



the Emmanuel Connection

January 2024

Focus on EI countries: South Africa

South Africa has been an EI Project country for 19 years. There were some activities and ministries affiliated with EI in the 1990's through an EI missionary but nothing long-term.



Our active projects are the Orphan Safe Houses and Living Hope Bible Church, based in Western Cape. EISA has 2 expat and 10 national staff members.

South Africa is a 'rainbow nation' with 11 official languages, 65 million people and 4 dominant cultural histories – Black, Indian, Coloured (Cape Malay) and White. The predominant religions are Traditional/ Tribal, Muslim, Hindu, Syncretistic-Christianity and Christianity.



Cape Town has been recognized as both the most beautiful and most dangerous city in the World. South Africa is also a country of extreme contrasts in wealth and impoverishment.

Children in one of the 3 safe houses

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Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Canada:** El Canada needs the auditors to complete the audit documents in time so that they can plan for their AGM. Please pray that this will be completed well in time.
- 2 Tanzania:** After a break from Christmas please pray for all our projects as they start back up.
- 3 Philippines:** Some of our families affected by the recent flooding in Mindanao will have a real new beginning this month. Please pray as they pick up what's left from their houses and their harvest to start again. Praise God for our partner, JOHIM who funded the distribution of rice and canned goods for affected families.
- 4 Tanzania:** Joel, Laura, and Simon will be traveling to Dar es Salaam today for partner church meetings and a missionary appreciation banquet. They return on the 7th. Please pray for safe travel.
- 5 International:** This month, in the International Office, we are preparing for the AGM for the International office that will take place in February 2024.
- 6 South Africa:** Don Sayers had a bad fall in early December. Please pray for his healing, that there will be no complications and no lasting after-effects.
- 7 Canada:** February 20 is the expected date for the El Canada AGM. Pray for the preparations for the AGM and for the successful completion of the 2022-2023 audit.
- 8 United Kingdom:** We would appreciate your prayers for our board of trustees. They are volunteering their time and skills to benefit the work of EI and we really appreciate them. Please ask for God's blessing over their lives and ministry.
- 9 Malawi:** New students from Malawi and Mozambique are arriving at Chisomo to begin one year of biblical studies and training in carpentry.
- 10 Brazil:** El Brazil has been contacting Brazilian churches to expand the involvement of churches in our ministry. Pray for a good response for those contacts.
- 11 United Kingdom:** We share a lot of information about the work of EI in our publications, on social media and on our website. Please pray that we will reach a wide audience with these, people who will be interested in our work, supporting in prayer as well as financially. We also hope to reach people who are willing to answer God's call for going out in mission, where there is need.

- 12 Philippines:** Because of the calamity (recent flooding), our women's livelihood project won't start as they are occupied with so many things. Please pray that the situation will improve so they can begin the steps identified to start the project.
- 13 Canada:** EIC is planning an information session to start the conversation for 2024 Missions Trips with those that are interested.
- 14 Uganda:** We have an important meeting with our partner church leaders this week. We have some new ideas for the GROW ministry (previously known as the Jesus Film ministry) and the Child Discipleship ministry, which we want to share with the leaders and plan together. Please pray for understanding and unity as we move forward in partnership.
- 15 Malawi:** Scott and Lorilee MacLean will be teaching Romans at Chisomo.
- 16 Haiti:** Haiti is the poorest country in the western Hemisphere. More than half the population lives in abject poverty, with 40 percent unemployed. One-quarter of all infants have low birth weight, and most people living in rural areas lack access to basic needs such as clean water and sanitation facilities. Please pray as the current violent situation does not help people to recover economically.
- 17 Uganda:** We are launching a strategic planning process for Uganda, starting with an online meeting involving all of the staff and Board of Directors. Please pray for God's guidance in this process.
- 18 Malawi:** Lorilee MacLean will be assisting primary school teachers at Ubwenzi Primary School in strengthening their programs.
- 19 International:** Praise God for the work of our many fellow EI co-workers as we pursue the activities outlined in our strategic plan. Pray for God's wisdom in each endeavour.
- 20 Malawi:** This is a harder year than usual for Malawi. This month is in the middle of what is called hunger season. Some seasons are mild; this one is not. Pray that food will reach our neighbours in unexpected ways as they wait for the next harvest.
- 21 South Africa:** Living Hope Church has been blessed with growth in number and also spiritually. We thank God for this.
- 22 Uganda:** A group from Faith Mission Church is going on a cross-cultural exposure trip to see missions work in Kaabong with our partner, the Frontier Mission Team, from today till the 26th. This group completed the MissionMode training last year, and now they're getting practical experience.

- 23 Haiti:** We are praying for peace in Haiti. Pray that funding we have for the projects will reach the country and the intended recipients safely. It is very difficult to get money to the country without endangering the lives of people.
- 24 International:** The International Office seeks to connect with churches to share the work of EI and encourage partnerships. Pray for contacts with churches throughout the Greater Toronto Area.
- 25 Malawi:** Praise God for the five inter-denominational congregations around Chisomo which received trees for planting and reforestation. Pray that the trees take root and contribute to strengthening the environment for years to come.
- 26 South Africa:** The house moms work with some children who come from very difficult environments. Their work is very challenging. Please pray for these wonderful women and for their devotion to the Lord.
- 27 Brazil:** Pastor Jader Oliveira, the Terena Church chair, needs our support in prayer to deal with the many challenges of the Terena Church ministry.
- 28 South Africa:** There have been many maintenance issues around the safe houses in the last year: some in the homes, some in the neighbourhood outside, and some weather related. Please pray that in this coming year, the buildings will function well with no need for repairs!
- 29 United Kingdom:** Sue Fallon is speaking about the work of EI at a Supporting Church Missions meeting today.
- 30 Malawi:** Scott MacLean is writing a new course on Psalms to be taught during the third term at Chisomo.
- 31 United Kingdom:** We are celebrating 40 years of God's faithfulness to EIUK at our Conference and AGM on 2 March 2024. Please pray that many people will be able to join us, and as we make preparations for the day.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20