



CCM HIGHLIGHTS

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF MALAYSIA MONTHLY ONLINE NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Dear Leaders, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In this September issue, we invite you to read our special notice and prayer request for the Women's Ministry as they prepare for a meaningful visitation to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ipoh. Looking ahead to the spiritual nurturing of our younger generation, we have also included information about the upcoming World Day of Children's Prayer 2026 that will take place at our CCM Ecumenical Centre this coming November.

As the months of August and September are our CCM Sunday months, we would like to share our recent CCM Sunday Services at the Tamil Methodist Church Kuala Lumpur and Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau, Johor Bahru. It truly was a beautiful reminder of our collective calling and ecumenical theme to proclaim hope and serve our communities.

Keeping the Faith in Christ,
Rev. Philip Lok
Council of Churches of Malaysia



REV. PHILIP LOK
GENERAL SECRETARY

INSIDE : SPOTLIGHT / HAPPENINGS / CONTACT US

SPOTLIGHT

CCM SUNDAY @ TAMIL METHODIST CHURCH



Group Photo With TMC Leaders And Rev. Philip Lok

On Sunday 13 September 2026, Tamil Methodist Church (TMC) Kuala Lumpur hosted a combined worship service observing CCM Sunday and Social Concerns Sunday. The guest speaker was Reverend Philip Lok, the General Secretary of the Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM), who delivered a direct message on the importance of hospitality and the reminder of discipleship.

Parallels to the Early Church

Reflecting on the passage in Acts 16, Reverend Philip Lok posited a fundamental question to the congregation: Can the wonders and communal experiences of the early church be repeated in 2026? He went on to say, "Personally, I am very convinced that the church as described in the Book of Acts can still be a reality in the 21st century."

Citing data from Operation World, he noted that the Church continues to expand even under intense difficulties in places like China, India, Indonesia, and Iran. He connects it to the work of the Holy Spirit and stated that the reason why he is still in pastoral duties for over 35 years, **"It is because I believe in the Church."**

Rev. Lok outlined three similarities between the early believers and the modern Malaysian church in terms of minority status, diversity in the Church and the unique socio, legal and local pressures.

However, he stressed, that despite such concerns, "we still have the good opportunity to bear witness for God, to bring the news of Jesus Christ for those not heard of him."

Membership to Discipleship

Citing **Michael Foss's study, Power Surge**, he spoke to the primary challenge facing churches today is to shift **"from a culture of membership to a culture of discipleship."** He cautioned that churches can easily turn into "membership clubs" that exist solely to satisfy the needs of their own members, much like a golf club.

Referring back to the Book of Acts, he stressed the point that **"the Church is a body of disciples."** Rev. Lok shared the views on "false dichotomy" between spiritual ministry and physical social actions, stating there is no contradiction between proclaiming the gospel and engaging the world's social needs, social concerns and speaking up to the powers of the day.

Kindly do click on the link below to watch the
Sermon in full on Youtube

English Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qWCDV2HJA4>

Tamil Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bn3NvmqQm0>

SPOTLIGHT

As a Church are we responding to the marginalised?

Rev. Lok's sermon on Lydia of Thyatira, a successful purple cloth businesswoman who was baptised by Paul, and how her radical hospitality to Paul and his companions **broke major cultural taboos despite ethnic and gender barriers.**

He noted that modern society is losing this gift of hospitality due to a plethora of reasons. He went on to share a personal reflection from his youth, whereby his village pastor's parsonage, was an open house every Sunday afternoon. "The pastor would say, 'If you want anything from the fridge, take it.' Well, we ransacked the pastor's fridge every Sunday...I see that as a gift of hospitality."

Creative Ways to Touch the Hearts of People.

With emphasis on TMC's Social Concerns Sunday, Rev. Lok spoke on the need to find creative ways to pay attention to the ministry outside of Church and membership.

He cited examples of CCM's outreach to its surrounding community through providing affordable low-cost transit guest rooms for outstation, low-income families visiting hospitalized relatives.

To relieve the severe parking shortage at the hospital, CCM opened its private 80-car lot to the secular public for a baseline rate of RM1 per hour. Attendants manage the lot and even provide free battery jump-starts and this helped serve as a massive bridge of inter-religious hospitality to non-believers and local Muslim neighbours.

"It is not about the money. It is about being able to serve those who are really in need."



TMC Congregation In Deep Prayer

The Focus is the Answer

Through the story of the Slave Girl, Rev. Lok pointed out the structural price the Church must be willing to pay when standing up against social injustice.

The congregation heard first-hand of how CCM joined forces with the NECF for intensive, direct negotiations with state officials, to ensure the RISI Guidelines were formally amended to ensure operational continuity for hundreds of grassroots shop-house ministries was allowed.

Rev. Lok concluded his sermon by calling the congregation to not only be a member of the church but to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. **"The focus is in what way can we better serve for communities beyond the Church."**



Rev. Lok With
TMC's Senior
Pastor Rev. A.
James Ravindaren

SPOTLIGHT

MISSION & CCM SUNDAY @

GEREJA PRESBYTERIAN TEBRAU, JOHOR BAHRU

On Sunday 23 August 2026, Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau, Johor Bahru observed CCM Sunday in conjunction with their Mission Week. The guest speaker was Reverend Dr. Philip Lok, the General Secretary of the Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM), who delivered a sermon on the importance of ecumenism and mission work.

It was a joy and a privilege to observe CCM Sunday, in conjunction with the Mission Week of Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau.

Rev. Philip Lok was the invited speaker for the church's Mission Sunday, and the theme was **'Gathering All Our Strength to Expand Missions Again!'** The CCM General Secretary preached from the Emmaus story as recorded in Luke 24:13-35.

