



# New Hope

## Diocese of Bethlehem : Kajo-Keji

DKK Highlights July – September 2012 Issue. Compiled By: Stephen Tomor Kenyi, New Hope Coordinator, DOB



Editorial: *By Stephen Tomor Kenyi*

### Is this a renewed call to mission?

As we respond to the Lord's call "Go out into the entire world to evangelize", it's important for us to see how much our Lord Jesus Christ wants us to evangelize.

As we do this, we should avoid thinking that everyone is already converted and are on their way to heaven. In the same way we should also avoid an assumption that anyone is too far gone, and is no longer open to the gospel.

In the past few weeks, we have been getting exciting reports from the mission team who has been visiting archdeaconries around the Diocese of Kajo-Keji. The reports of testimonies of

people coming to the Lord and those renewing their faith have been great. Perhaps, we should have done this earlier! The mission office should be encouraged to do this on a more regular basis than it has been.

A long time ago, God commanded Prophet Ezekiel, in a vision, to preach the word of God to a valley filled with dry bones so that they could come to life again. But even though the bones came together, they remained lifeless. In a second message, God commanded Ezekiel to call on the Spirit of God to enter the bones and then the bones came to life and became a vast army (Ezekiel 37:1-10). Do you know that many in our Churches today are like these dry bones, seeking life where there is only death? But still, the Holy Spirit is determined to reach out to these dry bones, to give them life, and to draw them home to His church.

In another perspective, in the book of Luke, Jesus tells three consecutive stories all pointing to evangelization - the story of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son (Luke 15). All these stories are pointing to the fact that Jesus wants the "lost" to be found and are back home.

The renewed call to mission that our mission team is responding to could answer questions as to why there are few youth in our churches or why the number of people in our churches is not growing. Keep the momentum up mission office.

## A Word from the Bishop.



**By Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo,  
Bishop, Diocese of Kajo-Keji.**

In June I was invited to Canada to participate at a Consultation of Anglican Bishops. After the consultation, I spent over two weeks visiting South Sudanese Diaspora in Toronto, Calgary, Saskatoon, Brooks and Prince Albert. Additionally, at the end of July, I was invited to speak at the Annual Conference of the *Ko'disi ti Kajo-Keji* (Kajo-Keji Ladies) in the US, held in Nashville. Like in Canada, I was also able to visit and speak in various church and South Sudanese events in Dallas, Greenville and Portland for two weeks in August.

While I was there, I observed that most members of our communities in all these cities work very hard. Many have, especially the younger generation, acquired skills and qualifications that are helping them to make tremendous changes where they are. Some of them were able to return to South Sudan and contribute to the building of the nation. Others, due to various reasons, are not and will not be able to do so in the nearest future. However, the South Sudanese Diaspora encounters many challenges. One of the challenges is the clash of cultures, which has consequently affected family relations.

A key message that I conveyed to our Diaspora is that of emulating Nehemiah of the Bible, who in spite of being a high ranking official in King's palace never forgot his homeland. He yearned to do something

about the City of Jerusalem, which lay in ruins. Nehemiah was patriotic. South Sudan is in ruins as a result of over 50 years of war! We need people like Nehemiah to return and undertake the work of rebuilding South Sudan.

At this stage of the history of South Sudan, there is a need for collective responsibility and efforts by all stakeholders to contribute to the building of our new nation. We need the physical construction of the nation as much as the spiritual building of the lives of the people so that some of the negative effects of the war will be dealt with. We need people to work harder than ever before in order for us to catch up with the rest of the world.

Like Nehemiah, we need to plan for our nation. The old saying that he who fails to plan is planning to fail should guide thinking and action. This is because some of the challenges that we face can be attributed to the lack of planning or lack of vision, which leads to what the Bible says: "without vision, people perish" Proverbs 29:18 (KJV). And the process of planning and vision making should be at all levels and not only at the top.

Another very important lesson we learn from the life of Nehemiah is that he was prayerful. Nehemiah prayed at all times. When he heard that Jerusalem was in ruins, he was upset, fasted and prayed. When the King asked him as to why he looked sad, he offered a quick prayer before he could respond. Whenever he faced difficulties, he would pray. We need people like Nehemiah to uphold South Sudan in prayer; people who are dedicated to doing something about what is happening locally and nationally.

