



the Emmanuel Connection

December 2021

Focus on: International Council

The Director of each of EI's 10 countries is a member of the EI Council. It is this Council that runs the affairs of EI and informs the Board for their governance.

Charles Mukiwa (EI Malawi)



Where were you born and raised?

Zomba, Malawi

Your favourite childhood memory:

Doing the Christmas play at church

When and where did you meet Jesus?

In 1988, at church Youth Fellowship

Are you married? Children? Yes, the

children's names are, Novahiwa and Ekari

Your favorite pastime: Hiking

Your favourite Bible verse: Philippians 4:13

When did you start working with EI? 1992

Something special about the country you are working in:

Regardless of different cultures, people know God exist, and believe in prayer

A word of encouragement for the rest of us: Always trust in the Lord in everything you do, no matter what!

Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Canada:** Paul Bertrand is returning to Canada. Please pray for his time with his children, Michael and Cherry, for God's sustaining peace and comfort and for decisions that Paul may need to be making. Paul will be flying to Toronto on November 30th. Praise the Lord for finding accommodation for the month of December where he will complete his quarantine.
Tanzania: The Newbys will be travelling to the USA, leaving today and arriving at their final destination on the 4th. Please pray they arrive safely. They have changed their tickets due to the new COVID variant coming out of Africa. The USA has banned 7 African nations. Tanzania is not on the list but they decided to leave earlier to avoid any restriction.
- 2 Uganda:** We are holding an important meeting today with the church leaders we partner with, to get their input as we plan for 2022. Pray for wisdom as we prioritize our activities.
Canada, UK and USA: The Christmas gift catalogue has been sent out. Pray for the response to these items.
- 3 Uganda:** We are very excited to be hosting Timothy and Ian, Ugandan missionaries who are working as church planters in Kaabong - an area in North Eastern Uganda which is largely unreached by the gospel. Please pray for their visit (from today till 10 December), that their testimonies and words will ignite cross-cultural missions among the churches and church leaders in Pader!
United Kingdom: The EIUK board is meeting today in London. Please pray for safe travels and God's guidance in the decisions that are being made.
- 4 Malawi:** A new COVID variant, Omicron, has been identified in South Africa. We pray that it doesn't spread in Malawi.
Philippines: The ERRP board will meet before the year end.
- 5 South Africa:** We are so thankful for a near-normal year with the Safe House Ministry. The children are now attending classes fulltime and looking forward to putting the lockdowns behind them and enjoying some Christmas parties in December. We are grateful that Extreme Response is flying into SA this year and will host one of the parties for us. We haven't seen them since 2019 so it will be a sweet reunion.
- 6 Philippines:** Ruth and Ken Copsey will be travelling to California today. Pray for the scheduled flights to go as planned and for a safe, smooth journey. Pray for an awesome reunion with their children and grandkids; for a meaningful Christmas celebration together. Please also pray for Ken and Ruth as they begin their lives anew - living and working from the USA while still maintaining connections with their staff in Mindanao. They will travel to Toronto in early 2022.
- 7 Uganda:** Uganda has experienced three separate terrorist attacks in the last month and a half, carried out by a domestic terrorist group which is apparently receiving training from Islamic State. Please pray for protection and for peace in Uganda.

