

Jon and Lauren Emanuelson

2024 ZEMA Annual Report

The vision for this work is to see God raise up strong Zion leaders and churches through the preaching of the gospel and discipleship ministry among those who are sincerely seeking the truth of God's Word.

We are grateful to God for calling us to strategically serve in the city of East London in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. This is one of three cities in the province and there are many amaZioni.

To fulfill this ministry, the strategy is to train potential leaders and workers through a Zion Evangelical Bible School and a distance site of Mukhanyo Theological College, both of which are conveniently located in the city. In addition, we are encouraging those who are receiving the truth to gather for Lord's Day afternoon services to promote unity and harmony among the true believers in Christ. This is vitally important because Jesus said, "I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it" (Matthew 16:18). The goal is for the churches here to be neither American nor African, but rather Biblical.

By God's grace, both Bible schools are going well, as God is bringing students who are seeking the truth. It is a privilege for me to teach alongside two godly African pastors named Pieter Mabena and Sizwe Mayikana. Both men have families, love the Lord, and seek to faithfully teach the Bible.

The Lord's Day afternoon services have proven to be an effective part of the strategy as they are conducted in a Biblical, Christ-centered manner. Some who have attended have already testified to how these gatherings have been a blessing. To God be the glory! These services include prayer, Biblical preaching, and true worship of God in song. It has also been encouraging that Lauren was able to start an outreach to children grades 1-4 called Kindness and Truth Keepers. We are looking to the Lord's leading for how this wonderful opportunity will continue. Pray for God's continued blessing upon this work.

Along with blessing the above-mentioned ministry, the Lord has been good to my family and me as well. As parents, Lauren and I are very encouraged to see how each of our three precious children are continuing to grow in their love for the Lord and the knowledge of the truth. This year, Liesl will be starting grade 8; Evelyn, grade 6; and Ethan grade 2. Pray that God will bless and protect our family as we strive to walk in obedience to the ways of our Lord.

To God be all the glory for the work He is accomplishing according to His plans and purposes.