

Hedd Thomas
Country Representative
hthomas@worldrenew.net

World Renew Canada
3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070 STN LCD 1
Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8
1-800-730-3490
Fax: 905-336-8344

World Renew US
1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
1-800-552-7972
Fax: 616-224-8060

worldrenew.net/southsudan
 @worldrenew_ssud

Tweets by @worldrenew_ssud

 **World Renew S. Sudan**
@worldrenew_ssud
South Sudan is bleeding again. Lord Jesus please bring your peace! #PrayMonday
worldrenew.net/republicofsouth...



  25 Jul

 **World Renew S. Sudan**
@worldrenew_ssud
We urgently ask you to pray for #SouthSudan. 200 people have been killed in clashes since Friday bbc.in/29yKK8a #PrayMonday

Yei for Christ A Story of Transformation



By Hedd Thomas
Country Representative
South Sudan Team

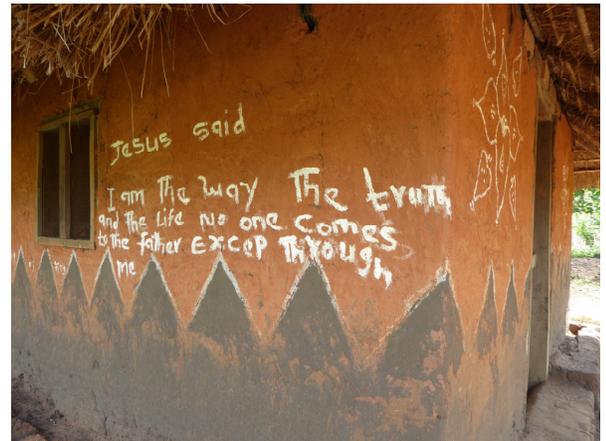
Painting a Bible verse on the side of the house, in large letters, is not something I have done at our family home. I might be afraid of what the neighbors say. It could attract criticism from the town council, or perhaps it's not allowed in our secular world unless I include a multi-faith message. Some people say that graffiti is an art form and perhaps we should promote Christian graffiti, or carve Bible verses onto our gates and door frames as people did in ancient times. Bold public displays of faith are now rare and to find some we have to look for ancient carved stones at some of our oldest churches, or a poster outside the church.

In the villages of South Sudan, conspicuous Christian graffiti is considered normal, good, and completely acceptable. This is not graffiti art, this is a family delivering a Christian message to all who pass by. I find this inspirational, a hugely refreshing sight in a difficult world.

South Sudan is now experiencing new waves of violence and slaughter, with rebels fighting the government, and all kinds of people running around with guns and grenades. The work of World Renew has been severely reduced for a short period, but we hope to get back to full speed in the coming weeks. As we live through yet another period of conflict, it's a wonderful blessing to remember that the people know who Jesus is; He is the Way, the Truth, and the Light.

There is positive development in a land from where you mostly hear bad news. Around Christmas 2015, a massive cross, about 30 feet high, was erected in the center of Yei town at the intersection near the main police station. It is truly massive, so big you can see it from many parts of the town. It's right there as you arrive on the main road from Juba. It has three simple words written on it: Yei for Christ. It's connected to the power supply so at night the words light up and reach out across the darkness.

In these dark days of civil war it's good to know that the people have a strong grasp on the truth. Our main hope now is that peace will return soon, and the prayers of the people will be answered.



God's light shines through, His words guide our way, and He is our hope and our strength.

Please pray with us for peace and for the safety of our staff and the farmers we work with. We have a grant for our agriculture work and a grant for the trauma healing project. But we will need your support for the recovery that is needed after the current conflict. Please pray with us, and if you can give we would be very thankful.

Prayers for South Sudan

Violent incidents in Juba on July 7th erupted into civil war as fighting began between tribal units within the military, escalating into a major battle lasting several days. The actual number of people killed by the fighting in June and July 2016 is not known but is estimated to be many thousands. Atrocities and attacks on expatriates occurred, and Juba airport was closed for a week. The country became crippled by a lack of transport, little or no fuel, no foreign currency, and the militarised control of every aspect of life. There was a mass exodus of foreigners from South Sudan during July. *Pray for restoration of normalcy.*

Life in Yei is good but slightly monkish due to the lack of entertainment, sports, or other amusements. Until May 2016 there were several expatriate friends, but as conditions deteriorated several projects were closed (Farm Project, War Child Holland, and others) and by July 2016 only a handful of friends remained. I have maintained my personal well-being thanks to cooking, reading, the satellite TV stations and Christian fellowship. *Pray for continued divine protection.*

Email, Skype and phone connections with my family are essential for maintaining family relationships and for exchanging news. The reduced hours of electricity have meant that taking care of the fridge has become very important to make sure it remains cold enough. The house is simple but still comfortable. *Pray that I find my sufficiency in Him.*