



Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2024-04-30

@TORIT, SOUTH SUDAN

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Missionary / Theological Educator



"With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa's peoples."

My **DEAR** Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

Thanks to all your prayers, I've landed safely in Torit, South Sudan (SSD) on March 22nd as planned. However, my excitement was quickly burnt out by the 42°C heat ☀️ from the blazing sun, and by the overwhelming amount of suffering & brokenness in the country. For the first 3 weeks, I got to sleep overnight at six different places (including an outdoor tent 🏕️) as I was traveling & attending various affairs. Only until the 4th week, I was able to really settle into a slightly more permanent place, and reflect on what is going on around me... Now, as I sit down & look back over the past 5 weeks or so, I guess the first thing I want to thank God for is the fact that I have not been sick at all. 😊 Ha! Secondly, since I came back, I have sent out 3 special requests to my supporters by emails already, and they've all been met by the very next day. For that I'm extremely grateful. Another thing I've observed (but shouldn't be surprised at all) is the reality that missionaries do come & go. In fact, when I arrived on the first very day, I was welcomed by a group of AIM missionaries who I've never met during my Inbound Team! For a moment I thought maybe I've entered a parallel universe 🌀 (sorry to all those non-Marvel fans out there!). Nonetheless, this sense of being in one big, loving family of Christ is still ever the same... And, FYI, the Torit town hasn't changed much either since last July, except the RoE for USD:SSP has literally x2 due to the hyper-inflation! 📈 Well, I'm just glad that doing some farm works, talking to the locals, eating at Ama-Allu (my favorite restaurant in town), and fixing the same old radio transmitter have indeed helped me find some regularities as I fit in on the ground here again! 😊

Arrived in SSD Toward the End of an Extended, Super-Hot Dry Season



Reading Bible with Flash Light during Evening Hours of AIC Conference in Obbo

My Little Place To Call "Home" For The Next 8 Months or So



"Huston, We Have a Problem... Again!"



what's NEXT

From May 13th to 17th, I'll participate in another Refresher course for the AIC ministry leaders in Torit. From the 20th to 27th, I'll be in Lopit, and learn from Robert & Carol, our missionaries from Kenya, about how they carry out TEE programs in the village setting. After that, I plan to travel across the Ugandan border to a SSD refugee camps in Adjumani, 🏕️ and visit Dr. Fader, who is a also Theological Educator & has been doing very well in delivering TEE certificate programs among the local churches there. In the middle of May, Ron & Brenda will return to Torit for another short-term, medical mission. In June, Ray & Jill, who had worked with AIC & TEE in SSD for many years before, will also stop by to visit us... *How exciting!* 😊

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

On March 28th, our team in Torit shared a Seder meal together, as part of our observation for the Easter, which was very interesting indeed. On that Sunday, we had a simple Sun-raise service ☀️ by the airstrip, and I was given the task to do a little bit of sharing. But before that, I decided to play a little imaginative exercise, where I encouraged everyone to share how they'd envision Jesus during the 40 days after His resurrection, and I have to say I felt quite blessed by the various perspectives that people had shared. 🙏



John 20:21-23

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Please pray for my continuous learning of languages, cultures, and church relationships. Also, pray for the clarification of my new role in the unit, and for my adaptation to the new team environment & leadership. Please pray for my safety & the weather during my travel to the Lopit mountain area 🏔️ and to the SSD refugee camp(s) across the Ugandan borders. Moreover, pray that God will give me the wisdom & strength as I try to maintain a healthier life style in SSD & find time to handle other on-going issues in the local community, including the GRACE 90.5 FM radio station & the prison ministry. Thank you! 😊

PLEASE PRAY FOR US



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To receive regular updates on my mission, please email me at: jeffrey.wu@aimint.org.

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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



NO STORM CAN STOP US

My first trip after landed in SSD was to participate in an AIC conference in Obbo with Jordan. It was a bit confusing for me because it was conducted in both Juba Arabic & the local Acholi language. During the first afternoon, there was a quick storm 🌧️ and 3/4 of the meeting tents were destroyed, but that did not seem to quench their desire for God's words as the event continued to go on. In fact, the youth group kept on dancing & worshiping throughout the rain. The program extended into night time as well, despite the lack of proper illumination. It was really inspiring to see many local brothers & sisters holding up their flash lights, reading their Bible, and taking notes under such non-ideal conditions. 📖📝

PLANTING CHURCH IN A NEW SOIL

When planting churches on a new soil, it is inevitable to see them struggling through the same questions & problems 🤔 that the Bible already talks about & what the Western churches have already been through over the past 16 centuries. We may offer our experience & understanding, but ultimately the local churches still need to learn the lessons and find contextualized solutions for themselves. It will take time, sacrifice, wisdom, and perseverance. Sometimes, the best thing we can do, is not to criticize but to offer our humility, to patiently walk with them every step of the way, and to help them get up on their feet again if they ever stumble and fall — just like what our Lord Jesus has always been doing for each one of us ❤️



"YOU WILL PAY A COW"

When I came back to SSD this time, I brought a mini-projector along with me, and over this past month I had shared a couple of movie nights with my compound family. 📺 It is definitely interesting to see their perspectives and reactions on certain things. For instance, the teenage girls would giggle when they see the male actor in the film cries. Yet, the funniest moment so far is this: During one of the kissing scenes, the father of my compound family (Rev. Zakarias) warned his teenage boys that "If you do this in South Sudan, you will pay a cow!" 🐮 ... I just love how practical and straight-forward the parental guidance here can be sometimes! 🤔

WE WILL MISS Y'ALL!

