care Planning. The sharing session will include the following:

- The importance of making an LPA
- How to make an online LPA
- What churches may consider when organising their own talks and certification sessions
- Resource package that churches may use to organise their own talks and certification sessions.

It will be held on **11 April 2024 at St Andrew's Cathedral from 8.30am to 11am**. We welcome your church representatives to attend the sharing session. Please register at this <u>LINK</u>.

Crisis Preparedness for Religious Organisations (CPRO) aims to raise the security awareness of religious organisations as well as to enhance their capabilities in managing a wide range of crises. The Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) invites your church to participate in this self-assessment checklist. Details are found in this <u>LINK</u>.