theconnection

Advent





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 Jesuscentered 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* ...

December 12, 2021

- 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.

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 - We are resuming in-person gatherings at 6pm for those who would like to attend. Please join us! All are welcome! We will continue to post a weekly liturgy every Sunday (*the connection liturgies* at <u>www.theconnection.ca</u>) if you prefer to take part in this way.

Children's Ministry - Our in-person programming for children has resumed at 6pm as follows: The **Toddler Room** (orange) is open (but unsupervised) for children aged 0-2. A **Preschool Class** (Blue) is available for children aged 2-5. **Gradeschool Children (Grade 1-6)** taking part in Sunday School will enter the facility at the main entrance at the front & start out in the Sanctuary.

Youth Ministry - Tuesday Night Youth (Gr. 7-12) Contact Rachel at <u>rachel@ebap.ca</u> for more information. On the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month, *MUSE for grade 7-12* youth will run. *Next MUSE December 19.*

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. 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. Please join us!

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. *Heart Matters is finished for the season. It will resume in January 2022.*

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 <u>rearthur@sasktel.net</u>.

Prayer Ministry -

Online Prayer - is available at the following times: *Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 7:15-7:45am and Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:15-12:45pm.* For login information, please contact Brendon at bgibson@ebap.ca or 306-341-0195.

Community Prayer - Fridays at 7am in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join us as we pray for the needs in our church family, city, nation & abroad.

Morning Service - Our Sunday morning service meets on-site for those who are able to join us. In addition, we also provide a live-stream of this service which can be accessed through our website. If you do not currently receive our emails and would like to, please contact the office, <u>info@ebap.ca</u>.

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 lesus 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 (please designate on your offering envelope) time and gifts in service to the Lord and His kingdom. If you ever have any questions regarding our finances, please feel Ifree to contact our treasurer at elders@ebap.ca.

Budgeted Offerings as of Dec 5, 2021	\$ 300,792
Actual Offerings as of Dec 5, 2021	\$ 235,962
Deficit	<u>\$ (-64,830)</u>
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Capital Fund Offerings as of Dec 5, 2021

NEWS & OTHER INFO

MCC Connects: Give the gift of love and warmth this holiday season! MCC Saskatchewan's quilts are now 40% off for the remainder of the holiday season. Purchase one today at mccskquiltsale.com or call 306.665.2555.

The Quest - As Christmas draws near, I would like to remind everyone of the 75 by 75 campaign that was introduced in 2020. Twice, we have tried to celebrate the 75th anniversary of The Quest in person, but the pandemic had other plans. The campaign continues, though. If 75 people gave \$75 each month, this would go a long way to help the day-to-day operations of The Quest. With so few bookings due to the pandemic, your ongoing support is essential. Can't afford \$75? Any amount helps. If you can afford more than \$75, we will accept that too! To set up your monthly giving, please contact admin@questnet.ca for the form, or phone the camp at 306-981-3788. Wanting to do an independent financial gift to The Quest before the end of the year? Remember, in order to receive a charitable tax receipt, envelopes must be post marked on or before December 31, 2021. E-transfers can also be accepted and can be sent to admin@questnet.ca Thank you all for remembering camp ministry. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity are very much appreciated. Dyan Mouland (Director at The Quest)

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 God that Emily Zacharias (Block) was able to have a new J-tube inserted into her stomach. Please pray that it will work well & that she will be able to receive nutrition in that way.

2. Please pray for **Ina Van Der Spuy & family** as they grieve the death of Ina's mother in South Africa.

3. Please pray for Sandra Petkau who is recovering at home from an infection.

4. Please pray for relief & healing for Fiona Reid-Anekie who is living with significant abdominal pain for which the doctors have not been able to determine a cause. Pray that she will have access to further tests soon.

5. There are several other people in our church family who need continued prayer for health concerns. Please remember Sadie Robson, Jennifer Reimer & Scott Fitzsimmons. 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:

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- 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 (Dee Cook)
- LeaderImpact (Arlene Jorgenson)
- Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM)
- Canadian Baptists of Western Canada (CBWC)
- Carey Theological College

Donations to the following can be made through EBC:

- The Bridge on 20th, Saskatoon (Linda Walker)
- The Quest at Christopher Lake (Dyan Mouland)
- Saskatoon Pregnancy Options Centre, Saskatoon (Dee Cook)
- Hope Restored, Saskatoon (Joeline Magill)
- **Canadian Baptist Ministries**

