



# the Emmanuel Connection

April 2017

## Focus on: Mike and Marianne Botting



We have been serving in Uganda with Emmanuel International since 2012. Michael also previously served in Malawi (2005-2009) and in the Canadian Office (2010-2011), and Marianne did an internship in Malawi for 3 months in 2008.

This past May we were deeply blessed with welcoming home our first child, Elias Ogen Jeremiah Botting, who we are fostering-to-adopt.

There are many challenges to working in a rather out-of-the-way part of Uganda, but when we came in 2012 we really felt that God was telling us that he was sending us to a people and not a place, and over the past five years we have really fallen in love with Uganda and the Acholi people.

Over the years God has been shaping us and our vision of missions, from a focus on projects to a focus on holistic and relational missions. So, we really believe in Emmanuel International's vision of helping churches to serve their own communities physically and spiritually. Michael is involved in trying to keep a number of different small projects going - teaching at the theological college of our partner church, showing the Jesus Film and encouraging follow up and discipleship through Bible study groups, working with Christian clubs in secondary schools, and helping to support the Community Health Empowerment ministry - and Marianne has been learning to balance being a full-time mom with also doing informal ministry in mentoring women and working with the church health committee.

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## Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Tanzania:** Rachel and Amisadai Monger are still in the UK, waiting for endoscopies for Amisadai. Pray for healing and quick treatment for her and grace and peace for them all in this long time apart.
- 2 Tanzania:** We have the team from Emmanuel Church Guildford with us from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April, working in Lupembelwasenga village. Pray for health and safety for the team and staff and for great relationships to be built.
- 3 Malawi:** We thank the Lord for the rain and for the promise of a good harvest this year. Pray for the Relief staff as they wind up their responsibilities. Thank you for your faithful prayers for them and we thank God for His safekeeping through the last 5 months.
- 4 Tanzania:** Joel Newby is going to Ukerewe Island, working with the local Church, to start the Entrepreneurship Project. Please pray for him.  
**Canada:** A couple, EIC friends who are Kingdom workers, are in Toronto, involved in some training courses. They also tell the story about how God is working, and the challenges they are facing in working with a relatively poor unreached people group. This delightful couple have a busy schedule for the first three weeks of April. Pray for an ongoing filling of the Holy Spirit as they take in and give out!
- 5 Brazil:** Tarcísio and Jurema Porto's son, Arthur, and his wife Carol became parents, a baby boy called Andre. Praise God for this gift of a son.
- 6 Haiti:** The Rotary Club team, in Haiti from 28 March, is returning to Canada. Please pray for everyone and that the spiritual effects of the visit will be long lasting.
- 7 Brazil:** Fred Silva is participating in the Terena Conference from April 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, and will be visiting the Terena Bible School.  
**South Africa:** Riots against the city authority in Masiphumelele, where the Safe Houses are, have started again. Roads have been blocked, property vandalized and people prevented from leaving their communities. Pray for peace and for safety.
- 8 Uganda:** We are thankful to God for the Pads Ministry that has such a direct effect on the life of girls, mostly without them realising it. We have now reached more than 11,000 girls reached in just over three year. Please pray that Milly and Tom can continue to be effective in this ministry and that the details, such as sorting out the repair or replacement of the overlock sewing machine, will not become major hindrances.
- 9 Tanzania:** The Ewing family is completing their language training and planning to travel up to Mwanza at the end of April. The Rollett family are settling in and will start their language training this month. Please pray for both of the families.

