

mic@TSK

# mic Herald

循道衛理聯合教會國際禮拜堂

Dear Friends,

With just a few days before Christmas, I have been thinking of what I hope for MIC in 2018 - the 125th Anniversary of the church.

Some startling statistics were brought sharply into focus in the South China Morning Post recently, with a report of one of the world's most expensive apartment being sold on the Peak for HK\$600 million, the new owner buying two apartments for HK\$1.16 billion in a day - whilst in a different section of the paper on the same day, I read that those living in poverty in Hong Kong has reached over 1 million! Hong Kong sits just behind New York now in its wealth inequality gap. At an event earlier in the week, I had heard the rather shocking statistics that only 6% of Hongkongers now attend church leaving 94% untouched by Christian faith.

These alarming statistics remind us what an enormous task is ours in working with God to establish His Kingdom by preaching Christ and seeking a just and fair society for all here in Hong Kong. I feel particularly for the young, so many of whom feel frustrated and even hopeless in the face of what they perceive to be slow political change. In the process of spending over HK\$470 million on a new church and headquarters building, we now have the very considerable challenge of using this costly yet stunningly beautiful resource to serve Hong Kong. My hope is that we shall seek in our 125th year and beyond, to hold Christ at the very centre and not shy away from the challenge which is ours to win by help of the Holy Spirit, a generation of lost souls and assist our political leaders in rebuilding a just and fair society in which all are cherished and welcome.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of Christmas is watching the delighted faces of children as they unwrap Christmas presents, tearing off the brightly covered paper and ribbons and holding up their presents for all to see and enjoy. Well, I think this year we have unwrapped a most wonderful gift for the people of Hong Kong on Queen's Road East, and my prayer is that it will bring much joy to all who enter in, young and old. May the new Wesleyan House be a place of warm and loving hospitality, a place of encounter with the living God through Jesus Christ and a centre within which we strive for justice and peace in our time - offering hope to all, especially the young.

Thank you all, may God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas and throughout the New Year.



*Edén J. Fletcher*  
Revd Edén J. Fletcher



Dear brothers and sisters,

As we are entering Advent, the beginning of the church calendar year. I invite you to enter this sacred time with great expectation. Advent reminds us that our God is a faithful God. We are living in a world that often discourages, disappoints, and frustrates us, and in situations that make us feel like there is no way out. Yet we can still live with unwavering expectations and joy because God has fulfilled His promise by sending His beloved son Jesus Christ to this dark world. As such we can trust that with His presence and in the power of the Holy Spirit, the weak will be strong, the hopeless have hope, the wilderness have paths, and the deserts have streams. We firmly believe that by trusting God we can accomplish what men alone cannot. "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible". How wonderful these words are!

After Advent, "Wesleyan House", the "Redevelopment of MICHK and Conference Building" will reach its final stage. Our "goal" for this project has never been just having a church building of bricks and concrete. We are expecting it to be a blessing for our church and the community, exalting Christ and glorifying God. We expect that after MICHK has moved into the new building, it will have a better grasp of the needs of the congregation and the community. With the excellent facilities and space available, MICHK will be in a position to renew its vision and mission, faithfully proclaiming the grace and the gospel of Christ, witnessing God's love and righteousness, and finding ways to improve the prayer and worship life of the congregation. Through committed and creative mission work, pastoral care, teaching, and serving a multi-national and multi-cultural congregation and community, people of different nationalities and races will find a spiritual home in MICHK.

In the new Wesleyan House, we also expect that brothers and sisters from our local churches will come together for fellowship and prayer, searching for the vision and mission God has given us, receiving coaching to become Christ's faithful disciples and outstanding leaders in the Church, sharing and discussing how to better serve our church and the community through preaching, teaching, pastoral care, education and service, and also working on plans and policies to enhance the Church's development and to glorify God and serve the people.

At this time of Christmas and the New Year, may Jesus Christ, who came to earth be the Head of our Church, fill our Church and every brother and sister with His light, joy and peace so that we can love and serve Him and our neighbours with a thankful heart.



