

Welcome!

I'm glad you are here at church today, and hope that you will come away with a sense of having met with God. We are especially thrilled to be baptising 26 people today, all of whom have unique journeys of faith. I hope that you are encouraged as you see these men and women profess their faith in God through baptism.

As many in this church come from different church backgrounds, and many have no church background at all, it's always helpful to explain our beliefs. We hold to what is called "believer's baptism", meaning that once a person has become a Christian, baptism is a step of obedience whereby they announce their faith publicly. This immersion baptism doesn't make someone a Christian, but serves as a sign to the community of their inner beliefs. Many of the people getting baptised today have been Christians for quite some time, while others are new to the faith. But all would agree that Jesus Christ is their Lord and Saviour.

Wherever you are in your faith journey, I hope that you will be encouraged today as we celebrate the spiritual journey of these men and women.



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men@islandecc.hk

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YOUNG ADULTS
youngadults@islandecc.hk

YOUTH
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CHILDREN
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VOLUNTEER
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PRAYER
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CARE GROUPS
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CLASSES
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OUTREACH GLOBAL
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For other questions,
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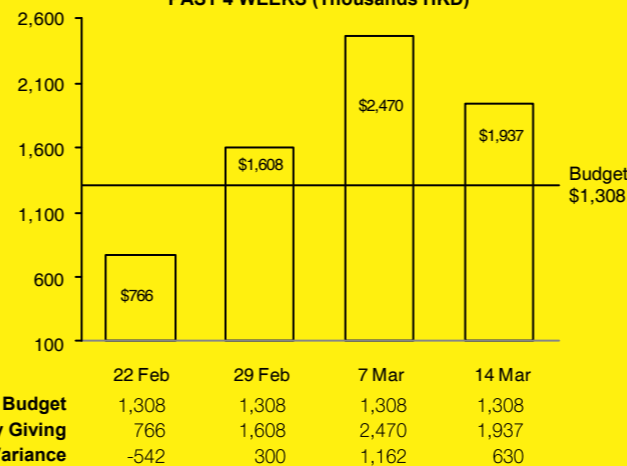
FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2015 - AUG 2016

YEAR TO DATE (28 WEEKS)

-1.3% deficit on giving

YTD Budget \$ 36.6M
YTD Giving \$ 36.2M
YTD Variance \$ -0.5M

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



Bold Faith Fund \$107.6M Received \$39.5M Outstanding Pledge \$68.1M

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 islandecc.hk/give. Enquiries to karen.kwok@islandecc.hk.

ISLAND ECC

8/F 633 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong T 2864 9360 info@islandecc.hk islandecc.hk

EVIDENCE

The Defence Team

March 20 2016 9.30am, 11.30am, 3pm, 5pm
633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

HIGHLIGHTS

THIS FRIDAY GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER AND COMMUNION

You do not want to miss the very special Good Friday service that we will have this Friday, March 25. We have prepared a meaningful time as we worship together, reflect on the importance of Christ's sacrifice, and participate in Communion in a unique way. 7.30pm, 1/F and 2/F.

OUTREACH

TODAY TAIWAN MISSION TRIP INFO SESSION

In Taiwan, Christianity is a minority religion while traditional values and religions hold a prominent place in the heart of the populace. Every summer we partner with local churches to bless an aboriginal village by caring for their children and finding opportunities to share the gospel. This year our trip will take place in early July. Learn more at our information session, 1.15-3pm, 11/F Classroom. Lunch is provided.

MAR 26 SSP X-PERIENCE: EASTER OUTREACH

Hope of the City's overnight SSP X-perience in January was a huge success. Now, we're pleased to present a one-day version during Easter, 11am-6pm. Participants will get a close-up, hands-on experience of how challenging life is for the underprivileged in Hong Kong. Register at volunteer@hopeofthecity.com. Fee is \$200 per person.

APR 2 IDEAL BIRTHDAY PARTY

It's party time! The Intellectually Disabled Education and Advocacy League (IDEAL) is hosting a birthday party and is recruiting fun and passionate volunteers like you to host games for their members! Come join us at Sham Sui Po, 2-4pm. To register, email volunteer@hopeofthecity.com.

