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Annual Budget for 2009/2010	\$10,156,000
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Last week's giving	\$82,000
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Apr 2009 (excluding designated funds)	
Actual income	\$548,000
Actual expense	<u>\$798,000</u>
Actual cumulative deficit	\$250,000

Please make checks payable to
"Evangelical Community Church Ltd".

For US citizens wishing a US tax receipt,
please ensure that your check is at least
\$100USD (\$800HKD) made out to "Friends
of Hong Kong Charities, Inc." with any
designations written on the offering envelope
(available at the welcome table) - NOT
on the check itself.

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Howard Kang
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Evangelical Community Church

May 31st, 2009 ✦ 9:30am & 11:15am



Heaven and Hell & Why We Need Them

Welcome to ECC

“Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ”

— *St. Benedict (6th c.)*

TODAY

COMMISSIONING OF ELDERS

This morning we commit and commission our elders to the Lord. They are Alex Chu, Matthew Chu, Mike Harrison, Howard Kang, Anthony Ma, and Lawrence Wong.

“I have a special concern for you church leaders. I know what it’s like to be a leader, in on Christ’s sufferings as well as the coming glory. Here’s my concern: that you care for God’s flock with all the diligence of a shepherd. Not because you have to, but because you want to please God. Not calculating what you can get out of it, but acting spontaneously. Not bossily telling others what to do, but tenderly showing them the way.” ~Peter (1Peter 5.1-3 *The Message*)

“The church is the primary arena in which we learn that glory does not consist in what we do for God but in what God does for us. It is the pruning field where we submit ourselves to death and dying, Jesus dying on the cross and our daily dying. It necessarily involves refusing to take charge of the people around us and refusing to force them, whether by parental intimidation or political manipulation-to do it our way...”
~Eugene Peterson

THANK YOU LUNCH

We are grateful to the many people who work faithfully serving their Lord to keep things running smoothly on Sundays. Thanks to the following teams: ushers, greeters, welcome table, sound and PowerPoint, counters, communion stewards, set up and take down. Please join us for a lunch in your honor from 12:45-2:30pm at the TST Ministry Center.

***Choir rehearsal will be moved to Room 306, YMCA from 2:30-4:00pm**

GET CONNECTED

FAMILY BBQ AND ROCK CLIMBING

Celebrating parents and families with BBQ and rock climbing.

When: 2-5pm, Saturday, June 6th

Where: YMCA King’s Park Centenary Centre (22 Gascoigne Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon)

Cost: \$50 children under 12; \$80 adults

Tickets are available in the foyer. First come first serve.

FAMILY NEWS

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

This past week Tom Mei withdrew his name from our search process. Thanks to all who contributed to this time of discernment. The elders will communicate with the Leadership Circle soon.

PASTOR BOB’S STUDY LEAVE

Bob and Amy will be away for the summer for his study leave to work on his Th.M. thesis in Canada as well as taking his summer holidays. For those of you who read blogs, Bob will stay in touch through his blog on the ECC website. The Teaching Team of Brent, Eugene, Jonathan and Mark will be leading us through a pulpit series on the Ten Commandments entitled ‘The Ten Words’.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Children ages 6-10 will gather in room 402 for worship time

(ages 0–2)	Team Noah	Room 403-404
(ages 3–4)	Team Miriam	Room 305
(ages 5)	Team Esther	Room 309
(ages 6)	Team Daniel	Room 406
(ages 7–8)	Team Joshua	Room 402
(ages 9–10)	Team Paul	Room 405

before going to the following rooms.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCH

Sunday, June 28th after 2nd service. Save the date!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you love children and like to teach them the Word of God through story telling, prayer and singing? We need your help! Please contact Sarah Williams at sarah@ecchk.org

HARVESTERS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

On Friday, June 12th from 6:30-9:30pm we have a team from the Doulos (a big ship docking in HK), visit our youth group in the TST MC. Come and hear them share about life on the ship, their mission and their own story. They will tell us about their work and especially how God uses them to impact the world. Come and meet them!

FRIDAY NIGHTS

***The youth group meets at the TST Ministry Center**

6:30-9:30pm GAMES, FOOD, WORSHIP & MESSAGE

Contact: Tim Buechsel at tim@ecchk.org and/or Mike Harrison at mikeharr1@mac.com

SUNDAY MORNINGS

***We will starting meeting at the TST MC on Sunday, May 3rd**

• 1st service: High School & Middle School - Room 610, YMCA

• 2nd service: High School - Room 601, YMCA; Middle School - Room 610, YMCA



Community Outreach

FILIPINO MINISTRY

Today's activities:

- 8:30am Celebrating God's faithfulness at the podium with Nora D.
11:30am Encouragement on Service by Jocelyn S.
Breaking through Spiritual Maturity with Bea T.
2:30pm Life Principles From The Women of the Bible (Mary and Martha) with Joyce L.

