Lent **February 21, 2021**

Emmanuel BAPTIST CHURCH

Emmanuel Baptist exists to fully love God and all people for God's Kingdom, pleasure and glory.

the connection is a community of the Emmanuel family. We seek to know and follow Jesus. We believe that as we follow him, Jesus changes us and transforms us into the people God created us to be. As a community, there are certain Jesus-centered principles that frame our journey together. Principles aren't rules, they're guideposts we want to keep in view wherever we are and whatever we do as *the connection*.

STAYING CONNECTED

There are several ways for you to keep in the loop about what's going on in and around *the connection* ...

- Email: Rob (heypriest@gmail.com)
- Phone: 306-477-1234
- Website: theconnection.ca
- Facebook: facebook.com/theconnectionsk
- Twitter: @TheConnectionSK

If you have anything to say or questions to ask, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

NEW WAYS OF CONNECTING AT EBC ...

For the following information & much more, please check out our website: ***www.theconnection.ca or www.ebap.ca***

The Connection Service Update - In the absence of our regular Sunday evening community gathering we've created ***the connection liturgies*** at www.theconnection.ca. A weekly liturgy will be posted every Sunday. Sunday evenings at 6pm there will be an ***Open Small Group*** at the church for those who would like to attend. ****No Open Small Group February 21.****

Children's Ministry - On the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month, our in-person programming will run. ***Next class February 28.*** You will need to register any children who plan to attend in advance (main Sunday AM Service registration page). **Children** taking part in Sunday School will enter the facility at the main entrance at the front. Beverly will meet you at the main entrance & escort you to your class upstairs.

Youth Ministry - Tuesday Night Youth (Gr. 7-12) Currently, youth will be offered in-person & over Zoom. Those attending in person will need to pre-register each week through the website. For more information such as the Zoom login, contact Rachel at rachel@ebap.ca. On the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month, MUSE for grade 7-12 youth will run. ***Next class March 7***. You will need to register any youth who plan to attend in advance (main Sunday AM Service registration page). **Youth** taking part in MUSE will enter the facility at the main entrance at the front. To ensure a safe flow of traffic, we ask that you follow the directional arrows on the floor.

Senior Adult Ministry - The EBC Senior Adult Ministry is committed to connecting with & caring for our senior adults. In particular, connecting with those who are shut-in is extremely important during this season of COVID-19. Robin Sloboda, Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry, is currently away from work on medical leave. Robin has been blogging at https://emmanuelsenior.blogspot.com/ & hopes to continue to do so as long as she is able. In her absence, Brendon Gibson is providing pastoral care to our seniors. Please contact Brendon with any questions or concerns, 306-477-1234, x129.

Forever InMotion fitness program for those aged 60+ will run on Wednesday & Friday at 9am.

Women's Ministry - Women of all ages are invited to participate in **Heart Matters Women's Bible Study** via Zoom on **Tuesdays from 9:30-11am**. Please contact Laura at lauramonchuk@gmail.com or 306-230-5033 for more information.

If you would like to connect with other women in the EBC community, please join the **Ladies Zoom Time on Thursday afternoon from 1pm-2pm.** If you have questions about this conversation time, please email Xulin at xulinguo@gmail.com or Barb at barbbarr@shaw.ca

Care Ministry - For those in need of Practical Care Supports such as food & supplies or requests to the Care Fund, or for Mental Health Supports, please contact Kari at 306-477-1234, ext. 133 or kari@ebap.ca.

If you are looking for ways to help, we are accepting donations of sealed & labelled freezer meals as well as items for the Food Pantry. Please contact Kari if you would like to contribute.

ESL Coffee & Conversation - Sunday Morning (Intermediate Class) 8:30am via ZOOM. For login information, please contact Rob Arthur at rearthur@sasktel.net.

Prayer Ministry - Online Prayer is available at the following times: **Tuesday-Friday, 7:15-7:45am; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:15-12:45; 9:15-9:45.** For Login information, please contact Brendon, bgibson@ebap.ca or 306-341-0195.

Morning Service Update - We have resumed our Sunday morning service on-site for those who are able to join us. All persons attending the service will be required to register on our website, www.ebap.ca. Please click on the banner that says, "Sunday AM Service, Registration Required." Registration will help us keep within the limits of our current seating capacity; it will also make it easier for contact tracing, in the event that one of our attendees tests positive for COVID-19. In addition, we will be offering a live-stream of the Sunday service which will be available online for viewing. If you do not currently receive our emails and would like to, please contact the office, info@ebap.ca.

WHAT WE'RE ABOUT

Shalom | God's relationship with creation began with "God saw all that he had made and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). The scriptures tell us that a day is coming when God will unfold a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21). This state of perfect wholeness is the centre of the Jewish idea of "Shalom". But what about the in-between time? Jesus' life and teaching reveals God's plan to unfold shalom here and now: "May your kingdom come, may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6). We believe that followers of Jesus are invited to participate in the in-breaking of God's shalom here, now, on earth as it is in heaven. As a community, *the connection* seeks the shalom of God in the following broad expressions:

Shalom with God
Are we moving in right relationship with our Creator?

Shalom with Creation
How does our living reflect that "earth is God's and everything in it? Do we live aware that Creation is a gift to treasure and care for?

Shalom with Ourselves
God created humankind in God's own image. Are we living in such a sway as to care for ourselves as people uniquely and wonderfully made by our Creator?