林崇智  
Revd Dr Sung-che Lam  
President  
The Methodist Church, Hong Kong

HOPE  
& Expectation

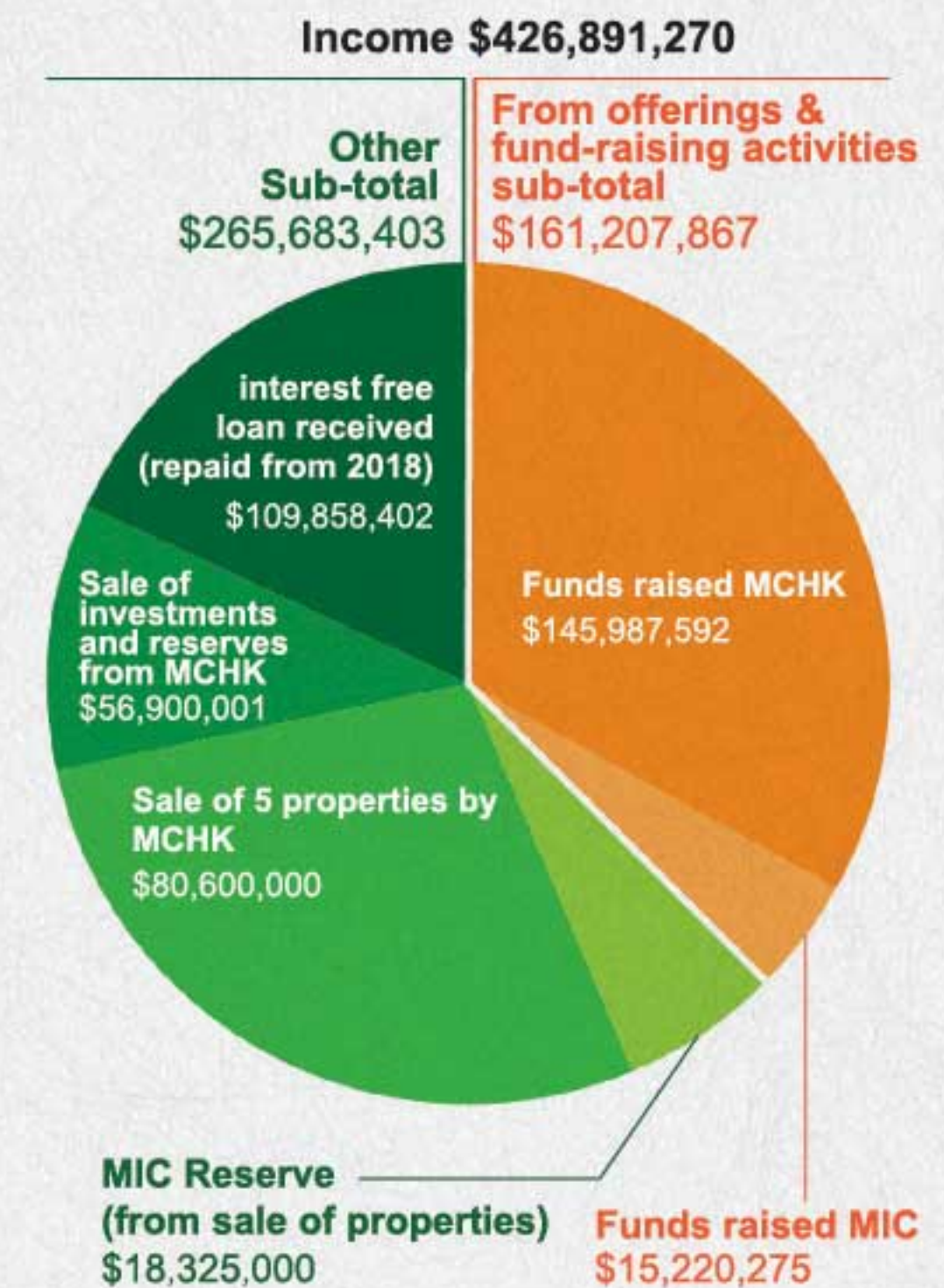


# HOPE



## Alleluia! Rejoice!

Up to 30th November 2017, we have raised \$426 million from donations, loans and sale of assets. With expenses of \$315,985,564, the cash balance in the project account is around \$110 million. We need another \$44 million cash to cover the overall \$470 million construction costs.



The youth and children cannot wait to move in to their new space at Wesleyan House and MIC is so excited to see a new generation grow in faith.

Dear Friends,

At the end of 2017, I wanted to write and express sincere and heartfelt thanks for the enormous generosity of so many of you who have really gone the extra mile this year to give so graciously to the building costs of the new Wesleyan House. By many and various creative means, an absolutely amazing HK\$161,207,867 has been raised by donations.

Thank you so much.

Revd Eden J. Fletcher

## 2017 Walkathon & Carnival

@Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Park & Tseung Kwan O Methodist Primary School



Thank you all for your support and givings!

### Offerings can be made by:

**Crossed Cheque** payable to 'Methodist International Church, Hong Kong' and send to Room 1302, Methodist House, 36 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

**Direct Deposit** to 'Methodist International Church, Hong Kong', HSBC HK A/C #048-054605-001. Please forward the bank pay-in slip for our records.

John Wesley in his sermon on 'The Use of Money' (1744), urged Methodists to :

**Gain all you can** – with 'honest wisdom', 'honest industry' and without demeaning others.

**Save all you can** – live carefully and simply, 'not wasting God's gift'.

**Give all you can** – 'that you may give good account of your stewardship'.



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