

A Few Thoughts for the New Year

Happy New Year

In the blink of an eye, another year has passed. At the start of a new year, we are all used to wishing each other a "Happy New Year." But is the New Year really a happy year? Not necessarily! Looking back on the past year, there were still many disappointing, sorrowful, and catastrophic events. Political situations remain chaotic and unstable. On the international stage, "nation rises against nation, and people against people," and "revenge is repaid without end." Beneath the surface prosperity of the Greater Seattle area, many unresolved issues persist. As we face the new year, may Nehemiah's words to a group of people willing to follow God be our encouragement: "Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." (Nehemiah 8:10) In the new year, let us renew our lives, live out the testimony of life, and truly experience a joyful new year.

A Message for the New Year

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23) Thank God! He gives us the hope of a fresh start every day. May we embrace a lively new hope in the new year because of God's abundant love.

Starting Anew from the Heart

In mid-November, a powerful bomb cyclone struck Seattle, toppling countless tree branches of all sizes and scattering them across gardens and rooftops. Even now, the cleanup remains incomplete. I look forward to the arrival of the New Year, not only because the garden can be tidied up again, but also so God will get rid of any distracting thoughts in my heart that are not in line with His will. "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)

Trying a New Perspective

- Face the sun, and your shadow will fall behind you; continually look to the Lord, and human shadows will disappear.
- Instead of "looking out over" and being disappointed, "look up" and have hope. (Excerpted from "Voice of God and Men," Issue 258, p.5)

The Crown of Years

Thank God! "You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance." (Psalm 65:11) May the Lord's grace be with you always! Blessings for a prosperous new year!

(Translated by the Translation Team)



SEATTLE CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE | 1/12/2024

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

*Offering is a part of our worship to God.
Free-will offering boxes are located at the sanctuary entrance and exits.
Online Offering: <https://eccseattle.org/en/give/>*

Message from Pastor Solomon Liu
"The God Who Provides"
John 2:1-11

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

	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SPEAKER	Solomon Liu	Seattle Mandarin & English Joint Worship 10:00 AM Sanctuary
MODERATOR	Petros Yeung	
WORSHIP	Faye Wu	
PA TECH	Brian Yao, Edward Lee	
LIVE STREAM	Hannah Cho, Lance Garcia	
DOOR ROTATION	Jandie Ho (SEA-C)	

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

Alex, Kristi, and their team have served in a sports ministry in Taiwan and other parts of Asia for 33 years. They've relocated to central TX to be closer to their three kids and five grandkids, and they see ministering to them as a part of their job. They wrote about Jesus being God's legacy, and how God has invited them in the legacy of sports ministry in Taiwan and Asia. They expressed a desire to expand sports ministries, especially amongst partnering churches, and to raise up new ministry supporters. Please for new partners and opportunities to pass on their legacy. May God also grant Alex safe travels in Jan and Feb, to Taiwan and Manila for camps and leadership training.

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.

2025 CONGREGATIONAL 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. Your attendance is essential. If unable to attend, request an absentee ballot by January 13th from your deacon or the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER QUARTER ALPHA COURSE (HYBRID)

1/16 - 2/20 (THUR) | 7:00 PM | VIA ZOOM AND IN PERSON AT BETHEL HOUSE, SEATTLE
ZOOM LINK: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/427YKV4](https://bit.ly/427Ykv4)

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly and informal environment. Alpha is a safe place to explore life's biggest questions, where people can share their opinions and points of view. You will engage in an Alpha series that contains relevant life stories and explores the big issues around the basics of Christianity, with interviews of people from all walks of life, and visuals that represent our current cultural moments. Please register with Bruce Chang at brucepchang@gmail.com.

SEATTLE MANDARIN & ENGLISH JOINT WORSHIP

1/19 (SUN) | 10:00 AM | SANCTUARY

Due to the Congregational Meeting, we are having a Mandarin & English joint worship next Sunday. Since the congregational meeting will start right after the joint worship, there will be no adult Sunday school next week.

2025 MEXICO MISSIONS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

1/26 | 1:00 PM | M105, REDMOND CAMPUS

Interested in going on a short-term missions trip this Summer? From July 12-19, a team will be headed to Mexico. This is open to all congregations. Please come join us to learn more about this ministry opportunity. Questions? Please contact Minister Steve (stevemoy@eccseattle.org). A light lunch will be provided.

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS (STM) INFO MEETING

1/26 (SUN) | 7:30 pm | Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/STMInfo2025>

If you are interested in taking part in any of our short-term missions trips this year, mark your calendars to attend an info session via Zoom. Meeting objectives: to communicate information about STM policies, guidelines, criteria, expectations, required training, and church support.

Meeting ID: 894 1256 0706 Passcode: 278857

THAILAND LISU MISSIONS TRIP FUNDRAISER - THAILAND NIGHT MARKET

2/7 (FRI) | 6:00 - 7:30 PM | REDMOND CAMPUS EAST LOBBY

Join us for a vibrant and flavorful Thailand Night Market Fundraiser in support of our upcoming Thailand Lisu Missions Trip! Enjoy delicious food, great company, and a fun cultural experience—all while learning more about the RED-E Young Adult Missions Trip; our partner ministry, Church of the Messiah, in Thailand and Myanmar; and how you can support us. For more information, contact Minister Chris Hui (chrishui@eccseattle.org).

PASTORAL SEARCH FOR ECC-EDMONDS MANDARIN CONGREGATION

ECC is currently looking for a 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/>. This person must have 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.