



# the Emmanuel Connection

June 2023

## Focus on: Brittany Ratelband

*Brittany was an intern with Emmanuel International Canada who worked in Mwanza, Tanzania during May for an internship through Tyndale University*



I am in my fourth year of International Development studies at Tyndale University, while also minoring in Biblical Studies and Theology. For the past month, I have had the opportunity to live alongside Emmanuel International's Tanzanian team and learn from the amazing work they're accomplishing in partnership with local churches to serve their communities!

Since a young girl, I have felt the call of God upon my life to engage in the practicality of the mission of Jesus to love my neighbours, both

locally and globally. In the past month, I have been able to start applying the concepts and theories I have been studying. Through the interaction with their different projects surrounding entrepreneurship, pastoral training, agriculture, and girl's health, I have been extremely humbled at the hand of God at work through the Tanzanian Church. This internship shaped my worldview and broadened my understanding of the work of God beyond my own cultural context. Surely, many things I have seen were challenging and heartbreaking, and I invite you to join me in praying for the women, men, children, church and systems of Tanzania. However, I am finishing my time in Tanzania greatly encouraged by the work of God through Emmanuel International; I have seen girls educated on their value and the importance of consent, women gain a source of income through cattle and beekeeping, pastors being trained and sent out with the ability to do projects in their own communities, and the church growing.

As I work to finish my degree over the coming months and prepare to enter into vocational ministry, I would be overjoyed if you could join me in praying that the Lord would prepare me to carry the treasure of Christ well, in my mere jar of clay, showing "that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us" (2 Corinthians 4:7). I pray that He would direct my steps and I would be obedient to His will during this season and throughout my life. Thank you for your prayers, my friends!

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## Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Canada:** We are looking forward to spending time with those who can join us at Muskoka Bible Camp (MBC) for our Global Gathering, from 11 to 15 June. Pray for safe travels to MBC. Some people are still waiting for their visas to be approved, so please pray with us that these will be granted in time.
- 2 International:** The Directors and Board members will be receiving and reviewing the newly drafted Strategic Plan which is meant to guide the organization over the next 5 years.  
**Tanzania:** This whole month we'd appreciate prayers for KWETU Phase Two training, especially for project participants' attendance and good health for the staff.
- 3 Philippines:** We have a new partnership with the Philippine National Police in their program to reach children in the villages and communities, especially those in conflict with the law. There will be training of life coaches, pastors and policemen and policewomen in the use of The Mailbox Club's Children's Bible materials all through this month. Pray for faithful volunteer trainers, for safety as they travel, and for strength and creativity as they train.
- 4 Uganda:** Mike, Marianne and Elias are in Canada for the EI global gathering. They will also be speaking at Redeemer Alliance Church (Ottawa) today and at Bayview Glen Alliance Church (Toronto) on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for good connections with supporters and supporting churches.
- 5 Tanzania:** Brittany (EIC Intern) and the Newbys will travel to Dar. Brittany will continue onto Toronto. The Newbys will follow a day later. Please also pray for the work in Tanga as this month we are holding VICOBA seminars in two new groups and providing Core Training to the two new local churches.  
**South Africa:** Rachel is travelling to meet Don in Canada today.
- 6 Tanzania:** This month we plan to start a new village at Kalenga and finish core training in the IMARIKA Project.  
**South Africa:** Don is visiting supporters in Canada in advance of the EI Global Gathering.
- 7 Haiti:** The country is truly in anarchy. There is so much violence and security threats in the country due to political unrest and financial instability. We really would appreciate your prayers for God's peace over Haiti.  
**Malawi:** We are still assisting survivors of Cyclone Freddy. We pray that they will receive the help they need.
- 8 Canada:** Our children of schoolgoing age are doing their final exams and are finishing their school year.
- 9 United Kingdom:** Sue and Linda are travelling to Canada today to join the rest of the EI family for the Global Gathering.  
**Tanzania:** Watershed management tasks are taking place in Mbuga this month. This is the future water project village.

