

Welcome!

Tsunamis, Hurricanes, Typhoons, Cyclones, Tornadoes.

All of these are storms. Different names, and somewhat different conditions, but all can bring devastation if you are not prepared.

Life is full of storms, both literally and metaphorically. How you prepare and how you respond can make all the difference.

As we continue the story of Jonah, the only prophet who ran away from God, we'll observe how he responded to his own self-inflicted storm. Our response, like his, can make a whale of a difference.

(I'm deeply sorry for that awful pun. :))

Brett

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GENERAL OFFERING

YEAR TO DATE (48 WEEKS)

-1.35% deficit on giving

YTD Budget \$ 58.615M
YTD Giving \$ 57.822M
YTD Variance \$ -0.793M

FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2014-AUG 2015

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



	6 Jul	13 Jul	20 Jul	27 Jul
Weekly Budget	1,221	1,221	1,221	1,221
Weekly Giving	1,122	1,140	669	1,066
Weekly Variance	-99	-81	-552	-155

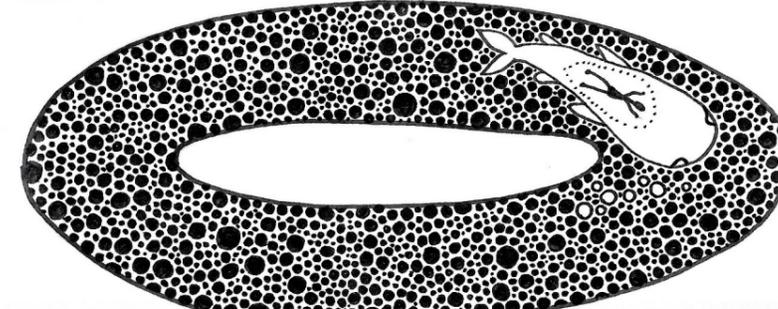
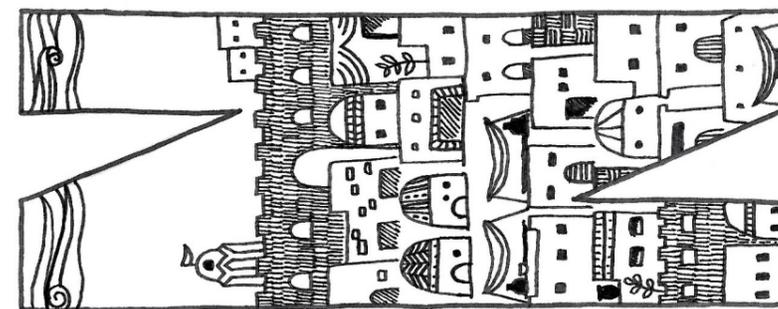
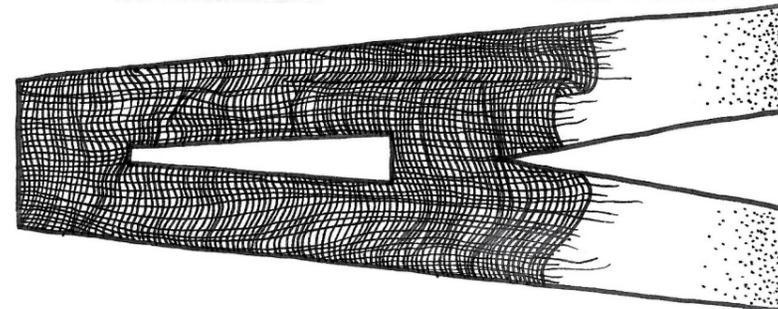
GIVING TO ISLAND ECC We encourage those who consider Island ECC their church home to prayerfully give a percentage of their income to the church on a regular basis.

Cheques payable to 'Island ECC Ltd.' for HK tax receipts or to 'Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc.' for US citizens. More info at www.islandecc.hk/give. Enquiries to karen.kwok@islandecc.hk.

ISLAND ECC

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ISLAND
EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY CHURCH



JONAH

Gut-wrenching

Aug 2, 2015 9.30am, 11.30am, 3pm, 5pm
633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

Bold Faith Initiative

Our church is in the middle of a 90-day season of prayer for what we are calling our BOLD FAITH initiative. We believe God is calling us to secure a permanent facility in order to fulfill our maximum ministry potential. In September, we will discuss more of these details, but in the meantime, we are asking all the church to pray for: 1. Unified passion 2. Unhindered faith and 3. Unprecedented generosity. Please pick up a detailed brochure at the Connect Counter on any of our floors.