Shalom with Others
We have been called to live as pictures of Jesus in the world where we live. Therefore we strive for relationships marked out by generous live, grace, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, encouragement and support. Believing that Jesus demonstrated how this is done, we seek to extend this generosity to all people whoever we meet them - next door, downtown, around the world.

One of the metaphors we use to describe our life in Community is the breathing rhythm. For a body to live it needs to inhale and exhale. This is true of us as *the connection:*

Inhale - Gathering as a Community | We value being together as often as possible. One of the ways Jesus shapes his people is by speaking through community. One of the ancient traditions described in the Bible is the journeying people of God worshiping God together. So when we gather we anticipate growing toward Jesus together. "Inhale" is described in our context as any whole-community gathering - Sunday evenings, Connection Feasts, etc.

Exhale - Living as a Dispersed Community | We believe that Jesus taught and demonstrated that all of life is to reflect God's kingdom values. In other words, following Jesus is more than once-a-week Sunday get-togethers. "Exhale" in this context describes how we live as a dispersed community between Sundays. A new and growing initiative to help us 'exhale' is Connection House.

For more information about *the connection*, our core values, Connection House, or questions about what it means to follow Jesus in the world today, contact Rob Priestly (heypriest@ebap.ca).

DONATE TO EBC:
THROUGH INTERNET BANKING
We can now offer e-Transfers to bookkeeper@ebap.ca! Or contact Jan at 477-1234, ext 126 or bookkeeper@ebap.ca for an identifier code and create EBC as a Payee under your Bill Payments option.

ON-LINE GIVING
www.emmanuelbaptist.ca/giving

KINGDOM GIVING THROUGH EBC

The Bible calls us to give to the Lord generously, sacrificially and joyfully. We are grateful for your support of the ministry of EBC through tithes and offerings, and through the use of your time and gifts in service to the Lord and His kingdom. If you ever have any questions regarding our finances, please feel free to contact our treasurer at elders@ebap.ca.

Budgeted Offerings as of Feb 14, 2021	$ 437,501
Actual Offerings as of Feb 14, 2021	$ 436,305
Deficit	$ (-1,196)
Capital Fund Offerings as of Feb 14, 2021	$ 145,032
Line of Credit as of Jan 25, 2021	$ 0

NEWS & OTHER INFO

MCC Connects: Due to the strain of the pandemic & multiple crisis locally & around the world, MCC's warehouse inventory of hygiene kits has depleted. Help meet the urgent needs of families by donating a hygiene kit today. Drop off supplies at the MCC Saskatchewan Centre, or donate funds by contacting us by phone: (306) 655-2555 or email: saskoffice@mccsk.ca. For info on what makes up a hygiene kit, visit https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/kits/hygiene.

CONGRATULATIONS to LaDawn & Jonathan Lecnik on the safe arrival of Charity Rose on Feb 5. Charity is a little sister for Sophie.

AN INVITATION to help update the "Stations of the Cross" artwork for 2021 - For a list of the stations & scripture passages on which each station is based, or for further information, please contact Brendon Gibson at bgibson@ebap.ca or 306-477-1234, ext 129. Deadline for submissions - Sunday, March 21

The Bridge on 20th - TODAY'S needs: Hygiene items, men's & women's winter coats, footwear, underwear, socks, gloves, belts, backpacks/suitcases, bedding. Sorry, but we are short of space so if not listed above, we are not able to accept those donations at this time. Kitchen: coffee & coffee whitener.

PRAISE & PRAYER

If you would like prayer for yourself or someone you know, please contact the church office with your concerns. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." ~ Phil 4:6

1. Praise that **Lois May** is out of the hospital & recovering at home.
2. Please pray for God's guidance for **Robin Sloboda & her team of doctors** as they do tests & discuss whether to continue with chemotherapy treatments. Also pray for **Murray & the rest of her family** as they support her.
3. Praise God that **Jack Pekush** has been released from the hospital & continues to recover at home. Please pray for him to regain his health back.
4. Please pray for **Elaine Gilbert & family** as they grieve the loss of her husband, Malcolm.
5. Please pray for **Henry Dick's niece, Lindsay,** who has had a recurrence of cancer that will require major chemo treatment. Pray for **Lindsay's family** as they walk through this journey again.
6. Please continue to pray for **Emily Zacharias (Block).** Emily is on IV nutrition once again but her team are bit by bit finding ways to decrease her pain. Thank you for your continued prayers!
7. There are several people in our church family who need continued prayer for health concerns. Please remember **Mary Mason, Sadie Robson, John Arendt & Jordan Reimer's mom, Jennifer.** Also, please pray for those who care for them during this season of their ongoing health requirements.

Pray for our partners at home and abroad:

Overseas:
- Rev. Andre, Rev. Gato (Rwanda)

Close to Home:
- The Quest at Christopher Lake (Dyan Mouland)
- The Bridge on 20th, Saskatoon (Linda Walker)
- IVCF-International Students, Saskatoon (Gerry & Shirley Falk)
- Hope Restored, Saskatoon (Joeline Magill)
- Saskatoon Pregnancy Options Centre, Saskatoon (Cathy LaFleche)
- LeaderImpact (Arlene Jorgenson)
- Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM)
- Canadian Baptists of Western Canada (CBWC)
- Carey Theological College

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Donations to the following can be made through EBC:
(please designate on your offering envelope)
- The Bridge on 20th, Saskatoon (Linda Walker)
- The Quest at Christopher Lake (Dyan Mouland)
- Saskatoon Pregnancy Options Centre, Saskatoon (Cathy LaFleche)
- Hope Restored, Saskatoon (Joeline Magill)
- Canadian Baptist Ministries