



the Emmanuel Connection

September 2026



Focus on: Simon Taylor - Admin Assistant

Simon joined EIUK in April as Administrative Assistant, taking over from Linda Fitzmaurice following her retirement. The role brings together his administrative experience, love of serving people, and growing interest in mission. Simon is married to Nicola, and they have two children, Madeline and Zachary.

Most of Simon's working life has been spent in IT services support and management, mainly in local government and university settings. These roles involved problem-solving, organisation, communication and helping others make good use of systems and resources. In 2017, after many years in that field, he responded to God's call into church-based service, joining Grace Church Chichester as Church Operations Manager, a role that opened the door to a deeper involvement in practical ministry. When Grace Church later released its Bognor Regis site to become the independent Mosaic Church in 2025, Simon stepped out again in faith, taking on part-time operations oversight there, giving him an opportunity to take on additional work locally, which is how he discovered EI.

His first months with the team have been eye-opening. Preparing regular publications has quickly introduced him to the breadth of EI's holistic ministries, meeting spiritual, physical and practical needs in Jesus' name. Through stories, updates and prayer points, Simon has begun to see how varied that work is: from ministry in Haiti and savings groups such as VICOBA, to Health for Development initiatives and bee projects that help protect crops and communities from elephants.

Through both Mosaic Church and EIUK, Simon's perspective has widened from local ministry in Sussex to the wider work God is doing through His people around the world. Simon loves using his skills for God's work in whatever capacity, his favourite verse is Philippians 1:6: "he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". It reminds him that God is still at work, and he looks forward to seeing where He leads next.

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Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1** | **Haiti:** Our Haiti Prayer time is at 12:30 (UK) and 7:30 (Toronto). Please pray with us for Daniel Jovin and his family. That Daniel will be blessed in his new work at the school at which he is a principal, and for his parents, Emma and Martinez, to be blessed with good health.

- 2** | **Philippines:** Our educational sponsorship program is now in its 17th year of helping poor but deserving students. Please pray for all our students and their families, that:
 - God would open their hearts to Jesus and draw them closer to Him.
 - The students will remain motivated in their studies and continue learning despite the many cancelled class days caused by natural calamities and town events.
 - The students, their families, and everyone involved in the sponsorship program would receive wisdom, strength, and encouragement.

- 3** | **Malawi:** We continue to work toward a revised mission training program that will start in 2027 at the Evangelical Baptist Church of Malawi in Liwonde. We need wisdom and a clear direction regarding the leadership of the program and teaching staff.

- 4** | **Brazil:** This month some Ubá Church leaders are coming to Belo for a weekend. They want to learn more about church ministry out of the church walls. Pray for our time together.

Uganda: Today is the deadline for construction companies to submit their bids for the first phase of the construction of the SEND Centre. Please pray that we will choose the right company, and that the cost won't be too inflated. Transport and construction costs have increased considerably here since the start of the war in Iran.

- 5** | **Tanzania:** Please pray for Peter Kisingi, a staff member at the Tanga office, as he continues with his wedding preparations. Pray for God's guidance, provision, and a smooth preparation process.

United Arab Emirates: Please pray for Daniel and Hephzibah's health. The heat and dust in UAE bring with them respiratory problems. Pray also for them to find guidance and strategies for working in a country under heavy restrictions.

6	Canada: Pray for the planning of the Annual Gala as the team collects items. This year we are focusing on The Titukule project in Malawi. Pray for those that are considering attending.
7	South Africa: Please continue to pray for the re-registration of African Hope Trust. It's been several months since we were forced to start from scratch after the bank had misplaced all our original documents from our 2009 certification. We know that if the Lord wills, that it will come to pass.
8	International: Our international prayer gathering is taking place today. 14:00 (UK) and 09:00 (Toronto). Please pray for us to have a good open time of prayer together as we praise God for his goodness to us and the work of EI and as we seek him for present and upcoming challenges.
9	Malawi: The students at Chisomo are into their third and last term. May they finish well and go out to serve their communities effectively. Pray that our Dogmatics class (Systematic Theology) will be well understood.
10	Philippines: SALT, our community development team, continues to reach out to Unreached People Groups (UPGs) in Mindanao. please pray for: • The fast and efficient processing of their Certificate of Tax Exemption. • Wisdom, strength, and open doors as the team continues its ministry among UPG communities.
11	Tanzania: Please pray for the safety and protection of staff as they travel from their homes to the villages, especially during their field activities. Please uphold all our staff members and teams for good health, strength and well-being.
12	Canada: The EI Canada short term team is starting their journey home from Tanzania, please pray over their journey
13	South Africa: Pray for our up-coming Short-term mission team from California coming in early October. They will be involved in our local church bible studies, evangelistic outreaches, family camp, bible-hour teaching and Sunday preaching. There is much to finalize for accommodation, transport and local logistics. Pray for those who are coming to minister as well as those who will hear and respond to the gospel.

