

Kenya and Southern Sudan / November-December 2018

I pray that this finds each of you in a place of peace and health as we are set to enter this upcoming holiday season. May we all focus on the Prince of Peace as the world becomes less peaceful around us.

OUR STUDENTS IN SUDAN & KENYA

Our children at the orphanage in Akuak Rak are finishing up the school year. They will be on break the month of December and the new term begins in January. I am planning to visit in January to witness and speak at our fourth 8th grade graduation. Our faith is once again being stretched, as we trust the Lord for the funding to continue to fund the school and teachers that train and care for 320 children. The funding that we have had for seven years for the schools ends in December.



We want each child that graduates eighth grade to be able to go on to high school. I didn't know how we would be able to care for the 62 children we started with ten years ago. The Lord did not let us down then and we are trusting that he will not now. Only \$600 will pay a student's high school tuition for a year. We are grateful for the partnership with Answering the Call who has worked to help the school compound become more self-sufficient by maintaining a herd of cattle, raising chickens and planting gardens, all things that were once a normal form of life in the area, before the war which changed everything. Our clinic is the only health facility in the region. What God has done in helping us to restore life to this area is remarkable.

Two of our graduates who are in high school, Simon and Mary, have been granted scholarships to participate in a leadership training program for promising high school students from around the world in Washington and at the UN in New York. We need to raise the funds for their travel costs and visas which are around \$2,000 each. These two were some of the first to graduate 8th grade from our school. Their parents were killed by the raiders from the North and they were taken into slavery. They were bought back and brought back to this area where we have cared for them ever since. God has redeemed them and has great plans for them!

Longar is finished with his first year of high school in Kenya. Schools closed a month early this year. Longar is looking for activities to keep him busy until January. He has been taking EMS training on school breaks and plans to go on a camping trip with this group.

PASTORS THAT WE SUPPORT

Santino Akook had a wonderful visit on his first trip to the US this summer. He met with a lot of our donors and was given a number of speaking opportunities. There are many requests for him to return and we are hoping that he will be able to come back this upcoming year and stay for a longer period.



PASTORS THAT WE SUPPORT (cont'd.)

As we shared with you in the last newsletter, Santino Atak, our pastor that is headmaster of the school, was going blind. We were able to send him to Kenya for eye surgery which saved his eyesight. Atak was so full of joy when the bandages were taken off and he was able to see. Atak, and the miraculous healing of his eyes was celebrated in formal celebrations when he returned home. Government officials from the area attended the church ceremony.



Pastor Philip Ajing recently graduated Uganda Christian University. We are proud of Philip, one of the pastors that we have assisted for a number of years. Philip has now returned to the South to work in the church in Bahr El Ghazal.

UPDATED WEBSITE

Many thanks to Brent and Marieke Desmond for revamping our website.

Check out the new website at www.connectinglivesintl.org. Please share with others who might be interested in the ministry.

Matthew continues to serve faithfully in Juba with crusades, street ministry, healing services, and prayer retreats for prayer for the country. The church members have now managed to put up a small permanent building with the meager funds that we support the church with.



PRAYERS AND FUNDS NEEDED

Elizabeth is a young woman we are supporting who is studying nursing in Kenya. She wants to return to her area of the South to start a health clinic alongside the church, where there is no clinic. We have not promised Elizabeth that we can continue supporting her, though we are hoping that funds will permit. The pastors from her area appealed to me to support her as they desperately need medical support in their area. One hundred fifty dollars a month will support Elizabeth in school and her room and board.

Please pray for us as we continue to support many special students and pastors.

All help of any size is appreciated. We need regular supporters as we have many monthly commitments.

Please pray for our team going into South Sudan in January and give as you are able. We want to take in funds for medicines for the clinic. We will send more details of that later.

We thank you for your continued prayers and caring!

Because of God working through you, we are making a difference!

Tax deductible checks for any of the projects and for Fran's ministry support may be made out to "GSN" (Gospel Support Network). DO NOT put Fran's name on the check! Please send checks to Fran, rather than GSN, so that she can make sure that donations are properly credited to her account. You can also make a donation via credit card by going to our website: www.connectinglivesintl.org.

In addition, donations of stock are also accepted. Contact Fran for more information.

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Questions? Call Fran at 703-642-5135 or email her (fran@connectinglivesintl.org)