

20 March 2019

To our Muslim neighbours and friends in Christchurch,
in the whole of New Zealand Aotearoa,
in the wider world beyond the Australasia,
and all residents in the Aotearoa New Zealand,

In Solidarity with our Muslim Neighbours and Friends

As a leader serving the Chinese churches and Chinese constituencies affiliated with Carey, I am writing to express our deep grief and sympathy with all affected for the atrocity that have occurred in Christchurch yesterday.

In the aftermath of this tragedy, please know that we keep you, our Muslim neighbours and friends, close to our hearts, thoughts and prayers.

As religious neighbours and as members of the human community, we stand in solidarity with our hurting neighbours and friends in Christchurch and beyond. No one, and no community deserves to be treated with disrespect and incivility.

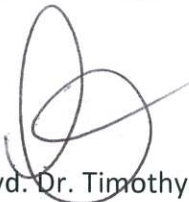
Many of the Chinese church networks that I am a part of have already begun conversations on how to support our religious neighbours. Many of the Chinese churches' national and regional networks throughout Auckland and New Zealand have also organised dedicated services of prayer and fasting in support for our Muslim community in Christchurch.

Dr. John Tucker, Principal of our multi-ethnic and multi-racial members of the Carey Baptist College, called a special service of prayer this week as a step towards standing with members of our beloved Muslim neighbours and friends.

At this difficult season, as members of the New Zealand public, we stand together with you. We affirm your right to practice your culture and religion in this country. We pray that our society would be marked by love, respect, civility and kindness that we as fellow members of the humankind might live in community whilst honouring the plurality of nationality, race, language and religion in our midst.

Please feel free to contact us at 09-525-4017 if we can support your members in any way.

Yours sincerely,



Revd. Dr. Timothy T. N. Lim, B.B.A., M.Div. *magna cum laude*, Ph.D.

Director, Centre for Chinese Research and Training