

Welcome!

Do you like running?

I don't. In fact, I would have to say I hate running. And I don't hate many things, but running is one of them.

If you saw the movie, Chariots of Fire, you may remember the quote by Eric Lidell: "When I run, I feel His pleasure".

Not me. In fact, when I run, what I feel tends to be more like His wrath or judgment. Along with side-splitting pain and gasping.

Literally speaking, running is something enjoyed by relatively few people. But **spiritually** speaking, running is something we all enjoy.

Running from God. It's a foolish notion when you think about it — trying to avoid a God who is everywhere. But our rebellious hearts want to avoid authority, yearn for independence. Our misunderstanding of God makes us think we can do life better apart from Him. And so we run.

I invite you to join me in my stubborn commitment to say, "I'm not a runner". Hit the trails or the treadmill if you must, but refuse to let your heart run from God.

Brett

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GENERAL OFFERING

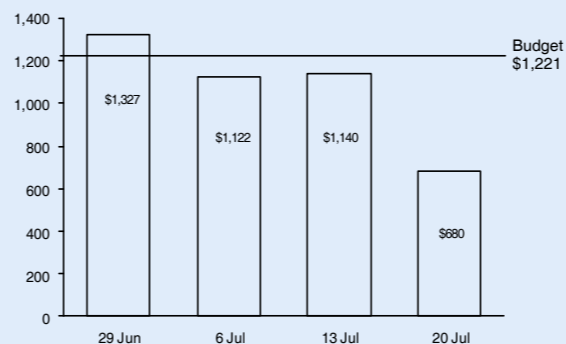
YEAR TO DATE (47 WEEKS)

-1.09% deficit on giving

YTD Budget \$ 57.394M
YTD Giving \$ 56.766M
YTD Variance \$ -0.628M

FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2014-AUG 2015

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



	29 Jun	6 Jul	13 Jul	20 Jul
Weekly Budget	1,221	1,221	1,221	1,221
Weekly Giving	1,327	1,122	1,140	680
Weekly Variance	106	-99	-81	-541

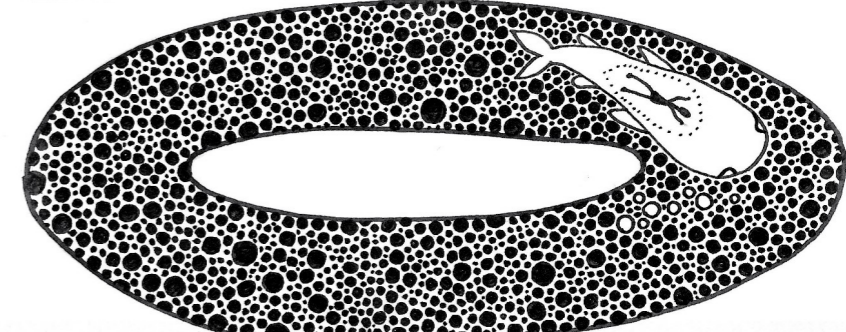
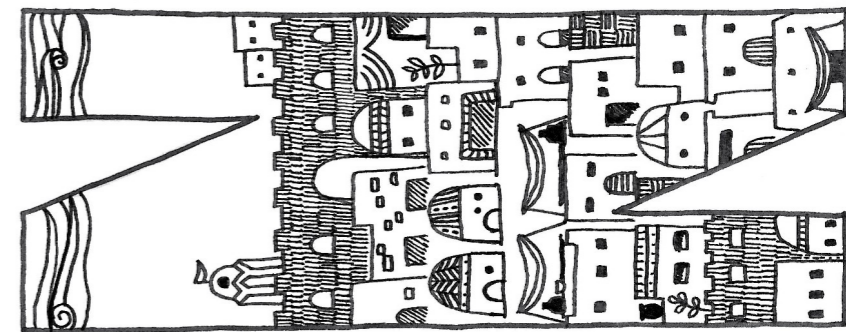
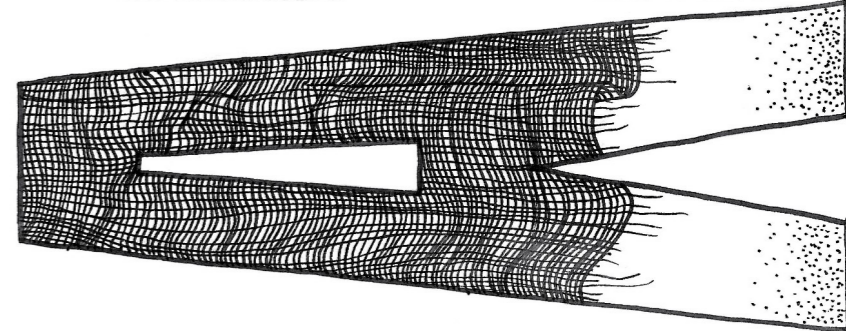
GIVING TO ISLAND ECC We encourage those who consider Island ECC their church home to prayerfully give a percentage of their income to the church on a regular basis.

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

You Can Run ...

July 26, 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.

AUG 1 One Day Prayer Retreat

Join us in setting aside a special day to connect and partner with Father God and with His people at Island ECC's newly renovated 11/F, 10am-3pm. Light lunch is provided. Cost \$50. Register and pay at any Connect Counter. For couples who desire a get-away time but concerned with child-care, let us know so we can provide this. For more information, email prayer@islandecc.hk.

AUG 2 iGlee Auditions

iGlee is recruiting singers for all parts, as well as piano players. We will hold auditions at 2.15pm. Just come with one of your favourite songs. Email iglee@islandecc.hk for full details!

AUG 2 QUENCH Summer Book Sale!

Enjoy up to 40% discount on selected books for the next two Sundays. Don't miss this great opportunity to save! While stock lasts.

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/>.

SEP 26 Indonesia Mission Trip — Applications Open

This fall, Outreach Ministries is taking a team to Indonesia (Sept 26-Oct 2) to work among believers in West Java, a strong Muslim area where currently there is no church presence. We will produce a video to capture the heart of this ministry and raise awareness. We are looking for volunteers with video production experience. Email: go@islandecc.hk for more information.

VBS Kids Club Volunteer Recruitment

We are now recruiting Kids Club volunteers for VBS (30 Aug-27 Sept). Positions are now 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.



On The City

Staff Vacancies on the Marketplace

- Junior Coordinator of Ministry Support
- 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.

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."

Worship and small groups at Children's Ministries



July 26, 2015

You Can Run ...

¹ Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me." ³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

⁴ But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. ⁶ So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

⁷ And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹ And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰ Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done! For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

¹¹ Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. ¹² He said to them, "Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you." ¹³ Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. ¹⁴ Therefore they called out to the Lord, "O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you."

¹⁵ So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶ Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. ¹⁷ And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 1:1-17