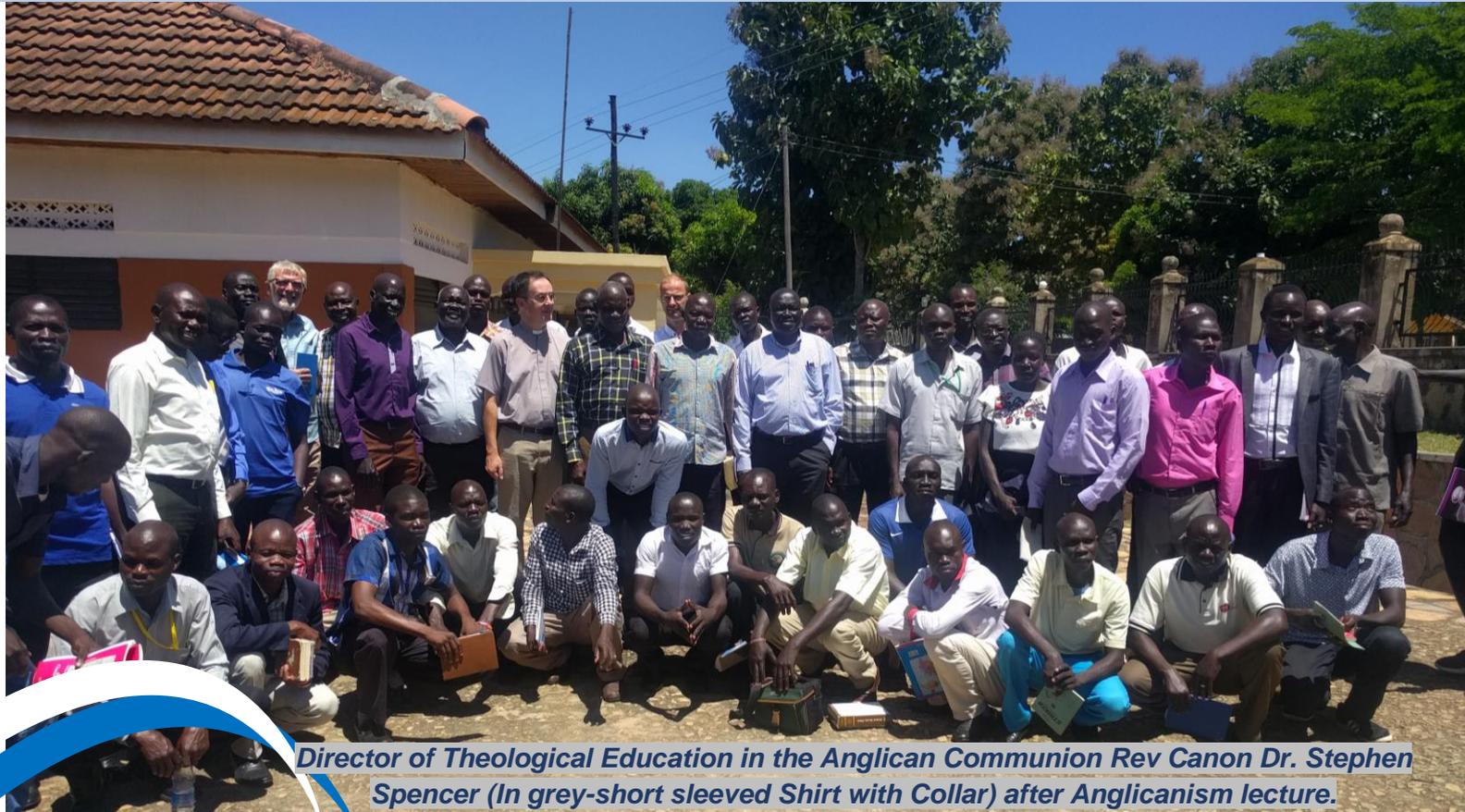


Voice of Hope

Newsletter of the Diocese of Kajo-Keji, South Sudan

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Director of Theological Education in the Anglican Communion Rev Canon Dr. Stephen Spencer (In grey-short sleeved Shirt with Collar) after Anglicanism lecture.