In early April, we said goodbyes to Philip & Linda, our former Unit Leader (UL) from many years ago. They came back to serve for 9 months as our acting UL while our new UL went on her Home Assignment. And then on the 25th, we bid farewell to Dr. Beckham & his family, who were here on a short-term mission as well... I have to admit: having little kids and babies hanging around as part of our unit is always a blessing and joy, but at the same time that is also what makes it harder when we have to say goodbye to them... Well, we will sure miss y'all, kiddos! 😊 Pray that, wherever life may take you in the next phase of your journey, you will continue to grow taller and bigger in person just as you will also grow stronger in faith and spirit! ❤️



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李東略、伍納貞2024年4月代禱信 里約華傳基督教會Niteroi堂

親愛的牧長與弟兄姊妹、主內平安：

時光飛逝，轉眼新一年已踏入四月，最近巴西流感與登革熱嚴重，然而感謝您們禱告記念，讓我們得蒙主看顧仍然有體健與平安，繼續為主奔跑、每天都是活在主的恩典下！

人事變動

3月陳偉泉牧師退休離开工場，牧者的離開，我們夫婦作為里約兩教會(Niteroi和Nova Iguacu)唯一的傳道人，肩負著牧養與領導的重職，現仍需每主日奔走兩教會作講道、司琴等服事。兩地肢體靈命不同，牧養需因地制宜，求主賜力我們多關懷肢體需要，讓講台信息更貼近會眾生活，以致能餵養他們靈命所需。

感恩神興起新本地同工俊傑弟兄夫婦，但目前他們剛開始接受神學裝備和投身事奉，求主堅固他們事奉的心志。教會執事也努力同心事奉管理行政事宜，求主恩待帶領兩教會未來的發展。

短宣事工

4月中開始至下半年，陸續將有短宣到訪，過去兩個月期間，不斷與各短宣隊開會商討具體事工安排。感謝主恩典，差遣短宣前來協助我們發展事工，今年我們將會調整短宣服事的模式，以更好適應宣教的變化。



牧者退休，新舊同工交替



个人方面 租屋一事尚未落實，因我們一些的證件不合房產中介要求，需再辦理，唯有繼續等候與尋找，求主預備合適的房屋，深信主知我們的需要，願按祂的美意等候安排！

3月中華傳加辦主任李傳頌牧師到訪，接待家中小住幾天一起探討事工，李牧師坦誠分享他的宣教經驗作鼓勵，給予我們一些很好事工提議，我們共識到兒童方面不容忽視。過去面臨事工缺乏進展灰心，現需調整事工策略；過去將所有事情設想得太完美，現需學習對人對事放下某些執著，安靜等候神的時間，相信祂帶領。



兒童事工是一大挑戰



李傳頌牧師、師母到訪

代禱事項：

- 1.請為4至6月期間來里約的短宣隊代禱，求主保守一切預備的事宜，行程平安，求主使用他們手所做的工，都能成為更多人的祝福。
- 2.請記念我們在兩地教會與同工的配搭服事，求主在人心中掌權，降服聖靈的帶領，同心共建教會和拓展事工。
- 3.懇請繼續為我們租屋一事代禱，求主預備！
- 4.請記念我們的事奉：事奉模式的改變、人事的變動、權責的改變，求主賜有屬天的智慧及恩典去面對事奉所有挑戰！

**在主愛裡也為您們禱告，彼此關懷、問候與代禱！
願恩惠平安，從神我們的父，並主耶穌基督歸與你們！**

您的宣教士家庭：
東略、納貞、泳霖
2024.4.13



Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Re: Another Special Prayer Request

1 message

Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
To: "Wu, Jeffrey" <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Cc: "Jeffrey T. Wu" <jeffreytwu@gmail.com>

Sat, Apr 13, 2024 at 1:45 AM

Dear All,

My apology for the delay in updating you on the situation as I am traveling in Juba for meetings this week.

When I left Torit for Juba last Friday, Thai told me that the UN stuff at the Kakuma Camp has provided his wife and the 11 children some blankets and cookware. But he could not go deliver the food supply to them himself because he had received a task and needed to travel with the military. This past Thursday, he texted me that his wife's uncle has taken the food supply, travelled across the border, and brought it to them safely. So, Praise the Lord! Now, his wife and the 11 children have at least some food, cookware and blanket to survive while they are waiting outside the refugee camp.

If you will, please continue to pray for their application process in getting accepted by the Kakuma refugee camp, and also please pray for the government of South Sudan so that they will truly take responsibility in looking after their own people. That is all what I would say for now. Thank you all once again! :)

Blessings,
Jeffrey

From: Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Sent: April 4, 2024 2:23 PM
To: Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Cc: Jeffrey T. Wu <jeffreytwu@gmail.com>
Subject: Another Special Prayer Request

Dear Friends, Brothers & Sisters,

How are you all doing?

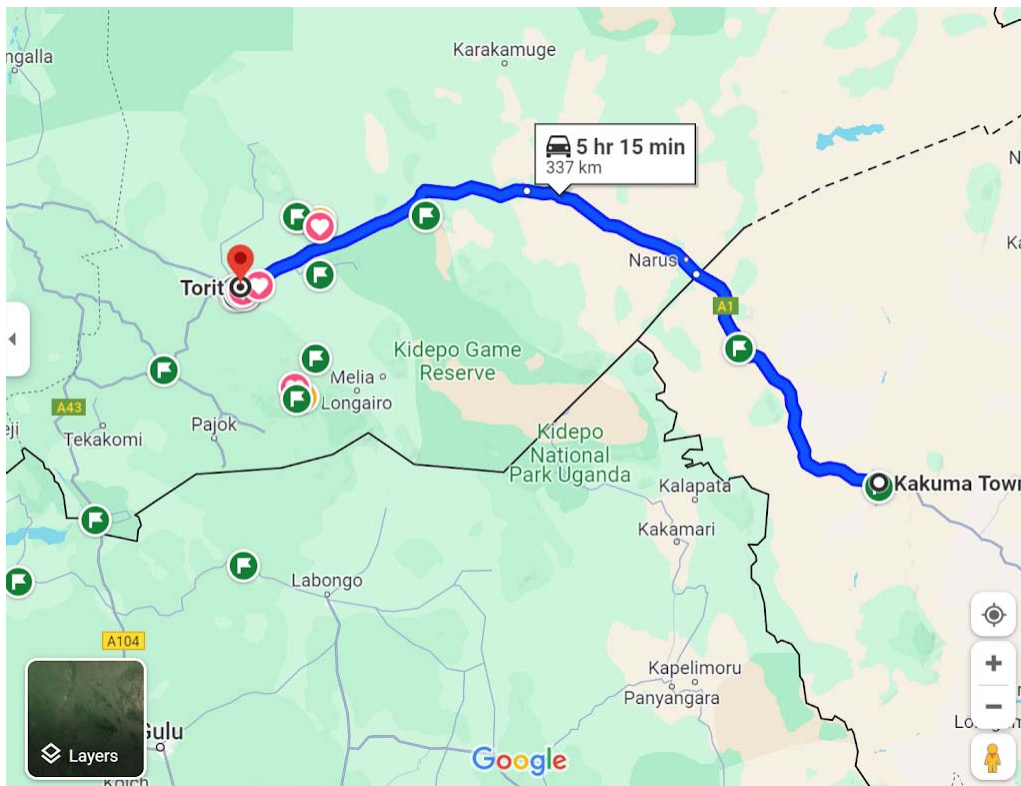
I'm sorry to send you another special prayer request so early again, but please believe me for I have been very selective in choosing only the urgent ones to share.

If you still recall this photo below from my prayer letter last June, this 2-years-old boy's name is Ran (not "Red" as I thought I heard), who had become quite acquainted with me before I left SSD last July. Today, as I went to visit his father, Thai, at their compound in Torit, I found out that Ran has been stuck at the entrance gate of Kakuma refugee camp #4 near the Kenya border since March 22nd, along with his mother and 10 other siblings / cousins... without food and shelter.



Ok, here is what happened (as I understand it...)

First of all, if you still recall from my prayer letter last year, Thai is a military chaplain, and his home village was flooded (and still not recovered today). So, his clan sent a bunch of kids to him in Torit, where he tried to put all of them back to schools. However, over the past 8 months, the dry season in this area of SSD was extra hot and long, plus apparently the government has not been paying them any salary. So, after months of struggle, he decided to take his wife and 11 of those kids in his compound to the Kakuma refugee camp where his brother-in-law's family is located. However, the line-up and application process have been taking much longer than they had anticipated.



Thai has now returned to Torit, continuing to find more hard-labour jobs around town so that he can make more money for his family. Meanwhile, the three SSD students I've met in Toronto, Canada, all happen to have stayed at the Kakuma refugee camps before. In my discussion with them over WhatsApp a few hours

ago, they told me the situation there is very difficult as well. People only get aids from UN once a month, which is barely enough to feed each of their own family members. So, Thai's brother-in-law probably cannot do much for them either. They suggest that Thai should go or send someone with food to reach his wife and the 11 kids outside the refugee camp. This is what Thai had in mind too, except he needs to save enough money in order to buy food and pay for the travel first.

Anyhow, I have decided to give Thai \$100 USD first. This is from the extra \$225 donated money that I have received from my last prayer request. For now, I would like to ask you all to please pray for Thai's wife and the 11 children, and all the other families waiting outside the Kakuma refugee camps. Pray that the UN staff will be able to register them soon and find food/shelter for them. As Thai was writing down the names of his wife and the 11 children on my pocket notebook, I could see the tears forming in his eyes already. What a heart-breaking decision it must have been for him as a Christian husband and father to leave his wife and children there across the border. How difficult it must be for his wife to watch those children, suffering alongside with her throughout the days and nights...

