

Emmanuel Living

volume 2, issue 5



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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May 2010

Managing Editors:

J Thiessen & L Gresiuik

Grateful for Stephen Ministry!

By a thankful Emmanuel 'Care-Receiver'

Fourteen months ago I was at a point in my life where I needed someone to talk to about the struggles in my life. One of the pastors here at Emmanuel recommended I consider meeting with a Stephen Minister. However, trusting someone with personal information about my life was something I feared. With some mixed feelings, I agreed to give it a try. I'm so glad I did!

Soon after meeting my Stephen Minister, I quickly sensed I could trust him. Part of that trust came from knowing he was trained to help people through their problems. He made me feel comfortable by not prying for information, but instead just let me share what was on my mind. Any questions he did ask fit our conversation appropriately. Probably the best thing he did for me was not judging me for my past decisions; rather he was there to help me move forward.

I think another significant trust-building factor was being able to talk with someone who was not in my regular circle of friends. My friends certainly continue to have a very important place in my life. But I also needed someone who could see me objectively. That helped make it easier to share personal parts of my life. Also, knowing my Stephen

Minister would be there for me 'next week' (we usually met for an hour each week) gave me confidence. I see now how much I needed regular encouragement as I walked through the roller-coaster emotions that came with the unraveling instability of my marriage separation.

I really appreciated our times together. Sometimes we met at the church which gave us more privacy to talk, study the bible and pray together. Other times we met in restaurants.

Our times together were more than just meeting to talk, our meetings helped keep me accountable between times, to carry through with the changes I said I wanted to make. As well, my Stephen Minister took steps to help me find additional help to deal with an addiction in my life. He often went out of his way to help me in my struggle.

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Grateful for Stephen Ministry!

(continued)

Connecting

My life experience during the 10 months I met with my Stephen Minister was not always one of progress. It took courage for me to honestly share when I had my failures and set backs too. Even then my Stephen Minister was there for me. He encouraged me not to give up, but to pick up and keep going forward. That genuine acceptance spoke to me the most ... not to accept failure, but to confess, turn and receive forgiveness. Having someone assure me of that biblical truth was really encouraging and was exactly what I needed. My Stephen Minister helped me walk through a really dark part of my life, frequently pointing me to and reminding me of the truth and love that is in Christ.

I thank the Lord for my Stephen Minister who did not solve all my problems but lovingly as a Christian brother, walked along with me through this valley in my life.

If you are dealing with depression, addiction, health, marriage or other life problems, I would encourage you to consider meeting with a Stephen Minister. It is a wonderful resource!

Growing

A Stephen Minister is a caring Christian who meets weekly with a hurting person going through a difficult time; a fellow Christian who has received 50 hours of training in distinctively Christian care; someone who can be trusted to keep all matters shared with strict confidentiality. For more information, contact

Serving



one of Emmanuel's Stephen Leaders: Pastor Dave Dickey, Eleanor Gingerich or Joyce Goertzen.

Pastor Dave Dickey is the Adult Ministries Pastor at Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church, he has been with Emmanuel for 6 years. He is the husband to Sharon and father to Bryan, Rachel, Rona-Marie, Ian, Loreena & Caleb (3 kids live at home).

Multipling

ATTENTION YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS:

Anyone planning to be involved in Bible Camp or Summer Ministries should have their applications for support in prior to their ministry beginning and prior to mid May. The missions committee needs some time to process the applications which we would like to do at our June 7th meeting. Contact Heidi Newman 371-9368 or Chad Peterson 326-5926 for more information and the application forms (also available at the info booth or church office).



Missionary Hi-lights

FEATURE MISSIONARY:

Wes and Brenda Dyck serving with New Tribes Mission in Durham, Ontario



Wes & Brenda met while at New Tribes Bible Institute and were married in 1973. After completing their training they arrived in Indonesia in 1977. After 11 years of ministry among the Embaloh people, learning the language, discipling new believers, teaching The Word and beginning their first church there, they moved out of the village to Pontianak in the position of house parents at the NTM school. They were involved in this ministry for 13 years as well as participating on the field leadership team. In March of 2005, after a long bout of illness, they returned to Canada to begin their ministry at the Missionary Training Centre in Durham, Ontario with New Tribes Mission of Canada. Here they have the opportunity to be involved in the lives of the

student candidates as they begin their missionary journey. Wes and Brenda are involved in administration, teaching, child care and the mentoring of these new missionaries. This June and July they will again be involved in the "Jungle Camp" part of the training. Pray for them as they seek to be an encouragement to these students in training.

