



JOINT PRESS RELEASE

DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS GROUPS JOIN HANDS TO BENEFIT THE LESS FORTUNATE IN THE COMMUNITY AT CHRISTMAS GIFT OF LOVE @ NORTH EAST

Some 120 families to be helped with over S\$25,000 in vouchers and gift trolleys of daily essentials at the interreligious charity event organised by New Creation Church and North East Community Development Council (CDC)

Singapore, 25 November 2017: New Creation Church and North East CDC reached out to the less fortunate members of the community today through Christmas Gift of Love @ North East, a lunch party during the Christmas season for the underprivileged in Singapore regardless of their race, language or religion.

In addition to New Creation Church, the main sponsors for the event are Loyang Tua Pek Kong, Masjid Darul Ghufuran and Tzu Chi Foundation Singapore, and the other sponsors are Lighthouse Evangelism, Paya Lebar Chinese Methodist Church and Masjid En-Naeem.

Some 400 people from 120 families residing in North East District will receive over \$25,000 in grocery and retail vouchers as well as gift trolleys of daily essentials.

In addition, they will be treated to a *halal* feast and special presentations including a silat performance by Masjid Darul Ghufuran, a sign language performance by pre-schoolers from Tzu Chi Foundation Singapore, and an energetic dance item and medley of Malay community songs by New Creation Church.

Mayor of North East District, Mr Desmond Choo is heartened with the participation of various religious organisations in this initiative. He said, "I believe that Christmas Gift of Love @ North East is the first of its kind outreach programme in our district. Our religious leaders from different faiths and different denominations are stepping forward to reach out to the community who are in need. Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Taoism and Islam are



well represented and it reflects the true spirit of humanity. Regardless of our differences in race and beliefs, we are all here as one, extending our hands to help the underprivileged families. This is exactly what our faiths taught us.”

New Creation Church’s council member, Deacon Matthew Kang, said, “We count it a privilege and honour to partner North East CDC to organise a Christmas Gift Of Love lunch party with other religious groups to bless the less fortunate. It is our heart to show God’s love in practical ways to those in our community regardless of their backgrounds or beliefs. Truly, we are stronger together as one people in Singapore.”

The event held today marks the first time the church is collaborating with other religious organisations in Singapore for the Christmas Gift Of Love lunch parties. It is the first of many Gift Of Love projects by New Creation Church to give a total of S\$600,000 in practical help to over 9,000 people this Christmas season. Working with other GRCs and voluntary welfare organisations, congregation members of New Creation Church will be involved in distributing grocery vouchers and gift packs to underprivileged families, and gift packs to nursing home residents and staff, ex-offenders and migrant workers in Singapore.

New Creation Church started the Gift Of Love initiatives in Singapore in 2014. In 2015, the church extended it overseas as Gift Of Love Global to help children living in slums and orphanages in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, and Thailand, as well as prison inmates in Cambodia and Myanmar.

In total, since Gift Of Love began in 2014, including this year, we would have given out grocery vouchers and gift packs of daily essentials worth S\$1.7 million to more than 48,000 people. This comprises some 27,000 in Singapore and, through our Gift Of Love Global initiative, another 21,000 children and prison inmates overseas.

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Media Invitation

You and your photographer are cordially invited to cover Christmas Gift Of Love @ North East:

Date: Saturday, 25 November 2017
Time: 11.15am–1.30pm
Venue: Our Tampines Hub
1 Tampines Walk
Singapore 528523

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About New Creation Church

New Creation Church is a non-denominational church and a member of the National Council of Churches of Singapore. Jesus Christ takes centre place in the church, from the focus of its services, outreach efforts and worship to its day-to-day operations and volunteer activities.

An elected council has general oversight of the church and is led by Deacon Yong Chee Ram, its independent chairman. Senior Pastor Joseph Prince preaches regularly in the church in a voluntary capacity, and his Christ-centred messages are broadcast to millions around the world daily.

The church has a congregation of 33,000 that meets at The Star Performing Arts Centre at Buona Vista and various venues in Singapore.

For more information, please visit www.newcreation.org.sg



About North East Community Development Council

Set up in 1997, North East Community Development Council (CDC) serves a population of over 880,000 residents in three Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs) and two Single Member Constituencies (SMCs). They are Aljunied, Pasir Ris-Punggol, Tampines GRCs, Hougang and Punggol East SMCs. North East CDC administers various local assistance programmes to help our residents. In addition, we also work closely with community and corporate partners to promote bonding and social cohesion. Since 27 May 2017, North East CDC is headed by Mayor Desmond Choo.

For more information, visit www.cdc.org.sg/Northeast.

About Gift Of Love

Over the three decades since its founding in 1984, New Creation Church has organised hundreds of outreach and humanitarian projects because the church believes that it is always better to give than to receive.

Christmas Gift Of Love @ North East is a lunch party to bless those in the local community this year. It is the first of many Gift Of Love projects organised by New Creation Church during the Christmas season every year that extends a helping hand to the underprivileged, regardless of race, language or religion.

Since Gift Of Love began in 2014, including this year, we have helped more than 48,000 people with grocery vouchers and gift packs of daily essentials worth S\$1.7 million. This comprises some 27,000 people in Singapore and through our Gift Of Love Global initiative, another 21,000 children and prison inmates overseas.