

SOUTHERN SUDAN MISSION

Jesus

shining the "Light" into South Sudan



www.missioninsouthernsudan.com

EIN 81-1577318

November 10, 2020

Dear friends and supporters of Southern Sudan Mission,

Be encouraged to know God is sovereign and continues to work in His universe to accomplish His will. As His children we can rejoice in the fact that He is also at work in our lives for things that are best for us according to His will. With these thoughts in mind, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the **PEACE OF GOD**, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practice. And the **GOD OF PEACE WILL BE WITH YOU.**" Philippians 4:4-9 NIV

Ethiopia and South Sudan update as of November 5, 2020: COVID-19, Ethiopia recorded 100,327 cases, 51,576 have recovered and there have been 1,537 deaths. South Sudan recorded 2,960 cases, 1,294 have recovered and there have been 59 deaths. Tribal war deaths have escalated considerably in Ethiopia and remained the same in South Sudan. Flooding seems to be a greater problem in both nations. In July, heavy rains caused the Nile River to overflow. Since then things have only gotten worse and continue today. Flooding is not rare, but this is exceptional. The last time for anything close to this occurred in 1963-64 and many feel the flood of 2020 is worse. Waters are not expected to recede until December or January. Millions of people have been affected. Many moved to higher ground, then moved again as waters continued to rise. Many have gone to other parts of the country, hoping to return when conditions permit. Houses and church buildings have been destroyed. Additionally, crops have been destroyed and animals have died. The United Nations have made many food drops by helicopter, but the rebels and other warriors take the food. To our knowledge there are 2,500 to 5,000 displaced Brethren (many have been without food for 4 weeks). Due to limited infrastructure in South Sudan, communications are extremely limited). Thankfully, the mission was able to send \$7,500.00 to James Puot, the Native Director to purchase corn which should feed the Brethren for 2 – 3 weeks. (The mission is cautious regarding the delivery of the corn. James appoints Brethren to take and distribute the corn to as many Brethren as possible). Consider Galatians 6:10.



If you recall from a previous newsletter, the mission was trying to acquire land for a compound and house of prayer (church building) in the city of Gambella. The land borders an orphanage that houses 600 hundred South Sudanese Orphans. With the Lord's blessings the mission's desires became reality in

September 2020. According to James Puot, the land was acquired, the mission has received proper credentials of ownership and the Brethren have fenced the land.

As you are aware we have spent a lot of money and time teaching thousands of children over the past 8 years and will continue to do so, but this will provide the opportunity to teach an additional 600 children year round. The mission's goal is to build a much-needed church building in the area and adequate facilities to teach the orphans and others God's Word daily. We WILL NOT teach secular education.



I would like to visit a few of the blessings thus far in 2020: If you recall from the February Newsletter regarding the January 2020 visit to Gambella by the Colin Chandler family (6), Buddy Faulkenberry and me. We visited several new congregations to encourage the Brethren. The adults and children were overly excited and followed us everywhere we went. Additionally, we were pleasantly surprised to find good public-school buildings in the villages. We explained to the Brethren about a VBS and discussed the possibility of teaching in their village. The members were extremely excited about the opportunity and assured us they could get more children than we could teach. The team planned to teach 1,000 children at each new location in addition to 6,000 students in previous locations. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 and Ethiopian restrictions the American Teachers were forbidden to teach.



Thankfully, the American Teachers had taught several native women to teach and Chan Gatkough, the Assistant Native Director of the Mission and Director of the VBS Program, taught additional native women to teach and plans were made for the teachers to teach 5,000 children. Materials prepared by the American Teachers were sent to Ethiopia. When the materials arrived in Gambella, the mission brought all the native teachers to the compound and Chan taught them for a week preparing them to teach the material; however, another obstacle presented itself. The children were in school and could not attend the VBS. Chan and the teachers decided to teach the children Friday Evening after school, Saturday Morning, Saturday Afternoon, and a Sunday Afternoon with a celebration. As of this writing the teachers have taught approximately 2,500 children and will teach an additional 2,500 plus in the next few weeks.



As we were traveling, we were looking for a place in Gambella to start a new congregation. We were extremely surprised as the Lord led us to some land on the road from Gambella to the refugee camps. As we looked at the land, a man we knew, James, (a frequent visitor to our assembly) approached us and discussed some things about the land. We were amazed to learn an orphanage housing 600 refugee orphans joined the land, and James was the director. We also learned the land was for sale. A proposal to seek the land was presented to the Board of Directors and a motion was made and approved to seek the land. As mentioned earlier in this letter God blessed the mission with the opportunity to get the land.



