



# South Sudan African Mission

Over 25 Years of Service to the People of South Sudan

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SOUTH SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

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## **PAST INVESTMENT PAYS PRESENT DIVIDENDS**

--Bev Douglass Campbell

After we were in Malek in January 2017, Benjamin Anyoun reached out to me on Facebook and said that he was disappointed that he was not able to see us while we were in the country and hoped to meet me on a future trip.

In further communication with Benjamin I learned that he has been working "under the SSAM radar". His report should bless you as much as it blessed ours.

To quote Benjamin, "Paul and Marilyn made me who I am today. I am a beneficiary of Nairobi Great Commission School. We used to have churches in Kakuma and Uganda but now we are reviving the churches due to the huge influx of refugees."

## **NEW CHURCHES OPEN IN UGANDA REFUGEE CAMPS**

--Benjamin Anyoun

In December 2003, I graduated from Nairobi Great Commission School with six other men. Paul and Marilyn Douglass flew from US to Kenya to witness the long awaited Great Commission graduation. We were fully equipped to take the gospel to our people both at home in South Sudan and in Uganda and Kakuma refugee camps where many South Sudanese were living in desperate situations at that time. By then there were Churches established by Yournew Wol and Victor Deng that needed more Evangelists to meet the huge demand of the work. I didn't go to either camp, because there were signs that the peace agreement was going to be signed soon and the refugees would go back to South Sudan. Eventually in 2005, peace finally came as predicted and almost all the refugees headed back home (South Sudan) to start a new life and rebuild their ruined country. That was twelve years ago. All hopes of a new peaceful nation, prosperity and tranquility was trashed and millions of South Sudanese were sent fleeing to neighboring countries for the second time as the result of the December 15, 2013 conflict and subsequent repeat of violence in July 2016 between the forces loyal to the President and former First Vice President. Once more, the hope of building a nation full of prosperity and stability was replaced with agony, suffering, fear, distress and frustration. South Sudanese are back to the refugee camps they deserted many years ago. Below are the statistics I collected in different camps in northern Uganda during my visit two weeks ago.

11,910 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Uganda between August 2-29 at an average daily rate of 425. The number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda has now exceeded one million.

New arrivals report that heavy rains, flooded rivers and worsening road conditions are making it difficult for South Sudanese refugees fleeing fighting in their country to reach safety in Uganda.



**Churches in Africa, they often meet under trees.**

Infrastructure in Amuru has been damaged by the flooding, including Unyama Bridge, which connects Adjumani district to Palabek Settlement. The damage continues to affect movement of people, goods and services to in and around Amuru district.

Omugo Settlement, an extension of Rhino Camp in Arua district, commenced receiving refugees on the 1st of August, and has so far received 6,130 refugees from South Sudan.

In light with the above-mentioned situation, I could not hold back my tears when I saw the deplorable conditions they are living in.

I went to Uganda to share with the refugees the message of Gospel and to establish a Church there as per the call of the refugees who felt neglected, abandoned and denied spiritual and physical needs. I was emotionally carried away as the memories of my early teenage years in a refugee camp trickled back in my mind and wondered how long these people shall endure this situation. With all these questions in mind, I remembered that I was commissioned many years ago to take the message of hope to the hopeless, restore the faith and win souls for Christ. It is in line with this CALL TO SERVE that I write this story. I have now decided to join the camps and bring Christ right to the doorstep of the refugees by sharing the love and peace that our Lord Jesus Christ gave us. I know that our Christian brothers and sisters in our churches are overwhelmed with the support they are giving the churches in Aweil, South Sudan, but it is our hope and prayers that SSAM will pay attention to the plight of our people. I and the team of Evangelists spent over two months evangelizing and holding crusades in different camps.

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### PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES

- Sympathy is extended to the Douglass family at the passing of Bev's brother/Paul's son, Stan Douglass on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Sympathy is also extended to Deanna Holsinger's family with the passing of her mother on August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The work that Benjamin is doing with the refugees in Uganda.
- SSAM team working under difficult situations in Aweil and Juba areas of South Sudan.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



The Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement in Bweyale, Uganda with more than 100,000 South Sudanese refugees.



Below is the list of the new Churches:

- Church planted in Amuru Refugee camp with 978 new converts.
- Church in Kiryandongo Refugee camp with 1723 members.
- Church in Bidibidi Refugee camp with 823 members.

The newly established Churches are all under trees and operating openly because there are no shelters. As a result, rains often interrupt the prayer sessions which leads to children and elderly catching pneumonia. The churches' spaces are also used as schools for the member's children. With that said, I am therefore making an appeal to SSAM and its members to support the church by providing the following:

- Bibles and text books for church and school.
- Construction materials to enable the church to put up temporary shelters.
- Medicine for first aid to manage cholera and malaria outbreaks in the camps.
- Financial support for me and few Evangelists.

It my sincere hope that you will extend your prayers, sympathy and kindness through contributions so the word of God can be advanced in this part of the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ  
Benjamin Anyuon

### WHERE WILL SSAM BE?

- Oct. 22 – Northland Christian Church, Kansas City, MO
- Oct. 28 – Harvest of Talents, Lincoln, IL
- Nov. 1 -11 – Trip to represent SSAM and focus on ABC - Steve Holsinger and Jody Hagerty of Rome, GA
- Nov. 10, 11 – IDES Board of Directors meeting, Noblesville, IN
- Nov. 12 a.m. – La Crosse, IN Christian Church
- Nov. 16-19 – International Conference on Missions, Peoria, IL