Upcoming activities:

- June 7th Prayer Sunday with Bea T. & Care Group
June 21st Fiestang Pinoy 2009
Please get your copy of the Jan-Feb 2009 Milestones in the foyer.
Contact: Fe Hernandez at fe@ecchk.org

MISSION & OUTREACH

LOVE ENGLISH CAMP - LAST CALL!

We are still in need of 20 volunteers to serve in different roles to witness the love of God to 200 students in Hubei during July 11th to 19th. Training for participants will take place in June. If you are still considering, or have any question about the camp, please contact Joyce at joyce@ecchk.org.

GANSU SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

Deadline is approaching! Come visit one of our Christmas Love Offering recipients. We will visit Jubilee Cares Primary School/Orphanage from June 21st - 28th. Activities include organizing evening activities for the resident children, visiting orphans in rural villages and helping to build an organic farm. **Sign up deadline: Sunday, May 31st**

Cost: around \$4500-5000

Contact: Grace Ngai at gansutrip@ecchk.org

SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP THIS SUMMER

- June 21st-28th Gansu Short Term Mission Trip
June 28th-July 12th Thailand Mission Trip
July 11th-19th Love English Summer Camp, Hubei, China
August 8th-16th Mongolia Mission Trip
For more information, please contact info@ecchk.org

GET CONNECTED

COLLEGE CARE GROUP

Come and join us every Saturday at 6:00pm at the TST Ministry Center. We just started going through the book "Holy Conversation: Talking About God in Everyday life." Together we want to discover how we can share our Christian faith in an organic way with the people God has put us in relationship with. You can join the group at any time.

CARE GROUP

A great place to study God's word, reach out, make friends and pray. Care Group is the pastoral arm of the church. You need to be connected! Pick up a care group brochure in the foyer.

Contact: Michele Bland at michele@ecchk.org.
Please pick up a brochure in the foyer for details.

The Revelation from Jesus Christ

Jonathan Webster

May 31st, 2009

Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: "ye were bought at a price," and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

'ye cannot in your present state understand eternity...But ye can get some likeness of it if ye say that both good and evil, when they are full grown, become retrospective. ... all their earthly past will have been Heaven to those who are saved...That is what mortals misunderstand. They say of some temporal suffering, "No future bliss can make up for it," not knowing that Heaven, once attained will work backwards and turn even that agony into a glory. And of some sinful pleasure they say "Let me have but this and I'll take the consequences": little dreaming how damnation will spread back and back into their past and contaminate the pleasure of that sin. Both processes begin before death. The good man's past begins to change so that forgiven sins and remembered sorrows take on the quality of Heaven: the bad man's past already conforms to his badness and is filled only with dreariness. And that is why, at the end of all things...the Blessed will say "We have never lived anywhere except in Heaven, " and the Lost, "We were always in Hell." And both will speak truly.'

C. S. Lewis, The Great Divorce

No inhabitants of that blessed world will ever be grieved with the thought that they are slighted by those that they love, or that their love is not fully and fondly returned...There shall be no such thing as flattery or insincerity in heaven, but there perfect sincerity shall reign through all in all. Everyone will be just what he seems to be, and will really have all the love that he seems to have. It will not be as in this world, where comparatively few things are what they seem to be, and where professions are often made lightly and without meaning. But there, every expression of love shall come from the bottom of the heart, and all that is professed shall be really and truly felt.

Jonathan Edwards

...our daily encounters with bank tellers, post office clerks, and gas station attendants are, each one, elements of sin and grace. All of these people and each of these encounters is a significant detail in the life of faith. But we are not aware of it. Most of the time we are not living in a crisis in which we are conscious of our need of God, yet everything we do is critical, to our faith, and God is critically involved in it. All day long we are doing eternally important things without knowing it. All through the day we inadvertently speak words that enter people's lives and change them in minor or major ways, and we never know it.

Eugene Peterson, Reversed Thunder



UPCOMING SEMINAR

THE GOSPEL IN CHINESE CULTURE

Sunday, June 14th from 7:30-9:30pm, TST Ministry Center

Speaker: David Marshall

Is Christianity a "foreign religion" to the Chinese? Or has God been in China all along, preparing Chinese culture for the Gospel of Jesus? Based on his popular book *True Son of Heaven*, and more recent research, David makes the case that Jesus fulfills the deepest truths of Chinese history, philosophy, art, and language.

