**SOUTHERN SUDAN MISSION**

**532 Raleigh Dr.**

**Conroe, Texas 77302**



**December 10, 2017**

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

**I pray you are lavishing in the marvelous grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who continues to do mighty works among the South Sudanese people and throughout the world.**

**Pictured are Tyrone and three brethren, Scott Logan (lower left), Jake Robinson (right front), and Mike Keeton (right rear.) Scott, a Woodland Oaks member, visited the mission to consider a future dental mission. Jake, the college minister at Southwestern Oklahoma University, in Weatherford, Oklahoma, accompanied by Mike, visited the mission to consider the possibility of taking several Southwestern Oklahoma students to Gambella to do an additional Vacation Bible School. As you know our mission team lead by Bryce Caldwell taught 1,000 plus children in the 2017 VBS. The team has set a goal of teaching 1,500 in 2018. If Jake decides to take a mission team, our goal would increase to 2,500 children. Please keep this great opportunity in your prayers. Just a note: To date our mission team has taught 2,300 plus children in the past five years.**

**I think the trip was very educational for Scott, Jake and Mike as they witnessed several adversities as well as opportunities. Among the adversities were: a brother coming to the compound from a congregation that meets in South Sudan. He had been shot in the arm as he was traveling to meet us to inform us of 49 brethren that had been chased to the Ethiopia border by the rebels and had been without food several days and two brethren from another area in South Sudan also made it to the compound to request food for 45 brethren that had been chased by rebels to the Ethiopian Border and had been without food for several days. There was also a request for funds to build a meeting facility on 5 acres of land given to the Mission in the Anywaa Community with the stipulation that we must build on the land within 90 days or forfeit the land back to the government. I made a commitment on faith to start construction on the meeting location. A few of the blessings were: We sent money for food, medicine and shelter to assist the brethren in need. While we were in Lare, a town where the VBS team taught 300 children in 2017 and turned away approximately 300, we located facilities to accommodate 700 children. When we told the brethren we were planning to teach 500 to 700 children in 2018 they excitedly said, “We know we can get the children to attend.” We also talked to the Lare brethren about asking the government for the land from the government. He said he would approach the government about land for the church. I told him we would build a temporary facility for the brethren until we could get land from the government. We also needed to ask for an additional 20 acres of land for agriculture and they quickly said,**

**“We know the government will give us the land.” As we were returning to Gambella, James said we are going to visit a new congregation. After driving a few miles we stopped and walked into a field to meet a brother. The brother was one of 19 who were baptized into Christ in October 2017. He showed us a tree under which the brethren had been meeting since the inception of the church in October. He excitedly wanted to take us to another location by the road. When we arrived he told us a man who had given them permission to meet there and would like to sell the land to the church. I asked if the man owned the land and the answer was no. I told the brother, we do not buy land nor build permanent facilities without a deed showed up at the land. One of the new brother’s had the pictured sign and said he would put it on a tree to identify the Church of Christ meets here. Another blessing was the Sunday morning assembly. In addition to the 70 plus members meeting, there were about 125 VBS children in attendance. After the assembly they sang songs and quoted several Bible verses for the brethren.**

**Words cannot really express the trip, but I am sure you can get an earful of great happenings if you ask Scott, Jake or Mike.**

**As you know my trip to Gambella, August 27th was cancelled as Hurricane Harvey hit our area August 27th and our house got four foot of flood water. My plans were to teach three weeks and attend the graduation September 14th. Although I could not get to Gambella the brethren continued the school and graduated 25 students. As I write this newsletter, my wife and I are living with our son. Lord willing we will be able to move back into our house before Christmas.**

**We want to praise the Lord for all the great things He is doing with the Southern Sudan Mission. A few of the blessings of 2017 were two sessions of the School of Biblical Studies graduating approximately 40 students; a VBS teaching 1,000 plus children (there were 10 teachers from the states that traveled to Ethiopia to teach the children); seeding several congregations in the bush (hidden in the woods in South Sudan), several hundred conversions. It is impossible to know how many congregations and baptisms as there are numerous baptisms in the bush where there is no communication. Several congregations grew corn in their compound to help feed the brethren hiding in the bush.**

**We have many great opportunities planned for 2018 including: 2 sessions of the School of Biblical Studies; seeding 10 new congregations; the possibility of teaching 2,000 children in three or four weeks of Vacation Bible School and planting corn in different areas to help feed the brethren.**

**Alma and I want to express our gratitude to everyone for your love, encouragement, prayers, trust and financial support. We also want to wish everyone a special holiday season and a great year of service in the Lord’s work in 2018.**

**Tax deductible contributions may be made payable to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ and mailed to Tyrone Mynhier at 532 Raleigh Drive, Conroe, Texas 77302 for posting and delivery to Woodland Oaks.**

**Thanks again for partnering with us to further the gospel into the world’s newest nation, South Sudan.**

**To God be the glory,**

**Tyrone Mynhier**