mereka flatthful
pistós
fellowship of evangelical students
indonesian ministry

PISTOS edisi Juni 2023 ini mengangkat sebuah keunikan lain dari pelayanan FES, yakni **interdenominational** (seringkali disingkat "inter-D"). Melaluinya, kita akan diajak untuk merenungkan bagaimana Tuhan memanggil mahasiswa Kristen dengan berbagai latar belakang denominasi ini pada FES. Bermula dari berbagai tujuan (*aims*) pertelutuan mahasiswa ini, serta keunikan-keunikan (*distinctives*) FES lainnya. Campur sharing dari alumni dan pengurus FES dalam staff sepuluh topik Inter-D ini akan menawarkan PISTOS edisi kali ini. Selamat membaca!

Campus Updates

Mosaic of Christianity (NTU ISCF)

What does it mean to be part of an interdenominational fellowship? This is something that I rarely pondered upon in the past, as back in Indonesia, people frequently asked me the question *"Which church do you go to?"* with a segregative mindset that associates different churches/denominations with different groups/clusters of people. Yet, as an adult now, we are called to love one another (John 13:35). So how exactly do we love our brothers and sisters in Christ in spite of our differences?

NTU ISCF Camp 2022 at Johor Bahru

Jeevalyn, bank kedua, kedua dari kanan

On 5th - 8th May 2023, NTU ISCF held its annual camp in Johor Bahru, with the theme "Mosaic of Christianity". Spanning 4 sessions, the second session was particularly striking for me. Through the speaker's sharing, I was struck by the beauty of denominational diversity promoting understanding and unity among the different denominations. Another memorable part of camp was the Exposure, where each group joined church services from different denominations, allowing us to put into practice what we have learnt: understanding and respecting differences. My group attended a Catholic Mass, where we got to see a new perspective of worship, and gained insights into the communion we observed.

This year's camp truly allowed me to look at denominations in a more positive light, and even appreciate the differences we have and be more open to learning from each other. Praise be to God for this very special experience, and may we continue to cherish this unique interdenominational characteristic we have in ISCF.

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in everything, charity."

By: Jeevalyn Audrey Tanujaadi

Journey of Inter-D Experience (NUS ISCF)

Despite being raised a Christian, I began learning about Inter-D only when I was in ISCF. All I can say is that it was a life-changing experience. At the beginning, I was actually quite closed upon seeing how huge the differences could be among different denominations, while also wondering how I could've failed to notice these differences before. I gradually then made friends with a lot of people from different denominations.

Kate and Bob (ISCF Camp 2022, Mona Cheap) "me to You, you to me", 8-11 May 2022

It can be confusing at first. I went to a Catholic high school, so I know that differences exist between Protestantism and Catholicism. But I never expected differences to also exist in Protestantism. I was initially bewildered and even wary of other denominations, but I grew more and more familiar with them over time. I then also began to appreciate them and asking myself if there is rightteousness in all these. Based on my experiences so far, I have come to two conclusions that I would like to share here.

First is that not all Christian views/practices that are different from what we usually hold and do in our own church are wrong. Differences do exist. I learnt a lot from the differences, and even appreciate the beauty of them. And second, I eventually realized that no (local) church is perfect, and that we are always learners from each other to improve ourselves to be closer to God's word. As a result, not only can I respect the others, but I also learn to discuss with them while continually referring to the Bible. It is in this way that the Bible that we can find in the Truth and be equipped for good works (2 Tim 3:16-17).

May you all experience the beauty of Inter-D, and always stay true to the word of God!

By: Kathy Freeda Ipaya

SIM ISCF Outing

Bidara Gardens, February 2023

Chantal, kelo depan, kedua dari kanan

On Saturday, February 11 2023, SIM ISCF went for its first outing event to Singapore Botanic Gardens. Around 25 members of ours, from different churches and denominations, came together to participate in the event. We played a scavenger hunt game where our members were randomly divided into small groups and were given tasks they need to execute around the gardens. The scavenger hunt allows members to interact and engage with one another in their teams, irrespective of their backgrounds. Finally, we finished off the outing with a picnic session at the Bidara Gardens where we had a lot of fun. It was also the sun set, from Mt Faber in Singapore, unbeatable, to exchanging views on christianity and the churches each of us attends. Even though there was a bit of rain afterwards, the event was overall a success. We had a great time bonding with one another. During the picnic, we also organised a little 'Secret Sinnyeur' activity where members wrote impressions, compliments, self reviews, and hopes for their assigned partner. From this simple outing, I really felt the excitement, joy and comfort at the same time from the bond that was created between each of us members. Furthermore, it was also a memorable one for me because although we all came from different denominations and backgrounds, not only can we all come together as fellow Christians in ISCF, but it was also witnessed how we further create a fellowship and worship our one and only God.