Email: wes_dyck@ntm.org

Regular Mail: Box 707, Durham, Ontario N0G 1R0

Updates on the Dyck's children: Their oldest son Nathan is married to Carrie and they have two daughters: Madeleine (4) and Emily (2) Nathan is a software programmer and they live and work in Dallas TX. Austin is living in Minneapolis and is a high school math teacher and basketball coach. He works at a Christian high school.

Adrienne is married to Tim Cromeenes. She is a nurse in a children's hospital and he is a piano accompanist and piano tuner. They have a son Brennan (7mos) and they live in Seattle.

Dyck Prayer & Praise items:

- Pray for a smooth start this fall as we implement some course development changes in the curriculum.
- Pray for more laborers, especially Canadians to join us in the training program.
- Pray for wisdom for our children as they raise our grandchildren in the nurture and admonition of the Lord!
- Praise for the general good health He has given for our whole family.
- Praise for the great team we have to work with here at the MTC.

MISSIONS TEAMS & MISSIONARY UPDATES:

- Brent & Anna & Olivia will be returning to Steinbach at the end of May – look for them then and welcome them home.
- Lena Chapman will be in church Sunday June 6th – she's home for medical check ups.
- Pray for the Romania and Haiti teams
- the Ukraine work team is rescheduled to leave May 3rd – pray for them as they work at Garry & Teresa Verhoog's farm working on the dairy barn.
- Mark & Pat Emsheimer have returned to the States to visit more supporters and best of all, to see their new granddaughter born in January, and son Milton and Cheryl. They plan to return to Brazil in July. Pray for safe travels, good visits, ease in completing paperwork of all kinds, and some rest as well.



Connecting

Growing

Serving

Multiplying

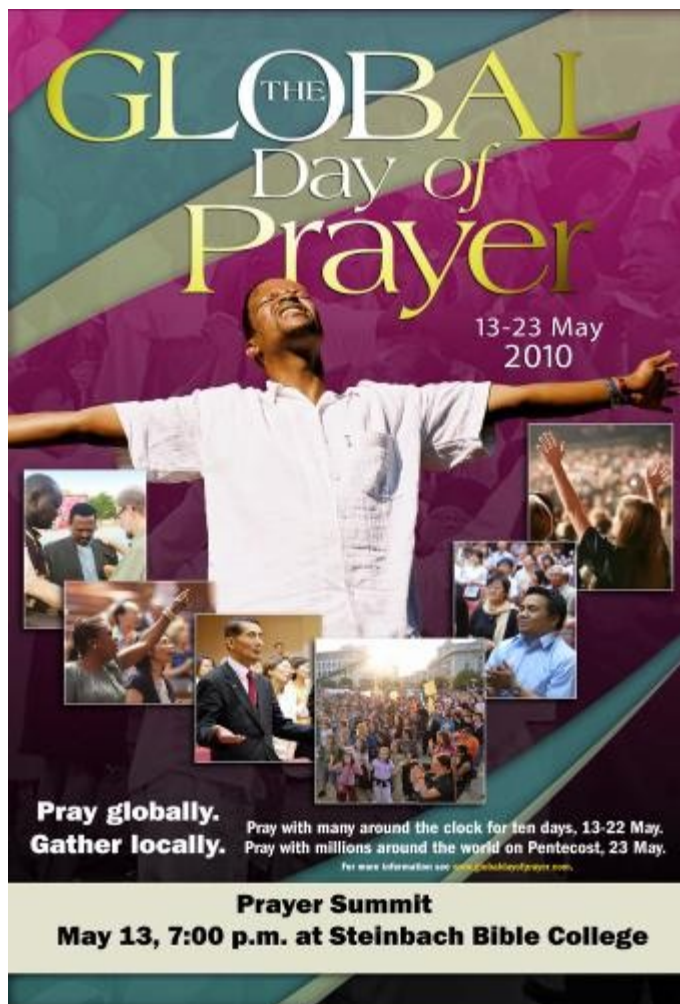
Connecting & Serving

Connecting

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Kidz Printz Project Update



Merry Christmas!