Pray that God will use our existing Nehemiahs to do this but also to raise more Nehemiahs in South Sudan.

Oh God, bless South Sudan!

+Anthony

# New Hope

*By Stephen Tomor Kenyi.*

New Hope has completed the planned construction of some College buildings.

But when New Hope moved into construction within the College, the first building in the College remained unfinished. It stood as an odd one out.



*The unfinished College classroom block 1.*

After careful consideration, New Hope thought it wise to complete this building. It is hoped that the completion work will be finished by the end of October 2012, just in time for the visitors from the Diocese of Bethlehem visit in November 2012. That will be when the building will be dedicated.

## Streams of Clean Water for Canon Benaiah Poggo College, Kajo-Keji.

*By Rev. John Mono, Principal Canon Benaiah Poggo College, Kajo-Keji, South Sudan.*

With the very generous gift from the St Augustine's Foundation we were able to make huge improvements at the College compound. Many people have now easy access to clean water. This will enable them to be more effective in their ministry to share the 'living water of God' with others. In this report we show and tell you what we

At the moment workers are busy making sure they do that work and finish at the expected time of completion, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012.



*Work progresses on to see this building brought to a good finish.*

New Hope is working on this project in addition to one other project within the Diocese of Kajo-Keji.

have done and how the implementation process went.

### **Preparation**

The implementation of this project was prepared by a small committee under the leadership of Bishop Anthony Poggo (February – June 2012). It took a lot of

communication and negotiation with the company in Uganda (Davis and Shirtliff) to get everything right. In February a technician from the company came to Kajo-Keji to survey the site. To save money, we ordered the submersible pump from another source.

The plan was to have the following items installed at the CBPC-compound:

1. A submersible pump in the existing bore hole and 7 solar panels to power the pump
2. Two water tanks of 5000 litres each, on two stands
3. Eleven water points throughout the College campus rather than running water in houses.



*Two water tanks of 5000 litres each installed*

### **Implementation**

A team of specialized technicians from Davis and shirtliff arrived Kajo-Keji in a lorry loaded with equipment for the work. Several activities were done simultaneously; the digging of trances was done using the local people, 27 people turned up to do the work and in four days the task was done. Another group from Davis was responsible for assembling and fixing the water tank stands. Then a group headed by the team leader from Davis was to dismantle the hand pump bore hole and assembling the new system to be inserted in the hole, material got from the old system are kept in the College store. Yet a small group was responsible for installation of the solar on

the roof of the staff house next to the source of the water.

A special group of plumbers was responsible for piping. The water points are strategically placed at the dining hall, dormitories, three staff houses and the additional line to the Bishop's house with one water point at the Cathedral, the new Diocesan office and cooking area (known as former Samaritan's Purse compound). Generally, the task was well coordinated.



*Dedication prayer conducted by the Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo.*

### **Results**

the water points in different location in the college has improved the lives of those living in the community, one of the outstanding story is from the College Head Cook, **Mrs Rina Kojo** "I am joyful and thank those who supported the college water project, the pipe near the kitchen has relieved us from working long distance and lining up in the bore holes. We used to carry 30 jelly cans of water each day in a distance of 400 metres, and by the end of the day we are exhausted, and would fail to prepare meal in time. As a result we would go home late each day. Since we received this piped water near the kitchen we have at least time to rest, prepare meal on time, and reach home early, it has improved our performance in our duty in the College".

**Irene Loana** a staff residing in one of the College staff houses said "this system is the best, it is time saving in terms of distance, and energy used to pump the water, some time they may not have enough water in the

house to do all their domestic work such as washing clothes which could take them some time or wait to harvest water whenever it was raining, but now they can wash any time. Since the water tap is near the house one can draw water for use when it is already dark at night”.

**Abraham** a member in the community who was engaged in digging the trenches said that the work was so tedious, but at the end it was rewarding, they were able to benefit financially, especially those who are able to dig many metres.