By: Joe Clarissa Audreylia

ISCF Pioneering Works

SUTD

- Kami sedang berusaha membuka network di antara beberapa mahasiswa SUTD, alumni SUTD, serta alumni-alumni ISCF lainnya yang sedang bekerja di SUTD.
- Rencana dalam waktu dekat ini adalah memulai mengadakan pemerataan-pemerataan sederhana satu atau dua minggu sekali di kampus SUTD bersama dengan teman-teman dalam network ini.

PATH x SKETCH (SMU, NAFA, Lasalle)

- Kami sedang mencita berkolaborasi dengan dosen-dosen Kristen di NAFA, termasuk mengundang mereka untuk berbagi pengalaman sebagai orang Kristen di dunia arts.
- Belum itu, masih akan ada *sesi Bible Study* gabungan antara PATH + SKETCH. *Event* yang akan diadakan dalam waktu dekat ini adalah *Welcome Tea*.

Staff Reflection on Inter-D

When someone asks me *"What's so unique about ISCF compared to other fellowships like church youth fellowship?"*, the first answer that comes to mind is ISCF's distinctive of interdenominational, where members of various churches will be celebrating the diversity of different denominations and churches.* Why? Because unity in diversity is a powerful Christian witness that is magnified and often polarized society. Because a Christian leader needs to be able to engage differences between others with **both** conviction and humility, starting first and foremost with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Because Christ Himself desires that His disciples "may all be one" (Jn 17:21).

This sounds great and ideal on paper. However, I ponder whether our distinctive of being an interdenominational fellowship is truly actualized in our fellowship's culture? Is our fellowship become non-denominational in practice? Do we attempt to distance ourselves from any denomination or church systems and as a result, differences are pushed aside and buried for the sake of peace, efficiency, or comfort? Or maybe the hesitancy to dialogue with those that are different than us stems from we ourselves being uncertain of or unconvicted with our own church's beliefs, practices, and cultures. We comfort ourselves by pointing to the demographics as proof of embracing this distinctive (as members come from all sorts of denominations**) but in practice, initiating such conversations are often the last on our to-do list.

More dangerously, we may seeing to the other extreme and become *one-denominational in practice*. When it was serving in ISCF during my student times, 8 out of 12 of the Ex-Co came from the **same** denomination. Looking back, though there was no intention from any of the members of the Ex-Co to minor their own churches, subconsciously the way we did ministry and the way we thought about ministry in ISCF was shaped by the predominant denomination. This may lead to members from other churches/denominations feel uncomfortable and excluded, whilst members of the predominant denomination may grow increasingly complacent or even blindspot of one's point of look down on others.

So how do we **truly** be interdenominational? I will not attempt to propose solutions because being Inter-D really starts from cultivating an attitude of hospitality, a virtue frequently encapsulated in Scripture.*** We are called to "Atone all, keep loving one another earnestly... **Show hospitality to one another without grumbling**. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." (1 Pet 4:8-10). Hospitality begins as a response of love and gratitude for God's love and welcome to us. Hospitality is cultivated in humility, acknowledging that God hasn't given all the gifts to only one denomination or church and therefore there is always much to learn *from and to be changed by* others whilst still having one's own beliefs and convictions.

Cultivating hospitality takes time, effort, critical thinking, and awkward conversations. In conversing with others from different denominations, you might find your identity shaken or you might start questioning your own church and its practices. But *it is in the uncomfortable that the call of the Christian to be in unity is built, but rather a call to pursue the likeness of Christ, to be conformed through Jesus Christ, and part of that abundant life is the greater realization of the oneness of God's people, the body of Christ.* ****

By: Nancy Elizabeth Suryadarma

* This is done on the basis of their subscription to the doctrinal basis of the Fellowship and their commitment to the aims of the Fellowship.

** Dan. 10-16, Joel 2:1, Dan.25, Rom 12:13, Heb 13:2

*** Coaching Protestant Tradition: An Invitation to Hospitality, 272, W. David Buschart.

Staff & FES IM Prayer Points

Nancy, jemolo staff reflection di atas, kedua dari kanan

Kebersamaan Tim Staff FES IM, Mei 2023

Untuk PISTOS edisi kali ini, selain pokok-pokok doa, kami juga meminta teman-teman staff untuk membagikan satu atau dua ayat yang bekenaan ini dengan dengan hati mereka, bawata alasannya. Kami senantiasa berupaya atas dukungan doa dan teman-teman sekalian.