*Dear heavenly Father, I cry out to You now and beg you to please listen to our prayers. Have mercy on those people, especially the women and children there. Send forward your angels to protect them, and raise your people to help them along the way. For You are the almighty God, and in You alone, we trust, obey, and seek hope. I thank you and pray in the glorious name of Jesus. *Amen**

Jeffrey T. Wu
Missionary | Theological Educator
South Sudan Unit, Central Region (CR) Operation
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Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Re: Urgent Prayer Request

1 message

Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
To: "Wu, Jeffrey" <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Cc: "Jeffrey T. Wu" <jeffreytwu@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 27, 2024 at 7:49 AM

Dear All,

With great joy, I bring you double the great news!

After an extended, super-hot dry season in this part of South Sudan, we finally had a big rain yesterday and this morning! Today, I also learned that the surgery for Rebecca's mother in Juba has gone well yesterday as well. Praise the Lord!



Her mother, Jilda-orage, will remain in Juba for another week so that the doctor can check on the recovery process. Meanwhile, Rebecca will return to Torit tomorrow because she has a few young children to look after at home.

Thank you all once again for your prayer support and generous donation at the very last-minute request. The husband, James, wanted me to forward their gratitude on his family's behalf to you all.

The Lord is Good! 😊

Blessings,
Jeffrey

From: Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Sent: March 25, 2024 7:34 AM
To: Wu, Jeffrey <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Cc: Jeffrey T. Wu <jeffreytu@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Urgent Prayer Request

Dear All,

The \$500 target has been met. Praise the Lord! And, thanks to AIM's existing support system on the ground, we are able to deliver the money to Rebecca for her mother's surgery in Juba without further delay. One of our AIM senior missionaries was able to visit them in person and verify the situation as well.

Once again, I am simply overwhelmed by His blessings through all of your prayer support and generosity. Will keep on praying and will update you more soon...

Blessings,
Jeffrey

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: "Wu, Jeffrey" <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Date: 3/24/24 22:36 (GMT+02:00)
To: "Wu, Jeffrey" <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>
Cc: "Jeffrey T. Wu" <jeffreytu@gmail.com>
Subject: Urgent Prayer Request

My Dear Friends, Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Today is the third day since I have landed in South Sudan, and also the Palm Sunday before Easter. While I rejoice in re-connecting with my friends and churches here on the ground, I am also burden with a few, rather tragic news --- on top of all the existing suffering in the midst of a blazing hot, dry season.

I would like to take this opportunity and draw your attention to one particular incident, asking for your prayer support and possibly financial donation.



During my 1-year Inbound Team training, I lived in the same compound with a local family. The husband's name is James Utong, and the wife's name is Rebecca. Today, when I went visiting them, I found out that Rebecca is away in Juba because her mother, Jilda-arage, had a nasty fall at their village back in late February, and broke her left, upper leg. After going through certain amount of troubles and delays, they have finally transferred her to a hospital in Juba. Currently, she is in a lot of pain but the hospital is asking for \$500 USD in order to perform the surgery.

Rebecca feels really helpless right now because they don't have this kind of money but at the same time they don't know where they should transfer her mother now under such condition.

So, I would like to ask you to please pray for Rebecca and her elderly mother, Jilda-arage. And, if in your prayer you feel that God has moved your heart to contribute toward this cause financially, please use the following link to donate:

<https://payments.pesapal.com/abs>

Simply fill up the form online and follow the steps as per the instructions. However, under Services, please choose "Others", and under the Currency, please select "USD", and under the Description section, please put down "To Jeffrey Tai-Ta Wu, ABS Account # 1800-7229-200".

Please note that: this donation is entirely a personal request from me, not from AIM, and you will NOT be able to receive any tax receipt. If you cannot contribute financially this time, I would still ask you for your prayer support. If you do make a contribution online, please send me a reply and let me know how much you've put forward.

Before the end of this coming Wednesday (27th), I will provide another email update on the overall situation, and I sincerely apologize for such a sudden and unusual request.

Blessings,



Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2024-03-15

@ NAIROBI, KENYA

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Missionary / Theological Educator



My **DEAR** Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

Greeting from Kenya, the warm & sunny land of animal kingdom! 🐘 It feels good to be back on the Africa continent! Although my Home Assignment (H.A.) did last longer than I had anticipated, now as I look back I feel like it has gone by in the blink of an eye. These past 4 weeks have indeed been wild as I had 6 speaking engagements at churches while being busy getting all my stuff ready to depart (including selling my car) & attending several farewell festivities.

