

## Ngath - Hope and Faith

As a teacher and principal I used to do an activity with students and parents called “Hopes and Dreams”. I would simply ask parents to record what they hoped and dreamed for their child someday. I would tell students to write about their hopes and dreams for their own future-- maybe a job they might want to pursue, a place they would like to travel to, an accomplishment they would like to attain. A few things were always crystal clear: all parents desire a better future for their kids and all kids come with big ideas for their future when they have exposure to big ideas.

Try to pretend for a minute that you were sitting in the Khor Wakow Village today conducting this “Hopes and Dreams” exercise with parents and children there. Imagine what a hope and dream there might be. It may look different in South Sudan, but make no mistake about it--every parent has hopes and dreams for their child. Every child has hopes and dreams for their own life.

Believe it or not, these parents and children are holding on to increased Ngath (hope and faith) for a brighter future in the midst of overwhelming and long-lasting adversity. Not just because of the recent peace agreement, but because of evidence they experienced before and during the war. The guest house we built in the village in 2013 to house staff and volunteers stands as a beacon to them. This structure is a reminder that they are not a forgotten people, and the fact that it is still standing gives them hope. They still drink clean water. Tree school has gone on in the Village during the war, and girls are still attending tree school. Can you feel it? Can you imagine the increased hope they have due to small gestures? I know they do, because I met people during the war who talked about these things.

This month, we sent our Field Liaison, Chuol Long to meet with Villagers and gather valuable input from them. If these parents are going to build a better future for their children, they must be intricately involved in the decisions. They must be genuine stakeholders. Do they want one big school with eight classrooms? Would it be better for them to have two smaller schools with four classrooms on each side of the river? Or, would they like several small schools (classrooms) up and down the river? Are they interested in having different tools to learn—such as a solar-powered indestructible computer stations called HELLO HUBS (*see article on page 2*) that they would be solely responsible for? We will find out what their commitment of resources as a community toward their children’s education will be. Since cows are the most valuable asset they have, what are they willing to commit toward their children’s education?

The Khor Wakow School Project is committed to come alongside this community to be a conduit for change. We simply provide tools that lead to opportunity. We connect them to training that empowers their lives. We bring a beacon of hope in small ways like clean water, corn grinders, and increased educational resources. We encourage their faith by simply putting in their hands solar-powered Bibles (Proclaimers). These simple loving acts increase the hopes, dreams, and faith of parents and children in a place that had nearly given up dreaming of a different future. Thank you for your prayers and faithful support that allow us to dream with them!

Ngath,

Brenda Hill - Khor Wakow School Project Program and Education Director

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## KWSP Field Update: Divine Connections Outside the Box

In light of the continuing conflict in South Sudan, the Khor Wakow School Project has evolved in many ways. One of those ways has been through the opportunity to network with other people and organizations to accomplish more. Last November we teamed with the United Nations (UN) to deliver 2600 tons of food directly to the Village. Additionally, we have recently encountered an organization that is planning to work in an area midway between our village and the nearest town of Nasir. They are making plans to build a church, seminary and a feeding center. Having relationships with other people and organizations leads to incredible blessings and, probably more importantly, develops our thinking “outside the box”.

One of these encounters has triggered a discussion exploring ways to utilize technology to bring education in a surprising way. HELLO HUBS are outdoor kiosks with touch-screen computers and keyboards built into the walls. The purpose of the hubs is to give everyone in a community an opportunity to educate themselves, to communicate with others, and to be part of the global online community.

The HELLO HUBS organization would design accessible educational materials for our Villagers to access. They would send a team into the region for a month to work with community members in all aspects of building, maintaining, and supporting the Hubs. The team would work with all members of the community to introduce them to the Internet and guide them to determine how they will oversee the usage of the kiosks.

We just recently sent our field liaison to discuss this option with the community. The Hello Hubs organization would require us to purchase five (5) hubs. If the community and our organization were to determine that the Hubs were beneficial, having five hubs would be ideal for the Khor Wakow Villages that are all along the river. Once one community was trained about the Hub, they would teach the next Village and so on.

The Khor Wakow Board of Directors see the HELLO HUBS as a supplemental aspect to learn and enhance the education system that would provide access to everyone in the Khor Wakow Villages. Imagine you or your children here in the United States engaging in conversation directly with people in Duniyal Village. Imagine teachers in Duniyal having access to thousands of lesson plans to teach to the children. Imagine a mother and father in Khor Wakow sitting with their children at a computer learning to read along with them.

