

# The McClerkin Messenger

April 18, 2017

Dear Friends,

God has continued meeting us in the construction of Hope4Sudan's new church building. I'd say the process is now 95% complete, with just a couple of items left on our building agenda. Lord willing, our congregation will make the big move into the new church on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.



*In one of their rare "still" moments, team members pose for a photo.*

We were able to make good progress on the final touches of church construction when a team from the Appalachian Conference came here at the end of March. Team members worked tirelessly to paint, install window panes, and put in electrical wiring in the new church. They also did some repair work on the office ceiling at H4SS Primary School, put in a much-needed ceiling in the Hope4Sudan clinic, and built additional shelves in the clinic for storing medicines. While some were doing construction projects, those with medical experience organized themselves to work in the clinic and villages to treat over 500 patients.

The team joined together to take part in our village Sunday School, performing a drama for the children. And they were also eager and willing to share the Word of God with the local congregation in both Wednesday and Sunday services. One of my personal highlights from their time here was going with them to show the JESUS film in a village one night. Larry Meadors, the team leader, gave an altar call after the film, and several people came forward to ask questions and pray.

(Another highlight of mine was getting to drive team members across the river when the water was at door-level. Fun memory! ☺)

It's hard to believe how much was accomplished and what a huge impact this group of volunteers had during the course of a week. We're so grateful for their willingness to make the long and difficult journey to South Sudan in order to assist us in the ministry!

## Update from South Africa

Our time in South Africa has been refreshing thus far. The time spent with Latoya's family, as well as with old friends, has been a blessing. I'm happy to report that my dental work went very well. Ethan's eye appointment also went great (no concerns!), but he'll have to get an additional check-up this week concerning a reoccurring urinary tract infection. *Please pray with us that God will give the doctors wisdom to know how to help.*

If all goes as planned, we'll be leaving South Africa this coming Friday (April 21<sup>st</sup>). Latoya and Ethan will be returning to Kenya, where Latoya will be preparing for her upcoming graduation from East Africa Bible College in early May. I'll be flying back up to South Sudan, where I look forward to finishing up the church and moving the congregation in. To make that move even more exciting, we now have our first ever sound system with a keyboard! All the members, including me, are eager to begin using this new equipment in worship.

## Latoya's Recent Ministry Highlights

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, Latoya taught in the chapel service at East Africa Bible College. The Lord led her to speak to fellow students from Esther 4:16, focusing on the fact that God is *always* at work behind the scenes of our lives, just as He was at work behind the scenes of Esther's. Even in the most difficult and confusing seasons of life, we can be confident that the Lord will lead us in the right path for His name's sake (Ps. 23:3).



*Community outreach in S. Africa*



*Teaching in chapel at EABC*

After arriving in South Africa last week, God opened the door for Latoya to minister alongside her sister in a community outreach near where they grew up. They were able to share the Word with their people and to show God's love in a practical way by feeding the hungry.

For these and other opportunities, we're so grateful both to the Lord who opens doors and to the many prayer and financial supporters who make it possible for us to step through them!

We'd also like to express our *thanks to Life Spring Worship Center (Ponca City, OK)* for sending funds to purchase backpacks for sixty children at H4SS Primary School. Your

kindness and generosity in meeting this need is greatly appreciated!

### **Ethan's Corner**

Little Man loves social activities and has been having a blast participating in recent school events like Sports Day and the Easter parade. Mom (Latoya) and Aunt Phoebe (also attending EABC) had fun helping him make a candy-covered Easter hat for the parade (pictured on the right).



In Christ,  
**Greg, Latoya & Ethan**