



GIRU & KINGSPORT BUILDING TOGETHER

Eph. 2:21 (Msg)

Giru UMC / Kingsport District Partnership - Yei, South Sudan 9/11/2013

God is moving in an amazing way in our partnership with the brothers and sisters of Giru UMC. Last November the Kingsport District signed a covenant partnership with the Giru UMC in Yei, South Sudan where Fred and Libby Dearing are serving as Holston Conference missionaries.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- We give thanks that the sanctuary was completed with a gift of \$25,000.
- A gift of \$15,000 for the construction of a small parsonage next to the church. Weather permitting, construction will begin ASAP. Pastor John moved to the Giru II community and a house is rented for them.



Pastor John Kenyi

- A borehole (well) providing clean water to the community.
- A school established with more than 450 students attending. *A latrine is the most urgent need at this time. The ground around the church and parsonage site is quickly becoming contaminated.*
- The annual salary for Pastor John Kenyi (\$1,200) is **fully funded** for 2 years thanks to the commitment of the Kingsport District Pastors in pledging \$2,300 at our August 2013 pastor meetings. The intention is to provide full funding for the first year and reduce the funding over the next five years until the congregation assumes support of the pastor. Given Giru UMC's financial circumstances this may be excessively optimistic and will be adjusted as needed.
- A prayer partnership is established between Pastor John Kenyi and the Kingsport district pastors. Each Kingsport District pastor received a prayer card and photographs of Pastor John Kenyi and his children. We emailed 2 group photos of the morning and evening pastors meeting to Pastor John. He laminated the two photographs and they are posted in

the sanctuary. These serve as a constant reminder to the people of Giru UMC and the pastors of the Kingsport District of our prayer covenant relationship.

- We developed a two-way prayer relationship ministry between the Kingsport Dist and the Giru UMC.

**ONGOING NEEDS,
DREAMS & PLANS:**

- A 5 hole latrine (\$7,000).
- Provide ongoing teacher training - \$4,800 per year.
- Establish salary support for the teachers.
- School scholarships of \$150 per year or \$12.50 per month per child.
- \$80,000 for the school building The school will be 2 school blocks that are 7 meters by 24 meters each containing four classrooms. Each block will accommodate 210 students or 420 total. The cost per block is estimated at \$40,000.00 for a total of \$80,000.00 for the two blocks. There are currently more than 450 students attending school in a makeshift temporary thatched roof arbor. *By the way, there are NO bathrooms!*
- Maintain relationships with the people of Giru UMC and community by sending 2 Mission teams in 2014. A young adult/college age mission team will travel to Yei May 2014. A second team will travel to South Sudan September 2014. Each of these teams are limited to 10 persons total. If you are interested in following the Lord to South Sudan or sponsoring someone with that vision, please contact one of the Sudan mission team leaders,
 Will Lauderback wlauderback@gmail.com,
 Steve Peterson nypedersen@yahoo.com, or
 Jim Goddard jimgoddard1954@gmail.com
- Village Health Committee - (\$2,000.00 per year)
- Sustainability Ministry – We hope to empower the people of the Giru II village to learn sustainable agricultural practices (\$1,500.00 per year) and micro-financing business opportunities (\$2000.00 per year) through training offered by local and mission leaders. This will bring personal financial transformation to the families of the community.

We ask Kingsport District churches to consider adding these building projects to their capital improvements as a tithe. In addition, other groups in our district will be encouraged to partner with our brothers and sisters of Giru UMC. We encourage gifts to be made through your local church with the designation on your check for the Kingsport District Advance #3. This will enable your church to be on its way to becoming a five-star mission church as well as provide you with a record of charitable donations for tax purposes.



*We pray every Sunday for all of you. Before there was nothing here. People drank dirty water, the children had walk long distances to school. Now we drink clean water and have a school. The community is very pleased with the school and are thankful to work with you on a new school block and are grateful for a new church and if possible the community will give more land. We dream of a secondary school and medical clinic.
 God Bless You,
 Pastor John Kenyi*



Sponsorship of Giru UMC Vulnerable Children – Hundreds of lost children from the war, live in the Giru UMC community. God is calling the Kingsport District to provide funds to insure that identified at-risk Children in the Giru II community are able to attend school (\$150.00 annually per child).

NOTE: This is a completely different area of Yea County and different group of children from the 21 children who now(9/11/13) live at GRACE Home for Children. Please understand that these ministries are NOT in competition but that the need is extremely great in Yei, South Sudan and by the grace of God we are attempting to meet as many needs as possible. There are many churches and districts in Holston Conference who are sponsoring churches in Yei, South Sudan. Each of these churches in Yei have their own group of vulnerable children.

We hope individuals, churches, Sunday school classes, UMW groups, youth groups and other persons in the Kingsport District will feel the call of God to provide ongoing support for these vulnerable, helpless children of South Sudan.



Friends
 After being run out of communities by the LRA (Lord's Resistance Army) and then by a corrupt chief, they heard people crying out from Giru to come and preach the Gospel and start a church. When I first saw the area it was just bush where people had no clean water, no school and no church. Through the generosity of a dear Christian saint a church was built. Thanks to Holston Conference a borehole was drilled. After meeting the people from Kingsport District they were filled with hope and started a school which now houses over 400 students. We are now working on finishing latrines to serve the church and large student population and constructing primary school structures. The Holy Spirit has warmed the hearts of Giru community and the people are being transformed and living transformed lives. Thank you Kingsport District for your faithful servant leadership inspiring the people to hope and dream. May God bless you as you receive our gratitude and thanksgiving.

*Grace and Peace
 Fred Dearing*