Looking forward, I can already imagine how crazy things might get when I first return to SSD later this month as we have already learned about the more recent hyperinflation situation 📈, the on-going, extra dry season 🌵 & the conflicts in DRC+Burundi. 🇷🇺 In addition, we are also anticipating some internal change within our unit leadership team again. On Feb. 20th, we received a news from Jordan, our former Unit Leader (UL) and current Church Liaison, that he & his family will be leaving SSD this June for at least two years as they hope to take on a new position at RVA (AIM's boarding school for MKs in Kenya) & to be able to spend more time with their kids studying there. On a side note, my former Inbound Team teammate/housemate, Matthias, will also be leaving SSD in June this year to pursue a new plan in their life as he & Maam will be getting married soon. And, not to intentionally make this letter sound gloomier, on Feb. 24th, a tragic news 😞 about the death of 11 YWAM missionaries near the border of Tanzania & Kenya really shocked many Christian communities around the world: <<https://ywam.org/a-letter-from-darlene-cunningham-arusha-tragedy>>. Well, good news or bad, I'm glad to be back where I can be put into good use for the KoG again!

"With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa's peoples."



Blessing by Pastor Seto @ MCBC English Service



Farewell Festivity, One After Another!!



Mouse & Insect Glue Trap: Another Must-Have for SSD



Saying Goodbye to my Accura TL is Harrrrrrd >.<



what's NEXT

During this 9-day period in Nairobi, I'll be visiting a few friends here while getting dental care & some medication to bring to SSD. On March 22nd, I'll be taking a MAF flight to fly back to SSD, reconnecting with my local friends in Torit & getting filled in on my new role as a Theological Educator. After my first week on the job, I'll be taking a short road trip to Obbo with Jordan & Rev. Tibi as they deliver a conference program there. Next, I'll be going to Juba and participate in a series of refresher courses with AIC church leaders between April 8th to 12th. Meanwhile, I'll also try to finalize for my trip to visit another theological educator & a few AIC churches in the SSD refugee camps across the Ugandan border toward the end of May.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

As I bid farewell with my friends in Canada, we'd often envision how things might look like when I return in 2.5 years. Most of times those imagination will lead us to some cheerful thoughts (e.g. knowing one'll likely have graduated by then 🎓 or hearing a young, single lady wanting to be married & become a mother by then). But sometimes it reminds us this moment could be our very last time seeing each other... As my heart was deeply touched by the prayers we shared, I'm also comforted to know that my 236 days of H.A. did not just go by in vain.



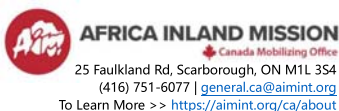
Acts 20:36-38

When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. When grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Please pray for the peace & economic stability in SSD as they continue to prepare for their very first presidential election later this year. Also, please pray that God will give me the wisdom & strength as I start taking on this new role as a Theological Educator, learning to manage my finance as a long-term missionary (amid the hyperinflation), 🚗 travelling to build new relationship with more local ministry leaders, and continuing to learn Juba Arabic, plus a few other tribal languages. Last, but not least, please pray for the latest conflicts in DRC+Burundi as some refugees have crossed the border into SSD as well.

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

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To receive regular updates on my mission, please email me at: <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO METAVERSE

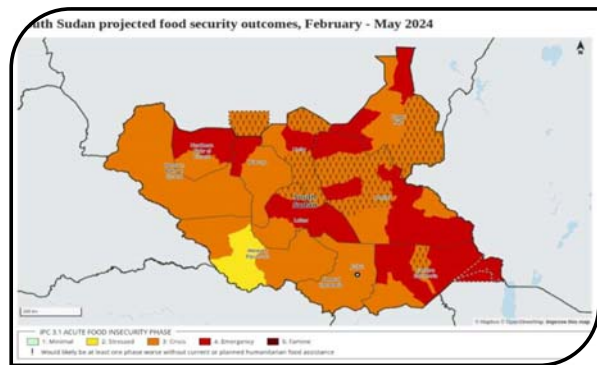
When I first saw this story online, my first reaction was: "This is hilarious! 😂". But then I remember: when I was still an atheist teenager, the one thing that kept me going to church is the fact that there was an open gym session for basketball right before the youth fellowship. So, who knows... maybe they're onto something important here. As I listened to this podcast, I also came to realize: this so-called *metaverse* is potentially a new frontier of spiritual warfare that we might want to pay more attention and take it more seriously as well...

Expanding Missions in Minecraft, One Block at a Time
<https://lausanne.org/podcast/04-expanding-missions-in-minecraft-one-block-at-a-time>

HARD TO MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL

During my H.A. in Canada, many people had asked me about certain statistic numbers on SSD. While I'm also a person who values the importance of documentation & data analysis, it is one of the areas I find most difficult to explain because our Western definition & interpretation of common indicators often do not apply well for a nation that is relatively new (<15 years) while majority of her population is still scattered among tribal villages & refugee camps. Yet, the real data that I deem more critical may seem remote to people living in North America.

