



CCM NEWSLINK

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF MALAYSIA

26 Jalan Universiti, 46200 Petaling Jaya TEL: 03-79567092 FAX: 03-79560353 EMAIL: cchurchm1948@gmail.com
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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

12/12/13

DECEMBER 2013

Christmas is solidarity with God!

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us” (John 1: 14).

The incarnation is the culminating idea of the Christmas story. It is faith’s sure guarantee that God-is-with-us, for in the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem, all humanity heralds God’s new age of salvation and transformation.

For generations the prophets had looked for and dreamed of a new world, where God’s righteousness, justice and peace would be restored to a fallen creation. Jesus is our Immanuel, and therefore in our believe in His Lordship, we are able to view all aspects of our human experiences in the light of His redemption and grace.

In essence, therefore, Christmas is about God’s solidarity with Christ’s work of the Kingdom in our world. For while the Word became flesh in Jesus Christ, God’s Word and Spirit is incarnate in our lives every time we commit ourselves to works of love, compassion, justice and peace.

In the course of this year there were many significant events when CCM shared in solidarity with God’s transforming work in our midst.

We dedicated our new Ecumenical Center on the 23rd of April, and since then we had offered sacred space and facilities to

bring Christians together to strengthen unity, witness and service in our society. We continue to stand in solidarity with churches and others to work for a just and peaceful Malaysia where the fundamental rights of all citizens, espe-



WISHING YOU A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

cially the freedom of religion, will be respected and protected.

At the WCC 10th General Assembly that was held in Busan, S. Korea (30th Oct –8th Nov. 2013) we stood in solidarity with churches around the globe, when they prayed and committed themselves to engaging in God’s mission in the spirit of the theme; *“ God of Life, lead us to justice and peace”*

Over the Advent period we are standing in solidarity with the millions of people in the Philippines, who suffered the devastating effects of the typhoon Haiyan. Even as we pray

for the victims and encourage churches to support our appeal for funds, humanitarian work and urgent aid is being delivered to the people though ecumenical aid agencies.

That is why, Christmas can never remain an isolated event only to be celebrated at the end of the year. Every time we respond to Christ’s work in the world; we shall *“ make the Gospel happen”*, and hold up a light of hope for those who need it.

The Executive Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all member churches, associated organizations, and friends and supporters of CCM for their commitment to build the ecumenical movement in our country, through their generous donations towards the building project.

“ ... in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it; (John 1: 4-5).

With these words of hope, we wish each and everyone a meaningful Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Rev. Dr. Hermen Shastri
General Secretary



Uncover the Wellsprings of Trust in God .

AN ECUMENICAL JOURNEY WITH BROTHER GHISLAIN ANDREAS OF TAIZE

When:

11th & 12th December 2013
Where: CCM Ecumenical Center
26 jalan Universiti,
46200 Petaling Jaya

Time: 9.00am

Registration is FREE

For more information and to register kindly contact
taizemalaysia@gmail.com or cchurchm1948@gmail.com;

CFM CHRISTMAS HI TEA



The Chairman and Executive Committee of the Christian Federation of Malaysia

(CFM) together with His Grace Most

Reverend Tan Sri Murphy Pakiam

Catholic Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur

will be hosting a Christmas Hi Tea

Venue : Rumah Uskup Agung,

Bukit Nanas , K.Lumpur

Date: on 25th December Time: 4pm

The Prime Minister will be gracing the occasion.

Attendance by invitation





PHOTOS FROM UNISEF



Will you help us by joining hands and giving generously? As it is written: "Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?" James 2: 15,16

Closing Date:
31st December 2013

Cheques to be made in favour of "Council of Churches of Malaysia" And to be written at the back "Typhoon Haiyan Fund"

CCM APPEAL 2013

Tacloban, Philippines (CNN) – The Philippines struggled to bury the dead and get food, water and medicine to the living Tuesday, four days after Super Typhoon Haiyan claimed untold lives and flattened countless buildings. The government put the confirmed death toll at 1,774 early Tuesday but fears as many as 10,000 may have died. Corpses some crudely covered, others left exposed to the burning sun – added another hellish element to survival in Tacloban, the capital of the southern island province of Leyte. "We have bodies in the water, bodies on the bridges, bodies on the side of the road," said Richard Gordon, chairman of the Philippine Red Cross. Troops and aid organizations battled blocked roads and devastating damage to deliver help to stranded Filipinos and search for survivors in the splintered wreckage of homes. The Philippine government reported early Tuesday that 2.5 million people needed food aid, including nearly 300,000 pregnant women or new mothers. International aid was beginning to work its way to the stricken islands.



ACT Alliance response

The four members of the ACT Forum in the Philippines, Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Christian Aid, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) have begun their coordination with one another and are closely monitoring the damage and needs and the NGO partners operating in the affected provinces. The initial discussion of the ACT Forum members is to provide the basic food and non-food items that families will need. Given the intensity and the impact of the typhoon, the ACT Forum in the Philippines is providing drinking water, sleeping materials, hygiene kits and medicines. The volume of assistance is to be determined during the needs assessment. The assistance for early recovery and rehabilitation will also be sought. All funds raised will be sent to ACT Internationals.

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CHRISTMAS WITH A MISSION

MUSIC : FOOD : FUN

15 December 2013
Luther Centre
2pm - 10pm
Suggested love offering RM35

Featuring
NABEEL Z. KISSILLMARY,
MINISTRY OF BLUNK,
TIMOTHY ZARDIUS,
JUWITA SUWITO &
ASEANA PERCUSSION UNIT

A concert by Luther House Chapel's Youth
Our mission is to raise enough funds to buy 2 motorboats for the Pulau Bonding Orang Asli community.

Food sales at 2pm
Doors open at 6.30pm

f /MissionXmas #MissionXmas MissionXmas

A NEW BAHASA SPEAKING CONGREGATION FORMED

We rejoice in announcing that the first congregation of the Toraja Reformed Church (Gereja Toraja) in Kuala Lumpur, Gereja Toraja KL (GTKL) has been received into Gereja Presbyterial Malaysia (GPM) as a member of GPM. GPM will continue to provide the cover for Gereja Toraja in Malaysia until such time that they can register as a national denomination. We rejoice in such mission cooperation with Gereja Toraja and pray that many more Bahasa speaking congregations will be established in our land.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

That the Email address of the Council of Churches of Malaysia has been changed to

cchurchm1948@gmail.com

effective from
1st December 2013

You can never truly enjoy Christmas until you can look up into the Father's face and tell him you have received his Christmas gift.
—John R. Rice

Wishing you a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN THE VARIOUS PLACES IN MALAYSIA

KOTA KINABALU

The Sabah Council of Churches will be having its annual Christmas celebration called as "Gaya Christmas Annual Celebration". It will be held from 10-13th December at Gaya Street, Kota Kinabalu.

The mayor will be gracing the occasion.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

PENANG

The Penang Regional Committee is organizing a Penang State Christmas Celebration themed: "JESUS OUR SAVIOUR IS BORN" and will be held at Fort Cornwallis, Esplanade, Penang on Sunday, 15th December from 6.30-10pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

JOHOR

The Johor Regional Committee Will be holding its Christmas Celebration themed: "Boundless Love of God" On 14th December 2013 at St. Peter's Mar Thoma Church, 48 Jalan Saksama Taman Dato Onn 80350 Johor Bahru from 6-8.30PM As dinner will be served kindly call Annie: 0163377951 before 8th Dec, to register.

ADMISSION FREE