**SOUTHERN SUDAN MISSION**

**532 Raleigh Dr.**

**Conroe, Texas 77302**



[**www.missioninsouthernsudan.com**](http://www.missioninsouthernsudan.com)

**March 1, 2019**

**Dear friends and supporters of Southern Sudan Mission,**

**I pray for God’s richest blessing upon each of you. You are very special to the Lord and to the Mission. It is hard to believe we are in the twelfth year of the Southern Sudanese work and many of you have supported us from the beginning with your prayers, expressions of love, and financial support. God has and continues to bless the mission abundantly.**

**Among the blessings is our Brother David Thoatmer. I met David at our compound in Gambella, Ethiopia in 2012. For those who are not acquainted with David, he was a citizen of South Sudan. When he was twelve years old he and many children, later to be called, “The Lost Boys,” were playing around their grass houses, as children do, when suddenly the sky was full of airplanes while bombs sounded as they hit their targets and the roads were full of enemy tanks and foot soldiers. Most of the children ran into the forest to save their life. Unfortunately the enemy followed them causing them to travel though the forest searching for a safe haven. While traveling through the forest they encountered many obstacles including starvation, thirst and wild animals. They ate grass, leaves, bark from trees, berries and even the bodies of those who died on the tract. Additionally they drank whatever water they could find and often scooped a hand full of mud to chew to get water. Most lost their life to wild animals and/or starvation. Those who made it to the Ethiopian Border were moved to a refugee camp in the Gambella Region of Ethiopia. After spending a year in the Ethiopia refugee camp many of the young men including David were refuged to America.**

**When David was 29 he got his American Citizenship and returned to South Sudan to search for his family. He found his mother but was told his father was killed in the war. When he met his mother and told her he was David, her son. His mother said, “You are not my David. My David was killed when the Muslims attacked our village.” David insisted he was her son. She asked David to tell her who his father and grandfather were. When David told her she said, “You are my David.” They celebrated David’s return by killing an ox and having a welcome dinner for him. He also met a couple of his sisters.**

**Before David’s return to the states, he had traveled through Gambella and came to our compound. When I had the opportunity to talk with him he told me his story and said he wanted to learn about the Bible and return to South Sudan to teach his people the gospel of Jesus. I told him I would contact him when I returned to America and would help him get enrolled in Sunset International Bible Institute in Lubbock, Texas.**

**The Lord blessed David and he enrolled in Sunset and graduated as one of the top students in July 2015. True to his word David asked me to help him get back to South Sudan to teach his people. David has grown to be a very good preacher and one of the best instructors in the School of Biblical Studies.**

**Three additional things about David: He is married and has a boy (3) and a girl (6 months); he is an American Citizen and can only stay in Ethiopia for 6 months on a tourist visa then he must leave the country with documentation before he can return. The mission needs additional monthly support for him.**

**If you recall from the January news-letter the mission was granted permission to drill a water-well in Lare, Ethiopia to irrigate the mission’s agriculture field and supply clean drinking water to the brethren and others. Colin Chandler, one of our board members and a farmer from New Mexico, and I were scheduled to travel to Lare, Friday February 15th to inspect the drilling situation. Unfortunately my wife was stopped at a red light and a large truck rammed her car in the rear causing her considerable pain and totaling our car. After spending 6 hours in the emergency room the doctor said she should be observed for several days and I made a decision to stay with her instead of traveling with Colin. Fortunately when Colin informed his family of this situation, his father, Jim, who has taught in the School of Preaching, said he would catch a flight to Houston Thursday night and travel to Gambella with him. When they arrived in Gambella the drilling rig was still on a Catholic location and was to be moved to our location March 1st. The delay was actually a blessing as the mission has not raised all the money needed to pay for the well. The drillers should start drilling the well this week.**

**Colin and Jim did a tremendous amount of work for the mission while in Ethiopia. In addition to getting everything lined up for the drillers in Lare, they corrected some electrical problems with the water-well on the Gambella compound, made several needed repairs on the guest house, etc.**

**Lord willing Alma will recoup soon and I will return to Gambella and make preparations for the June School of Biblical Studies and the upcoming Vacation Bible School in July. Our goal is for the American teachers to teach 3,600 South Sudanese Refugee Children and let the Native Women teach another 1,000 children in one of the refugee camps.**

**GOOD NEWS, the President of South Sudan has called for tribal peace and the tribes have responded. There has not been any major fighting among the tribes for several months. If the peace continues the South Sudanese Refugees will return to South Sudan in the next 12 to 18 months. When this happens the mission has many trained gospel preachers ready to go proclaim the “Good News” to them.**

**The mission is in need of additional funds above our budget to teach the number of children which the mission plans to teach this year and to complete paying for the water-well in Lare.**

**If you would like to contribute to this great evangelistic effort, please make your tax deductible contribution to Southern Sudan Mission; Porter Church of Christ, ear-marked Southern Sudan Mission and mail the same to Tyrone Mynhier 532 Raleigh Dr. Conroe, TX 77302 for posting, or contribute through PayPal.**

**To contribute through Pay Pal go to the mission web-site missioninsouthernsudan.com and click on Pay Pal.**

**Thank each of you for partnering with us in this great English speaking mission.**

**Please keep Alma in your prayers as well as the plans for the mission.**

**To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 3:21**

**Tyrone Mynhier, President**