

NEWSLETTER

HOLY TRINITY PEACE VILLAGE KURON



February.2021

NEW STAFF



Mr. Peter Ayela, from south of Torit, has joined the HTPVK staff as Driver/ Mechanic. Peter has a Certificate in DOT and Mechanics. Peter is married with 6 children.

welcome
TO THE TEAM



THANK YOU FOR PRAYERS

Mr. Ambayo Matthew's, Pastoral and Teacher, elder brother has somewhat recovered from serious health problems.

Ms. Wani Prisca, Bishop's Secretary, has had successful knee surgery in Khartoum.

Please pray for our Founder, Bishop Paride Taban, as he was not feeling well and went to Nairobi for treatment.

Many staff are suffering from Malaria this month.

A MESSAGE OF PEACE FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK



Dear Donors, Partners and all Friends
who have supported HTPVK,

Peace and hope, as you strive to navigate through the violent storms of COVID-19 a Global challenge that has engulfed the entire world. In the midst of any challenging situation such as the COVID-19 pandemic, God is present as a healer and protector of the life He created at the APEX of His work of creation. During this spiritual journey of Lent as we contemplate on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, let us be filled with hope that one day we shall be liberated from this devastating virus.

A word of appreciation to all that support the VISION and MISSION of Kuron Peace Village. THANK YOU and God bless you as we humble ourselves to return to our Merciful Father. Let us reconcile to our God and with each other in this period of Lent 2021.

Fr. Henry Gidudu, Executive Director of HTPVK

WORKING TOWARD SELF SUSTAINABILITY

Part of the overall Mission and Vision of HTPVK is to work toward self-sustainability. This involves training Toposa for future leadership in their communities. **Presently, several are sponsored with Scholarships:** Amvelio Lotabo - studying in Wau at Community Health Training Institute to be a Nurse

Daniel Lokwaar - studying in Torit at Health Science Institute to be a Clinical Officer

Lokii Eliah— is finishing his thesis in Peace and Conflict Studies at Rwanda University via internet.

Two young females continue to study in Ugandan Secondary Schools. Many of the Primary and Secondary Students are sponsored from international groups and individuals.

Other Efforts Toward Self –sustainability:

The HTPVK Guest House creates income every month through visitors who pay for room and board. The Banana Income this month was not as good as monkeys and Toposa helped themselves.

Sudanese Proverb

A child is a child of everyone.

Meaning: Community spirit means everyone having responsibility for the larger group and the future of that community. All must work together to bring up the future generations to strengthen the group.





Water is Essential

At the compound in Kapoeta, the Bishop Foundation provides water at a reduced price which people then re-sell for profit in the Kapoeta market place. This builds cooperation between the Bishop Foundation and the citizens of Kapoeta.

Working Together

Coordination meetings have been held with State government and other NGO partners in Kapoeta to strengthen collaboration.



PEACE BUILDING IN KURON

Comment from Toposa Elder: “...We appreciate the presence of the Kuron Peace Village as it gives our people hope. We have learned many things from the staff. Thank you...”



This month of February has been generally quiet around Kuron. Only Boma continues to report clashes over cattle rustling events.

The Peace Dept. and HTPVK were involved in an intervention when some Toposa community members briefly blocked the road to Boma early this month. A shot was fired while a CARE International vehicle was travelling from Boma to Kuron. Some food was taken from their vehicle. Other MSF vehicles were waiting at the Peace Village to also go to Boma. Mr. Lokii headed a team together with the chief from the area, for a meeting with the community after which the MSF team was able to return to Boma safely. The incident was in protest by the community of the abduction of two children from Nakumogo village. The children were never found.

A one-week workshop sponsored by PAX Nederland was held in Juba for Program Manager and Peace Dept. Manager.



PASTORAL

Mass and Sacraments have been administered in the village chapels by Fr. Henry Gidudu—Chaplain and Director for Kuron Peace Village. There is also Adoration every Saturday afternoon only in the Kuron Village main chapel.

Bishop Paride Taban, Founder of Kuron Peace Village baptized 18 (infants and adults) on Christmas Day at the main chapel. Additionally, Br. Francis has been working with several communities in preparation. Baptisms in the month of February were held in the village chapels of: Nabukuse 163 (infants and adults), Kangiriba 56 (infants and adults), Leroboi 23 (all infants).

A Bible sharing Group has begun in the Village with various staff and community members participating every Sunday afternoon.

Religious activities were held the first week of Lent for all staff and community members with presentations, Penance Service, Mass, and Stations of the Cross.



Repairing the Fence at Peace Village



Mass Celebration in Primary School



HEALTH CENTER

Out-Patient consults continue to be high. January had 322 adults and 154 under 5 years of age. Mostly what the staff are seeing is Malaria, Urinary Infection, and Upper Respiratory Tract Infections.

32% of the out-patient are men and it is difficult to keep them overnight, if so required, for the medication. Many times they will simply leave before completing the medications.

The Kalazar testing kits finally arrived and in late January there were two positive cases which were treated with the 17 day course. We have to keep the patients at the clinic to ensure they complete the entire course.

In the month of January there were 120 In-Patient visits. The average stay was 5 nights. That would be over 600 patient nights in one month. This is mostly to make sure people use their medication properly and finish the course. Normally, Toposa women prefer to give birth in the home but in January we saw 5 babies delivered. Among many children, there were two sets of twins brought in for check-ups and vaccinations. Another set of twins died in January due to burns suffered from a fire in the tukul.



PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHECK IT OUT: HTPVK STAFF interviewed by Journalist, Ms. Sam Mednick.

<https://www.devex.com/news/in-south-sudan-mobile-classes-improve-education-access-99095>

Twenty students (3 female) have taken the P8 exams. The exams were administered by the County, Ministry of Education. We now await the results which will take some time as the papers go to Juba for correction. After finishing the students returned home to their families while exam paper results are tabulated.

The teachers were given a Phonics Workshop during the last week of February by visiting professor Ms. Rebecca Mallinson.



Pre-test instructions and final words



Ready for the Primary 8 Final Exams

LIVELIHOODS



Distribution of Flood Emergency Food Supplements targeted toward elderly, disabled, widows and other vulnerable groups who suffered from the floods in September. The program was sponsored by CARITAS AUSTRIA.

Sorghum, beans, oil and salt will be distributed to about 250 households.



INFRASTRUCTURE



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Three bridge grates were recovered from below the damaged bridge buried in the sand in the river as the water level is low due to dry season.

Timbers tied with wire to bridge structure.

Engineers from NCA came to assess bridge. Norwegian Embassy through NCA will fund some of bridge reconstruction. Some funding has been found through other donations as well. We are waiting for the Engineers to come and begin the work.

Staff and community members were organized to start the collection of stones for the repair of the bridge. It was over 40 degrees most days so this was quite a sacrifice to be putting huge stones in the dumper. 150 tons of stones were transported to the bridge site so they are ready for gabions or whatever use they may be. The Toposa community recognize the importance of this bridge and are quite willing to contribute to the repair of the structure.



Collecting Stones for Bridge Repair

LOGISTICS



Bush Mechanics can perform miracles without any large equipment

All vehicles were serviced during the past several weeks. The problem is lack of spare parts and oil for some of the repairs. We are trying to minimize fuel consumption for work by doing preplanning for joint trips.

People going from Kuron Village to Boma were driving on the runway so barriers were placed on both ends to stop this practice. Road repair has been planned for this year, but for the moment the bridge is the priority for the Logistics Dept.