TODAY Prayer After Service

We want to encourage the church to set aside time to pray today wherever you are, and if you need to pray with people, feel free to approach our prayer volunteers at the front.

TODAY QUENCH Summer Book Sale!

Enjoy up to 40% discount on selected books today and next Sunday. Don't miss this great opportunity to save! While stock lasts.

AUG 9 Workshop: Should I Get a Helper?

Is hiring a helper the right decision for your household? Join Melanie Leung-Shea for a workshop that will demystify the helper topic and help you understand more about the basics of the Hong Kong helper scene. **3pm, 8/F Classroom.** Visit <https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> to register.

AUG 16 Workshop: Preparing for Your Helper's Arrival

Are you at the early stages of hiring a helper? Join Melanie Leung-Shea for a workshop that will help you start off well: practical tips, knowing what to provide, how to prepare and what you need to know. **3pm, 8/F Living Room.** Visit <https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> to register.

AUG 16 The Well — 11/F Youth Launch

Say goodbye to The Studio and hello to The Well, because Island Youth is moving to the 11/F! Our official launch date is August 16. We are so excited about this new venue and look forward to serving students and their families in our new location. Services start at 9.30am and 11.30am. See you on the 11/F!

SEP 4 RZIM Apologetics Conference — Early Bird Tickets

RZIM in Asia aims to equip Christian leaders as they endeavour to effectively give the reason for the hope that they have in Christ. Conference runs Sept 4-5, speakers include top apologists: Michael Ramsden, John Dickson, etc. Early bird tickets at \$300 are available at the Connect Counters. For details, please visit: <https://www.islandecc.hk/RZIM/>.

VBS Kids Club Volunteer Recruitment

We are now recruiting Kids Club volunteers for VBS (30 Aug-27 Sept). Positions are open for Preschool and Elementary leaders to launch the school year with a fantastic Vacation Bible School Programme. For more information, stop by our 9/F Welcome Desk or contact kidsclub@islandecc.hk.

Youth Volunteers

Island Youth is looking for volunteers to come alongside us as we run Alpha this fall on Friday nights, to help lead discussions with groups of high school or middle school students. We are also looking for volunteers to help prepare meals for these nights. If you are interested in serving please email us at youth@islandecc.hk.

Upcoming Mission Sharing Sessions and Trip

Indonesia Mission Trip Info Session, Aug 9, 1.30pm, 10/F Living Room A
Shanxi Mission Trip Sharing Session, Aug 16, 1.30pm, 10/F Classroom
Taiwan Mission Trip Sharing Session, Aug 23, 2pm, 8/F Classroom



On The City

Staff Vacancies on the Marketplace

- Associate Director of Assimilation Ministries
- Part-time Coordinator of Children's Ministries
- Part-time Worship Leader for Youth Ministries on Sundays
- Part-time Worship Leader for Sunday Services

For details on the above go to the Marketplace/Jobs.

NEW TO ISLAND ECC?

1 MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER

We are so glad that you're here today and would love to get to know you! The Connect Counters are located on the 1/F, 2/F and 10/F. 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 3,000 people are already using this fantastic tool. By creating an account and logging in, you'll have access to weekly devotionals, updates on events and the chance to connect with others. Sign up now at the Connect Counter.

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.

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."

Worship and small groups at Children's Ministries



Aug 2, 2015

Gut-wrenching

¹⁷ Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 1:17

¹ From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God.

² He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and He answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and You listened to my cry.

³ You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all Your waves and breakers swept over me.

⁴ I said, 'I have been banished from Your sight; yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.'

⁵ The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶ To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But You brought my life up from the pit, O Lord my God.

⁷ "When my life was ebbing away, I remembered You, Lord, and my prayer rose to You, to Your holy temple.

⁸ "Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.

⁹ But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to You. What I have vowed I will make good. 'Salvation comes from the Lord.'"

¹⁰ And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Jonah 2:1-10