*Diocesan team Lead by Bishop Anthony and the technical team Inspects the new installed submersible pump*



*Bishop Anthony Poggo, ECS MU president officially launches the safe water, as Team looks on*

### **Appreciation**

we are very grateful to the following people and organizations:

- The Board of Directors of St. Augustine Foundation for approving this grant.
- The management of Davis and Shirtliff and especially its staff who carried out the installation.
- A committee from the Diocese of Kajo-Keji headed by Rt. Rev. Anthony D. Poggo who coordinated things for the work to come into accomplishment.

May God bless you all!

## **Breaking the silence is better than living with the virus.**

*By Rev. Taban Israel, Health & HIV/AIDS Coordinator, ECS Diocese of Kajo-Keji, South Sudan.*

In the Republic of South Sudan, many people have died of HIV/AIDS and other related diseases but this is often attributed to other diseases or even to witch craft. This has contributed to increase in stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV. The Province of the Episcopal Church of the Sudan has recognised that HIV/AIDS is not a myth but a real endemic that needs to be addressed. The Diocese of Kajo-Keji is addressing HIV/AIDS through

creating awareness, prevention, support to People Living with HIV, counselling and positive living. We have understood that it is the church’s responsibility to teach people of all ages in various places including schools, churches and to break the silence surrounding HIV/AIDS in South Sudan because such silence will hamper any war against HIV/AIDS. Church and community leaders, parents, Non-Governmental Organisations and government Institutions

should work together and break the stigma against HIV/AIDS.



*Lire Primary School pupils with their Head Master, Martin Loro (Left in front) and Rev Taban Israel (Right) warning people to take care of HIV/AIDS*

## **Water harvest for Liwolo-Helen Wagner Primary School.**

By Archdeacon Kenyi Charles Logo, Liwolo Archdeaconry, *Diocese of Kajo-Keji*.

Water is used for drinking, cooking food, washing clothes, bathing etc. Plants, animals and insects of all types depend on water.

One great need that the Israelites needed was water when they could not get any. They grumbled over lack of water. And as God knew that water is essential for the life of a person, He came to their aid and provided water for the children of Israel.

We always refer to clean and unclean water. Clean water is safe for drinking. When we drink unclean water, we get sick.

In general, I do not know how we are going to address the issue of clean drinking water in Liwolo Payam. Over 70% of the people in this Payam lack clean drinking water. Most of the people drink water from the wells and streams, which is usually not safe for drinking. But the people have no option. The remaining 30% depend on the few boreholes. But some people have tested

The Ecumenical community is also asked to follow Jesus Christ and act the same way he acted. Christians need to extend a helping hand to those who have succumbed to the

AIDS endemic by offering care, support, and hope. In doing so, the Church will be playing its role in contributing to the building of a healthy South Sudan on the understanding that we are all God's creation and therefore deserve equal treatment and opportunity in our new nation.

and said that water from some of these boreholes is not even safe for drinking.

Lack of nearby water source is one great need faced by the school children of Liwolo-Helen Wagner Primary School. During break times, most children go to the nearby wells and streams to take water – a health risk. How can we address this issue?

One quick idea that comes to mind is that with all the roofs from the new building, it just needs gutters and water tanks to capture water from the roofs. Depending on how many water tanks and sizes, we could capture enough water for the school children and even the nearby families. This water can be filtered and used for drinking. By doing this, we shall have reduced sicknesses among the children caused by unclean water.

This is the plight of the children and staff of Liwolo-Helen Wagner Primary School.

# Every step contributes to a thousand miles – acting exemplary

By Fred Mazina

Canon Benaiah Poggo College offers professional training for the pastors in Kajo-Keji and in South Sudan.

The college programme has two semesters each year and there is a long period of holidays between June and August. During this time, the rains are at its peak and this is the same period for planting fresh crops.

As an initiative for the college to act exemplary, there is need to raise the food for the students as there is less tuition that can cater for all the needs at the school.

All staff are actively involved and are cooperative to participate together in contributing to the gradual process of development of the college. This has encouraged the spirit of volunteering among the staff to take up more responsibilities and involve in the agricultural practices to be able to raise food and funds.



***College staff planting sorghum***

In this article, I present to you the benefit of cooperation, spirit of teamwork in whatever we do. In this example, the staff of the college have organized themselves to plant sorghum, cassava and vegetables as a way of raising food supply within the college and surplus to raise funds.

