



the Emmanuel Connection

July 2016

Focus on: Ken and Ruth Copsey



Ken and Ruth at a wedding in Mindanao

Ken and Ruth Copsey are currently Program Directors for Emmanuel in the Philippines on Mindanao Island. They are based in Davao City. Ken and Ruth have been serving with EI since the early days. They have appreciated Emmanuel's flexibility and grass roots approach to meeting real needs of the people. They were both single when they started their missionary careers. Ruth was with the very first Emmanuel team in the Philippines, in 1980 on Negros Island. Later Ken worked on this same team in 1982.

They were married in 1985, and have three children. All of their children grew up with them overseas, and were involved with mission work at a young age. They are all married now, with their own careers: Renee and Kenny in business management, and Joanna in Interior Design. Their oldest, Renee, and husband Ben gave them their first two grandchildren, Noah age 6 and Quinn age 4. They are all living in California, USA.

Ruth is a Nurse by profession, perfect for EI's health ministries. She is also a gifted teacher and communicator, having formally been a radio broadcaster and Sunday school teacher. Ken is a Bible teacher, an all-around handyman, and counsellor. Together with their partner churches, they have led many different holistic development and church planting ministries. Over the years, they have had assignments with at least 10 people groups, on several different islands! They speak different dialects in each area too. The partner areas are usually in remote rural villages where Emmanuel ministries are still greatly needed. Recently, Ruth has trained 3 groups of village women in Primary Health Care. Ken is working with a community on their water source and protecting the area around it. They are both involved in the Mindanao Drought Relief program right now.

They try to keep young by still working with children and youth, such as Vacation Bible School and recent summer youth camps. They are now mentoring a group of mission minded professionals from Davao City, whom they see as keeping the missions fire burning! In the past 30 years they have been Ninong and Ninang (Philippine culture Godparents) to over 35 couples!

Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Philippines:** Dr Sen Mondala (one of the board members) is involved in medical missions on July 1-2 in Pangasinan and again from July 4-17 in the Bicol area.
- 2 United Kingdom:** The Chichester Baptist Church is hosting a concert to raise funds for their missions, which includes the Pads Ministry in Pader, Northern Uganda that Tom Edom is involved in. Sue Fallon will be speaking at the concert about Tom's work.
- 3 Philippines:** The Awana programme is opening in the month of July. Please pray for the preparations, for the leaders to be ready and the venue to be identified!
- 4 International:** We bring all the people in leadership positions in EI to God: the leaders of project countries, of the affiliate countries and the boards and councils. They have such an important role to play and we ask God to bless and guide them particularly.
- 5 Tanzania:** The Beekeeper Group in Kayenze is meeting today. Pray for preparations this month (both for us and the bees!) for the honey harvest which we hope will take place next month as part of a harvesting seminar.
- 6 Uganda:** The School Discipleship ministry is launching in two secondary schools this month. Please pray that the students will show interest in the True Love materials, and that they will have a real impact on the youth.
- 7 Brazil:** Praise God for the RENOVA Conference held in Montes Claros: all the goals they set were achieved.
- 8 Canada:** Please pray for Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau Minister of International Development and La Francophonie. EIC and other faith based organizations will be affected by her decisions as we participate with Global Affairs Canada. Pray for wisdom and that God will give her wisdom and courage to advocate well on behalf of the poor in the majority world.
- 9 United Kingdom:** The EIUK family and supporters are meeting today at Trinity Church Harrow to hear Andy and Angela Sharpe and John Naudé speak. Please pray for safety as everyone travels to London and for a blessed time of worshipping together and hearing about God's work through EI.
- 10 Malawi:** Praise God for His generous answers to prayer for funding for the Word of Grace Bimbi Irrigation scheme. The funds received to date are enough to get the irrigation scheme started. We are hopeful that people will be able to do some 'winter' irrigation this year.

