



CWR UPDATE

A Church in Exile Proclaiming Hope Through Peacemaking

Rev. Mathew Jock Moses was born into the violence of civil war in South Sudan and has lived most of his life as a refugee. At age 41, Mathew now serves as the President of the 30,000 member Evangelical Covenant Church of South Sudan and Ethiopia (ECCSSE). Mathew's wife and six children live in a refugee camp, more than 100 miles from where he leads the ECCSSE with his colleagues, most of whom are also refugees. The ECCSSE was started as a church in exile in 1996 in the refugee camps of Ethiopia. After the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005, many of the refugees returned to their homeland. The Republic of South Sudan gained its independence in 2011, but when civil war broke out in 2013, many had to flee the country and the ECCSSE once again became a church in exile. Today there are more

than 130 ECCSSE congregations located in refugee camps.

Mathew and his co-workers in the ECCSSE have a heart for the more than two million South Sudanese refugees, most of whom are living in refugee camps in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. Covenant World Relief has the privilege of partnering with the ECCSSE as they care for vulnerable and orphan refugee children and for refugee widows. Programs include education, medical care, micro loans, agriculture, vocational training, and counseling. In addition, although the ECCSSE is largely a Nuer tribe church, they



Pastor Mathew (right) leads the CWR funded Vulnerable and Orphan Children Program.

have been peacemakers who bring together representatives of the many tribes in conflict to promote peace, reconciliation, and healing. Please pray for Mathew and the ECCSSE as they work under very difficult circumstances announcing the good news of the Kingdom in word and deed. Thanks to ECC churches and individuals who give generously to CWR so that this vital work can continue.



CWR Partnerships are Growing!

This means we need to raise additional funds to support the increasing number of transformational community development and disaster relief programs around the world. Please consider becoming a monthly donor through the enclosed card. Thank you!

Your gift today can empower women around the world who are learning new job skills such as tailoring and culinary arts to support their families. Many of the women join small savings groups that encourage larger community development in Mexico (photo), DR Congo, Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa, and India. Women are being transformed and becoming agents of change in their communities.

Project Blue Continues



Children in Dufour, Haiti, now have access to clean water.

previously had working water systems, but after Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016 the water access points were filled in with debris and sand, making them unusable and

contaminated. Three of the four new water systems use a solar powered pump, which is the most reliable and environmentally-friendly method for electricity in remote areas of Haiti.

The new water system in Lexi will reach a community of 900 people who previously had to walk two miles to the nearest common water source. Often the previous source was overcrowded, and at times women would

Thanks to continued support of Project Blue, a new community water system will be completed this spring in Lexi, Haiti. This will be the fourth community water system in Haiti funded through Project Blue. The Haiti Christian Development Fund (HCDF) leaders identified six of the most vulnerable villages in the Fond-des-Blancs area that had little or no access to clean water. Some of these villages



have to walk home with empty jars, unable to secure the water needed for their families. Currently, the children in Lexi are susceptible to various water borne illnesses. When the new system is completed, one of the distribution points will be located at the local school so that children will have clean water throughout the day. The entire community will be able to access the water after school hours. They will pay a small fee to help maintain the system.

Thank you for your continued support of Project Blue! You are truly making a difference in lives around the world.

Learn more about Clean Water at CovChurch.org/projectblue.

Yemen: Largest Cholera Outbreak in History

Yemen is experiencing one of the world's largest and most complex humanitarian catastrophes. Ongoing conflict has resulted in widespread loss of life, destruction of infrastructure, and increased food and water scarcity. Almost the entire population—22.2 million people—are in need of humanitarian assistance. Among the many needs Yemen faces, one of the most desperate is health needs. Communities are forced to drink from unclean water supplies and unprotected wells, which significantly increases the risk of life-threatening illnesses, especially among children. The ongoing cholera epidemic is worsening, as well as the threat of famine. There are more than 1 million suspected cases of cholera and acute watery diarrhea

(AWD), and the recent spread of diphtheria is another grave concern. People are dying from chronic and preventable diseases.

Covenant World Relief partner, World Relief, is working to provide communities with emergency drinking water and improved water infrastructure through rainwater collection cisterns construction and rehabilitation, hygiene education (a key cholera prevention activity), distributing hygiene packages, and restoration of household level sanitation



systems. These activities are being done among highly vulnerable communities. To support continued relief efforts, visit CovChurch.org/cwr/give and direct your gift to disaster response.

Update written by World Relief.