



Bringing HOPE to South Sudan

South Sudan Background

South Sudan remains the youngest nation in our world since gaining its independence from Sudan in July 2011. Renewed conflict in December 2013 led to what the UN called “one of the world’s worst humanitarian crises.”

South Sudan continues to slowly rebound from the civil war as well as the most recent Covid and famine issues. Covid hit just about the time peace talks were showing promise of a better South Sudan.

Kapoeta is the base for our Hope-4Sudan compound. Since beginning in 2007, our mission remains constant—to share the love of God and point them to the One from whom all hope derives. The growth our compound has seen over these 14 years is amazing and is the result of the commitment of some equally amazing missionaries and team members.

From a handful of buildings to more than a dozen of varying sizes, the compound is growing to meet the needs of the Hope4Sudan ministries.

Beyond the Compound

In addition to the clinic, school, and church on the compound, we continue to reach out to other villages with the message of hope through Christ.

The Compass and Bloom ministries are also very active in Eldoret, Kenya. Compass ministers to South Sudan students attending school in Eldoret. Bloom ministers to special needs families (read more in this report).

His Hands Extended

Since our early days here on the Hope-4Sudan compound, God has helped us build a place of refuge for the community and for those just passing through. It was our privilege recently to be able to accommodate a group from YWAM, from the United States, for a couple of days! They were in transit to another mission station in the area. It was a great group with so many talents! It was good to break bread physically and spiritually with young believers on this side of the world. Hope4Sudan supporters make it possible for us to reach out to teams like this one.



Earlier this year, we had rescheduled the date for our 2022 medical missions trip for April of 2022. However, a number of circumstances and potential issues caused us to have to change the date one more time. We apologize for the inconvenience this has created

for our potential team members. It has been a frustrating time due to Covid and other factors out of our control. With that in mind, we are pleased to announce the new dates for the fall of 2022–Saturday, October 29–Monday, November 7!

Construction Projects Needed & Completed

Construction Needs & Costs:

1. 20 x 65-ft structure
at a cost of \$23,500 for
two new classrooms
2. 15 x 30-ft structure
at a cost of \$12,000 for
the Head Teacher's Office

The graphic above shows our most critical and immediate needs on the Hope4Sudan compound. Both of these needs are related to the H4S Primary School.



The newest building on the compound is rather small in comparison to the other buildings, but it plays a very important role in security as the guardhouse.



The messiest project of the year was having to rebuild the sinking toilets thanks to a major rainy season.



The Hope4SSudan Primary School has been an integral part of the compound since the early days of our ministry. We started with Grade 1 and then added a new grade each year until we reached Grade 8. Once our students graduate, they transfer to a secondary school in nearby Kapoeta, Juba, or other places.

In our most recent issue of our Hope4Sudan newsletter, we addressed several critical issues at our Primary school that need our attention. The primary school was built to accommodate 200 students. However, due to complications some of the surrounding schools are facing this year, our enrollment skyrocketed to 329 at the end of the first term (late July)!

Greg reports that the food supplier has been able to keep up with the increased demands created by our influx of students. We are grateful for that blessing.

However, our classrooms were not built to hold the large numbers they are seeing. We are in desperate need of a new building to house two more classrooms. This building, a 20 x 65-ft structure at a cost of \$23,500, would be divided into two classrooms to accommodate our growing younger grades. Our primary one class has 81 students in a room designed for much less than half that number!

We also need a new Head Deputy teacher's office. That building (a 15 x 30 ft structure) will cost about \$12,000 to build, and will be second in priority.

We have appealed to individuals and churches to help with these projects through our Hope4Sudan quarterly newsletter and our missionary's personal newsletter, The McClerkin Messenger. We are trusting God to help us meet the needs of our Toposa people. We are anxious to see how He will supply the funds so that we may move forward quickly with the two projects for the school.



The compound's kitchen, where the food is cooked for the students, is a small area. The Southern menu painted on the building is indicative of our missionary's "back-home" favorites, not the diet of the Toposa people. (Their regulars consist of sorghum, beans, maize, and rice.) It does, however, make for a lot of fun and good conversation!



Planting the Seeds & Repairing Wells

Planting the seeds for a new church in South Sudan's villages can often span years. We show the Jesus film and try to meet their physical needs for meds and water.

In the village of Kainyang, we are in the final stages of paperwork approval for construction to start on an open air church. A home was built first for Pastor Jeremiah Lokeny, his wife, and their new baby.

