



# the Emmanuel Connection

February 2025

## Success stories: Saadani Health for Development



The Saadani Health for Development group was started in 2023 and now has 51 members. Their VICOBA activities were completed at the end of 2024. Members pay a TSh1,000 contribution each week for the group community fund, and also a Tsh500 contribution to the members challenges fund. In addition, they can buy up to tsh20,000 in shares each week if they wish. The community fund

is used to support the whole community in some way each year. In 2023 the group made a contribution to the village primary school towards school meals. Later the village leadership gave the group 2 acres of land in which to plant maize. One thing leads to another!

During the year, the group received poultry keeping and beekeeping seminars and people have implemented these practices.

Jairos Nganda's wife was a group member, keeping chickens. Sadly she died but Jairos has joined the group as it has been such a help to his wife. He has 80 chickens now and sells eggs and chicks each week. The poultry keeping training has helped Jairos and his wife develop their poultry business.

Eliza is also keeping chickens. She joined the group in 2024. She took a loan of Tsh100,000 to buy 20 chickens. She has 50 hens and will soon start to sell them.

The group chairwoman, Thelista Kinyaga, said that group members come from all over the village, not just from the Pentecostal Holiness Mission Church which hosts the group. Indeed, only 8 members are from the PHM church. The group has worked so well that there is a waiting list of villagers who want to join the group (there is a nominal limit of 50 members for a VICOBA group), so next year the membership will increase and there will be 2 VICOBA groups.

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

- 1 Canada:** Pam and Richard McGowan are travelling to Manitoba for a week to attend Mission Fest Manitoba (February 7-9). Prior to the event, they will be driving to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to visit with their daughter Angie. While they are there, they will meet with the team from Moose Jaw who are planning a Missions trip to Malawi this coming summer.
- 2 Philippines:** The transfer of the water system management to the village of Marabuhay will occur shortly. Pray as they look for responsible members of the community to take the lead in keeping the system up and running.  
**South Africa:** One of our house moms recently requested an extended break. She was very overwhelmed with a couple of her older children and has asked for some time to read and pray about the way forward. This is not an easy ministry and we ask that you pray with us as we support her in her time away.
- 3 Malawi:** Pray for the Pearson family (Canadian farmers) as they travel back to Alberta after a good visit with farmers here in Malawi. Thank God with us for the encouragement and opportunity to learn that everyone experienced as a result of the Farmer to Farmer project.  
**Uganda:** Mike, Marianne and Elias Botting are traveling back to Uganda today. They are thankful for a good time in Canada and are praying for their transition back.
- 4 Haiti:** We believe that God, the Almighty, is in charge of our world, including the situation in Haiti. Please pray with us for God to bring peace to the situation. Pray for the peacekeeping force; though the numbers are slowly increasing, there is need for a much stronger force.
- 5 Philippines:** Teachers' training is ongoing. Pray for plans for training one weekend in February. Pray for our volunteers' health as many have been ill recently.  
**Malawi:** Malawi is receiving good rains after 2 years of failed harvests. We are praying for consistent rains through this month. If things continue as they are, we are praying for a good harvest this year. After these last two years, we need a good harvest to help people get back on their feet.
- 6 International:** The ERRI Board is meeting today. Prayers for open ears to God's leading is always much appreciated. We are grateful for our Board of dedicated Jesus followers.  
**Canada:** Tax receipting for EI Canada will be mailed/emailed. Please pray as the team prepares them.
- 7 United Kingdom:** The EIUK board is meeting today via Teams. Please pray for good internet connections. We love meeting together to talk about and plan for our work.  
**Philippines:** We covet your prayers for good health for the team. Tonton Caballero is still recovering from coughs and colds.
- 8 South Africa:** Rachel Sayers is recovering well after her hand surgery. She's had a prosthetic tendon implanted on her right thumb and so far it looks like it's improved her grip and strength. She isn't able to use it fully until after about 8 weeks of physio (about mid February) but things are looking great.