- 10 Philippines:** Summer youth camp is taking place from April 9 - 12. Pray for all the volunteer counsellors and facilitators as they lead these teens during camp. The theme for this year is "Hope Quest" - pray that each teen will be drawn closer to God and that they may find their hope in Jesus Christ. Pray for protection and safety as they travel from different parts of Mindanao to Davao City.
- 11 United Kingdom:** The EIUK Board is served by 6 trustees who give their time and skills to guide the work of EIUK. Please pray for each of them: Dave Varcoe (Chair), Bernard Lane, Lucy Harding, Clive Tydeman, Martin Carr and Mairi Dorward. Please pray as we are looking to recruit more board members.
- 12 Uganda:** Farming God's Way (FGW) is a farming method that could revolutionise agricultural production in Africa, but only if it is adopted! That might happen if people can see the beneficial outcomes. Tom has planted sample plots of maize, field beans and soya beans, with peanuts and vegetables planned. He is learning by doing. The rainy season has now started and Tom is hoping to teach FGW to the Deaf children in school but getting time with them is proving tricky. Please be in prayer about all these issues. In the end, all our efforts must be touched by the Lord if they are to prosper.
- 13 Philippines:** Pray for a cross-cultural exposure for some members of a local small group that EI missionaries are involved in, from April 13 - 16; that those who go may be used by the Lord to serve a community from a different tribe, and for peace and order as the area is known for conflicts.
- 14 Uganda:** The Deaf community has a way of turning in on itself in a surprisingly self destructive manner. Please continue to pray for a real work of God in this community. Tom is pursuing some issues over land possession for Charles and Grace but getting the time and other people in the middle of everything else is difficult. Please pray for the right alignment of people, energy and time.
- 15 Malawi:** The Evangelical Baptist Church of Malawi (EBCM) is reopening the Youth Workshop, a training place for orphaned young people to learn skills. Training will revolve around carpentry, tailoring and a bakery. Pray for wisdom in designing a process that will generate funds for keeping the Youth Workshop up and running.
- 16 Tanzania:** Today the Mwanza team goes together to Bishop Shoo's church to share about their work there. They would appreciate your prayers.
- 17 International:** The position for an International Director is still vacant. Please pray that the right person will be prompted to respond.
- 18 Brazil:** Tarcísio Porto is making contact with a potential Partner Church in the north of Minas Gerais State.

- 19 Tanzania:** Tim Monger is going to Kome Island with Dr Makori to sort out an island house for the Ewing family who will be arriving soon!
- 20 Malawi:** Steve West and Les Clemens are coming to teach at the Evangelical Baptist Bible College, from April 20 – May 1. Jim Clemens is coming with them to encourage our EBCM church partner. Please carry them in your prayers.
- 21 Philippines:** We hope to begin the Teduray Water Project in Sultan Kudurat during April. Please pray for the logistics and our partners.
- 22 Uganda:** You may remember Hope, a Deaf lady who moved to Kitgum with Samuel and now has a 1 year old daughter. She has been studying to become a nursery teacher and has exams very soon. Tom has offered to pay for an interpreter on exam day but it is proving difficult to finalise the details. Please pray that Hope will not have to face the exams without an interpreter.
- 23 Tanzania:** As part of the IMARIKA project, training on VICOBA (village savings and loans) and church mobilisation is taking place in various villages.
- 24 Philippines:** Vacation Bible School is taking place from April 25 - 29. The theme is "Those in Christ are a new creation". Pray for all the teachers as they share the Good News of God's love to over 100 kids in one of our outreach communities; for the mothers as well as we are going to have a class for them too this year; and for financial needs to be met.
- 25 Tanzania:** Please pray for Tim and the team as they teach the Church and Transformation course with leaders of a local church in Mwanza.
- 26 Malawi:** David and Alyssa Forsythe continue to learn language, make friends in Liwonde and minister to pastors on sharing God's love in Muslim communities.
- 27 Tanzania:** Tim is going to Malya to meet with the Beekeeper Group and Women's Group there.
- 28 Philippines:** Bramalea Church, Westney Heights Baptist Church, Living Hope Baptist Church and Handumanan Church would appreciate your prayers for their ministry.
- 29 Canada:** The youth outreach team will be meeting with their First Nation friends this month. Pray "Your Kingdom Come" as the relationships continue and deepen.
- 30 South Africa:** The Sayers family is on furlough in Canada. Please pray for safety on the roads as they are driving an average of 4,000km a week for the next 3 months. Pray for rest amongst the busyness and travel. Please also pray for the ministry of the Safe Houses and the Living Hope Bible church in their absence.