



South Sudan African Mission

Over 25 Years of Service to the People of South Sudan

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SOUTH SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

MARCH/APRIL 2016

HEALING HEARTS IN SOUTH SUDAN

--Steve Holsinger

New York Times feature writer Nicholas Kristoff has been wading through the swamps of Unity State, South Sudan, to interview refugees from the civil war that has been raging the last three years. "Better the hippos than the soldiers" one mother told him. Soldiers who have not been paid are being allowed to pillage and rape in lieu of money. This conflict has created the worst humanitarian crisis on the planet with multitudes now facing rampant disease and starvation. **What is at the heart of this war?** It is a war of the heart, based on the heart hatred of one tribe against another. The two most prominent tribes are the Dinka, (tribe of Yournew Wol and most of the other leaders and preachers who are supported by South Sudan African Mission) and the Nuer.

The Nuer primarily occupy the Southern section of South Sudan. The Times writer recounts meeting an eight year old boy who had fashioned a very realistic rifle out of clay. When asked why he made a rifle rather than a toy truck, he replied, "I need my rifle so that I can shoot the Dinka." Asked why he wanted to kill the Dinka he replied, "because they are always killing us." Some of my Nuer friends told me that they were taught as children that the Dinka have horns! A peace agreement has recently been formed between the Dinka President and his followers and the Nuer Vice President and his rebel soldiers.

What can be done? The solution is also a matter of the heart. This mission began with a heart connection between Paul and Marilyn Douglass and some young men from a very different culture and background. Now, many years later, South Sudan African Mission is working with both Dinka and Nuer. While most of our men are working in Aweil State among the Dinka, two of our men, Santino Makol (Malakal region) and Peter Gadet (Bentiu) are Nuer. Both are working in war zones. Through our Nuer friends at Faith Christian Community in Anchorage, we have helped establish three new "churches without walls" in Maiwut County, which is predominately Nuer. Our friends from both tribes consider themselves first of all members of the "Jesus tribe"- the church of Christ. When I took a Nuer brother, Peter Rom from Anchorage- into Dinka territory in Aweil, he was welcomed and accepted- more than that- he was loved! The heart of Jesus is able to mend this heart war. Keep praying and supporting this important and effective heart and nation-changing mission and heal the hatred that is at the root of it.

MALEK CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

--Philip Bol

I would like to extend my sincere greetings to the godly families, brothers and sisters in USA.

In the community of Aweil, we are doing well in Christ.

There has been a rise in diseases this year. For example at the Malek Christian Hospital there were a record 2,920 malarial disease cases, 22 deaths attributed to malaria cases alone and seven non-responding but living patients sent to Aweil Civil Hospital for further care, four of those case have been reported as deceased.

The healthcare conditions in Aweil are getting worse. The admission records for this quarter, there were 2,416 admitted patients, 45 of these in three months time had typhoid fever which indicates a need for health education.

We also manage acute watery diarrhea which is caused by poor hygiene.

Because of inflation and increased tax rate in the country the pharmaceutical companies have increased their prices and have limited our purchases. The community turnout is high and the little we can afford is out of the pharmacy in less time than in previously.

The team is comprised of Philip Garang, (clinician) Philip Bol (pharmacist) and Lino Agou (in-patient nurse). Lino also serves the Malek church as administrator and head of the choir.



Dr. Garang with a patient at the Malek Christian Hospital

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PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES

- The recent peace agreement will be honored by all involved and peace and security will soon come to South Sudan.
- Well being and health of Yournew and the SSAM evangelists and their families.
- Dr. John as he completes his final months of studies in Malawi.
- SAM Board members as they lead the South Sudan African Mission.
- Bev as she travels nearly the entire month of April.
- Praise--The dozens of individuals and churches who give sacrificially each month so the South Sudan African Mission.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AWEIL BIBLE COLLEGE

The students at Aweil Bible College have performed well in their course studies. They have shown commitment toward Bible study and they are coming up as good speakers of God's Word.

The team in Aweil is asking SSAM to continue supporting ABC in such a way that we may grow into a national theological college and grow through diplomas and the degree program.

High prices have already affected our ABC budget. Getting food items here in Aweil has become very difficult and the ABC administration is facing a shortage of food most of the time. Life in South Sudan is difficult.



Nick Campbell with some of the children in Malek (Febr. 2015)



2015 Aweil Bible College Graduates

UPDATE ON BEV'S SISTER, JOYCE

Please continue to pray for Joyce Penn. She has completed her radiation but is currently at her home in Scottsbluff, NE undergoing chemo treatments for cancer. Cards may be sent to 1002 Schmid Dr, Scottsbluff, NE 69361.

WHERE WILL SSAM BE?

April 3 a.m. - Centerville Christian Church, Centerville, IN
April 7-9 - IDES Board of Directors Meeting, Noblesville, IN
April 10 a.m. - La Crosse Christian Church, La Crosse, IN
April 17 a.m. - Fredonia Church of Christ, Fredonia, KS
April 20 p.m.- Ridge Chapel Church, Kansas, OK
April 24 a.m. - Antioch Christian Church, Pittsburg, MO
May 14 p.m. - May 15 a.m. - Westside Christian Church, Roseburg, OR
May 22 a.m. - Gates Community Church of Christ, Gates, OR
June 1 a.m. - Marcola Christian Church, Marcola, OR
June 28-July 3 - Oregon Christian Convention, Turner, OR
July 31-Aug. 5 - Winema Week of Missions, Oregon Coast
Oct. 15 a.m. - Ladies Breakfast, Northland Christian Church, Kansas City MO
Oct.. 16 - Northland Christian Church, Kansas City, MO
Nov. 11, 12 - IDES Board of Directors Meeting, Noblesville, IN
Nov. 17-21 - Int'l Conference on Missions, Lexington, KY