We want you to know more about the Hello Hubs in the event that this endeavor becomes a reality. Please pray with and for us in regard to this decision, the timing of it, and how you or your organizations or churches might consider undertaking the cost of a HELLO HUB.

### Details about HELLO HUBS:

It is a stand-alone structure, accessible from all sides. The central structure is square or rectangular in shape, and covered by an overhanging roof to reduce weather and sun-glare during use. The roof serves as a mounting platform for solar panels that provide power to the Hub. The two opposing short sides each contain a computer terminal. Set-back from each terminal is a bench that can seat four users.

One long side contains access to the HELLO HUB systems and control components, and the other long side contains an electronic workbench and charging shelf.



## Khor Wakow School Project

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### KWSP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Jal, Founder & Executive  
Director

Kaia Kloster, Chair

Barry Termaat, Chair Elect

Ben Jacobs, Secretary

Daniel Hirschman, Treasurer

Several displaced students recently received educational resources to be used in preparation of national exams.



## Letter from David and Janeane Jal

November 2015

On behalf of the Khor Wakow School Project Board, volunteers, and staff, thank you for the support you provide for the children of South Sudan. Your generous donations enabled South Sudanese children to attend “tree classes” and drink clean water even in the midst of a war. These gifts are tangible reminders to the people in South Sudan, and to those here of your love and support.

As you know, the war broke out in December of 2013, right before we could start building the school for children in Donyal Village. Nearly 2.5 million people have been displaced from their homes in South Sudan and forced to seek safety in the neighboring countries in East Africa. What you might not realize is that 80 percent of all refugee camps and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are children. In November 2014 when our team was in route to the border of South Sudan we witnessed this firsthand. All the way from Tharpam (Kule) refugee camp in Ethiopia to the border of South Sudan the roads were filled with children walking.

God has been making a way even in the midst of these circumstances for our organization to move forward in a manner that will have a great impact on the children who return to Khor Wakow. In the midst of this war, God has allowed us to prepare for sweeping agricultural improvements within the community through training—made possible by you. God has also guided our steps in engaging the community in more dialogue and commitment to their educational plans when the children return. The dialogue and commitment will not only impact the children, but will empower every voice in the community and develop a stronger sense of ownership and stewardship of the things to come.

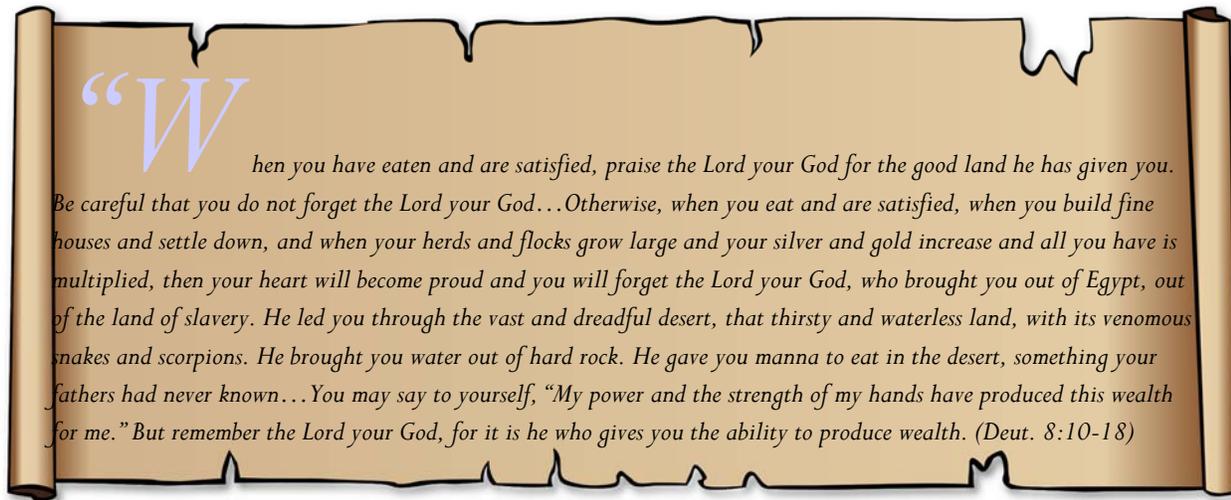
In August, I began hearing encouraging news regarding possible sustainable peace coming back to South Sudan. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attended a Peace Briefing in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where the first vice president of South Sudan spoke of the current peace treaty signed in the country. There were over 25,000 South Sudanese and friends in attendance. Every tribe from South Sudan was represented. The goal was to participate in reconciliation as part of the opening ceremony. My hope was reignited as we were encouraged to speak peace instead of hate among all the 64 tribes of South Sudan.