Our Spring semester of the School of Biblical Studies was cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions and the students had to return to their villages. The restrictions also forced individuals to stay in their homes. In June 2020, some restrictions were changed permitting groups of 10 or less people to meet. The Brethren took advantage of our large compound and several groups of 10 met in different locations on the compound for worship. This also presented the opportunity to have 10 students attend and complete our

fall semester of the School of Biblical Studies. Additionally, we sent and continue to send teams of instructors to different areas along the Ethiopia-South Sudan border to teach students. There have been multiple conversions at each session.

Lord willing myself and several others plan to go to Ethiopia in January 2021. We plan to start work on structures at the orphanage as well as work in other needed areas. We will not be able to replace the grass building destroyed by the flood until February or March. Please keep these plans in your prayers.

As most of you know the Mission has an **ANNUAL FUND-RAISING BANQUET** toward the end of each year. Due to Covid 19 we, like many others, had to cancel our banquet this year. The banquet is extremely important for many reasons including introducing the work to new individuals, presenting up-dated works and blessings, and raising funds. The funds received are extremely important for the continued operation of the mission.

I would like to encourage our annual mission banquet attendees to consider contributing as before. Additionally, I know many of you receive bonuses and/or are looking for a great tax-deductible opportunity.

Be assured Southern Sudan Mission presents a special opportunity to:

- (1) Bless thousands of children with the opportunity to learn about the Lord in our annual Vacation Bible School,
- (2) Help further the Gospel of Christ through training preachers in the School of Biblical Studies,
- (3) Help with humanitarian needs as the mission provides a free of charge, clinic that treats hundreds of refugees monthly and gives medicine to patients as needed,
- (4) Furnishes fresh well water to our neighbors,
- (5) Feeds starving Brethren in the bush, and most important
- (6) Teach thousands of individuals the Gospel of Jesus Christ, many of which become Christians.

Goals for 2021:

Spring and Fall semester of the School of Biblical Studies.

Send 2 teams semi-monthly to preach and encourage Brethren at different congregations.

Teach 300 students World Bible School Lessons to non-Christians at Newland compound.

Teach 200-300 students World Bible Lessons to non-Christians at our University facility.

Start 10 congregations in different villages along the Ethiopia and South Sudan Border.

American Teachers teach 10,000 refugee children in Vacation Bible School.

Native Teachers teach 5,000 refugee children in Vacation Bible School.

Build facilities for a compound next to the orphanage

Repair 12 grass church buildings

Replace 8 church building that were washed away

Agriculture land: Upgrade fences and prepare for sowing and harvesting.

Thank you for your partnership with us for the furtherance of the gospel into the world beginning in Ethiopia and South Sudan. Never forget you are as important as we are. We cannot go without your financial support.

“To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”
Ephesians 3:21

Tyrone Mynhier, for the Board

Please make you make your tax-deductible contribution checks payable to Southern Sudan Mission or Porter Church of Christ ear-mark Sudan Mission. Please mail the same to Tyrone Mynhier for posting.

You may also make tax-deductible contributions through PayPal. Please go to the website missioninsouthsudan.com and click on PayPal.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021 BUDGET			
Preachers (46) support			88,800.00
Travel expense			18,000.00
Spring and Fall semester of the School of Biblical Studies.			25,000.00
Send 2 teams semi-monthly to preach and encourage Brethren at different congregations.			5,000.00
Teach 300 students World Bible School Lessons to non-Christians at our compound.			1,500.00
Pop Corn			600
Lemonade expense			500
Communion expense			500
Teach 200-300 students World Bible Lessons to non-Christians at our University facility.			1,800.00
Start 10 congregations in different villages a South Sudan Border.			2,000.00
American Teachers teach 10,000 rfugee children in Vacation Bible School			25,000.00
Native Teachers teach 5,000 refugee children in Vacation Bible School in the refugee camps			2,300.00
Agriculture land: Upgrade fences and prepare for sowing and harvest			6,000.00
Transporting corn to the bush			500
Maintenance on Newland compound			1,500.00
Utilities at Newland compound			600
2 Generators			10,000.00
Water-well casing			2,000.00
Repair 12 grass church buildings			6,000.00
Replace 8 church building that were washed away			12,000.00
Sub Total			209,000.00
			209,000.00
Build facilities for a compound next to the orphanage:			
Church building accommodate 250 adults			20,000.00
30 benches			500
Six classrooms 40 students each room			50,000.00
Desk (250)			500
Preachers houses (2)			16,000.00
Guest house with kitchen, dining room, living room 4 bedrooms, storage room			22,000.00
Appliances, furniture, beds, etc.			3,500.00
Water-well			15,000.00
Dry toilets (6)			2,000.00
Showers (4)			1,000.00
Water Storage tank			600.00
Total cost excluding possible solar power			132,100.00
* May have to start orphanage project on smaller scale			341,100.00