

Serving in Sudan

AUGUST, 2003

First Water Pump Gives “Cup of Cold Water”

Praise God! Thanks to your prayers and financial support, in combination with American, Canadian, German and Sudanese volunteers, Servant's Heart successfully installed the first ever water well and water pump in Daga, Eastern Upper Nile.

As we told you earlier this year, access to clean water is critical to the ongoing health and well-being of the people living in this region. Many of the deadliest diseases in this region are caused by filthy water.

In early March, a team led by Servant's Heart Country Manager Deng Leek began hand digging this well next to the new Daga Primary School. Often the temperatures reached over 115 degrees. Hitting many large rocks, and removing all the debris by hand made the digging very slow and difficult.

In May, a second team led by Pastor Randy Cordle from Christian Life Fellowship Church in Plummer, Idaho helped finish the digging and set the foundation for the pump.

In late June Dr. Hartmut Schaack, a retired German water engineer, led a third team to complete and install the pump. Dr. Schaack also surveyed the ground water supply, finding that where God led us to dig was one of the very few locations in the entire village region where we could have reached water by hand digging.

Praise God for His guidance and blessing throughout this project. We expressed our thankfulness and rejoicing by inscribing “Praise Jesus” in both the Nuer and Buldeet languages on the pump foundation.

Thanks to our success in this well, we have been asked to provide desperately needed water wells in other villages throughout Eastern Upper Nile. Our next challenge is to dig six wells in the Bowac and Bugiya region, located almost 100 miles north of Daga, because there are nearly 40,000 Mabaan Christians with no access to clean water. Please pray for success as hand digging through the rocky soil in that region has just begun.



Hand Dug Well Before “Capped”



“Clean” Water Before Well



The mission of Servant's Heart is to serve the Church and its neighbors in restricted access regions of the world by:

- 1) Providing means of equipping local churches to fulfill the Great Commission;
- 2) Establishing educational opportunities;
- 3) Facilitating primary medical care;
- 4) Assisting health and physical needs through agriculture, water & sanitation and infrastructure development programs;
- 5) Speaking on their behalf worldwide.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me"... "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25: 35-6, 40

We're on the Web!
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Dear Friends:

Thank you for your continued prayers and partnership. Together we are making an incredible difference in this region—both physically and spiritually.

God continues to increase the challenges He is giving us, and yet continues to provide the means to meet those challenges, through your prayers and support. The water situation described here is only one of the many needs we face. Here are a few more praise & prayer items we would like to pass along to you, our partners:

* Praise for the continued growth of the churches in Eastern Upper Nile. Pray for the Nuer and Mabaan Evangelists who are beginning work among the neighboring Koma tribe this rainy season.

* Praise for the ongoing success of the Daga Primary School, now with over 250 students from five different tribes. Pray for new schools to be started this fall in Bowac, Bugiya and Wudeir, with more than 1500 combined students asking to be enrolled.

* Pray for the 6 new water wells under construction in Bowac and Bugiya, and for funds to install the caps and water pumps.

May God richly bless you! *Dennis Bennett*



Overnight Stay in a Nuer Cattle Camp

Precious Water

As many of you know, the people in Eastern Upper Nile live on a very primitive level. Here you see the Nuer tribe cattle camp where we spent one night. The scene may not look very unusual until you learn that the water and mud in which the cattle are standing is the same water the people drink. No wonder the people suffer from dysentery, giardia, and other digestive tract infections.

We should not be surprised that many people become sick and actually die for lack of clean water.

Of course babies and new mothers are especially vulnerable. This point was driven home to us when we had four mothers from this village each walk more than 8 hours one direction to be treated by our doctors for acute malnutrition and dehydration. The mother either drinks the water and gets

diarrhea, or refuses to drink enough water. Either way, she becomes dehydrated, her breast milk dries up and the baby ultimately dies.

You can imagine how frustrating it is for our doctors to give medicine for intestinal tract disorders, knowing that the when the patients take the medicine with this filthy water they are re-infecting themselves.