After the Worship Service, most church members stayed behind to attend a dialogue session on CCM's ministry. There were some good conversations about the purpose and ministry of our ecumenical body. For many attendees, the session was an eye-opener about the significant work CCM has done for churches in Malaysia over the last seven decades.

Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau is a member church of Gereja Presbyterian Malaysia, which in turn is a member of CCM.



Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau's Group Photo With Rev. Philip Lok

The Story of Emmaus

- Two grieving disciples walked from Jerusalem to Emmaus after Jesus was crucified.
- A stranger joined them along the road, but they did not recognize Him.
- They sadly shared their broken hopes about Jesus, whom they thought was the Messiah.
- The stranger explained how the scriptures foretold that the Messiah had to suffer.
- They invited the man to eat, and He joined them at the dinner table.
- When He broke and blessed the bread, their eyes opened and they recognized Jesus.
- Jesus instantly vanished, and they rushed back to Jerusalem to share the joyful news.



Gereja Presbyterian Tebrau's Congregation And Choir

HAPPENINGS

UPCOMING

WORLD DAY OF CHILDREN'S PRAYER 2026



AT A GLANCE

Location: CCM's Ecumenical Centre
Date: 14 November 2026 Saturday
Time: 9.30am-12.15pm

World Day of Children's Prayer is back for 2026! This time around we will be delving into themes and fun prepared by the Women Ecumenical group of Nigeria. It focuses on the 2026 theme "I Will Give You Rest, Come," based on the scripture passage from Matthew 11:28-30.

This program will aid children on how to receive God's rest and how to extend kindness and support to others who are carrying a heavy load through Worship and Music where the children will learn the theme song specially selected for purposes of worship. The children will also have other activities including story time, drawing and prayer.

For further details on the program, please do contact Ms. Sosamma at +60 18-970 4495. We cannot wait to see the little ones there!

CCM'S WOMEN'S MINISTRY CHURCH VISITATION



AT A GLANCE

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Ipoh.
Date: 26-27 September 2026
(Saturday – Sunday)

This visitation to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Ipoh by the CCM's Women Ministry serves an opportunity for genuine fellowship networking and mutual encouragement amongst Christian women across various denominations.

We humbly ask our church members and readers to please keep the upcoming church visitation in your prayers. Please pray for the safe journeys and good health of all the women travelling from different areas to Ipoh. Do extend your prayers to Holy Trinity Lutheran so that their space to grow and glow and bask under the tutelage and support of God Almighty.

Thank you for your continued partnership in prayer. We look forward to sharing a short update with how the visit went in our upcoming Highlights Newsletter



MULTIPURPOSE HALL



EXHIBITION HALL



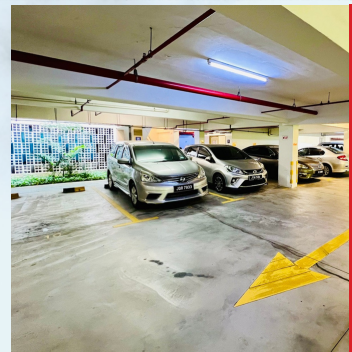
FUNCTION ROOM ONE



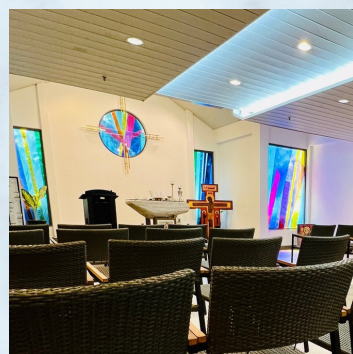
FUNCTION ROOM TWO



CAFE



PUBLIC PARKING



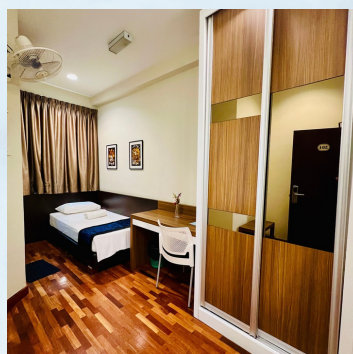
CHAPEL

The Ecumenical Centre opens its doors to the community!

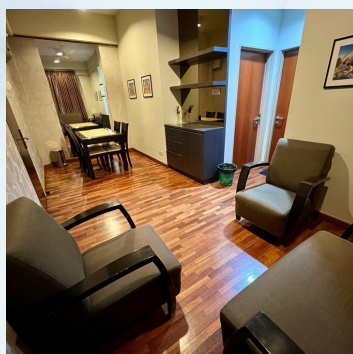
Our facilities are made available to all.

**Council Of Churches Of Malaysia
Ecumenical Centre:**

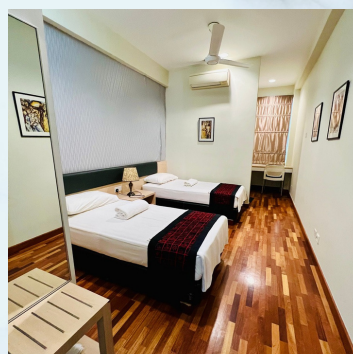
**No.26 Jalan Profesor Diraja Ungku Aziz
Sekysen 11, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan.**



SINGLE ROOM



SUITE ROOM



TWIN ROOM



OKU ROOM

CONTACT US

**GUEST
ROOMS &
EVENT
HALL
AVAILABLE**

03-7956 7092/ 03-7960 8926

<https://ccmalaysia.org/>

booking@ccmalaysia.org



**COUNCIL
OF
CHURCHES
OF
MALAYSIA**

**GUEST
ROOMS
&
EVENT
HALLS
AVAILABLE**