

Rev. Joseph and Mrs Karin Ayok-Loewenberg

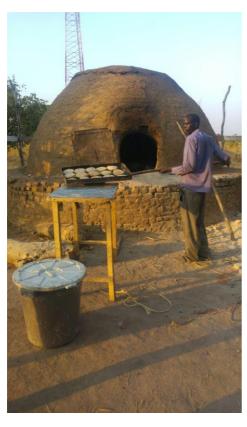
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Dear Friends

Here it is: our bread oven! Our children are baking their own bread which they enjoy along with their daily meal. More than ever this daily meal which includes meat is vital for the girls. You might have read about the food crisis in South Sudan. The FAO states that "almost a quarter of the population is in need of food assistance. This is worrying because it is the post-harvest seaon, a time when the country is traditionally most food secure. It is not only areas directly affected by conflict that are food insecure, some 200,000 people in Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Warrap states have also seen their access to food deteriorate, owing to factors such as price inflation and market disruptions that are tied to the conflict," said Serge Tissot, Acting FAO Representative in South Sudan. "Prompt implementation of the peace agreement is absolutely critical to improving the food situation."

http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/storiesdetail/en/c/382544/

Our school community is in Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal. Also, income for the country from oil money has effectively ceased. The drop in oil price means a barrel fetches only \$20 and this goes to Sudan for the right of transit through its pipes up North to Port Sudan where the oil is exported.

Food prices have risen by a factor of more than 3 over recent months. For example, a cow used to cost £ 700 – 850, now £ 2400 - 2800. Or a goat was around £ 85, now £ 170 - 240.

We are asking if you were able to help with a donation or standing order towards our increased food costs for the children and staff? As you see on our donation form, it will be earmarked for food costs.

http://www.undertreeschools.org/support-us.html

Or you might have an innovative fundraising idea? Look also at our "organise an event" page for small and bigger fundraising ideas:

http://www.undertreeschools.org/organise-an-event.html

450 girls including 31 in the nursery have started in the new school year this month. We have managed to get material to make the school uniforms in Juba, this is a lot cheaper than getting them from Kenya or Uganda and provides employment in South Sudan.

Tearfund has produced a great prayer resource which can be accessed for free:

http://www.tearfund.org/~/media/Files/Main%20Site/Praye r/SouthSudan/SS%20PRAYER%20FOCUS.pdf

As always, we are so grateful for your prayerful and practical support.

With our warm wishes Joseph and Karin Ayok-Loewenberg

