



December 2020

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Africa Sunrise Communities! As we approach the end of the year 2020, we are thanking God for you, our friends and supporters, who have helped us to make this year a memorable one. Rising Hope Christian Center is indeed rising up in Bor, South Sudan, as the building of the perimeter wall nears completion.

Over the past year, we have completed Phase I and Phase II of the wall project. Building is now at a lull as we wait for the rainy season to come to an end. After the first of the year, when the rains have retreated, we will be able to start building again, finishing the wall with Phase III.

This wall is an essential component of the security needed for the Rising Hope Christian Center. The wall will protect the school children and the Center itself when it is completed. Phase I saw the foundation being laid and in Phase II the pillars were completed. Phase III will finish the wall and add the gate. It will look much like the wall pictured here.

Right now, as the picture below shows, the pillars are up and the blocks must be laid. **As the biblical Nehemiah called for people to help fill the gaps and to build the wall around Jerusalem, so we are asking you to help us to complete this wall for the Rising Hope Christian Center.**



Our land became a refuge for flood victims in Bor in October. Our land is situated high enough so as not to be engulfed in the floods caused by the heavy rains and the nearby Nile River overflowing its banks. The waters also broke through the dikes that are supposed to protect the city. All of this caused untold misery for thousands of inhabitants of Bor, as their homes and crops were destroyed. Many camped out on the Rising Hope land for a

while. Our staff was happy to welcome them there. Because of your gifts, we were able to buy grain for many refugee families.

As the Rising Hope Christian Center compound gave refuge to many displaced by the recent floods, so the Center and the Akechkuai School that will be built there will also be a place of refuge. It will give young boys and girls a safe and secure Christian environment in which to learn. Because of so much armed conflict that has taken place within my young country, the great majority of the South Sudanese people do not have an education. If we are to grow and develop as a functioning society, we must raise up our own leaders and we will do that through education. As you know, it is my dream to help bring education and peacemaking to South Sudan, and I am going to begin by building this elementary school. The wall is merely the first step in doing so.

We also need your support for our umbrella organization, Africa Sunrise Communities. It takes a great deal of funding to run the organization, including salaries and related expenses, in both the U.S. and South Sudan. We need your help. **Your year-end gift will help us to continue our work both in the U.S. and in Africa.**

Will you support Africa Sunrise Communities? You can do this by going to our website, www.Africasunrise.org or by mailing a check to PO Box 82, Wilmore, Kentucky 40390. You can designate your gift for either/both ASC Operations or Rising Hope Christian Center.

I am so grateful to you for your help in getting the project this far. Can I count on you to help me take it to completion? Nehemiah of old rebuilt the wall of his beloved Jerusalem, and I, who have taken Nehemiah as my role model for my work in South Sudan, am asking you to “stand in the gap” with me to finish the wall of Rising Hope Christian Center in my beloved hometown of Bor. Together we can work toward bringing the good news of Jesus, high-quality education, and “rising hope” to my people.

Your partner in ministry for Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacob Guot', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jacob Guot, Executive Director
Africa Sunrise Communities