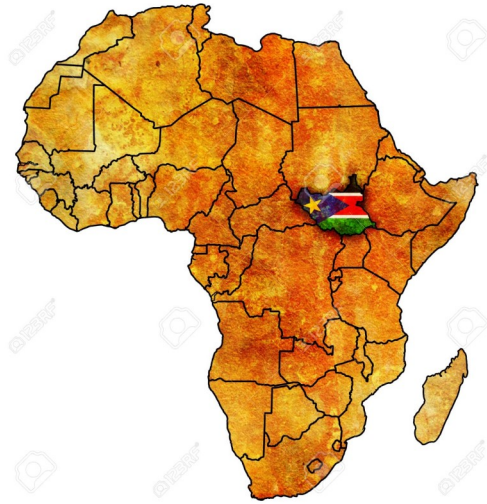


News Updates from South Sudan



**“Through Jesus,
therefore,
let us continually offer to God
a sacrifice of praise
—the fruit of lips that openly profess His name.
And do not forget to do good
and to share with others,
for with such sacrifices
God is pleased.”**
Hebrews 13:15-16



Dear Praying Family & Friends,

November 2019

In mid-August, our Mabaan County experienced extensive flooding due to heavy rains & the overflowing of the Yabus River that flows from Ethiopia into South Sudan & through our county. Many homes & corn fields



were flooded, resulting in ruin and a shortage of (future) food for this coming year. Our main all-weather gravel roads were eroded in places, so that traders trucks were not been able to bring in their supplies. The only way in was by plane or by foot. It was then that I began to see how communities & churches were helping each other. In September, SIM distributed 1000 mosquito nets, 100 tarps & 1000 fishing hooks & lines through the local churches. We were praising God, as we began to see the water subsiding and people getting back to their lives of repairing their houses & the UN were repairing the roads.

Then, in mid-October, at 2am I woke up to a sound. At first I thought it was a thief. I went out to my veranda to have a look and I stepped into 6 inches of water. When I turned on the porch light, I found my entire house was flooded. As I stepped out into our compound, I saw a river of water rushing by my house. It seemed to be getting deeper & deeper. In those early hours of the morning, I tried to save all the Sudanese Bibles & songbooks that I had stored in another empty missionary house. But, within an hour the water started to come into this house as well. It was a sad moment for me, as I had to leave the Bibles behind.

Our other missionary housing compound did not get very much water, as it was on higher ground. Within 2 hours, there was over 2 feet of water in my house. I gathered a few of my clothes, food & computer, & I moved over to Compound B for 2 weeks.

As I am now the SIM team leader, I called our deputy director and we declared this an emergency. And so, we implemented our Crisis Management Team (CMT) mode. I became the CMT leader with all missionaries taking on vital roles to ensure our safety. As the sun came up, we saw that our community was under water.



By mid-morning, I learned that most of the Mabaan County had been flooded. Our clinic staff told us that the water was up to their shoulders, as they carried their children, in the dark, to higher ground. Yasir, our clinic chaplain, told us that he put his bed up in a tree, and then put his 5 year old daughter on the bed for safety. There was no place to go. For people in Bounj town, the only high ground was the road. And so, many people began living on the main road.

In Doro, our neighbors were camped out around the church, as it is a bit higher in elevation. In the evenings, I would hear singing in the church, praising the Lord and thanking Him for saving them. It was a reminder that God is in control and He is loving & is caring for us all.

As I was thinking about all the destruction & all the crops that were lost in the flooding, I was quite sad & feeling helpless. But, the Lord reminded me that He was looking after these people. He is the Sovereign Lord. He loves them! Then, I began to see all the young boys fishing. Then, I would see men going out fishing. With this flooding, the Lord had brought so many fish. It was unbelievable!!! I have never seen so many fish. And so, morning, noon & evening, people ate fish and loved it! God is so good.



Due to all the flooding, there is a malaria epidemic. In our clinic, 9 out of 10 people are diagnosed with malaria. SIM will be bringing in mosquito nets & tarps to be distributed through the local churches.

My own heartache is all the ruined Bibles & songbooks. Most of them were severely water damaged and had to be disposed of. If you would like to help me with purchasing more Bibles & songbooks, you can send funds to our SIM South Sudan Church Discipleship Project #98103.

Thank you so much for all your faithful prayers & support for me in these past few months. They are really appreciated & needed at this time. I am feeling quite drained right now, and so your prayers are so precious to me. God is good, isn't He? May you feel His love towards you as you eat fish & pray for our Sudanese brethren. :)

In the Joy of Serving Jesus,

Sandy Ewan

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