- 9 Canada:** Pam and Richard McGowan are travelling home from Manitoba and Saskatchewan today. Please pray for safe travels. Also today, Cindy Bates and Sonia will be representing EIC at the Springvale Church Missions Sunday. Please pray for good connections.
- 10 International:** Weekly praise events and blogs are posted on various EI websites about our Jubilee year. This is our opportunity to praise God for His goodness and love through 50 years of EI's existence. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
- Malawi:** The *Titukule Azimayi* project (which means empower women) started off its activities very well. Please pray for all the activities in this project.
- 11 Haiti:** We are thankful to share that though the church in Cabaret is not fully open, people are able to come together occasionally when safe. A wedding was celebrated recently. We thank God for the beauty of everyday life that can occasionally still continue.
- International:** The EI family are meeting together worldwide via Zoom today. Please pray as we meet to share updates and pray for each other.
- 12 Malawi:** Scott and Lorilee Malcean teach dogmatics/systematic theology at Chisomo. It is a new course for them. They are excited for the content but it is challenging to communicate well. Please pray for liberty and clarity for them and the students as they learn together.
- 13 Philippines:** We have put in an application for a water project in Bacolod. Please pray for approval and funds.
- Tanzania:** We are writing proposals for project funding. Please pray for this and as we wait to hear back from funders.
- 14 Brazil:** EI Brazil has the goal to visit more churches in the more affluent cities to increase the number of partners. We need wisdom to make the right contacts.
- Malawi:** There are twenty children at the Reading Club at Chisomo. They range in ability and learning challenges, but all are eager to improve their academics. It is a privilege to impact young lives and show them the love of Christ by supporting them this way.
- 15 Uganda:** In January we followed up with all of the GROW ministry sites, to make sure they did the local training to prepare for the showing of the Jesus Film. This month we hope to show the film in 6 different communities.
- 16 South Africa:** Our church ministry at Living Hope Church would appreciate prayer. We have a very full calendar this year of conferences, outreaches, missions trips and leadership development. The other good news/bad news is that we are almost reaching capacity with our new venue. It wasn't intended to be a long-term move but we did not expect growth to be this steady. We have a dedicated team looking for plots and venues coming on the market weekly. Pray that we would find a suitable venue in the 10km radius of our current location.
- 17 Tanzania:** We are preparing our accounts and reports for our AGM in March. Please pray.
- Canada:** EI Canada will be closed due to the Statutory holiday of Family Day.

- 18 International:** The International office AGM for 2025 is scheduled to take place today. We thank God for the unity within our organization and for the members who make up Emmanuel International worldwide.
- Haiti:** The situation in Marbial and Jacmel is fairly safe but moving about safely is difficult and high inflation is affecting their ability to source foods and other necessities. Please pray.
- 19 Philippines:** We pray for the spiritual growth of the fishermen in Palawan, particularly those who have received fishing boats.
- 20 Brazil:** Praise God for the interest of other ethnic groups in Brazil to send students to the Terena Indigenous Bible School.
- 21 Philippines:** Students in Quezon have received backpacks. Pray for their salvation and also for the teachers of the school where we distributed the backpacks.
- 22 United Kingdom:** We are hosting our Annual Conference and AGM on Saturday 1 March 2025. Please pray as we are making preparations, and also for everyone attending and speaking.
- 23 Philippines:** Tonton and Nona Caballero are seeking God's guidance and protection as they inspect sites for the new projects.
- 24 Uganda:** Vincent Gidudu's fundraising trip from Gulu to Kampala went smoothly. Thank you for your prayers. Please pray as he is still raising funds for his support and for the work he is doing with Missions Mobilization in Uganda.
- 25 Haiti:** It is still very difficult to send money into the country because of various reasons. Please pray for those who are continuing to attend to churches or schools without receiving their salaries or funds for their work. Pray for opportunities to help where we can without endangering lives of people.
- South Africa:** Don and Nathan Sayers will be travelling to California today. Don has been invited to the Shepherd's Conference at Grace Community Church in Los Angeles (John MacArthur's Church) and Nathan is getting a tour of Masters University by one of the lecturers. Both tickets and conference costs have been paid for by the professor of New Testament at Master's Seminary! An unsolicited and incredibly generous gift! Don will also be preaching at a supporting church in Texas on the way home to SA!
- 26 Uganda:** This year we hope to form a network on missions mobilizers in Gulu, to share resources, to encourage each other, and to multiply the impact and the reach to many more churches. Please pray for this early beginning, as we invite people to join and have initial meetings to cast the vision.
- 27 Philippines:** The health component of our water project in Marabuhay is starting the First Aid segment of the program. Pray for the 15 mothers who have been faithfully attending the Primary Health Care classes.
- 28 United Kingdom:** Today, 41 years ago, EIUK was registered as a charity. We thank God for his faithfulness over these many years. Please pray that we will continue walking in his will.