



# the Emmanuel Connection

January 2022

## 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.

## Don Sayers (EI South Africa)



**Where were you born and raised?**

La Ronge, Saskatchewan (near the polar bears).

**Your favourite childhood memory:**

Not once did I hurt myself while running with scissors.

**When and where did you meet Jesus?**

I first heard the gospel in 1978 at

the Alliance Church in La Ronge.

**Are you married? Children?** Yes, married to Rachel. Our children are Danielle, Hudson, Nate, Bear.

**Your favorite pastime:** Surfing and sport shooting.

**Your favourite Bible verse:** Romans 8:1

**When did you start working with EI?** Rachel and I joined EI in 2001.

**Something special about the country you are working in:** It is one of the youngest democracies in the world... and often shows, unfortunately.

**A word of encouragement for the rest of us: Read widely but live in the Bible.**

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

- 1 South Africa:** Please pray that 2022 would be a year of spiritual growth and maturity for both the Safe House and Church ministries.
- 2 Brazil:** Praise the Lord with us for the graduation of 6 indigenous students at the Terena Bible School. They have been sent out back to their villages to be a blessing to their people.
- 3 Uganda:** Today, Mike, Marianne and Elias Botting are moving to Gulu city, after having lived for 10 years in the small town of Pader. EI's work will continue in Pader, but the Bottings will be more involved in developing partnerships and growing the work of EI in Uganda. Please pray for this move, and for Elias as he starts in a new school on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 4 Canada:** EI Canada and EI Tanzania are preparing for a full project proposal which is to be submitted on February 3 2022. There are many things that need to come together to write and finalize.
- 5 Philippines:** We (Ken and Ruth) make plans to travel to Canada to be with Ruth's side of the family and attend the scheduled memorials for both sister Anita and Dad Frank. Pray for all the necessary papers they need to accomplish for the trip and a place to stay for the duration of their stay there.
- 6 International:** Paul and Helen, Richard and Pam are travelling to the US to meet up with Joel and Samantha Newby. We will be meeting with leadership from Newbys sending church today. Pray for safe travels and God's glory in our time together.
- 7 Canada:** Praise God for the response to the Christmas catalog sent out by EIC, EIM and EIUK. We continue to thank God for His provision for the work of EI around the world.
- 8 South Africa:** Danielle is doing an internship in Mexico. Pray for the logistics and for her safety.
- 9 Tanzania:** This month, Edward and Joshua are busy writing a project proposal, in between building relationships with folks in Tanga. Please pray for strong proposal ideas, travelling mercies, and continued good health.
- 10 Uganda:** Schools in Uganda are scheduled to reopen today, and for some students it will be the first time they are back in class since March 2020. Please pray for the many parents under stress to find money for school fees, the students as they try to catch up, and for the restarting of our ministries in schools.

- 11 International:** The EI Family meets on Zoom today for prayer time. EI Malawi will be giving us an update.
- 12 Tanzania:** Simon and Laura will be travelling to Dodoma for the annual TAG meetings. All the bishops will be in attendance, so pray they'll respond well to EI Tanzania's report. They are leaving today and returning on 16 January.
- 13 Tanzania:** Joel, Samantha and family will be travelling from Butte, MT back to Mwanza from today till the 15<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for safe and easy travels!
- 14 Philippines:** COVID cases in Davao region has been consistently going down and so restrictions are easing up. Please pray for the face-to-face training for Bible teachers to resume this January. Pray as our (Ken and Ruth) team, Club 10:14, will continue the training in our absence. Pray for the participants to have the heart and the desire to continue reaching out to kids in their area.
- 15 Malawi:** We pray that the new COVID variant (Omicron) doesn't spread so much.
- 16 Haiti:** The country is still experiencing turmoil and unrest. Please pray for God's peace on Haiti. There is so much need after the earthquake and in the wake of political and economical interference but activities are hampered. Pray for God to go ahead of those who do his work.
- 17 Tanzania:** The new school year begins in Tanzania! Please pray for students, teachers, and families as they get back into the routine after a month off.
- 18 Uganda:** We have been working with 21 churches with our Sunday School training, but many of these churches are now ready to be handed over. Please pray as we plan these handover ceremonies, but more importantly please pray that these Sunday School ministries will continue to stand on their own.
- 19 Canada:** EIC is working on completing the audit. Please pray that this happens in the planned timeframe.
- 20 International:** Please pray for the International Board meeting scheduled to take place towards the end of January.
- 21 South Africa:** There is a deficit in our Safe House ministry finances. Please pray that this would be filled.

- 22 United Kingdom:** We are planning our 2022 AGM. Please pray that we'll be able to meet in person and that all the arrangements go smoothly. We are looking at amending our Articles of Association to allow for online meetings in future, and other modern amendments. Please pray for this process too.
- 23 Tanzania:** The Ibumu Water Project is really progressing! Please pray for Ajery and his team as construction of the storage tank begins.
- 24 Brazil:** In 2021 almost 200 children and teenagers have been reached by two of the projects El Brazil is involved with. Each child and teenager is precious in God's eyes so we need to keep them covered in prayer.
- 25 Canada:** Ken and Ruth Copsey and Paul Bertrand are looking for housing for the next few months in the Toronto area.
- 26 Philippines:** More funding is needed for the Marabuhay water project. The villagers are so excited to finally have their own water system after waiting for so long. Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel through this project.
- 27 International:** As we enter this new year, we would appreciate your prayers as we consider, as a worldwide organisation, the challenges that we are facing and seeking God's guidance on how to address them. Please join us in prayer.
- 28 South Africa:** Our family would appreciate prayer for us to continue to grow in our love for the Lord and that He would be glorified in all we do.
- 29 Malawi:** We pray for good rains.
- 30 Tanzania:** We are working with new project villages in the IMARIKA and health projects this year. Please pray for good relationships and success in our collaboration.
- 31 South Africa:** Pray for freedoms to be restored globally and that churches would meet without hindrance once again.