David Marshall is founder and director of the Kuai Mu Institute for Christianity and World Cultures, and has written five books arguing the truth of the Gospel in relation to contemporary issues. Living in China, Taiwan, and Japan for thirteen years, David taught in Japanese universities, combated the sex trade in Taiwan, researched Asian religion, and studied theology. He has spoken on a variety of topics at forums in North America, Asia, and Europe. A graduate (BA and MA) of the University of Washington, David is presently pursuing his doctorate at the Oxford Centre for Missions Studies. *The Truth Behind the New Atheism* (\$120) and *True Son of Heaven* (\$140) are for sale in the foyer.



ONGOING CLASSES

BOUNDARIES

5 Sundays, May 31st to June 28th from 9:30-11:00am in Room 601, YMCA

What are boundaries? Why do I need them? How do I get others and myself recognize and respect my boundaries? Please sign up in the foyer. Facilitator: Michele Bland

ALPHA PLUS

Wednesdays, April 29th to June 24th from 7:30-9:30pm at the TST Ministry Center

ALPHA Plus is an ALPHA follow-up course based on the book of Philippians. We will watch *A Life Worth Living* video in English and follow with discussion groups in Cantonese and English. Please bring your own dinner.

PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY - Revelation 1-3: Jesus' Message to the Church

Starting Sunday April 26th from 2:30 to 5:00pm, Room 610, YMCA

The letter was first delivered to the seven churches of Asia Minor revealing what Christ thinks of the Church and what He wants His bride to be like—in all places and at all times. See how His messages still speak to the church today. Contact: Howard & Michelle Kang at hmkang@netvigator.com

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

FORMED FOR GOD'S FAMILY

This study is based on chapters 15-21 of the book *The Purpose Driven® Life* by Rick Warren. Each session will feature a video teaching by Pastor Rick Warren, followed by reflection questions in the Study Book that will help engage us in thoughtful study, application, and prayer.

Contact: Yeung Suet Ha at fredsuet@gmail.com

10:00am - 12:30pm, TST Ministry Center. All ladies are welcome

LADIES BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

Please sign up for a Wednesday evening Bible study in Shatin on a great book of wisdom and faithfulness. The study will be held from April 8th to June 10th. Ten sessions only. Some homework preparation is required. Facilitator: Juniata Wible. Contact: Noel Chu (chun@ics.edu.hk)

MEN'S FLIGHT DECK FELLOWSHIP

ECC NATURE HIKE SUMMER SERIES

Every 2nd Saturday of each month. Please sign up in the foyer for the June 13th hike.

Date	Hike	Distance	Day/Night
June 13th	Kowloon Reservoir to Jubilee Reservoir (via Wilson Trail)	9 Km	Day
July 11th	Pak Tam Chung – Luk Wu and back (thru nature trail to Luk Wu)	5 Km	Day
Aug 8th	MacLehose stage 6 or 7 (Monkey Mountain)	5Km	Night
Sept 12th	Mui Wo to Tung Chung (not thru Sunset Peak)	10Km	Day
Oct 10th	Parkview to Stanley (via Violet Hill and Twin Peak)	5.3Km	Day
Nov 14th	Blades	10Km	Day

NEW FOOTBALL (SOCCER) SEASON

The Premiership, Bundesliga, La Liga, Saria A, have finished, so where are you going to get your football buzz? To get you through this drought period, we have organised a kick around. The first meet is this Monday in Kowloon Park.

Date: Monday, June 1st

Time: 6-7pm

Location: Kowloon Park; Pitch - mini hard court

Contact: Andrew Williams (andcom@gmail.com)

Please sign up in the foyer if you would like to be kept up-to-date on this or future games. Friends are welcome!

FDF BREAKFAST

A great time for learning, sharing praying and helping to encourage others. We look forward to seeing you Monday morning.

When: 7:30am, Monday, June 1st

Where: ECC Ministry Center, 1/F Southorn Mansion, 1 Luard Road, Wan Chai

Bring your breakfast. There are plenty of choices from the surrounding eating establishments. We will provide coffee and drinks.

MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP - MSG (BI-WEEKLY, JUNE - JULY)

Life is not always a glorious series of bright mountain peaks. The journey is sometimes hard, dark and lonely. We will be starting a new biweekly men's support network for brothers who have current or past struggles with depression and/or anxiety. It will be a safe place in which we can share and pray for each other in a confidential setting. Note that this will not be intended as a substitute for professional counseling. Time and place will be determined by the attendees. If you are interested, email Steve Wible smwible@gmail.com