



the Emmanuel Connection

November 2024

Focus on: Bob Wilson



I, Robert (Bob) Wilson, was born in Toronto, Ontario. At the age of 12, through the witness of my parents and Sunday school teachers, I became a Christian and was baptized at Wishing Well Acres Baptist Church (WWABC). My wife Elisabeth (Lis) and I met in our late teens at a Bible camp north of Toronto. We were married in 1978 and continued attending WWABC where we were heavily involved in ministry. The Lord blessed us with 4 children.

In 2004 we relocated to Livermore, California through my work as an engineer. There we joined Cedargrove Community Church and again became involved in many aspects of ministry. In 2017 I was asked to take up a new position in Warrenton Virginia, Washington DC. In

our moves to California and then to Virginia we felt the Lord's leading.

In 2017 Lis was diagnosed with cancer, a brain tumor. The kind, we were informed, that did not respond well to treatment. God, in his sovereign will, decided to take Lis home at the end of December 2018. With Lis's passing I continued living in Warrenton close to my family. I have joined Centreville Baptist Church and got involved with ministry there.

As mentioned, over the years I have been involved with ministry, mainly through the churches we attended. I have been involved in pretty much every aspect of church life: Sunday school teacher, youth group leader, missions committee member/leader, deacon, elder, and treasurer are just a few. For many years in California I was a member of the Gideon's organization distributing Bibles to hotels and prisons in our area. In our churches it seems Lis and I were drawn to missions, often heading up the church missions programs. We met and became friends with many missionaries and their ministries. In the late 1980's Lis and I (and two of our kids) took the opportunity to see missions life up close when we visited missionary friend's in Burkina Faso, West Africa for just over 2 weeks. Lis was also able to go on other short term trips. We also hosted missionaries many times in our home. It is now an honor to be part of the EI Mission (EI in the USA) team.

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Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Tanzania:** At the beginning of the month, the team in Tanga will be planning a 2025 project budget. Please pray for them.
Philippines: Typhoon Trami wreaked havoc in the country in October. Please pray that people affected will receive enough help from the government and NGOs.
- 2 South Africa:** En route to Canada, Rachel Sayers had a layover in Amsterdam for a few days and caught up with family. She's now with her parents in Ontario until next week where she will visit Dani and Josh... and meet our grandchild. Nate and Don are doing well on their own.
- 3 Philippines:** The children and their teacher in a small barrio in Davao de Oro will have their Sunday school class in the newly built hut. Their previous 'classroom' was almost collapsing but with help from faithful believers, the church members worked together to build a better place for them to worship God. Pray that the Lord will meet these kids so that they will know Him as their Savior.
- 4 South Africa:** Thank you for your prayers for the church conference that took place in October. It was a great success and we had visitors from as far as Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth!
- 5 Tanzania:** Melisa Chu will be traveling to Mwanza today to teach at the Pastors training and to host a woman's event in North Mwanza. She'll be there until the 10th. Pray for safe travels and for her ministry to be effective.
International: The ERRI Board is meeting today. Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance as the Board considers this new fiscal year budget and activities for the International office.
- 6 United Kingdom:** Forum House, the building where EIUK is based, is hosting a coffee morning in honour of the work we do. Please pray that many people will attend and show an interest in our work.
- 7 Canada, United States of America, United Kingdom:** Christmas Catalogue will be available online and will be mailed to Canadian donors. Please pray it will be received well.
- 8 Philippines:** We are planning our Annual Meeting with the Board out of town. Please pray for guidance, protection and provision.
United Kingdom: Stephen and Jane Everard are giving feedback on their recent trip to Uganda at St John's Church, Southbourne.
- 9 Philippines:** The Lord is opening new places for us to have Bible clubs. We will be having a teacher's training today. Pray for good weather, protection for those traveling to train and those who will attend.
- 10 Tanzania:** We have submitted financial funding and project proposals for many of our projects. Please pray for these to be accepted.
- 11 Malawi:** Scott McLean will be part of a group working on the overall curriculum for Chisomo school from today until the 15th.
International: Today is Remembrance day. The EI offices will remain open.