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The Voice of Hope Issue # 24 Dec 2018

Word from the Bishop

'Truth, Forgiveness and Reconciliation'

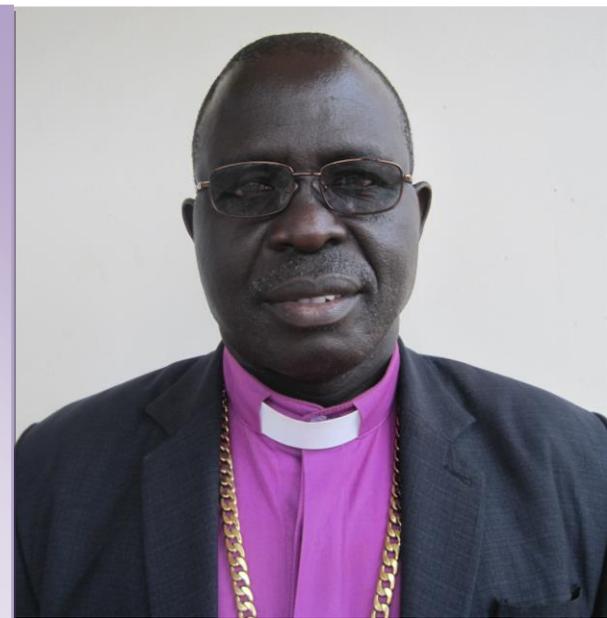
Rt Rev. Emmanuel Murye

A stable community and family have principles of forgiveness and reconciliation amongst its people, think about Rwanda, South Africa and in the bible, the examples could be Joseph, son of Jacob, (Genesis 50:19-21), Jesus forgave those who crucified him. He said "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing" (Lk 23:34). Stephen also had forgiven his perpetrators (Acts 7:54-59).

Having said this, I would like to challenge the South Sudanese to cultivate the spirit of truth, forgiveness and reconciliation. The truth of the matter is that many negative things have happened in our country including loss of many lives. The question is do we need to count all that we have lost? I would suggest that let us all forgive one another and be reconciled like Joseph and his brothers (Gen. 50:19,20). Let us start a new chapter, let us let the old go and begin to focus on the future of South Sudan.

The warring brothers (SPLA in Opposition and SPLA in Government) in Kajo-Keji took a strong move of reconciliation on Monday November 12, 2018.

This move has been appreciated by the people of Kajo-Keji and South Sudan in general. I witnessed, participated in reconciling, praying, and joining their hands as a sign of love, unity and solidarity of the people of South Sudan. This example of the SPLA – IO and SPLA – IG and NAS would be emulated by other warring parties who thought that the gun is the solution. There are people who beat the drum of war from thousands of miles, their children are in better schools as they promote war using our youth on the ground so that this generation dies without family foundation. This is the time that we should beat the drum of peace and reconciliation. Let us reconcile so that we become one body who can think and plan together, execute our plans together, and have just distribution of resources.



Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi

Message for Christmas from the Bishop

Fellow South Sudanese and friends of South Sudan, I urge you in this Christmas season to pray and act. God has reconciled us in Christ. We should hand South Sudan to Christ rather than to the powers of this cosmic world which brings division, hatred, and killing. Christ brings life in its fullness; he is the light of the world. The peace signed brings us great light, those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. Let the principles of our leadership whether in our families, Boma, Payam, County, State and the nation be controlled by Jesus the prince of peace.

May the Lord bless you in this Christmas season and focus on the new blessings that God is going to bless you with. If you are in Christ, new creation has come: the old thing has gone and new has come. All this is from God who has reconciled us to himself through Christ. He also gave us the Ministry of Reconciliation (2Cor. 5: 17, 18). Let us reconcile with one another and join hands to rebuild South Sudan, let us beat the drum of development but not the drum of war and let us learn to resolve our problem peacefully but not by the barrel of gun and let us not only talk about peace but also makers and talkers of peace.



**Joining of hands to represent reconciliation
12 November 2018 - Kajo-Keji, South Sudan**

Below:

**Key leaders in Kajo-Keji County join hands
for peace**



For the “Home team” Meet Our Diocesan Secretary



Rev. Capt. Jonathan Soro – Diocesan Secretary

Jonathan currently serves God as the “Admin head” of the Diocese, but his heart lies elsewhere. Originally a Primary School Teacher, his first calling was to work with Children and youth in the church. During the first exile, when he was youth leader in the Refugee settlements. He is a trained Church Army Captain from Carlile College in Kenya, followed by gaining a degree in Theology from Reformed Theological College in Uganda.

Working as Mission Co-ordinator with refugees, he initially resisted the call to be ordained, preferring to continue in the evangelistic role, but he felt he had to humbly accept the call, and was ordained in 2001. He continued to further his education – still concentrating on children and youth – and developed love of preaching, especially to young people. He was called to take on the role of Diocesan Secretary in 2013, much to his surprise! His dream is to pursue advanced academics in the area of children and youth work, and become an instructor and consultant in that field. He has recently returned from a visit organised by GZB in the Netherlands. He spoke generally about the situation in the camps and about the desperate situation of the children and youth.

