

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY Baby Dedications

We are delighted to join with Don & Stacey Yoon in the dedication of their two daughters to the Lord: Hanna, born January 17, 2006, and Eunice, born May 24, 2012. We warmly welcome relatives and friends visiting for this special occasion. (9.30am, 2/F)

TODAY Christmas Love Offering

The theme for this year's Christmas Love Offering is the Persecuted Church. Cash and cheques for the Love Offering should be put in the special red envelopes (found in the brochure), and then put into the general offering bags. Thank you for your generous giving! (Thank you too for a great response to the special Philippines disaster relief offering which totalled \$367,472.)

TODAY Prayer After Service

After the services, feel free to approach our prayer intercessors who are available and happy to pray with you.

TODAY Quench Christmas Book Sale

Do you need to pick up some Christmas gifts or a new book for your holiday travels? We'll be having a book sale in Quench on 1/F and 10/F on Sundays this month and on Christmas Eve. Come early to find some of our most popular titles at discounted prices.

TODAY Christmas Stockings — Return Deadline

For anyone who has taken a Christmas stocking or bag, please return it to the table on 1/F or 10/F. If you cannot return it, please contact localoutreach@islandecc.hk.

DEC 14 Women's Ministries' Christmas Breakfast

Here is a great opportunity for you to invite your non-Christian friend to hear about the hope we have in Jesus. Ada and Denise Tam will be sharing their amazing life-changing story at the American Club, 9.30-11.30am. Buy your tickets at the Connect Counter (1/F or 10/F) for HK\$180 per person or HK\$300 for two. Tickets are limited.

DEC 14 FUSE: Christmas Bus Carolling

Hey Young Adults! You know that Christmas carolling is a great way to spread Christmas cheer, right? But imagine zooming through Hong Kong on an open top double decker bus, singing carols in Causeway Bay and Central! Join us, 7-10pm. Tickets are at the Connect Counter for \$50 only. Contact youngadults@islandecc.hk for more details.

DEC 24 Christmas Eve Services

Invite your friends and family and come along to our special Christmas Eve Services to be held on 1/F, 2/F and 10/F at 6pm and 9pm. Childcare will be provided at 6pm.

DancersUNITE!

Hey, who doesn't like to dance? If you like to move it, move it, you're invited to send an audition video of your dancing (any style) to creativesunite@islandecc.hk. Our worship dance instructor, Michelle Wong will review submissions and be in touch!



New On The City

Advent Devotions

Look out for the devotionals appearing on The City every day through the Advent season.

Greece and Turkey Study Trip 2014

We are organising a study trip to Greece and Turkey, April 26 - May 6, 2014. For detailed information, check out <http://islandecc.onthecity.org/groups/8433/topics/1421413>.

Job Vacancies on The Marketplace

- Hope of the City is seeking to hire a Local Outreach Programme Administrator.
- Kid's Club Nursery is looking for 2 more Sunday-only Nursery Workers (Contract) to love our Infants & Toddlers (0-3).

NEW TO ISLAND ECC?

1

MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER ON 1/F

We are so glad that you're here today and would love to get to know you! The Connect Counter is located on the 1F and volunteers are there to answer any questions you might have about Island ECC and its different ministries and events.

2

JOIN THE CITY

The City is the online connection point for Island ECC. It's limited to the people who attend our church and over 1,000 people are already using this fantastic tool. By creating an account and logging in, you'll have access to weekly devotionals, updates on events, the chance to connect with others and more!

3

CHECK OUR WEBSITE

By visiting www.islandecc.hk, you'll have access to information about all our ministries, as well as a broad spectrum of resources - including video podcasts of sermons.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

HE LOVES

God loves you because he chooses to. "God wasn't attracted to you and didn't choose you because you were big and important... He did it out of sheer love..." (Deut. 7:7-8). He loves you so much that...

HE GAVE

He gave Jesus, His one and only Son. While we do wrong things daily, Jesus is sinless. Though sinless, Jesus took our sin. He died on the cross in our place. Our response to this great gift is simple...

WE BELIEVE

We trust Jesus to do what we can't. We don't trust our own efforts to save us. We can't save ourselves. We don't place our trust in other people to save us. We believe in Him.

WE LIVE

God gives us brand-new life. We have joy because of his Spirit living within us. Little by little his Spirit changes us to be more like Jesus. No guilt in life, no fear of death, He gives life, now ... and for eternity.

You can tell God you accept Him now.

"Father, I believe you love me. You gave your one and only Son so I can live forever with you. Apart from you, I die. With you, I live. I choose life. I choose you."

FUSE: Singles Conference



December 8, 2013

Jesus' Kingdom Is Eternal

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, ³³and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end."

³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1: 26-38

Why should we trust Jesus as King?

1. He is _____

That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:19-23

2. He is _____

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45

3. He is _____

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:6-8