- 12 Haiti:** The situation in Haiti is deteriorating and violence is escalating. The EI family pray for the situation every Tuesday. Please join us in prayer - either in person on our Zoom meetings (contact us for the link) or in your own time and space.
- 13 Philippines:** ERRPI (EI in the Philippines) requires approval of their permit to operate. Please pray that this renewal will go smoothly.
- 14 Uganda:** In preparation for next year, the GROW ministry is training church leaders from the 16 communities we hope to reach in 2025. These leaders will be learning about how to share the gospel, how to follow-up with new believers, how to lead discussion-based oral Bible study groups, and other topics including servant leadership, Bible interpretation, and identifying false teaching. Please pray for good attendance and participation, as this sets the foundation for 2025.
- 15 United Kingdom:** The EIUK Board of Trustees are meeting in person in London today. Please pray for safe and smooth travels and for a fruitful time of meeting together. It is always so good see each other in person.
- South Africa:** Our church camp is taking place from today till the 17th. We will have over 90 people attending the camp this year and there are quite a few logistics to finalize. Pray for rich fellowship around God's word and growing deeper in our relationship with one another.
- 16 Brazil:** The indigenous students who are graduating from the Terena Bible School at the end of this year need wisdom to understand God's plans for their ministry when they return to their villages.
- 17 International:** EI is well into our Jubilee year. Please continue to praise God with us for His goodness through the 50 years that He has given us.
- Malawi:** May God have mercy on southern Malawi. Pray the rains will be good this year. We have had two years of very poor harvests.
- 18 Canada:** This week Kristy will be taking one week off to rest and spend time with Mark on a much needed break. They will be staying close to home this time.
- 19 Haiti:** Only our Sovereign God can bring the supernatural change that is needed in Haiti. Please pray with us for Haiti's deliverance from the evil that has taken possession of it.
- 20 Canada:** The Auditors are coming to the office today to work on the audit.
- Philippines:** Our on-going projects (fishing boats, carabao and goat raising) are continuing and we would appreciate your prayers for their success.
- 21 United Kingdom:** The EIUK office will be closed today, tomorrow and Monday.
- 22 Malawi:** We will be having a one-day mini worship conference in Nsanje today. A summarized version of the choir conference will be offered to 85 individuals who were not able to be at the choir conference because of how expensive it is to travel from Nsanje (far south in Malawi) to anywhere outside of that district.
- Uganda:** Marianne Botting is speaking at a women's retreat in Jinja today and tomorrow, and then traveling to Canada early on the 25th. Michael and Elias will remain in Uganda for two more weeks, for Elias to finish the school year, and then follow on December 9th. Please pray for the women's retreat to be a time of encouragement for the ladies, who are all in full-time ministry, and for safety in travel.

- 23 Brazil:** Both the Ninheira and Águas Formosas PROPAC Center projects have a spiritual component in all their activities with children, teenagers, and their mothers. Pray with us that they will have open hearts to hear and experience about God's love.
- 24 International:** The STEP 24-28 Monitoring & Evaluation Task Force has put together a spreadsheet for collecting all the necessary information required to assess our 1st year's achievements. Praise for the faithful work of those who have persevered in pulling this all together. We are so blessed with God's Spirit of unity and peace within EI.
- Malawi:** We will follow up with the 52 congregations who sent choir representatives to the choir conference. We want to encourage their use of the devotionals and answer any follow up questions they might have. Please pray for them.
- 25 Uganda:** Vincent Gidudu is cycling from Gulu to Kampala (607 km), starting today and planning on finishing on the 30th, to raise funds for his personal support and to raise awareness around missions. He is planning to meet with groups along the way, and he will arrive in Kampala in time to speak at his supporting church's missions month. Please pray for safety (the roads are not always safe for bicycles!) and for success in fundraising and awareness raising. His target is 25,000 UGSh per km!
- Tanzania:** Andy Sharpe is visiting Iringa to survey future water project sites. He is also coming with his friend Ian again.
- 26 Haiti:** Join us in prayer for Haiti and it's deliverance from the terrible violence and despair that reigns in the country.
- 27 Canada:** EICanada will be hosting a Missions Trip Information Night for trips in 2025. Please pray for good travel weather and a good turnout of potential participants interested in joining a Missions Trip next year.
- 28 South Africa:** Florida will be travelling to the Eastern Cape for her annual leave. She will be there for 3 weeks and we have an assistant taking over her role at the Safe House.
- 29 Malawi:** Registration has started for the upcoming presidential elections in May 2025. Pray for a peaceful campaign season. There is a lot of dissatisfaction with how things are and there is concern that this will lead to various forms of conflict in the country.
- Philippines:** Good health and protection from any sickness is important to our staff. Please pray for us.
- 30 Malawi:** We are praying that the Lord brings a new class of committed students this coming January. Interviews for acceptance to Chisomo for the upcoming academic year are ongoing.