



Welcome to *the connection*. If this is your first time with us, here's some information that should help orient you to our community gathering. You're invited to participate in as much or as little as you feel comfortable...

Candle & Cross | The cross is the central symbol of mercy in the world, a reminder of God's forgiveness, grace, and love. The tall candle on the cross symbolizes Jesus' presence. The prominence of the cross and candle reminds us that Jesus is the source of our worship.

Musical Instruments | We sing during our gathering because music helps connect us with Jesus in ways spoken word doesn't. In singing we join the tradition of the ancients in singing praise to and about God. We believe that music worship isn't a performance for the congregation, but rather the works of the people who together express praise to Jesus, the true audience. Because of this, our musicians are arranged on stage as participants in the community's singing.

Table, Bread, Cup (Communion, Eucharist, Lord's Supper) | Jesus' blood was shed to cleanse us of sin. Jesus' body was broken and bruised to heal your soul. If you're in need of cleansing and your soul needs healing, come to the table.

Offering Boxes | We believe that more than a specific amount, one's offering should be a response to who God is and what God is leading you to give. If you've come with an offering or you're prompted to give during worship, you're invited to take it to one of the two offering boxes located at the back of the sanctuary near the doors.

Prayer box/prayer lounge | At the foot of the cross is a white box with paper and pens. During the communion/response time you're invited to come to this space and consider the mercy of Jesus, and write a prayer and leave it in the box. At the back of the sanctuary in the overflow area, we've created a place for you to pray during the response/communion portion of our gathering. We will ensure that there is at least one other person available if you'd like someone to pray with you.

Response Cards | At the front of the sanctuary on the stage you'll find some response cards. If you'd like to tell us a little about your journey and ask for more information about following Jesus, fill out a card. One of *the connection's* pastors will get in touch with you if you'd like. (If you prefer, you can also email Chris at chris@ebap.ca).

FoodShare Box | Have some extra food? Why not leave it here for someone in need. Need some food to get you through the week? Please help yourself to whatever's in the basket. The FoodShare basket is located in the foyer.



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: 477-1234
- Website: theconnection.ca
- Facebook: facebook.com/theconnections
- Twitter: @TheConnectionSK

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

COMING UP ...

Event Calendar for January/February is available at the Welcome Desk.

Awaken Prayer Gathering - Thursday, January 11 at 7:15pm. See the flyer at the Information Centre for details.

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, January 13 at 8am. See the flyer at the Information Centre for more information.

Membership Class - Sunday, January 14 at 3:30pm. See the flyer at the Information Centre for details.

Together For Good (Marriage Workshop) - begins Friday, January 19 at 7pm. See the flyer at the Info Centre for more information.

Family Ministries - Games/Movie Night - Saturday, January 20. Mark your calendars!

Baptism Class - Sunday, January 21 at 4:00pm. See the flyer at the Information Centre for details.

Spiritual Life Conference (Engaging The Culture We Inhabit With The Gospel) - Friday, February 2 - Sunday, February 4. See www.ebap.ca for details & to register.

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 way 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 love, 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 worshipping 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 Chris Lortie (chris@ebap.ca)

EBC Wi-Fi

We now have public Wi-Fi in our sanctuary.
Look for EBC Sanctuary - password **ebcck4330**.

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 December 31, 2017	\$ 377,583
Actual Offerings as of December 31, 2017	\$ <u>396,795</u>
Reserve	\$ <u>19,212</u>

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN "TEAM 300" (Building Fund)

Target: \$300,000

Building Fund - Nov 30, 2017	\$ 15,985
Donations as of December 31, 2017	\$ 35,430
Outstanding Pledges as of December 31, 2017	\$ <u>9,150</u>
TOTAL as of December 31, 2017	\$ <u>62,565</u>

NEWS & OTHER INFO

The Quest - see the foyer bulletin board for their latest update!

The Derksens in Rwanda - Ken and Wendy's most recent ministry update has been posted on the Missions Board in the Foyer. It can be accessed at: <http://www.cbmin.org/who-we-are/field-staff/ken-wendy-derksen>.

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. Pray for **Agatha (Gief) Fehr and family** as they grieve the death of her husband Martin.
2. Fred and Ann Odnokon requests prayer for their 3 year old great-grandson, **Carson**, who was born with a heart defect and is in the Sick Kids Hospital in Edmonton.
3. Pray for **Beverly Toth & family** as they grieve the death of her dad.
4. Pray for **Leah Young & her family** as they make some very difficult decisions about surgery for her dad. Pray that his health will stabilize & that the doctors would be able to give him the best care possible.
5. Pray for **Dan & Hilda Elkie** as they mourn the passing of their daughter, LeeAnn Gardner, and as they deal with health concerns for Dan who is in the hospital.
6. Pray for **Jordan Reimer & his family** as his mom, Jennifer, deals with a cancer diagnosis.
7. **Elaine Senko** had bi-lateral knee replacement on Nov 16. Please pray for no infection to take hold & that she will recover well at home.
8. Pray for **Oscar Oh's family** as they grieve his death. Pray also for a favourable outcome for them as they pursue permanent residency in Canada.
9. Please pray for **Gaylene Johnson** as she is experiencing side-effects from chemo as well as leg pain. She is waiting for surgery in January.
10. Please pray for **Greg Wiks & Marion Voth** as they continue to deal with health challenges.
11. Pray for **Sadie Robson**, as well as **Amy, Luke & Ellyn**, as they continue to look for the right treatment plan to control Sadie's seizures. They are hopeful things are improving

Pray for our partners at home and abroad:

Overseas:

- Ken & Wendy Derksen (CBM, Rwanda, Africa)
- Rev. Andre, Rev. Gato (Rwanda)

Close to Home:

- The Quest at Christopher Lake (Emily Summach)
- The Bridge on 20th, Saskatoon (Linda Chamagne)
- IVCF-International Students, Saskatoon (Gerry & Shirley Falk)
- Hope Restored, Saskatoon (Joeline Magill)
- Saskatoon Pregnancy Options Centre, Saskatoon (Cathy LaFleche)
- WorldServe Thrift Store (Marcell Janzen)
- Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM)
- Canadian Baptists of Western Canada (CBWC)
- Carey Theological College

Donations to the following can be made through EBC: (please designate on your offering envelope)

- Ken & Wendy Derksen (CBM, Rwanda, Africa)
- The Bridge on 20th, Saskatoon (Linda Chamagne)
- The Quest at Christopher Lake (Emily Summach)
- Saskatoon Pregnancy Options Centre, Saskatoon (Cathy LaFleche)

DONATE TO EBC:

THROUGH INTERNET BANKING

Contact Lindsay at 477-1234, ext 126 or lindsay@ebap.ca for an identifier code and create EBC as a Payee under your Bill Payments option.

THROUGH INTERAC

You can also donate through Interac with the terminal at the Welcome Desk.

ON-LINE GIVING

www.emmanuelbaptist.ca/giving