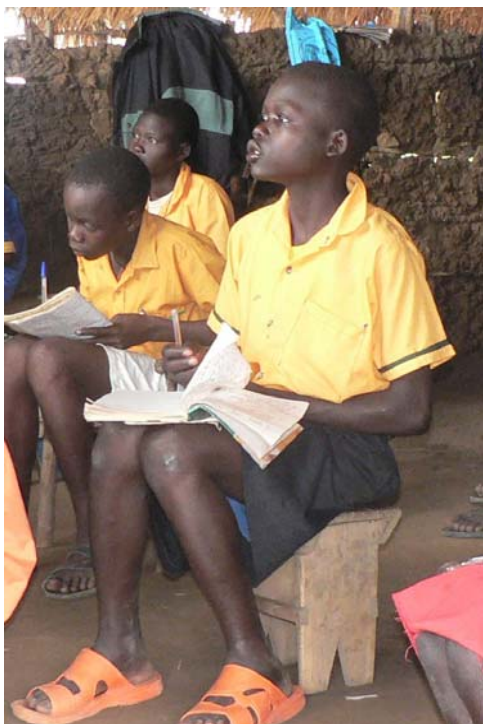


Sudan: New Hope for the Future



Boys and girls attend school in Sudan.
GBGM

Life during the South Sudan war in Theresa William Peter's memory is a series of no's. No school. No health service. No work. No money. No home. Theresa spoke from Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, where she fled from the violence that finally ended with a peace agreement in 2005.

When the raids and shooting neared her home in the South, Theresa had been attending school. She and her brothers came to Khartoum to sit out the war with a cousin. "When I heard the news of my parents' death, I felt very shocked and sad," she said. Her brother also died, leaving her alone. Her voice was soft. As she spoke her hand was often over her heart.

Eventually Theresa would like to return to her home in South Sudan. Today an \$800,000 US government grant to UMCOR, combined with \$200,000 from United Methodist gifts, is reopening long shuttered schools there.

Benefiting are children, especially girls, returning to Morobo and Yei counties, a region devastated by two decades of war. UMCOR is the humanitarian aid arm of the United Methodist Church in South Sudan and Darfur.

Better Access to Education

An important part of resettlement after so long a period of disturbance is the availability of quality education for the next generation. Of the 1.6 million school-aged children currently in Sudan, only 20 percent attend school. Of those 7 percent are girls.

Although UMCOR Sudan's program is focused on rehabilitating four specific schools, all 20 schools in the area will benefit. Community-wide aspects of the program include increasing awareness for the need for education, establishing Parent Teacher Associations, and providing teachers with further training.

The Whole Community Benefits

Most schools lack basic materials such as books and writing paper. In a holistic approach typical of all the agency's programs, UMCOR Sudan will help provide these supplies. Some will come from the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot, the United Methodist relief supply center.

UMCOR Sudan is also working with the communities to improve access to water and sanitation facilities at the schools to make them healthier places for learning. The communities themselves will participate in maintaining these facilities, giving them ownership of the project and responsibility for the upkeep of the schools once these facilities are in place.

How You Can Help

Your gifts to Sudan Emergency, UMCOR Advance #184385, can sustain people like Theresa William Peter, who want to return to their homes after a long absence. Please give today!

By Offering For local church and Annual Conference credit, put your gift in the offering plate on Sunday.

By Check Make your check to **UMCOR** and mail to UMCOR, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087

By Credit Card Call toll-free (800) 554-8583



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The United Methodist Committee on Relief delivers hope and enhances human dignity through food, shelter, health and peace projects.

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