Jerry

- di 2 Tim 1:7. Ketika melayani Tuhan, ada banyak kesulitan yang membuatku lelah. Tapi ayat ini mengingatkanku untuk melihat pimpinan Roh Kudus. Pimpinan Roh Kudus tidak membiarkan kelelahan, tapi kelemahan (self-discipline). Melihat kesulitan melalahkan kelelahan, melihat pimpinan Roh Kudus membangkitkan kekuatan, kasih, dan disiplin.
- Mohon doanya untuk memasuki tahun ajaran baru. Ada banyak tempura, harapan, dan kekhawatiran. Karena aku bisa kecia melihat pimpinan Roh Kudus di setiap langkahku.

Fanny

- Matthew 7:16-20. Buah ini terus mengingatkan pentingnya untuk mengevaluasi hidup kita. Apakah hidup kita sudah sesuai dengan yang kita ajarkan, dan cukup kecia menilai pertumbuhan Tuhan.
- Berdoakan untuk pelayan-pelayan kecia saya: Fauma Healing Ipaya dan Phil. Doakan untuk sesi Trauma Healing yang akan diadakan bagi mereka yang melayani para Phil. Tuhan yang memberkati mereka untuk hati dan memimpin pelayaan dan setiap sesi yang ada.

Nancy

- Mahon 10:29-31. Aku memiliki kerinduanan akan misa dasan: pertobatan, dan kebangunan rohani. Ini merupakan hal yang sangat sulit untuk kuraingkai manku, dan mengharukanku akan kasih setia Tuhan dalam setiap musim kehidupan. Doa ji'ihanakan bareng, juga ji'ihanakanku.

Darryl

- Kelurasan 32:12-16. Bagian ini mengingatkan dua hal yang jangan pernah saya sepelekan di tengah pelayanan. Pertama, jangan pernah berhenti berdoa. Kedua, jangan pernah berhenti bersyukur. Jaka cukup kecia menjadi pertamanan Tuhan.
- Berdoakan untuk pendoa melayani tentama rental-tentamat kecia SMI-SCF selama ini. *It was an enriching journey of learning and serving together.* Mohon dukungan doanya untuk kecia pelayanan di SMI selama ini kecia yang baru dan khususnya untuk Nancy yang akan menerbangkan wastika.

Adrian

- 2 Tim 3:1-5. Menyaksikan saya untuk tetap berjaga-jaga dan tidak menjadi orang yang tidak mengasihi, tidak setia, tidak mengasihi Allah, tetapi hanya menjadi kelihatan saja. Tuhan tolong kami untuk tetap berjaga-jaga dan tidak menjadi orang yang tidak mengasihi Allah.

Rika

- Efesus 2:21-22. Oleh anugerahNya, Hia menjadi rumah kediaman Allah. Rina ini saya doanya supaya menjadi rumah kediaman Allah yang sesungguhnya melalui Hia saya Gerejanya. Nyuji orang-orang dapat mengenal dan berelasi dengan Allah sendiri.
- Untuk pelayanan Eth dan Bhi juga studi lanjang. Coaching dan kedudukan lainnya. Untuk Eth dan teen-temat, sukacita dan kekuatan untuk mengerjakan hal hal yang dipercayakan. Dan doakan untuk pimpinan Tuhan untuk setiap dan pelayan ke depannya.

Laporan Keuangan FES IM

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"
– Lamentations 3:22-23

Sampai di bulan Mei 2023 ini, secara kumulatif, FES IM mengalami defisit cukup besar, yaitu sekitar 180.232. Hal ini disebabkan oleh 2 hal:

1. Kontribusi donor yang relatif menurun di bulan Maret dan Mei.
2. Pengeluaran yang meningkat secara signifikan di bulan Apr dan Mei. Khususnya untuk kontribusi bagi pelayanan Graduate (*Christian Fellowship* (ISCF).

Bagi saudara/i yang secara rutin mengikuti dan membantu pelayanan FES IM, 80-85% dari total pengeluaran bulanan FES IM dihasilkan untuk membantu pelayanan-pelayanan tersebut, seperti *Esther Retreat*, *Bible Study* dan ISCF. Dan hanya 15-20% yang digunakan untuk membantu pelayanan-pelayanan lainnya