

From the NCFC Directors:

Nurses Christian Fellowship Canada is a member country of NCF International. Many Christian nurses find belonging to a Fellowship like NCFC encouraging and supportive. Within NCFC you will find a community of believers working in health care with common values and beliefs. Upon joining NCF Canada, you will have opportunities to grow your faith, and to serve Christ with other Christian nurses, through prayer groups, Bible studies and workshops. As an associate of NCFC, you are automatically a member of NCF International. Many rich and practical resources will be at your fingertips, expanding your horizon to the global Christian nursing and health care community. Come and join us today!

Gathering Together as Christian Nurses & Midwives: NCFI's World Congress

Anne Biro, NCFI President



Pippa Peppiatt (Head of Nurses and Midwives CMF-UK) says that one of the things she loves about NCFI is that it gives a fresh perspective of nurses from all different countries. She says that while she has a good understanding of her local situation, mixing with people from other countries broadens her understanding of nursing and what it is like to be a nurse or midwife elsewhere... practice, faith, challenges, and stories of hope. It gives a sense of being a part of something bigger as we gather together with sisters and brothers in Christ from around the world.

Gathering together as Christian nurses and midwives has been a source of encouragement, inspiration, learning, and lifelong friendships for many who have attended international conferences hosted by Nurses Christian Fellowship International (NCFI). The NCFI World Congress is unique in that it offers Christian nurses and midwives from around the world an opportunity to participate in a professional conference where faith is very much integrated into every aspect of the conference.

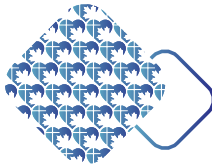
Barbara Parfitt, former Dean and Professor Emeritus at Glasgow Caledonian University in Scotland, first got involved as a young nurse in 1962 and describes NCFI as her 'second family'. She has appreciated being challenged spiritually through the fellowship and its ministries. But what she considers most precious are the deep friendships she has made that she says are qualitatively different than most of the casual friendships one makes through work and life in general. These have been friendships that have endured over more than half a century; she can't imagine life without them.

When asked why she has attended so many world congresses over the past 40 years, Tove Giske (a nursing professor in Norway and past NCFI President) said that when she attended her first congress as young nurse, it opened her eyes to the world. She learned a lot about the cultures and religions of other countries and what it meant to be a 'Christian nurse'.

We'd love to hear from you

Contact us at
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Gathering Together

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At the end of June 2024, NCFI will be hosting its first international congress since 2016. Normally, NCFI hosts an international congress once every 4 years, but due to the recent pandemic, it had to cancel the 2020 in-person conference. While NCFI was able to offer an inspiring online conference in 2021, it isn't a substitute for in-person gatherings. Being together is synergistic as stories are shared, post-presentation discussions occur, and we spend time in worship and God's word.

Connecting with other Christian nurses is important because there is a shared understanding and identity of what it is to be a nurse and a Christian. A young Canadian nurse who had taken the Saline Process Witness Training (a course offered through NCFI/ NCF-Canada) told me she had experienced an unexpected blessing: she felt encouraged simply by meeting other nurses who were also Christian. She said that while her church was supportive and helped her as a Christian, they didn't really understand what it was like to be a nurse. And while her nursing colleagues shared a common understanding of what it is to be a nurse, they couldn't relate when it came to issues of faith in Jesus, especially in the professional setting. The church and our nursing colleagues are both important and necessary in our lives...but gathering together with other Christian nurses is also important. And NCFI's 2024 World Congress offers us that opportunity!

A well-known Bible verse speaks of the importance of meeting together as believers for the purpose of mutual encouragement:

**“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm,
for God can be trusted to keep his promise.
Let us think of ways to motivate one another
to acts of love and good works.
And let us not neglect our meeting together,
as some people do, but encourage one another,
especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.**

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NLT)

NCFI and its member countries value the importance of coming together for mutual encouragement and learning. This is why we are a fellowship and not just an association or organization. The NCFI World Congress is one of our key events that offer the opportunity to get together in-person. Through it, we can learn and be challenged through keynote presentations, concurrent sessions, Bible expositions, and hearing the stories of nurses and midwives from around the world. The pre-conference is also a wonderful way to take courses relevant to one's professional practice.

There is excellent program lined up for the 2024 World Congress. You can find details on the pre-conference courses, the congress program, FAQs, stories of previous sponsorship recipients, travel information, and other congress-related links on [NCFI's linktree page](#) and [NCFI's website](#). Be sure to scroll down the whole page as there is lots to discover – including links for abstracts for concurrent and poster sessions (currently open), sponsorships, the registration site, and speaker biographies. The early-bird discount is available only until December 31st, so we encourage you to apply as soon as possible. If you are unable to join, please consider making a donation to help support nurses or students in your country or nurses and midwives from less economically advanced countries to attend. For those wanting an income tax receipt, you can donate to [NCF Canada](#) with a note that you would like the donation to go towards the sponsorship of a nurse to the NCFI World Congress. If you don't require a tax receipt, you can donate directly online to NCFI through the [Conference Sponsorship Fund](#).

We hope that like Barbara, Pippa, and Tove, many nurses and midwives will discover the joy and professional benefit of participating in NCFI's World Congress! Please pray with us that this 2024 World Congress and Pre-congress will be a blessing to nurses and midwives – and through them, to the patients and communities they serve so that God's name will be glorified.



NCFI World Congress 2024
“Strength and Courage to Care”
Malaga, Spain

BE MOTIVATED, INSPIRED AND ENCOURAGED...

Join us in Malaga, Spain, for the NCFI World Congress 27-30 June 2024
A unique event, bringing together Christian nurses from around the world. Pre Congress Courses 24-26 June

Early Bird Registration opens 1 September 2023. Closes 30 December

Find out more from the NCF International website:

<https://ncfi.org/ncfi-world-congress-2024/>