

Emmanuel *Living*



Emmanuel Exists
to glorify God through the prayerful nurturing and sending of disciplined believers to present Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

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Waking Up to a New Year by Terry Kaufman

It is pretty quiet in our home as I sit down and write this. But I suppose that it should be quiet. It is, after all, 7 a.m. on New Year's Day, proving at least two things – we did not celebrate the introduction of 2011 late into the night, and my internal alarm clock “day off” function is broken.

So here I am thinking about 2010 and 2011. Someone asked me yesterday if I make New Year's resolutions. The answer was “not really.” But I do have some hopes and dreams and aspirations for 2011: some related to exercise and eating habits, some related to reducing the clutter and “noise” in my life, and some related to personal spiritual nurture and discipline. I also have thoughts about what 2011 should hold for our faith family at Emmanuel. As lead pastor this is something I think and pray about, and it is a privilege and responsibility I share with other leaders at Emmanuel.

In 2010 we began to be more intentional in our ministries to build **effective environments** for **learning from God's Word and building godly relationships**. This focus was not something you would have seen plastered on posters around the church, but that vision helped direct many of the decisions about ministry and programming at Emmanuel. We believe that

focus is an extremely important part of being the faith family that God is calling us to be, and we will continue to keep those priorities in our minds as we move ahead in 2011. I will continue to unashamedly preach God's Word, letting it set the agenda. God's Word is powerful and we need to submit ourselves to its agenda, rather than taking our own agenda to it. I believe that as we faithfully study God's Word in proper context, it will appropriately address the questions we have for life. And we will continue to give focus and attention to environments that nurture godly relationships (which are mutually encouraging, edifying, and care giving according the New Testament), for the Christian life is not, nor was it ever intended to be, a solo or independent journey.

Still, those two priorities are building blocks; neither is to be an end in itself. Learning from God's Word and godly relationships are priorities with a purpose, they are priorities that are intended, by God's design and thus also by our intent, to lead to something, to create something, to develop and nurture something in our lives.

Over the past two or three months God has been using personal experiences, travel, reading, and quiet reflective and prayerful times to burden my heart more and more

Waking Up to a New Year *(continued)*

Connecting

about the outcomes of **learning from God's Word and godly relationships**. God has been impressing on me that in 2011, I need to give greater focus on why God wants us to learn from His Word and be involved in Godly relationships. That "why" is a big question, but I believe it can be answered fairly succinctly. We learn from God's Word and build godly relationships so that we can better live **transformed lives that impact our world**. Two words will be added to my regular vocabulary in 2011: **transformed** and **impact**.

Growing

A transformed life (more accurately, one that is consistently being transformed) is one that is different than it was. Every person who calls Emmanuel their church home and calls Jesus their Saviour should be living a life that is transformed. Of course, that begs the question: Transformed from what to what? Transformed from living a life that is self-directed, self-absorbed, self-equipped, self-motivated, and maybe even selfish, to a life that is trying to be more and more like Jesus. That is what we are to be transformed to, growing into the fullness of living a mature Christ-like life (Ephesians 4:13). Christianity is more than just a ticket to the destination of heaven. Christianity is relationship with God, it is living life every day differently in obedience to God. So in 2011 we will be talking more about that, and calling our faith family to live that kind of transformed life.

Serving

And as transformed lives live more and more and like Jesus, they will then be lives that impact their world. In 2011, I want us to celebrate the many who are impacting their world. They are traveling on mission trips to help the poor and sick. They are giving generously to the work of the Lord here and around the world to further the spread of the gospel. They are serving their employers with great honesty and hard work in the name of the Lord. They are dealing with their clients and employees with integrity and fairness.

Multiplying

They are involving themselves in schools and community not just for the sake of their family and children, but for the glory of God and opportunities to tell or show (or both) others about God's love and plan.

Creating effective environments for learning from God's Word and godly relationships that lead to transformed lives that impact our world -- I think you will hear those words a lot in 2011. And we will use that vision to direct what we do. 2011 must not be a year when we do things just because we have done them before. 2011 should not be a year when we do things just for us, for our comfort. 2011 will be a year where we begin in earnest to address the areas of our lives that need transformation, and a year when we, each and every one, make a difference and have impact in the world where God has placed us -- our homes, our schools, our workplace, our community, our county, and around our world.

So as we plan programs, as we serve, as we give, as we make decisions about future ministry, and we are burdened in love for those around us, we will be thinking and praying about **transformed living and impacting people for God**. From my perspective this New Year's Day morning, I believe that God is calling us to something very big, very special in 2011. Let's impact our world for God!

