



# BushNet

News from EMMANUEL INTERNATIONAL

PARTNERING WITH CHURCHES IN SERVING THEIR COMMUNITIES

**Issue 2 of 2024**

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*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.”*

Proverbs 3:5



*Laura Kelly, El Canada Missionary in Tanzania, writes to tell us about the Vacation Bible School, Camp Kilimanjaro, that was run in Mwanza in July 2024.*

Petra, ensuring we all know our different roles and responsibilities. I also lead the Petra Kids and Next Gen ministries. Needless to say, when I heard that Eleanor wanted to be involved with a local church, I was excited! (Eleanor Hutchison visited Mwanza to help with Camp Kilimanjaro and also visit some of the EI projects in the area. Read her story next.)

It's been a busy month!

Normally, my roles with Emmanuel International and Petra City Church don't overlap, but this month they did. Petra is a local church in Mwanza, Tanzania. It holds a special place in my heart for many reasons, one of them being that my late friend started this church with her husband. Petra is an amazing story of resilience in the face of tragedy, rapid growth in times of transition, and unspeakable joy in the midst of uncertainty. It's a story of high highs and low lows, but we've chosen to declare, "No matter the season, the song is the same, great is His faithfulness, great is His name."

For 3 years now, I've been serving as the Associate Pastor of Next Gen. I'm responsible for the planning calendar at

I must say, Eleanor was a breath of fresh air. Her joyful nature and enthusiastic spirit were contagious. Many guests struggle with the pace of life here because it's so different than what they're used to, but Eleanor really leaned into the culture. She was easy-going, helpful, and inquisitive.

I've been in church ministry since university, but I still love it! There's something about working with kids that nourishes my spirit. I think it's their child-like faith, their pure innocence, their thoughtful questions, and their unspeakable joy.

Camp Kilimanjaro was an epic journey through the book of Proverbs, teaching kids that true wisdom comes from God. Each

day, kids played games, sang songs, made crafts, learned Bible stories, and enjoyed snacks. They also met a new animal each day, each representing a key slogan. More than 30 children participated in the week long camp.



**Elephant** = Having ears that hear and do God's will



**Giraffe** = Having hearts that trust in the Lord



**Hippo** = Having tongues that are tame



**Monkey** = Having hands that get to work



**Cheetah** = Having feet that walk with the wise



Cross-cultural ministry is quite an experience. It's knowing when to micro-manage and when to step back, discerning who is ready to lead and who needs more time, and pushing boundaries while respecting limits. As a bit of a perfectionist, I sometimes struggle with the slower pace of ministry here, but I'm learning to embrace it. My current motto is: Let go.. at least a bit.

There were so many memories from this week that I thought it would be fun to do a little countdown to wrap this up. Enjoy.



**5** On Tuesday evening, a parent I don't know well sent me a text saying, "My boys actually prayed for you tonight as I put them to bed."

**4** A funny moment happened on Wednesday when I had paint on my arm. A child walked by me and said, "You look like such a baby with paint on your arm." I quickly reminded them that today's slogan was about being wise with our words, and they immediately added, "I meant to say that you look like a beautiful baby."

**3** On Thursday, during our "Pass the Compliment" game, a sweet little boy looked at the girl next to him and said, "I love you.. I mean, I love your gorgeous dress with beautiful hearts on it."

**2** A heartfelt moment happened on Friday when one of the youth took his mom's phone and sent, "This is Jacob on my mom's phone, thank you so much for all the hard work the team has done. I'll always be happy to serve God and teach the young. It's an honour to be able to help."

**1** Finally, on Sunday, I asked a little boy to share his favourite memory of the week, and he simply said, "I loved.. everything."

## It was a blessing to see kids excited about Jesus!

Watch a short video about  
Camp Kilimanjaro...

Scan the QR code on  
your smartphone or  
visit [https://youtu.be/  
XT\\_ApcfXHCM](https://youtu.be/XT_ApcfXHCM)



## My time in Tanzania



*Eleanor Hutchison, from Hockliffe Street Baptist Church, went to visit the Ewing family in Mwanza, and to see some of the projects there.*

This summer, I had the privilege of visiting Simon, Victoria, Tabitha and Reuben Ewing in Mwanza for 2 weeks. It was an opportunity to gain an insight into what God is doing through EI and other mission organisations in Tanzania, as well as seeing what day to day life is like overseas. It was my first time abroad on my own, and my first international flight, so I definitely jumped in the deep end!

I was able to see such a wide variety of the projects that EI support, and I am very grateful for the opportunity to experience all these different things.

We visited Kome Island with Patrick who works for EI, taking 30 flat-packed beehives to build. The first day we were there we went to Nyamiswi and with the help of the beekeeping group, constructed 22 hives to add to the hives they already had, although I did less building and more babysitting! We then had dinner with the group chairman and his family, before going to a church on the island, where Patrick preached. The following day, we went to Mchangani, a fishing village, where we built the remainder of the hives. Let's pray that these hives are fruitful and that the groups work well together cohesively. It was encouraging to hear how the groups are doing so far!

