

New Year's Resolutions

When I first learned what New Year's resolutions were during high school, I thought they were silly. If you wanted to exercise regularly, eat healthier, spend less time on screens, or read your Bible more, why would you wait for the New Year to do something about it? Why not implement these positive life changes as soon as you think about it?

As I grew older, I began to realize that there is some merit to being intentional about reflecting on your past year and looking forward to the year ahead at the same time every year. There is something significant about regular rhythms or traditions in a year.

You could show love to your spouse on any day of the year, but there is something significant about loving him or her on your anniversary.

You could celebrate how far you have come in life any day of the year, but there is something significant about celebrating your life on your birthday.

You could spend time with your family any day of the year, but there is something significant about a family trip or vacation.

The Jews were particularly good at rhythms and traditions in their year because God commanded them to observe them. Leviticus 23 lays out God's instructions for seven sacred assemblies and festivals throughout the year to reflect and remember significant events in their history, like when God delivered them from Egypt and they did not have time to leaven their bread (Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Lev. 23:4-8), or God's provision for the harvest (The Feast of Firstfruits, Lev. 23:9-14, and the Feast of Weeks, Lev. 23:15-22), or when Israel had to wander the desert and live in temporary homes (Festival of Tabernacles, Lev. 23:33-43). Israel could have remembered God's deliverance from Egypt, thanked Him for the harvest, or reflected on their time in the desert at any time of the year, but God instructed them to do so at particular times in their year. Clearly, God thinks there is something significant about reflecting on and celebrating something at a particular time of the year.

As we begin 2025, I encourage you to spend time with God reflecting on this past year and looking forward to the year ahead. How did God show up or reveal Himself to you in 2024? What do you need to thank Him for and celebrate? How did He grow you and your family? What might He be leading you to do or change in 2025? Let us resolve to pursue and love God even more in this upcoming year by reflecting on His goodness to us in the last year.

REDMOND CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE | 1/5/2025

Worship through Praise
 Congregational Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
 Worship through the Word
 Worship in Response
 Holy Communion
 Doxology & Benediction
 Welcome and Announcements

*Offering is a part of our worship to God.
 Free-will offering box is located on the Welcome Table by the Worship Hall doors.
 Online Offering: <https://eccseattle.org/en/give/>*

Message from Pastor Steven MacDonald
"Like Father, Like Son"
1 Corinthians 10:15-18

*Missed a sermon or want to share it? Listen to it at
www.eccseattle.org/media/sermons*

SUNDAY SCHOOL	TOPIC	LOCATION
CHILDREN	Elementary Worship and Sunday School Message	9:30 AM Room 106
	Preschool	9:30 AM Rooms 114-116
YF (JUNIOR HIGH)	No Sunday School (New Year Break)	
YSF (SENIOR HIGH)		
ADULT/COLLEGE		
SERVANT TEAM	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SPEAKER	Steven MacDonald	Christopher Hui
WORSHIP	Alan Tang	Sing Wee
MODERATOR	Paul Yau	Elton Lee
DOOR ROTATION	Redmond Mandarin Lunch Ministry	

Prayers for Our ECC Community

PRaises AND PRAYERS

SEATTLE MANDARIN CONGREGATION

- Seven individuals from the Seattle Mandarin Congregation were baptized on December 15. Praise the Lord! We thank God for the Seeker's Class team, who invited, served, and witnessed to our friends through the gospel. We are grateful for everyone's efforts in spreading the good news to the world.
- We praise the Lord for the Seattle Mandarin Choir, led by Sister Lydia Hwang. They have worked diligently to prepare and present a wonderful Christmas Sunday worship service and Christmas Eve Candlelight Service!
- We thank God for the success of the Life Care Ministry retreat held on December 7. Under Sister Justina's leadership, the Life Care Ministry has actively served those in need and nurtured the coworkers involved in this ministry.
- Pray for the upcoming new series in both preaching and Sunday school titled "The Gospel Message Shared by Disciples." May the Lord use it to help us grow in maturity as a missional church!
- We have formed a new fellowship, the Fruits Fellowship, from the Bread Fellowship for families with young children. Pray for this new fellowship to receive blessings, grow, and develop, that it may bring blessings to many while being witnesses of the gospel to others.
- We will welcome six new members to ECC at the beginning of the year. May God bless them and make them a blessing to the church!

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Devendra and Koko Rai are a part of the Commission to Every Nation. They are involved with setting up Bible School on Wheels (BSOW) and setting up churches in NE India and other parts of Asia. They requested prayers for BSOW to take root among the Nepali workers in Japan. Currently there are no Japanese or Nepali translators, so please pray for God to provide them with one. Devendra is seeing God's work. After meeting them, K, a young teacher from India witnessed a horrible car accident and she took care of a small child until emergency services came. K realized that God had caught her attention. Now K becomes a missionary in Japan. Please pray that the door of the gospel will be greatly opened in Japan.

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

- Please pray for the families and friends of the victims of the airplane crashes in Azerbaijan and South Korea. May the Lord comfort them with His Presence during their time of mourning.
- Please continue to pray for an end to the conflicts in the Middle East (Gaza, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, and Syria). May the Lord raise peacemakers to bring an end to the violence and may the Lord be gracious and merciful to the millions caught amid the conflict. May the Lord comfort those who have suffered loss and grant hope to those who cry out to the Lord.



Pray for Our Church Family

Please pray for the family of Sister Ellen Liang's father, brother Pu Kiang Liang, who went to be with the Lord on Dec 28, 2024 in Hong Kong at the age of 93. May the grace and peace from the Lord comfort the families.

REDMOND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & BUDGET PREVIEW MEETING

We will have our annual Congregational Meeting for all members on Sunday, January 19, immediately following the Sunday Worship Services at all three campuses. The meeting will include the following items:

- A. Approve the 2025 ECC annual budget.
- B. Re-confirm Elders Elton Lee and Howard Hsu as ruling elders for a three-year term (2025-2027).
- Your attendance is essential. If unable to attend, request an absentee ballot by January 13th from your deacon or the church office. Invitation letters with details were mailed on January 3rd.
- Members are invited to attend the **budget preview Zoom meeting** on 1/11 (Sat) at 9:30am to learn more about the various budgets and the modifications on the church buildings.

Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/2025ECCBudget>

Meeting ID: 824 8461 7550, Code: 562715

PASTOR JEFF TING'S RETIREMENT PLAN

Pastor Jeff Ting plans to retire at the end of July 2025. ECC is currently discussing the succession plan for the Edmonds Mandarin Congregation and has already initiated the Mandarin pastoral search process. Please pray for the entire recruitment and transition process, asking God to send His worker in His perfect timing to shepherd His flock together.

PASTORAL SEARCH FOR ECC-EDMONDS MANDARIN CONGREGATION

ECC is currently looking for a full-time Mandarin pastor to shepherd the ECC Edmonds Mandarin congregation. If you know of someone who may be interested, please refer them to the church website:

<https://eccseattle.org/en/open-positions/> for the job description and application form. This person must be spiritually mature with at least three years of church-related ministry experience, a seminary graduate with a Master of Divinity degree or equivalent, and familiar with both Chinese and North American cultures. Any questions, please email eds-m-pscommittee@eccseattle.org.



Welcome New Members
1/5 Seattle - Mandarin

Ava Pan 、 Jo-Nu Wu 、 Rebecca Zhao
Saike Wang 、 Vincent Wu 、 Xijing Liu