



## Being Thankful

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of the South Sudan Education Mission (SSEM) and on behalf of Ethiopia Education Mission (EEM), it's with a great honor and privilege to send you our Thanksgiving message.

We pray you were able to count your blessings during Thanksgiving, as we were. Now, during Advent season, we pray that the grace and peace from God our Father Jesus Christ be with all of you!

As scripture informs us, "Devote yourselves to prayers, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should" (Col. 4:2-4).

I hope and pray that you are doing well, and you are being blessed and are blessing others during this Advent.

In like manner, I share with you that your brothers and your sisters in Christ are always praying for you and your family, as you have been for them as well. I also wanted to inform you that we are doing great because of the mercy of our heavenly Father, despite what the mother nature has done for us this year.

Sincerely,  
*Paul Gatluak Both*  
Missionary to South Sudan, Ethiopia and USA

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Negotiations for Peace in the Village

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Flood #2 in the School Yard

## A Time for HOPE

A couple friends of mine just returned from trips to Europe. They experienced places once caught up in world war battles; places that are now locations of everyday life for the residents. Once those places had no function but war. Now the ground supports the feet of people rushing off to work or school or back home to see their loved ones. Those places had their season of agony, but they were not forsaken by God.

South Sudan is not forsaken by God. The ground that has received the blood of innocents and soldiers alike, will support the feet of people walking to school, and work, and back home. The region around South Sudan's eastern border is being built up in hope, even though trouble persists.

Much of our SSEM work is done just over the border in Ethiopia where there is enough structure and security to begin; the mission of SSEM is moving forward at breakneck speed. The citizens of South Sudan who are waiting for their time to come home and rebuild their communities are being rebuilt themselves. A stronger nation is on the way. The rebuilding of individuals is happening through education, theological education,

preaching of the gospel, and large public worship gatherings.

It's too late to talk about a small start. The schools are flooded with students. The conferences and worship gatherings are crowded with ardent worshipers pouring out their hearts in powerful joy. The ground is practically shaking. Surely heaven sees this. Surely the power of God is at work.

We want to thank you for your voice in this movement. You are part of the great announcement of hope rising up in the voices of excited school children, and new preachers brought to the field of God's harvest. You are part of the atmosphere of hope that grows with every building improvement, every new student enrolled, and every new gathering that dismisses bitterness and cries out in praise.

Now is the season for hope. Sow seeds of hope as we partner together in wonder.

With thanks,  
*Rev. Dana Perreard*, Chair  
SSEM Board

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*Dresses sewn by the women of Foley Presbyterian Church, Foley, MN*



## SSEM Primary School

Our SSEM Mission School and Primary School is a composite of the following classes and sections:

1. Early childhood pre-school at age 3 class; **12** students.
2. Early childhood pre-school at age 4 class; **112** students.
3. KG-One class; **80** students.
4. KG-Two class; **70** students.
5. Grade One; **58** students.
6. Grade Two; **52** students.

The total students at SSEM Mission School and Primary School are now **384**.

## SSEM/EEM College and Bible School

College adult classes at the SSEM/EEM College for this semester; **25** students.

Luallok Bible School has **7** second-year students.

## SSEM/EEM School Staff

Qualified teachers = **9**  
Security guard = **1**  
Director = **1**

## SSEM/EEM School Needs

Chairs and Blackboards!  
Funds for Dedication and Graduation Ceremonies  
More Classrooms



Youngest Students Learn

### MAP of SOUTH SUDAN and ETHIOPIA



Overflowing



# Financial Report - 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Again, God has provided, through generous people like you, the financial support SSEM has needed to advance its vision. We were sad to learn that one large grant expired; yet, a new (much smaller) organization has sprung up to support for SSEM.

The new group is called SēM (seam) — *Stitch to Equip Missions*. The group makes cloth bags and machine stitched ornaments to sell. All proceeds go toward SSEM. God is GOOD!

Starting in January of 2019, the SSEM bank account balance was \$10,402.73. During the year, deposits totaling \$39,309.11 were made. Praise God for faithful donors! Withdrawals were \$48,066: build the four-room school; finance the leadership training; design new logo and secure website; and, provide the missionary stipend. The current balance is \$1,726.81.

As you see funds are a constant need for our mission; so if God puts it on your heart, donations can be made directly to SSEM via our website or by check mailed to 3525 Windsor Ave., Apt 107, Dubuque, IA 52001.

God is moving in mighty ways, and I am sure God has even more plans for his people of South Sudan and for missionary, Paul Both.

*Shirley VanDuser*  
Financial Secretary

South Sudan Education Mission (SSEM )

## Contact Us

### SSEM

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Visit us on the Internet  
at the new website:  
<https://ssemhome.org>

Like or Follow the Paul  
Both SSEM page on  
Facebook

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE