# Welcome!

### Merry Christmas!

What a wonderful way to celebrate the arrival of our Saviour — by gathering with other Christians at church. Whether you are a regular here at Island ECC, or perhaps a first-time visitor, I'm so glad you came to worship with us today.

There are lots of names that are used to describe Jesus. Messiah. Light of the World. Bread of Life. Alpha and Omega. But there is one name which is captured at the Christmas scene which reveals a new paradigm in relating to God. Immanuel. This moniker unveils a groundbreaking understanding of how God interacts with His people.

WORSHIP worship@islandecc.hk VOLUNTEER

OUTREACH GLOBAL go@islandecc.hk For other questions, please contact info@islandecc.hk

WOMEN YOUNG ADULTS

youth@islandecc.hk

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YOUTH

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PRAYER

CARE GROUPS

CLASSES

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# PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)

YEAR TO DATE (16 WEEKS)

15.1% deficit on giving

YTD Budget YTD Giving YTD Variance \$22.4M \$19.0M -\$3.4M



| Weekly Budget   | 1,404 | 1,404 | 1,404 | 1,404 |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Weekly Giving   | 914   | 1,246 | 1,296 | 1,990 |
| Weekly Variance | (490) | (158) | (108) | 586   |

Bold Faith Fund \$122.1M Outstanding Pledge \$42.7M

Bold Faith Initial Fund Raising Target \$1 Billion

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.

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# **HIGHLIGHTS**

# TODAY EVERGREEN: CHRISTMAS EP AVAILABLE

Evergreen, featuring 5 original Christmas songs & arrangements from Renew Worship is available today as a CD (\$50) on all floors and is also available for download on iTunes. Pick up or download a copy for yourself and friends as we continue to celebrate this Christmas season!

### TODAY CALENDAR 2017

The Island ECC Calendar "Songs for 2017" is now available! A great Christmas gift for your family and friends. It is now on sale on 1/F, 2/F and 10/F for \$50 each.

### IAN 1 NEWCOMERS LUNCH

Are you new to Island ECC? If so, please join us at the Newcomers Lunch on Jan 1, 1:30pm, 11/F Living Room C. Please fill in the Connect Corner in your bulletin and drop it in the offering bag, or pass it to a staff member at the connect counter on your floor. Can't make it? Newcomers lunch will be held the first Sunday of every month.

### JAN 8 WELCOME HOME VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteering is love in motion! Serving as a volunteer at Island ECC is both fun and rewarding. Come and hear about opportunities, Jan 8, 1:30-2:30pm, 11/F Living Room C.

## $\mathsf{IAN}\ 8$ indonesian ministry christmas & new year celebration

Invite your Indonesian domestic helper to join our Christmas & New Year Party! It will be a time of fun, food and fellowship! Admission is free. Pick up your invitation at Connect Counters! Jan 8, 11am - 3pm at Oasis Centre, 19/F Concord Commercial Building, 157 Kings Road, Fortress Hill.

### IAN 14 PRAYER HIKE

Want to start the year spending time with God in the beautiful Hong Kong countryside? Join us for a purposeful morning connecting with God, others and nature on the Lung Fu Shan trail at 9:30am. To learn more, email prayer@islandecc.hk.

## IAN 15 grow discipleship course launch

What's your New Year's resolution? Interested in growing stronger as a disciple of Christ? Want to find out more about this life changing course? Join us at the GROW Launch on Jan 15, 1:30-3pm, 10/F Worship Hall. Simple lunch will be provided.

# JAN~20 go conference: go beyond

What are you afraid of? Are you complacent? What is beyond this? Join us for our 2017 GO Conference featuring Tim Davis and Lawrence Tong and walk away with the assurance that God is already enough, you just need to take the first step. Early bird tickets (\$300) are available at all Connect Counters or online at islandecc.hk/GO2017.

### **DEADLINE FOR FRIENDS OF HK CHARITIES DONATION**

Please note that donation cheques for Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc. to be accounted for in 2016 should be dated and handed in no later than December 31. Anything received after this date will be considered as a donation for 2017.

### **OUTREACH**

Central to who we are as a church is our belief that God has called us to reach the lost, to share the good news of lesus, both in Hong Kong and beyond. It's a priority to God, and it's a priority to us. For more information on ways you can serve locally or globally, please visit our website or email outreach@islandecc.hk.

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

We believe that in order to fully experience the power of community and the beauty of a thriving, growing church, we must engage as active participants. There are hundreds of opportunities to serve as volunteers weekly. Email serve@islandecc.hk for more details.

# **NEW TO ISLAND ECC**

### MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER

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 # 🖪 🖸

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.

Morocco Mission Trip



### **25 DECEMBER 2016**

## Immanuel

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). 24When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup>But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave Him the name

Matthew 1:18-24

# Want to learn more about us?