

Quarterly Bulletin 109

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God our Father, whose son Jesus Christ wept over your people who knew not the way of peace, and were as sheep without a shepherd, hear our prayer for the people of the Sudans. Turn the hearts of their leaders to reconciliation and peace. Bless their Archbishops and clergy, that they may be true shepherds of your flock. Strengthen those who heal the wounded and feed the hungry. Hasten the time when all nations will own your just and gentle rule and receive your gift of peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

JUBA DIOCESE MODEL SECONDARY SCHOOL

Eyeopener Event Monday 25th April

You are invited to learn about “one of the best schools in one of the world’s poorest countries” on Monday 25th April, 7pm at St Francis Church, Salisbury. Come and hear the encouraging story of how the school has gone from strength to strength over the years with support from many in Salisbury Diocese. A flyer is enclosed with email copies of the Bulletin.

SUDAN

The reimposition of military rule under General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan has shut off aid support from most western countries. The General’s decision to endorse Russia’s action against Ukraine in the UN Security Council, and his agreement to provide docking facilities for the Russian Navy on the Red Sea near Port Sudan, have further reduced the likelihood of financial or aid support. With poor harvests, economic crisis and internal conflict, the future for people of all faiths in Sudan looks increasingly bleak. Protests in Khartoum continue, still with fatalities. The World Food Programme warns that more than 18 million people, almost half the population, may face acute hunger by this autumn. Archbishop Ezekiel, who has led the Episcopal Church of Sudan since 2014 is expected to retire later this year.

SOUTH SUDAN

Ethnic fighting continues in the Equatorias, Bahr el Ghazal and elsewhere. The UN's Human Rights Council has recently reported that the situation in the country remains 'incredibly grave' and that it had 'reasonable grounds to believe that members of the Government of South Sudan have engaged in activities amounting to war crimes' in the southwestern districts of Central Equatoria and Western Equatoria. Many Deaneries and Churches in our Diocese have links to these areas.

LAMBETH CONFERENCE AND SALISBURY HOSPITALITY

Salisbury Diocese's Bishop Elect, Stephen Lake, has expressed his commitment to our partnership. A series of briefings for him is underway ahead of the Lambeth Conference which he will be attending. The Lambeth Conference organisers are concerned to ensure that visiting bishops' participation in the Conference is not affected by COVID, and therefore don't wish them to visit any UK partners before the Conference. We are now working on a plan for the bishops and spouses to come to Salisbury when the Conference ends on 8 August. After a reception with a light meal, a tour of the Cathedral and Evensong, hosts will then take the bishops and their wives to their homes and any activities they have arranged until the 12 August. There are 62 dioceses in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (plus 5 assistant bishops) and 5 dioceses in the Episcopal Church of Sudan. This is an exciting opportunity for us to grow closer in our partnership. If you have not already put your name forward to host and you feel you could do so please contact sudan.secretary@salisbury.anglican.org

MEDICAL LINK

Evidence, including photographs, has been received of our most recent deliveries of medical supplies to church clinics. Last year we supported 11 students on courses to become midwives, clinical officers or laboratory technicians. These are typically 3-year programmes; some students should qualify this year and a further 4 have just started. We are planning a partnership visit this autumn which will always be the best way of ensuring that your donations are spent wisely and effectively.

Members of the Medical Link Team would like to be informed of any events or activities taking place across the Diocese to enable them to support by attending or providing information. Please contact Anne Salter (Volunteer Fundraising Coordinator for the Salisbury/Sudan Medical Link) by email info.sudanmedicallink@gmail.com or phone 07985 509732.

STONEHENGE MARATHON WALK

On 21 May 22 to raise money for Sudan Medical Link. Choose to walk 26 miles (£29 registration fee with a minimum of £120 fundraising) or 13 miles (£29 registration fee with a minimum of £100 fundraising). You just need to bring yourself, your walking shoes/boots and a bottle of water. Everything else, including all your food for the day will be provided.

To book your place on the walk please use the relevant links below:

Book Full 26 miles - [Click here](#)

Book Half 13 miles - [Click here](#)

FOCUS ON EDUCATION

We continue our annual support for ministry training and will send grants to Bishop Allison Theological College; Bishop Gwynne Theological College; Jeremiah Theological College and Shokai Bible Training Institute. In addition, Chaima Institute and Masumbu School, Ezo Diocese will receive small grants this year.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SOUTH SUDAN (ECSS) UNIVERSITY

Hard work continues to develop the University. Bishop Gwynne College (BGC) has now become the new 'Episcopal University, Bishop Gwynne Campus, Juba' with two faculties - theology and law. Dr Peter Ensor has been appointed temporarily as Dean of the Faculty of Theology, and Joseph Bilal has been appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. The Government made converting BGC first a requirement of the University's registration, but the intention remains that other colleges will join the dispersed university.

Thanks to support from American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans (AFRECS), a solar-powered water system is being built on the Rokon campus - a crucial first step in its construction.

ECSSSUP, the University's support group in UK, is very blessed to have a small group of dedicated trustees, volunteers and advisors. But once again, partly due to some trustees having served their full term, they are on the lookout for people who would be interested in joining either as a trustee or as a volunteer - especially anyone with fundraising experience. If you know anyone who may be willing to serve in this way, please use the contact form on <https://www.ecsssup.org/contact>

NEW EDITOR NEEDED FOR THE BULLETIN

Do you know anyone who would be able to take on editing and mailing the Bulletin 4 times a year, and possibly also updating the Sudans pages on the website? If you would like to know more please email sudanbulletin@outlook.com and we can arrange a chat.

PRAYER IS AT THE HEART OF THE LINK

If you belong to a prayer group, lead intercessions or include the Sudans in your personal prayers, you can find monthly prayer points on our website <https://www.salisbury.anglican.org/mission/the-sudan-link/prayer>

PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR THE LINK

Leaflets, banners and display boards are available at Church House. please contact sudan.secretary@salisbury.anglican.org if you would like to use them for events

SUPPORT THE LINK BY A REGULAR DONATION

More people have started a regular bank donation which is a great help. On the website is a standing order form with the choice to support medical or general costs. Contact the Sudans Link Treasurer, Church House, Crane Street, Salisbury, SP1 2QB or visit <http://www.salisbury.anglican.org/mission/the-sudan-link/donate>

DATA PROTECTION

If have any queries about use of your data or wish to be removed from the mailing list please contact *Anne Powell, Sudan Bulletin Editor*, sudanbulletin@outlook.com Tel 01258 861397