OPPORTUNITIES

COORDINATOR OF MINISTRY SUPPORT

We are looking to hire a full-time Coordinator in our Ministry Support team, including Sundays, to help provide administrative and logistical support for our Sunday services. We are looking for a friendly and energetic person with a heart to serve and an eye for detail, plus strong communication and administrative skills. Fluency in both English and Cantonese is needed.

COORDINATOR OF ASSIMILATION

We are looking for an enthusiastic and outgoing person with good administrative skills to assist in connecting people to the church. The person will work with an existing team to provide practical and administrative support for volunteers on Sundays and ministry events, and provide some pastor support. The position is full time. Fluency in English and good attention to detail are required.

To apply for the above positions, email hr@islandecc.hk with a cover letter and CV.

SERVING ON THE BOLD FAITH CLOTHES SALES TEAM

Join the Bold Faith clothes sales team and get involved in the preparation for our Spring sale in April! Help is needed at the warehouse in Tai Kok Tsui on March 25-28, April 2, 9, and 16. If you are available to help on any of these dates, anytime between 9.30am and 5pm, please email boldfaith@islandecc.hk. We look forward to serving with you.

CLASSES

REGISTER AT ISLANDECC.HK/CLASSES

APR 8 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: BREAKING FREE FROM FEAR

In this study you will learn how to confront your circumstances with strength and courage as you live in the fear of the Lord – fear that conquers every other fear and sets you free to live in faith. The first class started on March 18, but you are more than welcome to join us for the rest of the course after we break for Easter. Fridays, April 8 to May 6. 10-11.30am, 8/F Classroom.

APR 10 BAPTISM CLASS

Baptism is the way we express our faith in Jesus Christ to our church family. If you're interested in being baptised, please plan to attend the 2-Sunday baptism class happening on Sunday, 10 & 24 April (both classes required). 5pm, 10/F Classroom. Register at islandecc.hk/baptism, or email baptism@islandecc.hk for more information.

APR 10 NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCES GOD'S WAY

Ever asked these questions: What is the best and safest place to invest my money? How do I get freed from worrying about money? Come to this 9-week course facilitated by Jeff Ryan and Ramon Maronilla to learn how to experience more contentment and joy in making an eternal difference with your possessions. 9.30-11am, 8/F Classroom. Material cost: \$500.

APR 10 PRECEPT STUDY: LIVING VICTORIOUSLY IN DIFFICULT TIMES

Have you wondered why life so often seems unfair? Has God turned His back on His children who are suffering, or is there a purpose in the pain? How can we face injustice and suffering of this world while having faith in an all-powerful God? Join experienced precept study instructor Derek Chan for this 6-week study that will address some of these questions. 3-4.30pm, 11/F Classroom. Material cost: \$70.

APR 10 1, 2 & 3 JOHN

Have you ever wondered "Do I (or others) really know God? Can I be sure about my relationship (or theirs) with Him?" Join Scott Ohman for this 6-week class to study the three letters of John which contain vital truths about the nature of God, knowing Him and how we know that our salvation is assured. 11.30am, 8/F Classroom.

APR 15 & 16 BIBLICAL COUNSELLING CERTIFICATE

In partnership with Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, we now offer a Seminary Certificate Programme in Biblical Counselling that includes 7 seminary level courses. Each course is taught by a seminary professor and is adapted to meet the needs of people in Hong Kong. The next course, 'Introduction to Biblical Counselling', will be conducted on April 15 and 16, 9am-5.30pm, 10/F Worship Hall. Register by April 8.

20 MARCH 2016

The Defence Team

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

1 Peter 3:13-17

The Dream Team of Defence:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

NEW TO ISLAND ECC

MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER

- 1 We are so glad that you're here today and would love to get to know you! Visit the Connect Counters on 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.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- 2 Check out www.islandecc.hk, where you'll have access to information about all our ministries and events, as well as a broad spectrum of resources – including weekly blog posts and video podcasts of sermons.

Filipino Ministry's annual Beloved Conference over Chinese New Year

