



# Serving South Sudan

A Report from Chuck Dennis & Dennis Cady  
November 2024



**Baptisms at Mathiang Achuil**

## Over 1,000 Baptisms & 44 New Churches

When we were in South Sudan last December there were 7 congregations in the northern province of Aweil. During a seminar taught by Chuck and Dennis, brethren accepted a challenge to plant 7 more during 2024. **As of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 44 new congregations have been established. So far this year, 1,072 have been baptized.** More will be by the time you read this report. Most of the growth is in Aweil province. One evangelist recently predicted there may be 1,500 baptisms by the end of 2024. Growth will not stop there. Another evangelist predicts that if sufficient training can be provided there can be between 3,000 and 5,000 members by the end of 2026. As great as this is, it creates two problems: (1) with expansion so increases the need for money to do the work and (2) there are so many new Christians. Without slowing evangelism we must train and mature those eager to learn.



**Seminar (Gospel Meeting)**

### Three Day Seminars

The most effective evangelistic tool is 3-day seminars in villages. We provide funds for each of 5 supported evangelists to conduct two a month. Ten total at \$600 each seminar. Usually under a tree. Baptisms are almost always a result in these places where the gospel has never been heard one time. Word is spread and requests come weekly from other villages saying "come and teach us." South Sudan time is 7 hours ahead of Texas time. We look forward to getting up Sunday morning and reading reports of attendance and baptisms. Grass church buildings usually follow. New Christians have much to learn as they worship as New Testament churches.



**Sudanese Teaching Sudanese**

### Training Is A Must

Go...Teach...Baptize...TEACH. That is what Jesus said and that is what we are doing. Some of the

3-day seminars are going back again to new congregation to teach them more. In addition, a Bible School is planned for early 2024. Two 25 meter x 30 meter lots adjoining other church property have been bought. Sheet iron buildings are being built. Church leaders will be invited to the five-month course, taught by the 5 evangelists. Capacity will be 40 men. They will live on campus, sleeping on bunk beds. This is planned during the months farmers can best leave their villages, but even then not without sacrifice. Basic doctrinal information will be taught along with practical things such as leading in worship and teaching the gospel to neighbors and people in the next village.



**5 Evangelists 5 Mo Bible School**

To equip the evangelists, who themselves have baptized over 1,000 with no formal training, Brother Bior Paul Deng has gone from Bor and is currently training these 5 for 4 months.

### Water Extremes

December to May is the dry season and June to November is the rainy season. Both can be in the extremes. Finding water to

baptize in the dry season can be a challenge. We have transported people to water by trucks. Others just wait until there is rain. During the dry season, water is carried distances, often in Jerry cans (holding 5 gallons) on the heads of women and children.



**Girls Carrying Vital Water**

During the rainy season there is flooding. Travel is complicated to impossible, depending on the destination. Each evangelist is provided a motorcycle, essential for village work. Men are hired to carry evangelist James Madit's motorcycle through a flooded area so he can reach a village for a seminar in the picture below.



**Works in Rural Aweil**

Programs we have reported on in other places continue. The fact that we talk mostly at this time about what is happening in Aweil doesn't stop those. JCVBS will graduate 83 with vocational skills in December. The elementary school in Bor has about 900 students and the one in Mangala Refugee Camp has about 300.

There are congregations in Bor as well as in distance places (Padiet, Panyagor, Juba, Guolyar, and Lankien).

### **December Trip**

Tickets are bought for Chuck and Dennis to leave for South Sudan December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Most of our time will be spent in the Aweil area. The flight is looooooong. (not a typo) and exhausting. A lot can go wrong. By December Chuck will be 79 and Dennis will catch up in January. Both have always paid their own way on these trips, but finding energy is getting more and more difficult. Prayers please!

### **Matching Challenge Time**

November through January has become the time for the annual matching challenge. The work is growing as are the needs. This year we are able to increase the challenge. **Everything given between November 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup> will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$200,000.** This includes regular contributions from individuals and congregations and includes money given to the orphanages we are involved with in Haiti. We send \$5,400 monthly to them. Donations given "to be used as needed" are the greatest need. If you wish to give to something specific, here is a list:

- \*Training church leaders in Aweil.
- \*Tarps for grass church buildings @ \$100 (30 needed now...more later.)
- \*Plastic chairs @\$15. (200 needed now...more later)
- \*A 3-day village seminar @\$600.
- \*Vocational Boarding School in Bor
- \*Haiti orphanages

### **Ways to Help**

- \*\*Send a check
- \*\*Go to the website and give through PayPal
- \*\*Make a monthly commitment of any amount
- \*\*Tell the leadership of your church about the work. Ask that we be placed in your budget for 2025.
- \*\*Remember Starfish Foundation in your Will or Trust
- \*\*If you are within an hour of Wichita Falls, invite us to make a PowerPoint presentation to your congregation or a group of friends in your home.

Remember that every dollar, up to \$200,000, given between now and January 31, 2025, will be matched. Should the amount given to be matched exceed \$200,000 there are numerous places to use it. Please help.

Remember that every dollar given goes to the work. There are no expenses paid from your donations for fund raising, U.S salaries or reporting.

### **PLEASE DONATE**



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