

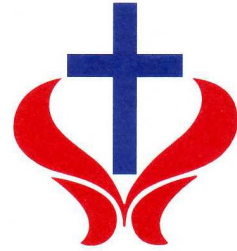
The Methodist Church in Singapore

新加坡基督教衛理公會

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15 September 2026

Bishop Philip Lim appointed to presidential council for racial and religious harmony

The President of Singapore, President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, has appointed Bishop Philip Lim, among other religious leaders, to the inaugural Presidential Council for Racial and Religious Harmony (PCRRH). The appointment follows a new racial harmony law that takes effect on 15 September 2026. Bishop Lim, who is Bishop of The Methodist Church in Singapore, is also currently the President of National Council of Churches of Singapore (NCCS), a voluntary fellowship of churches of various denominations.

The PCRRH replaces the Presidential Council for Religious Harmony (PCRH), established under the Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act (MRHA). It is independent of the Government and will perform the same functions as the PCRH, but with an expanded scope to cover race-related matters as well. These functions are:

- (a) To consider and make recommendations to the President on Restraining Orders made under the Bill, or the MRHA; and
- (b) To consider and report to the Minister or Parliament on matters affecting the maintenance of racial and religious harmony in Singapore, that are referred to it by the Minister or Parliament.

The PCRRH comprises representatives from all major racial and religious communities in Singapore, and persons who have distinguished themselves in public service or community relations in Singapore. Council members will begin their three-year term on 15 September 2026.

Prior to this, Bishop Emeritus Dr Wee Boon Hup served for three consecutive terms in the PCRH since September 2017. During these terms, BE Dr Wee was the official representative for Protestant Christianity.