Pastor Terry Kaufman

has served as Senior Preaching Pastor here at Emmanuel for over seven years. Terry and Peggy have been married for 27 years, and have two children, Alisa, recently married to Shaun, and Rob.



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Missionary Hi-lights

Greetings from Daryl & Molly Porter:



Dear Friends and Family,

We will be away for the next couple of weeks. This SUPER will be a of a personal nature (we have rarely done this). 2011 is going to be very different for us and we want to tell you more about it.

1. If you look under my name below you will notice that the role of *Asia Area Director* is not there any longer. Starting January 1, 2011 our good friend and former colleague in Ukraine, *Mel Sayer*, has taken that role. He will do a great job. I will assist him for a transition period. I will continue the role of *Europe Area Director*.

2. Molly and I will be *moving back to Ukraine in July* for the purpose of starting a church planting ministry with a team of Ukrainians.

-Summer Institute in Dnepropetrovsk in July (our 12th consecutive SI).

-Around September 1st move to Kiev for a school year (Sept – May) of Russian language upgrading.

-June 2012 move to a city of God's choosing to begin a church planting project.

3. *Our present support is at about 85% of what it needs to be.* Would you or your church family be willing to *help with the 15% we are lacking* (that translates to about \$600.00/month). This can be done through onetime gifts and/or regular monthly support. Please contact the office (or us) if you want some help in getting this done the way you want to do it.

4. The time in Kiev will be especially challenging financially. Why? Primarily 2 reasons: 1. Much higher rent in Kiev (and generally higher costs there) and 2. The cost of the Russian language school (\$500/month for 9 months). With full

support we will be able to handle this.

5. I will continue my role as part of the 3 man EFCCM Director Team. Praise the Lord for advanced technology which makes this possible.

So as you can see 2011 (and beyond) will be exciting and challenging for Molly and I as we continue to serve the Lord through the EFCCM. We are so blessed to have the greatest support team in the world – YOU – *serving with us every step of the way.* Thank you!

May 2011 be a year full of joy and fruit as we all sacrificially serve the Lord with thankfulness and gladness

Daryl A. Porter and Molly

darylmollyporter@gmail.com

Greetings from Tony & Leila Frank,

Mozambique:



One more year passes... one more year begins... more opportunities to learn from Our Lord and serve him... realizing more the need to cry out that God, in his infinite power and grace,

continue to do his work in our lives and through our lives.

2010 was a year of much service –Tony had various opportunities to participate in the theological and spiritual formation of many pastors and leaders of Mozambican churches. God demonstrated his goodness inspiring him to teach and protecting him on trips to different regions in Mozambique. In October, Tony participated in the Congress of World Evangelism (Lausanne III) in Cape Town, South Africa where he and 4,000 plus were challenged to a life of humility, integrity, and simplicity –proclaiming the Gospel and implementing it in practical ways so that communities see Truth in action. Leila continued mentoring women and translating evangelistic dramas to be broadcasted via radio in Portuguese speaking African countries. Celebrate with us! She finished this

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Connecting

Missionary Hi-lights *(continued)*

huge task yesterday, Dec 29th. Along with this, Leila began holding bi-weekly meetings to help missionaries identify and deal with stresses caused by cross-cultural living. These meetings are well attended.

2010 was a year of many blessings! The Lord offered us many opportunities to experience his grace and his discipline in our lives. We are grateful for the blessings of this year and put up with the difficulties, accepting them as discipline from our Father. We are thankful for your support and wish you all a blessed New Year. In 2011, may God help us all to reflect His love, to make a difference, and to promote reconciliation.

Tony & Leila Email: tony.frank@worldteam.org

Missions Sunday – February 6th, 2011

Our speaker will be Tim Jacobson and we will hear updates from: Island Breeze Manitoba, Vlad Kuzmich and Suwat – two of the indigenous pastors that we support, as well as Tim & Lorna Jacobson SIM in Toronto.

Pray for:

* *Chuck Nichols*: teaching in Ukraine, Jan 25–Feb 4

* *Terri Wiebe*: serving with Samaritans Purse in Haiti, Jan 15-25

* *Samantha Passage*: serving with a SBC Missions Trip in Bolivia, Dec 31–Jan 23

* *Dora Penner*: serving with God's Littlest Angels in Haiti, Jan 23–Feb 8

Growing

Reflections

Reflections is a section in our *Emmanuel Living* newsletter where we hope to encourage each other by sharing how God is working in our lives. This month we have included a poem written by one of our Senior High Youth.

I gaze with a quiet mind

At the path stretching before me, behind me,

It winds and rolls,

Twists and turns, hills and valleys

What to expect, I know not

but peace and confidence will be my companion,

As I embark on these first steps

And as I trudge the last.

