



## 2010 Pastor Report *Jeff Bjorgan*

It is a privilege to be a part of the pastoral team at Emmanuel. This May, Nikki and I will celebrate 5 years of ministry here. It has gone by so fast! At Emmanuel I wear two hats: I am an **associate pastor** and I am the **pastor of spiritual formation**.

As an associate pastor I help pastor Derrick with the overall running of the church, giving pastoral oversight to the day in/day out activities of the **children's ministry department, as well as the worship, media and sound ministries**. As the pastor of spiritual formation, I **oversee the "discipleship culture"** of Emmanuel, which includes connecting points, discipleship events and studies, providing resources, family spirituality, and new believer care.

During a typical week you can catch me at my desk working on **general publications** for the church, **communicating with leaders, trouble-shooting** issues with respect to the departments I oversee, and doing pastoral care work such as **counseling, mentoring, visitation and care**.

### *Here is a brief synopsis of 2010 from the lenses of these roles:*

After Irislee Koch (and her capable leadership) left to go to Thailand for a year, children's ministry went through a bit of a roller coaster ride as we worked through the best way to minister to our kids on a Sunday morning. After a few experiments, I have been quite pleased with the current program that we have been running. Much thanks to Sarah Bennett and Sara-lee Hamre for their hard work, creativity, and positive outlook. Also kudos to our great team of small group teachers that voluntarily skip out of a service every second week in order to help disciple children—God will bless you for it!

The **nursery program** has had a really good year thanks to the committee style of leadership that we have in place. Props have to go to Julie ter Keurs, however, as the individual who tirelessly recruited people for the task, and spear-headed the development of our new toddler room. Julie has resigned from the nursery committee and is pursuing another ministry opportunity. Many thanks to Julie and the team for all the hard work that they put into this ministry.

With the addition of a new gym came a brand spanking new sound system and media station. Our **sound and media technicians** really jumped on board to learn the new equipment. These volunteer positions are some of the most stressful and high capacity positions in the church and we are truly grateful for the tireless hours that our volunteers have given. In 2010 we said goodbye to John Jansen as our Sound Coordinator and said hello to Aleita Lloyd as our new one. Glenn Bonkowski continues as our capable media director, and Marvin Mills now oversees our new lighting system. Martin Weilmeier is a machine, keeping us all web-savvy and keeping our webpage updated.

In **worship** we've seen a welcome change in 2011, with our teams doing a little bit less running around. Unlike in the fall, the same team plays for Saturday nights and Sunday mornings, and a different team plays each week in Peachland. We have seen an influx of talented musicians join our church and it's been a treat to see new people join our worship teams. I am thankful for the ministry of our worship leaders: Sara-lee, Rick, Annick, Kris, Chris and Elisha, Kelly, Derek, Janice, and Karen.

We have **over 25 connecting points** at the church. A connecting point is any environment that allows for people to become more and more like Jesus as they belong more and more to each other. It's the belief that our Christian journey grows in maturity through engagement in community. I appreciate all the hard and consistent work that our connecting points leaders have poured into community endeavours at Emmanuel, many of the leaders remaining in the trenches of small group ministry year after year. Some of the highlights for me have been seeing the continual growth in our Community Bible Study program led by Denise Weilmeier, and seeing our Vantagepoint discipleship initiative begin to set in deep roots.

### ***Initiatives for 2011:***

- We are going to be starting "**milestone events**," which place a great emphasis on family discipleship through walking alongside parents as they provide meaningful moments for their children.
- I am going to be going to **India** in May, which is not so much an Emmanuel initiative as much as a district one. I will be going with Zach Wylie and Omega Challenge from Summit Pacific as a chaperone.
- We are planning to train more facilitators for **Vantagepoint** in order to allow for a greater opportunity to have more groups.
- There will be a **couple's retreat** in October at Rockridge in Princeton, co-ordinated by Tom and Val Harbour.
- We are working on a new connecting point called an "**Intentional Community**," which focuses on purposeful connections with our family and friends and neighbours. This will start in the Fall.
- We have had ongoing discussions with different seminaries and with Summit Pacific about **developing an internship program** for credit through Emmanuel. This would allow us to teach or provide teachers for different courses for credit.

When I look back over 2010, with all of its hopes and challenges, I can say once again that God has been faithful. Much thanks to my wife Nikki, my constant support and encourager, and to my kids who have been patient with me throughout the ebbs and flows of the church schedule.

Looking forward to 2011 and all that it brings to the table.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff