

# 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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Managing Editor:

Janie Thiessen

## Down the Road - part 2

By: Terry Kaufman

**L**ast month we took a sneak peak “through the stained glass down the road” at what a Sunday morning might look like at Emmanuel in 3 or 4 years as we move forward with our Believe, Belong, Build campaign. I would like to further unpack that picture by answering a few common, and important questions about a video venue format of Sunday morning ministry.

**How is this different than an overflow room?** In an overflow room the entire service is watched on video. While that is sometimes necessary, it is not as conducive to a rich worship experience. With what we are envisioning, only the sermon is watched on video. The balance of the service is led by a pastor, or church leader. It has its own music, ushers, etc. This creates a sense of small church within a big church. This also means that venues can have different worship environment, music styles, and atmospheres, while still having the same teaching. This allows us to minister to a great diversity of people.

**Have other churches done this successfully?** Yes. This model is working in many churches in North America. In fact, the majority of large Evangelical Free Churches in America use some form of this model. It has been surprisingly well received by all age groups.

**Why use a message via video instead of having someone else preach live in those services?** Providing consistent teaching to our services is essen-

tial to keeping unity as a church. As many of our Life Groups use sermon based studies, it is important that no matter what service someone attends, they can interact with the same message. The same can be true for extended families. For the sake of unity, video venue services would also pray for Baptismal candidates and parents who are dedicating their children just the same as other services do. Venue services would also stay connected with mission events and missional activities of the church.

**Are people actually willing to watch a sermon on video?** So far, our experience with our Liturgical service has shown us that they are. Other churches have discovered that most people do not have a problem with this. Still, no one is forced to watch the sermon on video, they are still welcome to attend a service where the sermon will be preached live.

**Why try to do so much on a Sunday morning, why not move to a Saturday night service?** A Saturday night service is not yet completely out of the question, we will continue to consider all options. But a Saturday night service makes major demands on worship teams and pastoral staff, and the more we can do on a Sunday morning the more people can connect themselves, and their children, with the full extent of Christian Education options that we can offer on a Sunday morning. We may not have the resources to offer full Christian Ed programming on a Saturday evening.

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Connecting

**Why are we so focused on numbers and more people?** We have been mentioning numbers because God has been bringing growth to our church family. The great motivation for this vision is not simply numbers, we are designing this to disciple people. The truth is that if people are truly being discipled, the church should grow. There are many people in our community that need to be connected or reconnected to God and His church. Our goal is making more and better disciples of Jesus, first with those God has already brought into our church family, but also extending outside to those who need Jesus in their lives. Our measure of success is not the number of people in a pew on Sunday morning - though

Growing

## Missionary Hi-lights

One of the great privileges of Missions Committee is to sponsor young people as they invest their lives in ministry. This year we had the privilege to support ten teens as they spent parts of their summer in Bible Camp ministries. These ministry opportunities have impacted their lives in significant ways and below you will see comments from many of them as to how God was at work in their lives and in the lives of those that they ministered to.

“I learned a lot about the importance of having a daily devotional time.”

“God taught me a lot this summer about how important it is to dive into the Word and have **that** as your word ready for battle.”

“I had the privilege to pray for counselors and their cabins throughout the week, to bless them and just be ears to listen to their frustrations of what has gone on during their week... I had new adjustments, to actually being a part of full time staff doing kitchen and maintenance work.”

“When serving these kids I talked and smiled with them, knowing that doing so, still shows God’s love and plants a seed for Him... I learned that one of the campers had made a decision to follow Christ. This made me overflow with joy and excitement... I learned a lot about the armor of God...this

that number is not irrelevant - our measure is healthy growing disciples.

If you have other questions we invite you to call the church office, or contact us via email or feel free to use an *In Touch Card* to ask those questions. We are excited about the possibilities for ministry this model could provide for Emmanuel, for today, and for the future. Please pray with us as we continue to process these possibilities. Pray that we will be faithful stewards of all the relationships, of all the opportunities, of the gospel, and of all the resources that God has entrusted to us.

was my summer at camp serving God and I thoroughly enjoyed it.”

“I realized this summer how important it is that I soak up God’s Word every day. When I’m pouring so much of myself out into others everyday, I need to fill myself up again. If I didn’t make time for devotions, I noticed a difference and realized that I need to make that a top priority. When I got into the habit of reading and praying more everyday, I was filled with God’s peace and able to trust Him.”

“Putting more faith in God has been a basis of all the things that I have learned over this summer and I hope to take these teachings to heart as I go on to college...”

“One week, 5 of my campers became Christians and another re-dedicated his life...I just had to pray and ask God to give me patience with the kids. And he did... I feel that my summer at camp was one of the best summers I’ve had in a long time. Not only did I have a blast with everyone there, but I got to serve God in everything I did!”

“ I prayed to God to give me strength and a lot of patience... I really needed Him in order to get through hardships, even though I think I can do it on my own. I was very thankful for the opportunity to work at camp.”

Serving

Multiplying

Connecting



# Believing ❖ Belonging ❖ Building

an investment in the future of Emmanuel - November 6th, 2011 - Church Banquet

Growing

## The Next Step!



Serving

The **Pledge Banquet** is fast approaching! On November 6<sup>th</sup> the Banquet will take place at Providence University College. It will be an exciting time to witness and be a part in the ongoing ministry of Emmanuel.

Over the next month, phone calls will be made to the Church family; visitation will take place to give people further information about the upcoming Banquet. Beginning Sunday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, you will be able to make your **Banquet Reservations** at Church.

There will be **two Banquets**.

### **Banquet 1:**

November 6<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm

Children's party for ages 3 or 4 (out of diapers) to grade 6; which will be held at the church.

### **Banquet 2:**

November 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm

**Transportation** will be provided for those individuals who request this service.

Continue to pray for the building project,

asking God what He wants you to pledge and give toward this project.

We are asking for as large a donation as can be given towards the building project before this year-end.

We are challenging the congregation to make a three year financial pledge over and above one's regular giving to reduce the loan as quickly as possible.

Some fund raising events are being planned over the three year period to help reduce the amount borrowed.

Check out the plans at the **Info Centre**. If you have any questions, drop them in the **Question Box** at the **Info Centre**.

**You ask, we will answer.**

Multiplying



*Connecting**Growing**Serving**Multiplying*

**October 16th is "Simple Thanks Day"...** an opportunity for you to invite a person or a family to your home for a simple lunch. Soup and bread would work wonderfully. Maybe try inviting someone you don't know very well! We also invite you to be a part of the solution for millions by participating in **World Relief Sunday on Oct.23rd**. On that day we will provide you with a brochure and envelope for you to use to make a donation.