Famine Early Warning System Network – South Sudan
<https://fews.net/east-africa/south-sudan>



IT ALL STARTS WITH PRAYER SUPPORT

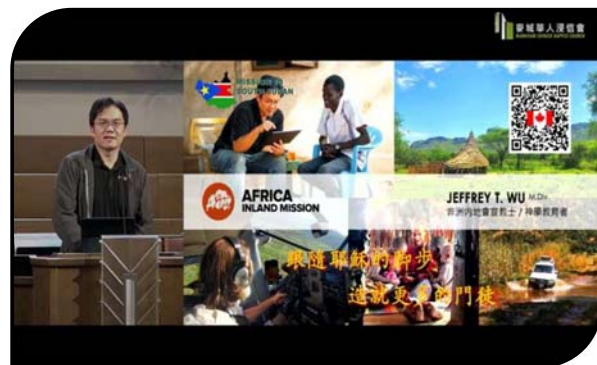
This video is the last of its series that I've planned to deliver during my H.A. In fact, I was hoping to have it ready & posted back in February. Oh well, things happen! In any case, I'm glad I was able to finish it before my departure, and I hope they have been helpful in answering some of your questions. If you have any comment or feedback, please feel free to let me know! Over the next few months, I'll be making a few more some videos about the 3 L.T. projects that I'm involved with and need to help raise funding for. So, please stay tuned!

Ways To Support Our Mission
<https://youtu.be/JTgJPcZeT9o>

CANTONESE CONNECTION IN MY LIFE

My very first missional experience was during this youth winter conference at my first church, ECBC, in Vancouver, and it was delivered by this lady missionary, named Agnes, who is originally from Hong Kong. Not only she taught us biblical understanding, but also sent us out in groups of 2 to knock on many doors in the neighborhood. Recently, as I spoke at two congregations with Cantonese interpreters, I'm gratefully reminded of all those Cantonese connections I have in my life.

Sharing at WOCBC Sunday Service on Feb. 25th, 2024
https://youtube.com/live/eb8ifBUG1_M?si=Wj4ZpWf1UWXLHZRS&t=845
 Sharing at MCBC Cantonese Service on March 10th, 2024
<https://youtube.com/live/2v6kCoORdRU?si=sJhXXXJJ2JqiCgOG&t=1710>



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Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2024-02-15

@ MARKHAM, ON, CANADA

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Missionary / Theological Educator (on H.A.)



My DEAR Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

The good news is that I've officially finished my two fundraising targets for this Home Assignment (HA) on Jan. 18th. PTL! And special thanks to all of you who've been supporting me & our missions in SSD. Since then, things have been moving very fast. 🚀 I've received my commissioning service on Jan. 21st at my home church in Ottawa & booked my tickets to fly out on Mar. 12th. While I was in the O-town this time, I also got to do a little bit sharing with the college students, talked to Pastor Yamane from our Sudanese congregation, and visited AIM Canada's little branch office in Orleans, where I discovered a wall with all of our active Canadian missionaries' prayer cards (put up by our Church Liaison, Rev. Dan MacKinnon). On Feb. 6th, I finally wrapped up this internal training, called EQUIP, with Dr. Robert Cousins. And, thanks to all those 🇨🇳 Chinese New Year (CNY) festivities, I think I've gained almost 3 kg 📦 during the first week of February. On the second day of the CNY, I got to preach at the Mandarin service of MCBC (Markham Chinese Baptist Church) as well, and bluntly talked about "death" and "suffering" repeatedly on the stage, which is exactly what Chinese people love to hear during this time of the year (ok, I'm being sarcastic here, in case you missed it). On Feb. 13th, I received some good news, along with a blurry video, from the Hope of Torit (children's home/orphanage) ministry. Apparently, with my little contribution recently, they've raised enough cash to send 2 more of those kids back to school 📚 this year, and bought new notebooks 📖 for the children's bible study classes. Technically, this ministry is not part of our AIM operation on the ground, but *hey* how can I possibly not try & do something about it... 🙏

"With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa's peoples."

Sharing with College Students at OMAC



The Wall of AIM Canada Prayer Cards

Sunday Service on Chinese New Year at MCBC



What a Joy It is to See Those Kids Back to School Again!



what's NEXT

On Feb. 16th, I will be sharing at another small group at MCBC. On the 17th, I will be meeting with Rev. Barry Duguid & his wife from Willowdale Baptist Church (WBC) over lunch. On the 18th, I'll meet up with the 3 SSD students from Lopit one last time before I depart & take them to have some Chinese food as I've promised! 🍜 At some point over the next 2 weeks, I'll likely have found a way to sell my car as well. On Feb. 25th, I'll be delivering another sermon at a different local church, called Whitby Oshawa Chinese Baptist Church (WOCBC). And guess what? Next time when I send out my Prayer Letter, I will be doing so from Nairobi. 🇰🇪 Ohhh... Isn't that exciting?!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

On Jan. 27th, we received this tragic news about the sudden passing of Rev. Luka Odong, whose legacy is now carried on by his wife & 6 young children. He was a beloved pastor for a local church & a military officer who had fought for his country. I got to know him through the prison ministry in Torit as he was also the prison chaplain. 🙏 He had a great passion for education too. Apparently, more than 2,000 people came & attended his funeral to moan with the family but also to honour & celebrate his life. He was a great warrior in Christ & will truly be missed by the entire community in the Easter Equatoria region of SSD! ❤️ We'll see you in Heaven one day...



Mark 9:36-37

He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of those little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Please pray for my upcoming church engagement & social events with supporters while I try to sell my car 🚗 & sort out other last-minute logistic details before my departure. More importantly, please continue to pray that God will strengthen my heart as I transition into long-term mission, and grant me the wisdom and focus I need as I make plans for the upcoming weeks & refresh on my Juba Arabic 📖. Last, but not least, please pray for the Hope of Torit ministry as they continue to struggle with paying for their rent & the kid's tuitions while still trying to fundraise for building their own facility. 🙏 Thank you!