- 8 United Kingdom:** The Group of Six, a group of small Christian charities in the UK, is meeting today via zoom. Sue will join the meeting. We thank God for this opportunity for these managers to pray for and support each other.
- 9 South Africa:** We will be celebrating Rachel's retirement around this time. Pray that she would have a blessed retirement and the new mom, Kungeka, would fill those big shoes and minister as unto the Lord to the children.
Tanzania: Elisha is working with the Projects and Development Department to write a strategic plan for them.
- 10 Brazil:** The Terena Bible School is holding the 2021 Graduation today. Six indigenous students are graduating. Let's praise the Lord for all his blessings on the Bible School and students this year.
Tanzania: After today, when schools close, the Strength and Dignity project will start the refurbishment construction of 16 toilet blocks and rain water tanks.
- 11 United Kingdom:** EIUK is participating in a Christmas Tree Festival at a local church, St Stephen's Church, North Mundham. We decorate the tree with photos about our work around the world and display some brochures for people to take. Please pray that this will be a good opportunity for people to find out more about what EI is doing.
- 12 Tanzania:** All 7 villages in the IERProject will be having tree planting seminars during the month of December.
Philippines: Tonton Caballero is working on a project proposal for next year that has to be submitted.
- 13 Haiti:** The country is experiencing great turmoil. Please continue to pray for God's peace to reign in the country. Pray for the believers who continue to share Jesus' love in the midst of the disorder around them.
- 14 Tanzania:** This month the IMARIKA project will be teaching conservation agriculture in the villages. This activity will involve training on tree planting in the fields. Please pray for them.
- 15 Philippines:** The new Marabuhay Community water project will deliver clean water to this Mindanao upland community of 500 families who have no access to potable water. They already found a good source of water. We will have to raise the rest of the funding needs.
- 16 United States of America:** Don Cressman was given his first study dose of Pacritinib (an experimental drug under consideration by FDA for his specific blood cancer, myelofibrosis) in November. Please give thanks with Don and his wife, Julie, and pray with them that God will multiply the drug's effectiveness and that Don will get into remission without needing chemo.
- 17 Tanzania:** In the health project they will be adding two new villages to work with. Please pray as they are looking for those villages.
South Africa: Danielle has sent many reports from her Paramedic Course in Hout Bay. She has already done a night shift and responded to a car rollover with multiple casualties, a seizing child and various others. It was a busy night and an eye opening experience. She reported that she loved it and the team was very professional. Dad is a bit nervous as her first piece of kit was a bullet proof vest, but they do have an armed protection unit with them... but still.

- 18 South Africa:** We are grateful for the donations that have come in for Christmas gifts for the children. The favorite gift is always a new school bag and shoes, but we'll also make sure there is a toy or two under the tree as well.
- 19 Tanzania:** In December we plan to build all the walls and fit the window metal bars at the church planting school. Pray for the construction to go well.
- 20 United States of America:** We give thanks that Mark Abbott's mother continues to be comfortable in hospice care and is eating better. Please pray for Sherry's mother as she is getting weaker and her memory is worsening, to the point where it might mean Sherry can't look after her anymore.
- 21 Brazil:** The Ninheira and Águas Formosas Projects reached about 100 children and teenagers this year. Prayer for each boy and girl is important, as they need to experience God's love.
- 22 Tanzania:** There will be 2 goat and lamb livestock seminars in Bundillya and Igumumoyo in December.
- 23 Haiti:** Our partner church, Oeuvre Evangelique Baptiste Bethesda, really needs our prayers for God to show them how to navigate these troubled days. Please pray for perseverance.
- 24 International:** We are thankful for our staff around the world. Please pray for those travelling over the Christmas season and for those staying put... for God's blessing and protection through the joy of the season.
- Tanzania:** The whole team will be taking a short break from Christmas to New Year, with most of the team visiting family. Pray for safe travels.
- 25** We wish you all a healthy, safe and blessed Christmas time with family and friends.
- 26 South Africa:** Do also pray for outstanding visa for Nathan and Rachel. Their appeal has been with Home Affairs for over a year so we're hoping for a positive outcome.
- 27 Philippines:** Please pray for the Caballeros, for their support and for wisdom in identifying ways of sustaining their work. Please also pray that Tonton will be able to finish the paperwork needed for the continuance of Philippine field work.
- 28 South Africa:** The 6 year old girl that was placed with Florida, Iminathi, has adjusted well and is attending Ukanyo Primary school and making lots of new friends.
- 29 Malawi:** We are in need of good rains to have sufficient harvests.
- 30 Tanzania:** Elisha will be meeting with church leadership in south Mwanza to plan the expansion of the entrepreneurship project with new funding from MCIC and EIC.
- 31 International:** We thank God for His abundant provision and blessing through 2021. It is His goodness that has marked our days. Psalm 8:9 (NLT) "O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!"