- 11 South Africa:** Our (the Sayers family's) long-term visa/residency permit has not yet been resolved. We have been waiting for several years for this to be finalized and have been praying for an answer from the Department of Home Affairs. The uncertainty of our long-term future in SA makes it very challenging to make long-term ministry plans.
- 12 Philippines:** ERRP will have a visitor from Canada, a doctor in alternative medicine. Please pray that his visit will be fruitful in more ways than one!
- 13 Tanzania:** Tim and Rachel Monger are meeting with the beekeepers in Malya today and tomorrow. Please pray for them, for preparations for the honey harvest next month and also for the Mamas group which is working on income-generating projects.
- 14 South Africa:** The political instability in SA is leading to more frequent rioting and protests against the government in general. Pray for safety for the Sayers family.
- 15 Brazil:** Tarcísio Porto has held talks with a new potential partner church. Please pray for him and the church as they work through the next steps.
- 16 Malawi:** Martin Phiri is responsible for EI Malawi's relief programs and has a difficult time ahead of him. The relief effort that is expected this year is more than double what was done last year and EI Malawi has been asked by World Food Programme to take on some warehousing as well. Pray for Martin as he puts in proposals and gears up for the upcoming relief. Please pray for volunteers to be able to come to help with logistics for 5 months (from October 2016 to February 2017).
- 17 Tanzania:** The Monger family is getting involved every day this week (July 18-24) with a Kids Summer Camp for children with albinism. They will be working alongside BMCC Church and UTSS who have a team coming out from Canada. Please pray for them, also as they are making their preparations.
- 18 Canada:** David, Alyssa and Judah Forsythe (of Bathroad Baptist church) will be coming into the EIC office for 1 week July 18 -22nd for EIC orientation. Pray that we, the staff, will be able to know them better and they us; and that they will have a good understanding of how home office is run as they prepare to depart for Malawi.
- 19 Philippines:** Pastor Alex travels to the Philippines on July 19. Please pray for travelling mercies and for the many meetings and trainings that he will conduct following his arrival.
- 20 International:** EI's projects are varied in nature but all have the same aim. Pray that all our projects will be witness of God's love for his people.
- 21 Haiti:** Please pray for pastor Martinez and Emma Jovin and the work they do in Haiti.

- 22 South Africa:** The Sayers family worship at Living Hope Bible Church in Cape Town. Denver and his family leave for Master's Seminary in California in less than a month and so the hand-over and extra work will begin very soon. Pray that the transition would go well and that Don would find the extra time to take on extra preaching and teaching.
- 23 Canada:** From July 23rd through till August 7th Scott and Lorilee are returning with a short term mission team for the 6th year to M'chigeeng first nation. We have a large team of about 19 people the first week and 24 the next. Please pray that our whole team will move together in all the activities - daycamp, campfires, family camp - and that our love in Christ will be real and do it's work.
- 24 Malawi:** The Evangelical Baptist Church of Malawi welcomes prayer for their ongoing ministries throughout Malawi and for their management team working in Liwonde on behalf of the more than 300 churches under the EBCM umbrella.
- 25 Uganda:** The Pads Ministry helps girls in the Pader area in Northern Uganda to stay in school. Please pray for Tom Edom and Milly as they work to increase the reach of the project.
- 26 Philippines:** Dr Tony Manolis is meeting with others of the medical profession today, July 26th.
- 27 Tanzania:** - The Monger family will be travelling to Kigoma for a week's holiday (from July 27 till August 4). Pray for safety in travelling and for a refreshing and relaxing time, for fun just together as a family!
- 28 International:** The members of EI boards throughout the world are doing their work on a voluntary basis. We bring each member of those boards to God in thanks.
- 29 Brazil:** The Computer, Music and Sewing Course Projects are being carried out at the PROPAC Day Care Center every day. Please pray for those leading the project, for the recipient children and their families.
- 30 United Kingdom:** Simon and Victoria Ewing are preparing to go to Tanzania in the new year with their two children Tabitha and Reuben. Please pray as they start their fundraising.
- 31 Uganda:** The position of Country Representative in Uganda is still vacant. Paul and Anita Bertrand are filling this position in the interim. Please pray for them as they do this and balance their work with The Mailbox Club. Please also pray that the right person will feel God's call to fill this position permanently.