For the “Away Team” – we focus on Brickworks

Brickworks is a charity run by John and Poppy Spens, who have had a long term relationship with Kajo-Keji.

In the Diocese, Rev Alex Aciga works as the Brickworks Co-ordinator, overseeing all its activities. As it is a charity which works for the education of the South Sudanese, it is Rev John Mono, the Education Co-ordinator for the Diocese, who monitors the schools “on the ground”.

In exile, Brickworks has funded four schools in the camps, all primary schools, in terms of semi-permanent structures, teacher incentives, and school supplies.

Brickworks also supports the training of 10 teachers on the in-Service course at Kajo-Keji Christian College. John and Poppy travel to the Diocese regularly to visit the schools.



**Rev. John Mono Joash – Diocesan
Education Coordinator**

College Page

Historic visit to Kajo-Keji Christian College



Students giving Dr. Stephen Spencer a very warm welcome.



Rev. Canon Dr Stephen speaking at the Anglicanism lecture at the College

Farewell to KCC, DKK and Moyo – John & Cathie Rutter

On Saturday December 8th, we leave Moyo to start our journey back to UK after spending four semesters (nearly 2 years) working as Partners in Mission with CMS at Kajo-Keji Christian College. We felt strongly God’s call on our lives to come to KCC. We arrived at a time when the Diocese and College had just relocated after their emergency evacuation from Romogi, South Sudan, and with all the inadequate facilities it was uncertain whether the College would survive. We are leaving at a time when the College, despite an ongoing struggle with facilities, is flourishing and growing. We are humbly grateful for the sense of God using us for His purposes, and see our time here as a “bridge” helping the College to move from a hard place to a better place. We are leaving with heavy hearts, but expectant that God will continue to bless and grow the College. Thank you EVERYONE!

“A friend in need is a friend indeed”, this is the most relevant description to Rev. Canon Dr Stephen Spencer’s visit to Kajo-Keji Christian College and Palorinya Refugee Settlement in Moyo District of Uganda. Uganda hosts thousands of South Sudanese refugees.

Dr Spencer, the Director of the Theological Education in the Anglican Communion, Lambeth, England promises to link Kajo-Keji Christian College to other colleges overseas as expected. That was the most exciting news to KCC on October 19, 2018. His lecture on Anglicanism was another great enlightenment and inspiration to Kajo-Keji Christian Community in exile.

In his Sunday sermon at Palorinya Refugee Settlement, Dr Spencer delivers comfort and hope for peace restoration in South Sudan. He re-echoes God’s message to the Israelites that he himself is the redeemer. “For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back”, God reassures the exiled Israelites as quoted from Isaiah 54:7. This message appears the same for the suffering South Sudanese in refuge.

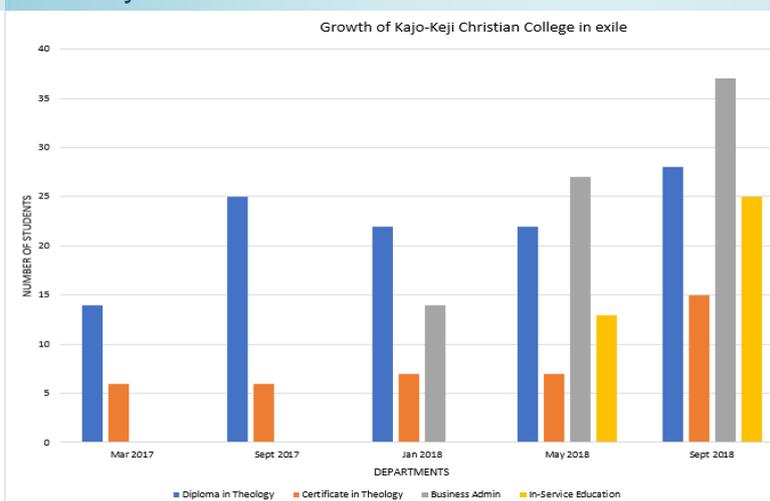


Chart indicates the progress of the college in exile

STORMS OF LIFE

Even amidst untold suffering of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda, those at Palorinya Refugee Settlements had to face another devastating storm in the Wednesday night of November 7th, this year. The devastating storm killed two persons with several others injured. The ill-fated storm blew off tents, uprooted giant trees and dismantled three church shelters in Belameling Zone I. Such storms of life call for ceaseless prayers, endurance and faithfulness.

SCHOOLS UNDER TREES

Rev John Mono



Candidate class in one of the under trees school

The 'schools under trees' programme have concluded with the academic year 2018 with a general increase in enrolment from 6,669 in 2017 to 9,047 pupils in 2018. 270 pupils sat for Primary Leaving Examination (PLE), through the supporting partners such as New Hope-USA, GZB Netherland, Brickworks UK, Anglican Aid Australia, CMSI the academic programme were able to be accomplished, school supplies, capacity building for the teachers, and parents representatives were done to enable them run the schools well.



