



South Sudan African Mission

Over 25 Years of Service to the People of South Sudan

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SOUTH SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2014

YOURNEW'S VISA DENIED

It was very disappointing and heartbreaking to learn that Yournew's Visa application to the United States has been denied. Thank you to all who prayed for the Visa process. Even though the SSAM Board of Directors don't understand why Yournew's attempt to visit has been rejected again, we will continue to pray that sometime in the near future Yournew will be able to visit all the faithful supporters here in the States.

UPDATE FROM SANTINO

--Received Friday, August 8

Greetings, and thank you to our Christian brothers and sisters who have contributed money for my family and I to relocate to Juba. We arrived last week and I have been busy with getting settled. I was able to relocate my family within the city and very fortunate to get one single room that we can rent.

To update security in our area, there is still insecurity in Pigi County and Payam which is close to Atar, so half of county is being controlled by the rebel.

Meanwhile, the rebel forces attacked Atar Payam in Pigi county on Wednesday 16th June, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. They stormed the Payam headquarters at daylight and started killing especially those who could not run such as the elderly, children and women.

The community suffered heavy casualties and livestock robbery; attackers have killed 18 people, wounded six and took more than a thousand head of cattle. Over 30,000 civilian have been displaced.

As for now I am in Juba. Because of the conflict there are still many children and women missing. Relatives do not know their whereabouts or whether or not they have been abducted by the rebel.

Our community is very vulnerable because there is no humanitarian agencies access to the Pigi (Atar) county.

Challenges in the area

-There are no free moments within parts of the area occupied by the rebel.

-Because there is no NGO (Non-governmental organizations) operating in the area, people are more vulnerable due to many reasons.

-There is medical personnel available in the area but there is no medicine that can be prescribed to a patient.

-There is high tension between the people and the rebel force, because of the attacks they have done.

-There is now food shortages in the country because of the food ration they had has been depleted and there is now a lot of rain. Crops will not yield well.

Recommendations and ideas I want to share with the South Sudan African Mission Board.

The crisis which began on 15th Dec. 2013 with the outbreak of political violence was based on presumed political loyalty along ethnic lines and was precipitated by the internal political conflict within the government.

Church members and I came up with an idea to form a Christian based organization "Action for Revival & Development South Sudan" (ARDSS). It will be a national NGO which its members believe in the full deity of Jesus Christ.

ARDSS recently merged its mission after a long awaited promise from the government since the signing of cessation of hostilities.

The Action for Revival & Development will partner with other local faith based organizations and international organizations to build the local youth and communities for the promotion of peace. It will engage communities in life skills activities and specifically in preaching Christ, vocational training, health, protection and peace building programs. This will positively lead to socio-economic transformation of the life of the local communities in rural and urban area.

The vision of this idea Action for Revival & Development in South Sudan is to empower the South Sudanese communities to be both spiritually and socio-economically self-reliance.

The main purpose of Action for Revival & Development organization is to preach the message of peace among the South Sudanese and empower communities to sustain their living through agricultural, livelihood and strengthening community structure to respond for peace.

Goal

The goal is to encourage the community to find peaceful resolutions and mobilize local resources.

Since we have come up with this idea we have not gotten any funding which is why I wanted you to share it with the board of director and SSAM.

And thanks, may God bless you.

Santino

SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION

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Non-profit Org

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Permit No. 44

Gresham, OR

PRAYERS AND PRAISES

- Santino and the Christians in South Sudan, especially those in the area of conflict.
- Yournew and the rest of the evangelists as they work in the Malek and Aweil area.
- Dr. John and the staff with the Mobile Medical Clinic
- Traveling mercies for Bev as she will be traveling a lot of miles this fall to represent SSAM.
- **Praise** for each and everyone of the SSAM contributors and prayer warriors across United States.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We pray you took the time to read Santino's report on the front page entirely. This a "raw" window into what the situation in South Sudan is and felt it important to let our concerned friends of SSAM read firsthand what is happening. Most of us can't imagine what the Christians and citizens in South Sudan are going through. Let us pray the violence and strife ends quickly and peacefully.

By Bev.....

Five years ago when I said "yes" to go to South Sudan with Dad (Paul Douglass) and a group of SSAM Board of Directors in April of 2009, I could have never imagined I would quit my job as an insurance agent in Rochester, MN and move to Gresham, OR to take an active part with the South Sudan African Mission later that year.

I have said many times I love my job and feel so blessed to be a part of a mission, a mission that has a solid reputation and is well respected. Because of SSAM, I have met so many people and have been places I may have never gotten a chance to visit.

The South Sudan African Mission has recently been to the Oregon Christian Convention in Turner, OR the week of June 24-30. July 20th we were at the Gates Community Church of Christ in Gates, OR and July 27-August 1 we were on the Oregon Coast attending the Winema Week of Missions. In addition this year we visited with supporters in North Bend, OR and attended the International Wholistic Conference on Missions in Peoria, AZ.

Last fall I was in the car heading to work when I looked down and noticed I had one brown shoe and one black shoe on. After going back to the house and getting the matching shoe, I had an "Aha Moment". Do you realize only 1% of the entire world population would ever make that mistake because most people in the world do not have two pair of shoes let alone one pair of shoes to wear? We are truly blessed!



The Winema Week of Missions Campgrounds with the Pacific Ocean in the background.

WHERE WILL SSAM BE?

August 17 a.m. - Church of Christ, Austin, MN
August 24 a.m. - Church of Christ, Faribault, MN
Sept. 7 a.m. - 1st Christian Church Mission Fair, El Centro, CA
Sept. 7 p.m. - Mission Committee, Christian Church of Lemon Grove, CA
Sept. 18 - 7:30 p.m. Orleans Church of Christ, Moulton, IA
Sept. 21 a.m. - Church of Christ, Superior, NE
Sept. 21 p.m. - Church of Christ, Grand Island, NE
Sept. 28 a.m. - Northland Christian Church, Kansas City, MO
Oct. 5 a.m. - 5th & Gibbs Church of Christ, Cottage Grove, OR
Nov. 2 a.m. - Sunrise Church of Christ, Spokane, WA
Nov. 2 p.m. - Christ's Church of Mt. Spokane, Mead, WA
Nov. 9 a.m. - La Crosse Christian Church, La Crosse, IN
Nov. 9 p.m. - Medaryville Christian Church, Medaryville, IN
Nov. 13 - 16 International Conference on Missions (ICOM), Columbus, OH. Booth #1037