We had placed a water well in this village earlier and had to go back and make some repairs. While there, Greg and the pastor (white shirt) and another worker planted a cross on the site of the church. We are excited to be in the homestretch of erecting a church in this village.



The Resurrection & The Life

As the sun rose over the compound on Easter Sunday in April of this year, you could sense that it would be a powerful day! The main church was filled to capacity and the children's church area was filled as well. It was a beautiful day. The music ministry and God's word clearly spoke of the resurrection power of Jesus Christ. The villagers came in their Sunday best with a vivid display of color by the ladies. The compound not only provides food and "living water" for the soul, but the water well on the compound provides clean, safe water for the Toposa villages. Take note of the "Easter bonnet" adorned by one of the ladies. While it may not be the type of bonnet Irving Berlin mentioned in his song, The Easter Parade, it is certainly unique, and has a life-giving purpose as she carries water back home for her family. Hope4Sudan provides water for the body and the soul!



Salvation & Water Baptism

The week after Easter, we had 294 in attendance with 21 salvations and 32 rededications! The momentum continued the following Sunday, when a special guest from Cairo, Egypt, visited the compound. She helped do Children's Church and blessed them with Bibles, teaching materials, and T-shirts.

Following the service, 76 people were baptized in a tank on our compound! This is always one of the highlights for our missionary, Gregory McClerkin. It is a powerful testimony to lives that are being changed every day!



Church Property Needed in Juba

Perhaps you saw our missionary's report in his personal online newsletter (Shout Out) in September about a trip he had made to the capital city of Juba. He had church business to take care of and was also taking three of our secondary students back to their school in Juba.

Greg is looking for property for a church building in this city of more than 500,000. It sits on the White Nile and is a blend of old and new as the photos show.

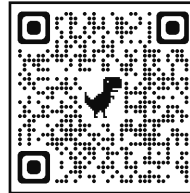
We have several boys and girls that are studying in Juba that need a church home. Pastor John lives in Juba and has been leading our students spiritually. He was a former teacher and pastor at the Hope4Sudan compound and migrated to Juba years ago. He is now married and has a good job. Greg met with him when he was in Juba last month, and he's very interested in leading this church. John already has a small congregation plus our school boys that are meeting at his house. We are trusting God to speak to an individual or church about funding this need in Juba.



Taking Bloom to the Next Level

Bloom ministry is excited to move to another level. When Latoya McClerkin and Summer Sneed attended a 2-day disabilities conference in Kenya, put on by Hope Matters International, it inspired them. They began developing many strategies and ideas for ministry to those with disabilities in our local churches and community in Eldoret. Latoya has a heart for the Bloom ministry and will continue to move the ministry forward. Many individuals have stepped up to support her vision since we first put out the call for help.

The ministry still needs funds to underwrite the programs and projects on an ongoing basis. To see these beading and sewing projects in action, point your phone camera at the Facebook QR code in the box to the right. We have pointed our supporters to this video in hopes that they will be touched and then challenged to give through our GIVE site (<https://app.clovergive.com/app/giving/clodo-hope4sudan>). We have already been successful in raising



nearly \$1,000 for Latoya to purchase supplies for this ministry. We have also provided an opportunity through the give site to support a special needs child with schooling on a monthly basis. Bloom is part of the Hope4Sudan/Compass Ministry Kenya.

If you would like to read more about Bloom, visit <https://hope4sudan.org/ministries/compass> and then scroll down to the section which highlights the Bloom ministry.

Thank you, Latoya (shown in this photo), for your heart for ministry to this group.



Praise...

- Our Hope4SSudan Primary School is busting at the seams. While the increased numbers are putting a strain on our staff and facilities, we are grateful that God is sending us new students to mold and influence. We are also grateful that the food supply has continued to flow during these crazy times.
- Praise the Lord for the full staff of teachers He provided when we started this new year! Please pray for them, however, as they all deal with the issues that come from overcrowded classrooms.

Prayer...

- Pray that God will supply the funding and the materials to build a new building for the lower grades in the Hope4SSudan Primary School. This need is critical.
- Please pray for Greg as he oversees the many projects that need funding and building on the H4S compound. Also pray that God's timing will work out for the next Hope4Sudan team as they postpone their plans again. These team members have anxiously awaited the trip that has had to be cancelled repeatedly due to measures out of our control. If you've ever been to South Sudan on one of these trips, you are very aware that the rainy season can wreak havoc on a trip. There was a small window of time in the Spring of 2022, but when coupled with Easter, it made that timing impossible to plan. God knows all and sees all, so we are trusting His guidance as we move our next South Sudan medical missions endeavor to November 2022!