Capacity building training for Head teachers and parent representatives

Out of the nine under trees primary schools, 270 pupils sat for Uganda Primary Leaving Examinations, 36 candidates in secondary school sat for Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) for ordinary level, result will be out early 2019.

I request all well-wishers to pray for the Education Department that funds will be found for 2019 academic year as some of its programmes are likely start in Kajo-Keji-South Sudan, yet the basic needs of education like infrastructure were vandalized – ***See pictures on the right***



Below image shows Rev Kaku Raida, currently studying her Diploma in Theology at Kajo-Keji Christian College, standing outside her collapsed church. Please continue to pray for the restoration of buildings, lives and hope.



The Vandalised Computer Lab and Library in Romogi Richard Earl High School

Radio: a powerful life transforming tool!

Emmanuel Victor Bahati – Radio programme producer and presenter.

Radio is a tool that works with Sound waves. Sound penetrates through room-walls and different kinds of objects without permission. Sound has no boundary apart from distance and certain few scientifically created things and methods. God created sound and planned communications to be made through it and to be received through a device he made without a shutter – the ear. Very interesting! Radio transmission goes beyond the presenter's scope of coverage. It penetrates through the walls of houses, palaces.



Many flocking forward for healing prayer after an altar-call session in an open-air preaching in the camps.

The radio ministry is making a great impact especially in the lives of the South Sudanese refugees in the settlements in northern Uganda, and in the communities living within the coverage of the 'Voice of the Nile (VON)' radio with which we are partnering. Messages of faith, hope, reconciliation, forgiveness, social, trauma and psychosocial healing are being communicated through this radio to meet the needy hearts of our listeners; the hopeless, the sick, the demon possessed, the traumatized and the wounded hearts.

Many listeners do call back during and after every broadcast, for prayer, counselling and advice; some listeners, in tears demand for our physical presence to go and listen to their problems. We have met and helped many of this kind.



Many committed their lives to Jesus after a sermon by the Diocesan Secretary at Morobi zone 3 refugees

After listening to one of our marriage and family programmes, Grace who had family problems, requested for our help. Julius and I, visited counseled and prayed with her and Grace, both of whom ended committing their lives to the Lordship of Christ Jesus. We do also get thrilling testimonies from the listeners. On the 25th of this month November 2018, Debora Yanta, a woman of Abirimajo village excitedly testified on air during our Bari programme of 9pm, how God, through the prayer we made on her daughter, Lili Sumbua who had been suffering from mental disorders, worked and healed her daughter. That, Sumbua is now in her right senses and has even given her life to Christ and is now a committed member of their local Church.



Demon possessed girl brought for deliverance

Communities filled with anxiety and with countless needs, made us not only studio or 'behind-the-mic' ministers of the Word, but also mobile servants within the people, for this was the calling we received. We do move to physically meet the troubled at their points of need right in their residences.

Pray with us to acquire transport means for the success of this ministry to see that lives are transformed to bring about individual peace of the mind, in the Refugee settlements.

Youth Discipleship Ministry

By Rev. Capt. Nyamara Moses Modi

youthleader@kajojeji.anglican.org

The youth and school ministry has been reaching out to the youth in Palorinya Refugee Settlement through discipleship activities. This has been effective as young people joined the church and accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and savior. A positive behaviour change has been seen in the lives of the disciples. A total of 421 youth received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour in the three conferences conducted.

Praise and Prayer points

We praise the Lord for:

- The peace initiatives on the ground in Kajo-Keji
- The work of the radio ministry
- Enabling the DS to visit the Netherlands
- The growth of the College

We pray to God for

- The Bishop's vehicle that needs funds for repair after accident on trip for Reconciliation – *Please see Picture below.*
- The Education Department and Brickworks to be able to reach out to children for schools in 2019
- Restoration in the Refugee Settlements after the storm damage
- The continued growth of the College



New Converts prayed for during the conference

In Zone 1 among the converts, Duesuk and his wife, both alcohol addicts, accepted Christ. And some of our team members visited their family and prayed with them. The challenge to this youth discipleship ministry is that we do not have copies of Bibles and discipleship materials which could be given to the young believers in this refugee Settlements to aid their spiritual growth.



Above: Bishop's vehicle knocked by a speeding vehicle in a convoy.

Below: Rev. Canon Townley meets pastors in the Refugee settlements.

News in Pictures

Below: During reconciliation in Kajo-Keji



Above: Rev. Canon Townley meeting with Pastors in the refugee settlements