- 10 Tanzania:** Joel, Simon, Laura, and our chairperson Ester will travel to Toronto. Samantha and the kids will travel to Montana to be with Joel's family. Laura leaves Tanzania bright and early and arrives in Toronto late that evening. Please pray for safe travels!
- 11 International:** The EI Global Gathering is starting today. Several EI staff and board members from all our project and affiliate countries are meeting together until the 15<sup>th</sup>. We'll share about EI's work, learn together and most of all, worship together! May God's name be praised gloriously.
- 12 South Africa:** Pray for the smooth running of the Safe Homes as Don and Rachel are in Canada. Also for safety for Hudson and Nate as they remain behind in SA to continue with their schooling, and final months of Scouts for Hudson.
- 13 Brazil:** The Monte Alegre Xukuru kariri indigenous families have again been going through some challenges and are in need, even of food packages. Pray that pastor Daniel and Mariana will be a blessing to them and will find ways to help.
- 14 Uganda:** The Sunday School teachers training in May was completed very successfully, with 31 teachers trained. In June Emily will be visiting each teacher to follow up with them.
- 15 Philippines:** Our Bible translation partners in the Philippines are doing community checking and need prayers for safety and the strength to facilitate this.
- 16 Malawi:** We are planning to bring a Canadian farming family to Malawi to encourage Malawian farmers in the Chisomo area and to share what stewarding creation looks like for a Christian farmer in Canada. Please pray for these plans.
- 17 Canada:** EIC is hosting an Alumni Gathering and BBQ today. Pray that it will be a good time of renewed friendships and great fellowship as well as encouragement.
- 18 International:** The people who have travelled to Canada for the Global Gathering will be returning home in the next weeks. Please pray for safe travels. For those who combined the trip with a home visit, please pray that it will be a fruitful time of connecting with family, friends, church and supporters.
- 19 International:** The EI Council members and some of their Board members are beginning their 2 days of council meetings. Pray for hearts ready to hear each other as we discuss the implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- 20 International:** Praise God with us for His heart for EI, for His willingness to use EI for His glory since 1975. Pray that we will remain true to that to which He has called us.

- 21 Brazil:** The Águas Formosas PROPAC Women's cooperative is busy preparing different kinds of cheese and fruit sweets for the town fair in the beginning of July. This will be their first larger production.
- 22 Tanzania:** Funding proposals for EI Tanzania projects have been submitted. Please pray for favour as they are being considered.
- 23 Malawi:** Scott and Lorilee MacLean hope to travel back to Malawi today. Lorilee's dad is still battling leukemia.
- Tanzania:** Laura is hosting a special event in her hometown for the local church she works at in Tanzania. Please pray God will stir people's hearts to give generously!
- 24 Uganda:** Schools reopened for the 2<sup>nd</sup> term on May 29<sup>th</sup>. During the 1<sup>st</sup> term the Pads ministry worked with four schools to teach the girls how to sew washable sanitary pads. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> term we will spend more time with the girls, teaching six different lessons on menstruation, relationships and God.
- 25 Tanzania:** Laura is speaking at her home church about her work with EI, specifically the "Strength & Dignity" girls health project. Please pray it's a good time of fellowship!
- 26 Malawi:** The winter season is here. We pray for warm clothing for those in need.
- United Kingdom:** The team from St Peter's Church, Farnborough, is preparing for their trip to Tanzania in August.
- 27 Tanzania:** It is the honey harvesting season. May God give us energy and good health. Pray for the strengthening of beekeeping groups on Kome and in Kwimba and Kayenze. Pray for the churches and pastors we are partnering with; may God give them more understanding and be able to implement holistic mission. Pray for hive making activity on Kome to be done on time this month.
- 28 Malawi:** The work of writing devotionals for a choir resource for youth choirs in Malawi is ongoing.
- 29 United Kingdom:** Sue and Andy are meeting with Chris Manktelow to make final arrangements for his monthlong placement in Tanzania in August of this year.
- 30 Malawi:** Ewart Tawakali, EI Malawi staff, faithfully serves local farmers and small churches situated in lesser reached areas. Pray for him and other EI Malawi staff like him, who work in places where there are not many followers of Christ.