14	Malawi: Primary and Secondary schools in Malawi are opening today. Pray for the Reading Club as we determine what our capacity is this year in terms of numbers of kids and as we find good tutors who can help us with the children we will support this coming school year.
15	Haiti: Our Haiti Prayer time is at 12:30 (UK) and 7:30 (Toronto). Please join us in praying for the continuing rebuild work on the school in Marbiel, for the project manager and the team working on the building. Local geography makes this a logistically challenging project.
16	International: 7am Toronto time, the Global Gathering Team will be meeting to continue planning the Global Gathering in Tanzania scheduled for May 17-21, 2027
17	Malawi: Farmer to Farmer - Sept 14-18 - six participants will be doing one week training in organic farming this week. We hope to deepen the growing knowledge of farming with less dependence on chemical fertilizers and with the aim of improving soil quality and crop production. We are thankful for the opportunity to encourage new learning opportunities for our farmers.
18	Brazil: Pray for the staff who carry out all the activities with children and teenagers who attend the Ninheira and Águas Formosas projects. They need wisdom to really touch the lives of all who come for the classes. Tanzania: Please pray for the health seminars that will begin in September in the newly formed group in Kitelewasi village. Pray for good attendance, clear understanding, active participation, and safe travels for everyone involved.
19	United Kingdom: Please pray for Sue and the board as they continue to work on grant funding proposals to support projects in the coming year. This is a long and detailed job that requires faith and dedication. Pray for funders to view our proposals favourably. Uganda: Today we are having an orientation training for the two churches participating in our cross-cultural missions exposure trip. A team of 8 people from 2 churches will be spending a week in Kaabong, seeing what it looks like to have Ugandan missionaries on the mission field, while also going through the Interface Seminar which helps churches integrate missions into their church vision and activities.

20	United Arab Emirates: Please pray for funding and financial stability for those serving in the UAE. The cost of living is rising, and fuel prices are continuing to peak. We seek God's provision to meet the needs of the team and thank him for his grace and mercy that always meets our needs.
21	International: The Global South Committee is meeting today at 2pm (UK) / 9am (Toronto). Please pray for their discussions and for God to open doors into new opportunities for the Global South.
22	Haiti: Our Haiti Prayer time is at 12:30 (UK) and 7:30 (Toronto). Today please remember the men and women supporting the work of the Church and EI in Haiti. Pray for Pastor Farnell's back condition to improve. Pray also for Andrice and Samantha and the other young men and women in academia and training to hear God's call on their lives as they prepare for their futures.
23	International: The EI Council meet today at 2pm (UK) / 9am (Toronto). Please pray for a productive meeting filled with good discussions. Canada: EI Canada has their board meeting this evening. Lift up our EI Canada Board members in prayer, we are thankful for their service and their unique gifting.
24	Malawi: The farmers have purchased their own chicken manure and will complete the application this month to their one-acre plots in preparation for this coming planting season. Pray for a good price for the maize that they have stored for the purpose of selling and purchasing this year's maize seed supplies. We are thankful for the good outcomes from last year and the commitment of the group participants.
25	Philippines: Our SALT Community Development Team is also beginning an earthquake rehabilitation project with our missionary friends in General Santos City (GenSan), where a 7.8-magnitude earthquake on June 8 caused extensive damage to homes and businesses. Pray for: • Wisdom and discernment for those who will manage and oversee the rehabilitation project • The affected families and communities as they rebuild their homes, livelihoods, and lives. • The project to open doors for the Gospel and demonstrate God's love and compassion to those who are hurting.

- 26 Malawi:** Thank God with us for the churches and individuals in Kansas who are interested in supporting the mission training program at the EBCM school in Liwonde. Pray for our ongoing discussions and revisions to the budget, that it would accurately reflect the needs of the program but also work within the reality of the funds raised.
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- 27 South Africa:** Please continue to keep our House Mothers in prayer. We are still waiting for Mrs B – our new house mother, to receive her Form 39 clearance, even though we started this process in January! The wheels turn agonizingly slowly. We have been paying an assistant an increased day rate in the meantime which has impacted our budget significantly.
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- 28 Tanzania:** Please pray for the entrepreneurship groups, their projects, and the ongoing VICOPA activities, that they may operate successfully, grow stronger, and bring meaningful benefits to the members.
- Pray also for all ongoing beekeeping activities and group projects, that they may progress successfully and produce positive results.
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- 29 Haiti:** Our Haiti Prayer time is at 12:30 (UK) and 7:30 (Toronto). Please pray for the country of Haiti as they prepare for presidential elections, due in December. Pray for a free and fair election process, their first in nearly 10 years. Pray for the safety of candidates, officials and voters to be guided by God's will and purpose.
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- 30 United Kingdom:** As we reach the end of our financial year here in the UK and many of the other EI offices work begins on preparing our financial year end reports and processes.
- Uganda:** This is an advanced prayer request - On the 30th of October we are involved in organizing the final Gulu for the Nations of 2026, a city-wide night of worship and prayer for the nations. That might seem like a long way off, but there is a lot of organizing involved! This time we are focused on getting more volunteers and churches involved and handing over many responsibilities. Please pray for churches throughout the city to promote the event and for God to provide the small army of volunteers we need to step into these roles.