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

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To receive regular updates on my mission, please email me at: <jeffrey.wu@aimint.org>.

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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



THE YEAR OF DRAGON

In most Chinese cultures, dragon 🐉, or *long* (龍), is a highly exalted spiritual animal as it represents power & is known to bring blessings. But, in the Bible & the main-stream Western cultures, dragon doesn't always seem to leave behind a very positive impression with people. One of my Chinese pastor friends wrote an interesting article on this subject, partly because his family name is *Long* in Chinese. But what really I want to know is how do all those fossils of dinosaur 🦖 (*kong-long*, 恐龍 – "scary dragon") play a role in all of these? 🤔...

From Descendants of the Dragon to Heirs of God

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2024/january-web-only/chinese-new-year-dragon-descendants-heirs.html>

COURAGEOUS CALLING

Robert & Carol have been part of our SSD unit for many years. Currently, they live in the Lopit mountain area 🏠, and serve as the ministry leader for our UPG team there on the ground! Once a while, they also help facilitating our internal training for new missionaries at different locations. It's always wonderful to see African churches sending out their own missionaries, and witness how God empowers them in His own unique way! 😊

Kenyan Missionary to SSD | Courageous Calling: Robert

<https://youtu.be/67ijZmMBr9g?si=gPqu2k&CNholYhJP>

Kenyan Missionary to SSD | Courageous Calling: Carol

<https://youtu.be/OOO-pcFwU28?si=cYrgvpmTzqTizFYP>



MORE WORKS TO BE DONE

Praise the Lord! 🙌 This past Sunday I had the privilege to deliver another sermon at this local Chinese Baptist church that I go to in Markham during this Home Assignment. This time it is done in Mandarin Chinese. Surprisingly, I've received many positive feedbacks afterwards & some invitations for further engagement... Well, I'm definitely very grateful but at the same time I was kind of hoping to take it easy over the next few weeks. I guess God decided that He has more things for me to do in Canada before I head back to SSD! 😊

MCBC Mandarin Sunday Service (Feb. 11th, 2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ICEUrhJTp4>

HERE AM I, LORD... SEND ME!

It has been a profound & humbling experience 🙏 to be commissioned as a missionary by AIM Canada & my home church, OMAC, in Ottawa. Special thanks to Rev. Paul Chen, who has been an old friend & great mentor to me for many years, and to all the brothers/sisters at my home church, who have been super supportive despite of my absence over the past 14 years. I look forward to coming back here again over my next HA in 2026/27 & sharing more stories from SSD. All glory & honour to our Lord, Jesus, the King of kings! 🙌

Commissioning Serving at OMAC on January 21st, 2024

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qf6y7ZSD1xY&t=2036s>



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Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2024-01-15

@ MARKHAM, ON, CANADA

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Missionary / Theological Educator (on H.A.)



"With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa's peoples."

My DEAR Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

Hope this new year has been treating you well so far! ❄️ Over the holiday season, there have been many gatherings & festivities as expected, but at the same time there've also been multiple cases of Covid & flu going around in the community. Nonetheless, I'm extra grateful because the final fundraising target that I need to reach has jumped from 79% (since my last letter) to now 98.6%. ✅ PTL~ Earlier on I was still struggling with the idea that I might need a part-time job first while doing my fundraising. But all the sudden my mindset has shifted & now started focusing on getting everything ready to depart again. ✈️ For my previous departure in 2022, I was more concerned about how I can successfully fulfill all my internship requirement at Tyndale, and how I would react to the poverty & dangerous environment in SSD. But, this time, as I'm returning as a long-term missionary & theological educator, I've been endowed with a heftier sense of responsibility & need to think more about how to better sustain my health down the road while dealing with the inevitable reality of aging. 😊 Thankfully, my physical & psychological evaluations are pretty much done now. I even had an X-ray scan on my knees, where I've been experiencing some pain over the past year or so. The good news is that there is no obvious sign of damage but mild effusion on both sides. However, it is not serious enough to require any formal treatment. For now, the doctor "simply" recommends me to lose more weight, strengthen my leg muscles, 🦶 use compression knee sleeves during exercise, avoid knee-twisting activities & take low-dose of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs), like Ibuprofen, as needed... (🙄ok, doc!)