While enjoying spring, let's reflect on Christmas for a moment. Thankfully it is still closer to the past Christmas than the one to come. You may recall that Emmanuel's Kidz Printz Christmas project last year was to provide funds for Bibles for a people group in Papua New Guinea called the Melanesian Pidgin people.

Dave and Lena Chapman are missionaries working in Papua New Guinea. They notice that things in their part of the world can move slowly so they just recently received the collected funds. The Chapmans are praising the Lord that many more people are now able to read God's word in their own language than could before.

Kidz Printz sent a generous and sacrificial gift of \$3896.96. The Chapmans are very appreciative and in a recent email thanked Kidz Printz repeatedly.

Knowing that the money was coming, the Melanesian Pidgin Bibles were ordered about 3 months ago. Here again, things will move slowly. Once the Bibles make it through the sea port, clear customs, and finally are in hand, Dave and Lena plan to take photos and pass them our way.



Reflections

Recharged

By Richard S. Unruh

Connecting

It's 2010 and of this I'm sure
I'm older again, there is no cure
The year, and my age are both brand new
Fortunate I am, now, what will I do

Growing

Some decisions I need to make
Why not sit back and take a break
I've tried real hard, can't give much more
But, life's responsibilities I can't ignore

Serving

The longer I live the more I can see
Things need to get done, someone's counting on me
No big things in my life, but little is much
As I trust the Creator, as I keep in touch

Multiplying

I'm abundantly blessed this I must say
I was told, it would not always go my way
This I have learned, am learning each day
Win some, loose some, let the chips fall where they may

I'm playing to win, shooting for gold
It's never too late and I'm never too old
I may blow a fuse here or there
Then go to the repair shop in prayer

As I stand at the threshold of this year
I've made up my mind, the vision is clear
There's work to be done, I'll do my share
Then hear His, well done, when we meet up there

(Authored: January 1, 2010—used by permission)



Reflections is a section in our *Emmanuel Living* newsletter where we hope to encourage each other by sharing how God has helped individuals with something significant in their lives. **Richard Unruh**, husband to Thelma, submitted this poem at our request. He has attended Emmanuel for 6 years & enjoys volunteering at 55-Plus here in Steinbach.

Children's Ministries - PARTNERING PAGE

F amily Night

Have you ever heard the term "Family Night" and thought, "Obviously that won't work in my family, we're too busy!?" Let's take a few moments to look at what a Family Night could be and steps we can take to get there.

Connecting

Why Family Night?

A 1998 study by the University of Michigan found that children, on average, spend about 43 minutes per week in "household conversations" and about 12 hours per week watching TV. That sounds like a major imbalance, but look at your own situation. Maybe it's not television; it might be soccer or gymnastics or music lessons, but there are just a lot of distractions for families today. Are we investing the time where it best serves our needs or are we letting school, community, church and other demands pull our time and attention away from home?

Growing

How Does Family Night Work?

The time is set. Having a standard time each week allows better family planning. It is best if you can pick a given night each week (every Monday or every Thursday) and keep it there. At the outset, this might not be possible but should be a goal.

Serving

Everyone commits. When a family decides to focus on family night, each member commits to making it work. That means we have to say "no" to conflicts. Teenage kids need to have the night off from work and school activities. Moms and dads say no to work projects, phone conversations, and athletic events. Athletic teams understand that practices would have to not conflict and if it means that someone doesn't make the team, then the choice is made for family. This is one of the hardest parts of a family night, but it is essential.

Time is spent together. Family activities on family night involve everyone together. Activities such as walking or hiking, playing board games, working together in the yard, being involved in community service projects, visiting relatives together are the model.

Multiplying

No heavy stuff. Family nights are not the time for discipline, for arguing, for forcing compliance. If you make it onerous, you will have a mutiny on your hands. Make them light, fun and engaging. And a little variety helps a lot.

Next time we will talk with families from our church to find out what their "Family Night" is like and get some ideas of activities and service projects.

--excerpts from <http://fatherhood.about.com/cs/activities/a/familynight.htm> by Wayne Parker

Prayer Corner

Please pray for the "Children's Ministry" worker who your child see's every week, as they prayerfully consider their continued involvement next year.

Thanks, Children's Ministry



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