Kome was definitely eye opening, as the island has no running water, and people have very little, if any, English, but I found it incredible how kind people are to translate, and how much you can understand even when the language is not the same!





Every afternoon in the second week, I was involved in the kids camp at Petra City Church in Mwanza, along with Laura and others from the church. It was a week filled with joy and encouragement, to see children so enthusiastically singing, praying and engaging so well in the Bible teaching, which focused on 'Wisdom'. There were lots of smiles and laughter too!

In the mornings before the kids camp, I was able to visit a few different projects that EI are involved in.

We visited Luchebele and the KWETU hub there, and was able to see the container that contains all the tools, and the creativity that has been used to make seed dispensers that allow people to plant seeds at the right distances without bending – which as an occupational therapy student sparked my enthusiasm (a good example of human centred design)! I enjoyed seeing how people are being trained to farm effectively to produce large yields as well as preserving the soil for future harvests.

As I am training to be an occupational therapist, Simon

arranged for me to visit Huruma School, which is a special education facility for children with disabilities. Here, I was able to see the differences between the facilities in the UK and in Tanzania, and I had mixed emotions. On one hand, I was sad that the children did not have the state-of-the-art equipment that they would have in the UK, but it was such an encouragement to see the creativity and the adaptations that had been made, creating equipment and facilities aiding development. Through attending Huruma School, the children are able to receive some stimulation, and support through occupational/physiotherapy, life skills classes and basic academic classes, helping these children to thrive..





I visited Laura's Strength and Dignity project at Igombe school, and we were able to sit in on one of the sessions. It was very encouraging to see such a large class of girls engaging in conversations about growing up, and it was great to know that they are being provided with vital education around menstruation. We even led a game of Simon Says which was so much fun - made funnier by Simon being there with us!

The last project that I visited was one of the tree nurseries in Igumumoyo. We had the privilege of being able to visit when a group was going on, and they were planting all the little seedlings that had been packaged, placing them upright in rows and then covering them with straw, to give the seeds the best opportunities to germinate. There were discussions about why it was important to plant the trees, and the difference that it will make to the community if the trees are successful. One of the concerns about this project however, is that it is quite low down in the village, and as the rainy season is going to begin soon, there is concern that the little seedlings may get washed away. It would be good to pray for the Igumumoyo group, and that a good drainage system is created to protect the plants!

The 2 weeks that I was there were jam-packed, but we did manage to visit the Serengeti too!

I had such a wonderful time in Tanzania, and am so grateful to the Ewings for welcoming me into their family, and for introducing me to the amazing things that God is doing in Mwanza at the moment!

*I enjoyed seeing how people are being trained to farm effectively to produce large yields as well as preserving the soil for future harvests.*



## Thank you for Sue's car



Thank you so much to everyone who contributed towards the fundraising for a car for Sue earlier in the year. Through your generous contributions, Sue was able to purchase a vehicle!

## Legacy Giving

The mission of Emmanuel International is to encourage, equip and assist churches to serve the poor in wholistic ministry. We are partnering with churches in serving their communities to ensure that our work is sustainable.

Leaving a gift in your will is a valuable expression of gratitude, love and thanksgiving towards God and it can also help us meet the needs of future generations. We want to use the resources we have – our time, buildings and money – wisely in God's service.

There is more information on our website about how to remember EIUK in your will. Or just contact us at the office!

Scan the QR code on your smartphone or visit [www.eiuk.org.uk/legacy](http://www.eiuk.org.uk/legacy)



## Give to our CAF Bank account

Our main bank account is with CAF, which is an ethical bank for charities that offers us online banking with substantially reduced fees. Our NatWest account is still open, however it is much more beneficial for us when you use our CAF account. If you are a regular supporter of EIUK and are still using the NatWest account for your gifts, changing your giving over to our CAF account would be much appreciated.

The banking details are: Account holder: Emmanuel International Ltd  
Bank: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME 19 4JQ  
Sort code: 40-52-40  
Account no: 00033722

## Praying for board members

The Evangelical Alliance defines Trustees as "Trustees are the people in charge of a charity. They play a vital role, volunteering their time and working together to make important decisions about the charity's work. They may be called trustees, the board, the management committee, governors, directors or something else."

We are very thankful for our EIUK Board of Trustees: Clive Tydeman (Chair), Lucy Harding, Bernard Lane, John Raby, Andy Sharpe and Alison Smailes. They are overseeing and guiding the work of EIUK on a volunteer basis. They bring a range of skills to the board!

We are, of course, continually seeking those with the necessary skills and experience to join our small, committed group of trustees. These skills may specifically be in the medical/health field, marketing and advertising, church engagement, fundraising and grant applications and recruitment. We would love you to pray with us as we seek to develop the breadth of skills on the board.