

E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: YOUR FAMILY TREE

The book of Ruth ends with the following:

"This is the family line beginning with their ancestor Perez: Perez was the father of Hezron. Hezron was the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon. Nahshon was the father of Salmon. Salmon was the father of Boaz. Boaz was the father of Obed. Obed was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of David." ((Ruth 4:18-22)

It is easy to read this line-up of family names and then move on to the next book of the Old Testament (Samuel) but hidden in this family tree is evidence that God uses fallible people to bring about His good will.

Perez was the first of David's ancestors mentioned. He was the illegitimate son of Judah and his daughter-in-law Tamar (Genesis 38:1-30). Boaz was the son of Salmon whose wife was Rahab, the prostitute of Jericho (Joshua 2:1-24). Ruth was a foreigner from Moab. Moabites were not even considered one of God's chosen people. God used these people who were far from ideal by human standards, to bring about the birth of one of the greatest kings, David, and the world's only Saviour, Jesus.

Perhaps for this family month, you should examine your family tree and see how God's hand has been central in all the persons who form your family line and the significant role your life played in this line up. Knowing about the family line in Ruth should give you hope – that no matter how sordid or painful our family past, God can use us significantly if we are willing to let Him use us for His glory.

(Adapted from: New Living Translation version of the Bible)

*Dahlia Palmer
Chairperson, Communications*

May Birthdays

Lurline Edwards	1st
Karlane McLean	5th
Daphne Lewis	9th
Michael Jackson	11th
Joycelyn Barnett	15th
Shanae Campbell	16th
Olivene McPherson	17th
Verona Porter	17th
Vivene Irvin	18th
Jovan Thompson	19th
Valrie Johnson	20th
Pauline Smith	22nd
Pearline Harriot	24th
Margaret McFarquhar	24th
Ena Bucknor	26th
Gwendolyn Robinson	28th
Lucan Scott	28th
Carol Levers	29th
Louise Plummer	30th
Jevan Radway	31st

MAY REMINDERS

2-7	Education Week
5th	Teachers' Day
9th	Mothers' Day
18th	Anniversary of establishment of Emmanuel
26th	Labour day

Remember to pray for the sick and shut-in members of the church and in our surrounding communities.

**FAMILY MONTH
FEATURE:**

This year, our special family month feature will highlight those persons who have been members of the Emmanuel Baptist Church for over 30 years.

This feature will be published every Sunday in the months of May and June. Please feel free to share in this publication during the family month celebrations.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions

Please e-mail us at
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Or write us at:
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EMMANUEL at 182 years ... A good way to sum up our journey is captured in the song by Albert Goodson which says:

*We have come this far by faith, Leaning on the Lord
Trusting in His Holy word, He never failed us yet
Oh! Can't Turn Around, We've come this far by faith*

Can you recall that last year this time we had completed the renovations to the chapel? A task that some of us thought could not have happened? We are thankful for the faith of many of our members—a faith demonstrated in the giving of time and resources to the work and glory of our Lord. We give God thanks that once again, we can look back and see how far we have come by faith and we can truly lift our hands in praise and adoration and shout **faithful is our God!**

A LESSON IN HOPE AUTHOR UNKNOWN

I may not be the wisest person on this planet, but I will tell you a little secret to happiness: **Help others, and live life.** It is that simple. Just help a friend study for a test, or volunteer at a nursing home. I learned this after a long, hard search. I was feeling really down because my long-time friend had died. Then I started a six-week stint volunteering at a nursing home all day every Saturday. My routine was to set up the kitchen area for breakfast, serve the meal, clean up, and then set up the activity of the day, usually a rousing game of Bingo. After that, I would either walk around the home or sit in the office and wait for the head nurse to tell me what to do. One day I was told to go to Room 117 to make sure the patient was all right. The nurse said she never wanted to go in because it would break her heart. I was curious to see what would make a nurse, who looked like she could curl me, cry. In the room I found a boy of eight sitting in his bed watching a movie. I was shocked to see a child in this seemingly forgotten nursing home for older people. He was so small and frail that you had to look closely to find him. He motioned for me to come sit down. I grabbed his chart where I read some large medical words; later I found out it was a terminal illness. We started to talk, and I found out that his family rarely visited, and all he did every day was watch TV. I wanted to cry for him, and for my lost friend. As we talked, he had a smile on his face, and I asked him why. "The entire two hours I've been here you've never lost that smile. With this horrible disease, how do you still manage to stay happy?" He thought for a moment, and then said that too many people are dead even before they die. They walk around feeling that God has cursed them and that they have nothing to live for. The boy said that he would not be like that. He wakes every morning thankful he has seen another sunrise. He keeps his window open so that he can smell the flowers and feel the heat of the sun. He also said that he has hope. "Too many people haven't seen much of that around here," he said. He said that life is full of hope and we need to live life before it is gone.

I don't know what happened to him. I assume he passed away, but his lesson lives on. I now wake up and live each day to the fullest. The key to life is not money or fame, but the lessons we learn from it.

REMEMBERING OUR HISTORY ... Pastors who served at Emmanuel (and the wider circuit)

1. Rev. Joseph Burton (1828- 1833?)
2. Rev. Edward Baylis
3. Rev. David Day (1839-1863)
4. Rev. W.D. Henderson
5. Rev. Charles Sibley
6. Rev. Edward B. James (1906-1917)
7. Rev. Solomon Williamson
8. Rev. James Reid
9. Rev. Arnold Knott
10. Rev. Solomon McFarlane
11. Rev. W. J. Thompson
12. Rev. Chester Orr
13. Rev. Clement Ferguson
14. Rev. O.T. Johnson
15. Rev. Spurgeon Smith (1953-1966)
16. Rev. Dr. Dudley Stokes (1967-1974)
17. Rev. Dr. Heckford Sharpe (1974-1977)
18. Rev. Harry Jarrett (1977-1983)
19. Rev. Joseph Anderson (1984-1989)
20. Rev. Dr. Glenroy Lalor (1992-2009)

Thought:

**NEVER UNDERESTIMATE
THE POWER OF A KIND
WORD OR DEED**

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS: What makes a relationship healthy?

Communication & Sharing: The most important part of any healthy relationship between two people is being able to talk and listen to one another. You and the other person can figure out what your common interests are. You can share your feelings with the other person and trust that they will be there to listen and support you. In healthy relationships, people don't lie. Communication is based on honesty and trust. By listening carefully and sharing your thoughts and feelings with another person, you show them that they are an important part of your life.