



# South Sudan African Mission

25 Years of Service to the People of South Sudan, 1988 - 2013

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SOUTH SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013

## UPDATE ON RECENT TRIP TO SOUTH SUDAN & ETHIOPIA

--Steve Holsinger

The concept of a "church without walls" is a fascinating one for preachers and youth leaders in the Gambella region of Ethiopia and South Sudan. Tom and Thomas Kilian of Mercy Partners joined Peter Rom (Sudanese church leader from Anchorage) and me for several days during the first two weeks of October. We did three days of seminar style Bible teaching for 90 church leaders. All three of us spoke to the Nuer youth conference which had thousands of participants. We were able to encourage Nuer Christians in their ambition of planting two churches, one in Matar, Ethiopia and the other in Pagak, Upper Nile State, South Sudan. Tom was able to use his skills as an artist to prepare a Bible survey wall chart and a basic Bible doctrines presentation that we believe is going to be very helpful in the future. Please continue to pray for the churches in Jonglei state as they establish new churches and rebuild their villages.

## ATAR, SOUTH SUDAN

--Santino Makol

Greetings, I hope you are doing well in the Lord. It is in our prayers that both of you and South Sudan African Mission's contributors are healthy, and I hope Paul and Marilyn are doing okay.

Our congregation progressing well but we have had a lot of challenges this past three months.

Evangelists and church elders have decided to gather for unity prayers and for some time of fishing to generate some income to help accomplish some of the churches activities.

Christmas is approaching and we need to express our sincere happiness and appreciation. We do actually appreciate your contributions that help us go ahead with church activities. Thank you a lot and may God bless you all brothers and sisters in Christ.

Youth and Sunday school children are practicing for the Christmas celebration.

Our clinic has been a great opportunity for evangelism. The patients receive counseling with scriptures before they receive their medicine. Rain is too heavy this year in Jonglei state, there is flooding and many people have been displaced. More of the counties are suffering from food shortage and medicine problems including my county.

## FOOD FOR LIFE

The poor are praising the Lord for the small amount of sorghum which we have been distributing to the widows, orphans and the lonely. The church of Christ gives food in the form of sorghum to the newly returning and settling members of our community and church members. Since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 and referendum which lead to independence in July 2011, the people of South Sudan in Diaspora and neighboring countries have increasingly been returning to their home villages where some of those returning find no one in the villages to welcome them. Our teams usually identify those vulnerable groups and offer them at least food for the first one month and medical aid to these families. Most of these places where we work have no hospitals and food.

The church has been receiving messages of praises to our Lord Jesus Christ. Most of these people benefit from Food for Life and say they could not make it if they had not received support from the church.



**Recent flooding in Aweil state, South Sudan**

This year is one of the years that we need an uplift of the Food For Life. As you can see from the photo floods have covered the gardens and farms in most of villages in Aweil state. In Aweil, nearby villages to Aweil town, South County (where Malek Alel) it has flooded including our ox plow farm which was well planted and weeded. The harvest wasn't good because the flood covered the field at early stage before the crops ripen. I hope it will be good to plant crops next year.

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**PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES**

**PRAYER**

- International Conference on Missions (ICOM), the speakers, conference leaders, safety for those who will be travelling many miles.
- Relief from the flooding in South Sudan

**PRAISE.**

- The funds were received for the Mobile Medical Clinic which will make this dream a reality.
- Bev's profitable trips to Westminster & Loveland, CO, Torrington, WY, Scottsbluff NE, Crowley & Mandeville, LA and Culver, OR.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**UPDATE ON MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC**

Dr. John and Yournew are excitably waiting to hear again the strategic plans toward establishing the mobile clinic. Many people who hear us talking about the mobile clinic are also excited. Steve would not believe it if he was in Aweil this season to see how many are dying because of lack of basic health care or lack of healthcare centers or simply no road to access the health care facilities. Our government does not have enough facilities, medicines or health staff. The upcoming plan to establish and run the mobile clinic will serve the hundreds of thousands of underserved communities that are left stranded without basic healthcare. Last month Aweil had outbreak of Poliomyelitis which can be prevented with Polio vaccine a disease which has been eradicated even in other African Countries.

Thank you to the generous supporters of SSAM, FAME and Mercy Partners our goal of \$45,000 has been met! \$45,000 has been received from Faith Christian in Anchorage for a total of \$90,000.

**AWEIL WEST CHELKOU & MALUALBAAI CHURCH OF CHRIST**

--Paulino Malou

The Church of Christ at Chelkou has registered 200 orphan children attending Sunday School Service, Bible study and Scripture reading every Wednesday and Friday and Sunday. Malualbaai Church of Christ has an additional 20 children. The congregation is enjoying safe drinking water and they are praising South Sudan Church of Christ and the South Sudan African Mission.

Chelkou Church of Christ has already molded 300,000 bricks for the future use to construct their church building. We are requesting prayers to keep the congregation in faith.

**TOM KILIAN OF MERCY PARTNERS**

Tom Kilian pursued Theological Studies at Roanoke Bible College (now Mid Atlantic Christian University ) in Elizabeth City NC where he met his wife, Sandie. An ordained Minister from Cary Christian Church ( Cary NC), Kilian has preached full time among churches within NC, VA & WV. In 2010 Kilian came back to his North Carolina home and redirected his efforts to form the charitable humanitarian organization, Mercy Partners. Mercy Partners approach to Missions is holistic to provide a "hand up, rather than a hand out" which has quickly established native partnerships in South Sudan.

Tom and his family reside in a 1826 farmhouse in Columbia NC that doubles as a base of operations for the mission. They participate in service and worship at Cabin Swamp Church of Christ in Columbia, NC.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Nov. 10 a.m. - Calloway Christian Church, Fulton, MO
- Nov. 14-17 - ICOM (International Conference on Missions) in Kansas City, MO Booth #1032
- Nov. 17 a. m. - Hwy. 54 Church of Christ, Jefferson city, MO

**WE ARE BLESSED**

The Hwy 20 Church of Christ Youth Group of Sweet Home, OR recently had a Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser for the Plow Project. They were able to raise a total \$735! Thank you!