I ask that you please accept this message as a small token of Janeane and my infinite gratitude for your generosity and continued support of the Khor Wakow School Project. **Please join us in asking God to bring lasting peace for the people of South Sudan this year.** Together we are forging new roads for the children of South Sudan to walk on—roads filled with a bright future through Christ-centered education, improved provision through agriculture, and increased *community* involvement and development.

In Christ’s love,

David and Janeane Jal

## Whose Money is it Anyway?



*What do you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving?* I hope that it is much. Here in America, it is more than likely that it is much. For so many, for so long, we have been able to eat and be satisfied...to build fine houses...our ‘silver and gold’ has increased. And what a blessing that is. However, all too often, we don’t necessarily see it as a blessing. Just like the Israelites, we can all too quickly assume that it is from our own hard work, our own ingenuity, our own doing. How quickly we forget the Lord our God... from whom all blessings flow...*“for it is he who gives [us] the ability to produce wealth.”* While we may feel *entitled* to all these wonderful things, we must remember that we have actually been *entrusted* with these things. We are stewards of God’s kingdom and we have been commanded to care for the orphan and the widow, to feed the hungry, to clothe the poor. In Acts, we read how the early church *“sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need”*.

*Whose money is it anyway?* Second Corinthians 9:11 reminds us of why God has blessed us, *“...you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God”*. In this season of thanksgiving, let’s not take for granted our many blessings. Your generous gift will help us care for the orphan and the widow, to feed the hungry, to clothe the poor. We will take your gifts to those who need them...and they will thank God!

*Kaia Kloster, Khor Wakow School Project Board Chair*

### Mission Trip- Early 2016

Would you commit to praying for the 2016 Khor Wakow School Project mission trip? We know as families return to the Villages in the coming months, there will be critical needs in the community, especially medically. We are desiring to go directly to the Villages in early 2016 and bring a medical team and medical supplies with us, along with new corn grinders and replacement parts for the old ones.

If you are a physician, nurse or other medically trained professional or know of someone who is so trained that might be interested in going with us, we would love to hear from you.

If you would like to support this trip financially or provide any of the supplies that we will bring, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact one of our team members: (605) 261-2972 or [bkhill4him@gmail.com](mailto:bkhill4him@gmail.com).

#### Needs for Missions Trip:

- ⇒ Prayer Team
- ⇒ Medical Professionals
- ⇒ Medical Supplies
- ⇒ Corn Grinders & Replacement Parts for Existing Corn Grinders

# Khor Wakow School Project Is Online!

Connect with us on Social Media for Project updates, news from South Sudan and articles about global education! **We LOVE to hear from our supporters, so drop us a message!**

Follow Us on Twitter: @KhorWakowSchool



Like Us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/KhorWakowSchoolProject](http://www.facebook.com/KhorWakowSchoolProject)

Check out the website: [www.khorwakowschoolproject.org](http://www.khorwakowschoolproject.org)



## Donation form

I would like to give a gift to Khor Wakow School Project! Please find enclosed my donation that will increase the faith and hope of children and families in the Khor Wakow region of South Sudan. Or, give your gift securely online via Pay Pal on our website: [www.khorwakowschoolproject.org](http://www.khorwakowschoolproject.org)

I would like to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the ongoing work of Khor Wakow School Project.

I would like to sponsor a Bible Proclaimer or replace Corn Grinder Parts (Cost: \$100.00)

I would like to sponsor medical needs for the upcoming trip with my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to sponsor an eye glass kit for the upcoming trip. (Cost: \$400.00)

I would like to sponsor a new corn grinder (Cost: \$750.00)

I would like someone to contact me for David to come to a service organization, church, or a community event so that more people can learn about the Khor Wakow School Project.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_