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The New You

By Dave Dickey

Not long ago some friends took on a home renovation project. They were aware their 'new to them' home was a fixer-upper, but as so often happens, it turned out to require much more effort than they ever imagined. While altering the configuration of some lath & plaster walls in the kitchen, wiring that had supposedly been upgraded was discovered to be beyond ancient! There was no turning back! Home insurance coverage depended on completing the wiring upgrade to modern code. They were overwhelmed. But at that very juncture, an electrician whom they knew well 'just happened' to have a slack period work-wise. He joined our friends' project, and together they proceeded to re-wire the entire home. Was this timely expert help merely good fortune, or was it the Lord's gracious provision? Today, our friends live in a beautiful little home ... not merely cosmetically renewed, but fully up to standard in a critical, but out-of-sight regard.

What a parable of our personal lives. How have you responded to a glimpse of some aspect of your life in need of significant overhaul? Often we deny or balk. But what do you do when change becomes mandatory, when returning to status quo is no longer feasible? Step into the renovation zone!

Yes, active cooperation on our part is essential. But we take heart also that we're not alone. The resources we desperately need he can & will supply. Remember, Jesus is called the architect and the builder of a 'new you' (2 Co 5:17; Heb 12:2). Discern what God is up to. Then ask and watch for of his help (with expectation). Some of those resources are hidden in people you know; other resources await you as you take up serving or learning opportunities.

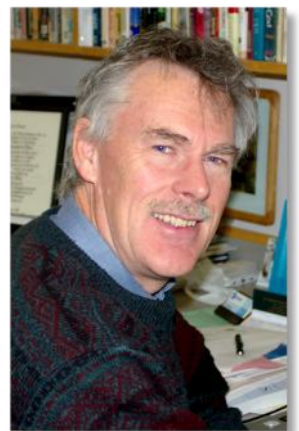
I urge you to view Emmanuel's Adult Ministries in such a light. See these various ministries as a warehouse of God's resources, provided for your personal renovation. Perhaps what you need will come through your participation in the Men's or Women's retreat; or as you participate in a Sunday Adult Christian Education course; or through engagement with your small group week by week ... via supportive relationships as well as through Bible study, discussion & application. Some provision will come 'out of the blue'; other provision requires your investigation, as you use awareness of your need and seek a matching opportunity.

A pressure point in life just may be you're most amazing next growth opportunity ... in disguise. Cooperate with God, doing your part and accepting His part. You really *can* become the *new you*, continuing to be re-shaped in the image of Christ (2 Co 3:18).

Check www.eefc.ca for Adult Ministry details. New Adult Education options are in effect January 9 through April 3, 2011.

Pastor Dave Dickey

is the Adult Ministries Pastor here at Emmanuel, and has been with us for 6 years. He is the husband to Sharon and father to Bryan, Rachel, Rona-Marie, Ian, Loreena & Caleb.



Children's Ministries ~ Partnering Page

Do You Have a World View?

I can answer that question for you. Yes you do! We all do. What about your kids, do they have a worldview? Yes they do. If they are 8 - 9 years old or younger then their perspective on the big questions is still being formed. The question we need to ask ourselves is what are the factors that are influencing our children and in so doing forming their worldview?

Maybe we need to back up a bit here and define worldview. Simply put a worldview is how we look at the world and it is our default decision making base. Our kids' behaviour is consistent with their beliefs and their beliefs are a result of their worldview. Every child develops a worldview and we all desire our children to grow up with a Christian perspective to life from which they make their decisions and we want this to be based on Biblical principles.

Dad and mom we, whether we know it or not, are the primary shapers of our child's worldview. The shaping of our kids worldview is our responsibility. If you are like me that is a scary thought. Again, if you are like me, that is probably because nobody ever sat down with you and explained to you what a Christian worldview is never mind how to pass it on to your kids. The reality is that we are already passing a worldview on to our kids without even trying. They are watching us constantly and they know what is important to us and what we base our decisions on. If we are not active in instilling God's worldview in them they are going to be getting it from the world around them. Okay, now that can be scary but don't stop reading because help is on the way!

First of all it is important that we are all aware of the resources that we have to work with. They are the Bible, our lives and what we will call the "big questions". We will be going into this in greater detail next month but before we start to teach our kids about a Christian worldview we need to establish what that worldview should look like. So for this month I will leave you with an assignment to answer by yourself, or with your spouse, the following 7 questions. (Taken from *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions* by George Barna page 70)

1. Does God exist?
2. What is the character and nature of God?
3. How and why was the world created?
4. What is the nature and purpose of humanity?
5. What happens after we die?
6. What spiritual authorities exist?
7. What is truth?

Please join us again next month when we will look at what happens next.



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