Many in the college have testified that, there is need to revive the spirit of cooperation and teamwork. In this specific, story, Rev. Loku Francis, a long serving pastor and also a tutor at the college, testified that, in the past, people used to organize for communal work which used to simplify work.

In addition, he mentioned the benefit of doing work as a group.

Such kind of work enables the lazy people to learn from others and therefore creates a good social relationship. This too, saves time as big piece of work can be accomplished within a short time given the number of workforce.



***Faith and action***

This is justified even in the teachings at the college. The Church integral mission subjects and Church and community mobilization process are practical subjects that have even encouraged students to work hard and change on their socio-economic status. Some of the students who may be having problems to raise their Tuition fees can be able to work for themselves to raise the fees.

## **Wedding a blessing from God**

*By Joseph Aba Duduka - Missions and Outreach Department, Diocese of Kajo-Keji.*

One of our resolutions passed in our 2011 Emergency Diocesan Synod was that all married pastors, lay readers and church leaders should have their marriage blessed in Church. This was already being adopted by most of our pastors and church workers.

Rev. Kiden Cecilia, the pastor in charge of Mangalotore Parrish, Liwolo Archdeaconry is one of those pastors whose marriage was not blessed in Church. However, by the grace of God, her husband, Mr. Aggrey Lasu was able to confess the Lord as his personal Saviour.

It was on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012 when Rev. Cecilia Kiden and her husband received the marriage blessing. How wonderful and joyful it is when a husband and wife are united together in marriage.

One of the challenges facing the Church today is the issue of high bride price.

People take marriage as a business by demanding a lot of heads of cattle and thousands of South Sudanese pounds! What is the impact of this to our youth?

Most of our youth in the church today go for marriages outside the Church because of the high bride price. This has led to increase in pre-marital as boys and girls are driven into high temptation of sex outside marriage and this sometimes results in them contracting HIV/AIDS.

We call on parents to allow our youth to go for their weddings in Church and not place the issue of bride price first. This will also allow the blessings of God to flow into our families and in the church and will also create more respect in our homes, clan and communities.

May God bless you.

## **Visitors from Nigeria**

At the end of August, we received two missionaries from Nigeria. The two missionaries, Venerable Isaac Tejevbo and Chidi Moses are from the Diocese of Niger Delta North. Their secondment is a result of the visit that Bishop Anthony Poggo paid to Nigeria in January. The missionaries will be involved in teaching at the College as well as training of pastors and laity in the areas of stewardship, evangelism and development. We expect their spouses to join them later this year. Pray for them as they adjust to life in South Sudan.

## **CURRENT STATUS OF CANON BENAI AH POGGO COLLEGE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN.**

*By Rev. John Mono, Principal, Canon Benaiah Poggo College.*

The college was established to train men and women as agents of social and economic change through offering theology and social science courses. The College was issued a “**letter of no objection**” to carry its

academic and non-academic activities by the former directorate of Higher education, government of Southern Sudan. But when the country became Independent; Ministries were set up to organized and put the right

system in place, The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology this year 2012 took some procedures to find out what is happening in the country. The ministry Higher Education, then withdraw all letters of no objection and asked individual institutions to re-apply to the Ministry. This enabled the Ministry to carry out assessment on every private and foreign Universities and colleges existing in the Country.

Based on the report of the assessment by technical teams, some colleges and universities were told to close their institutions, while others were to formalize their process in the ministry, yet others were advised accordingly. Canon Benaiah Poggo College in Kajo-keji was one of those to formalize their registration. To do this a non-refundable fee of SSP 50,000 (fifty thousand South Sudanese Pounds or US \$ 16,700) need to be paid as application fee. After two years of operation, the institution will need to have at least SSP 1,000,000 (One million South Sudanese Pounds or US \$ 333,333) in its account in any bank in South Sudan.

We appeal to donors and any well-wishers to support the College through giving financial assistance to student(s) that will enrol for studies in the College or send a partner with proficiency to teach in the following field of training;

Theology

Teacher education

Development studies

Business administration and

Information science and technology.

## Dear reader

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