Christmas-Eve Sunday Service at MCBC



Pot-Luck & Fellowship to Celebrate New Year

A Different Kind of Mud Road 🚗🌧️



My Funny-Looking yet Over-Priced M.Div. Grad Photo 📷



what's NEXT

Over the next week or so, I should be able to confirm my exact return date to SSD & start to sort out other logistic details. With thanks to the invitation of Rev. MacKinnon (the Church Liaison of AIM Canada), I'll be driving to Ottawa on Jan. 19th & sharing about my mission with a local prayer group on the 20th. Also, I'll take this opportunity to bid farewell with my home church at the Sunday service (21st), 📺 do another sharing with our university student fellowship & greet the pastor at our recently established Sudanese congregation. On Feb. 11th, I'll have another opportunity to preach at the Mandarin Chinese service at MCBC in Markham (again, thanks to sister G and Pastor Lin's invitation).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

On Dec. 23rd, I had an opportunity to meet up with 3 very bright, SSD students, who are originally from the Lopit area. They're good friends since childhood, growing up in the same refugee camp across the border in Kenya. Although they have been assigned to study at different universities 📖 in Ontario, once a while they would still hang out together. They all shared about what they're thankful in 2023 & what they look forward to in 2024. 📅 One of them also shared some amazing survival stories as a child living through war time & extreme poverty. I'm simply glad to see their progress & pray that they'll continue to rely on God in their journey here in Canada...



Isaiah 40:28-29

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Please pray for my travel 🚗 back to Ottawa this weekend during this snowy & flu-spreading season, and for my sharing/visit with the local brothers & sisters there. More importantly, please pray for my heart as I prepare to head back for the long-term mission. Please also pray that God will guide me with His wisdom as I try to sort out all the logistic details, including things in Canada, on the ground in SSD, and during the transit in-between. Last, but not least, please pray for the Christian radio-broadcast ministry in Torit (GRACE 90.5 AM) 📻 as they continue to struggle with hardware repairs & funding support. 🙏 Thank you!

PLEASE PRAY FOR US



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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



FROM EVERY NATION & TRIBE

When I first left Canada for China in 2010, my home church, OMAC, was in the process of raising funds to build our own church building but on the land owned by another local church, EGAC. I was one of those who held a skeptical view toward this project, but little did I know about God's greater plan for us! Today, OMAC is part of this ICAC (International Community of Alliance Churches), where people of 7 different languages (including Arabic & Sudanese) all worshiping & serving God together under the same roof. 🏠 How wonderful!

The OMAC & ICAC Building Story

<https://youtu.be/I064MY7N1PE?si=LnhmGeFjOchRy9D7>

I MUST BECOME LESS

When thinking of missionary work in the Bible, we often refer to the book of Acts and talk about the Apostle Paul & Peter. Nonetheless, as I learned about *Global Humanity* during my Inbound training in SSD, this quote from John 3:30 always comes to my mind first: "He must become greater; I must become less." 🙏 In this uplifting sermon (link below), D. Brogden reminds us that we must make disciples, not to turn them into some popular ministry leaders, but to know that we ought to be content, like John the Baptist, simply in fulfilling our calling.

Love Jesus, Preach the Gospel, Die, and Be Forgotten

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ztX1Pz40vjU?si=E1doSqd1M4YeU9lf>



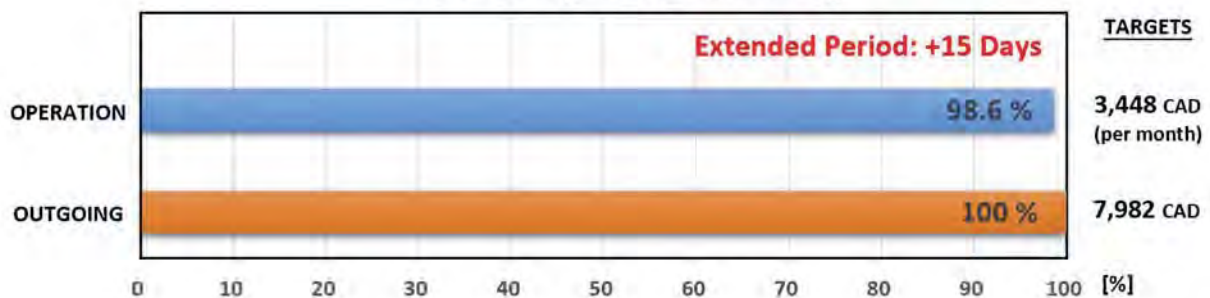
BE A GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANT

This video (link below) took me forever to make 🕒 but I think it is worth it because I believe that: to practice good stewardship with the donations that I've been entrusted me with, it is important to let my supporters know how my mission budget works so that we can better establish a mutual accountability in Christ. But, please note that this video is not an official AIM video, only representing my own understanding of how things work. If you have any question, please do let me know! 😊

How Does My Mission Budget Works?

<https://youtu.be/kdcgTJCWsYA>

Status of my Mission Fundraising



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Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2023-12-15

@ MARKHAM, ON, CANADA

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Missionary / Theological Educator (on H.A.)



"With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa's peoples."

My DEAR Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

YES, it's that time of the year again where people set up pointy trees indoor & inflatable animals outdoor. But I still can't decide if my favorite one around the neighborhood is the 6ft-tall Panda or a 9-ft tall T-Rex 🦖! Ha! Perhaps the fact that I'm finding those common Christmas practices a bit strange now is part of the reversed culture shock (😬 ok, all jokes aside...) On Nov. 22nd, AIM had a CONNEX meeting where we learned about the impact of A.I. in missions. It was indeed very informative. The main idea is to encourage our missionaries to try out some of those A.I. applications (with cautions, of course) so that eventually we can collect suggestion & set up internal guideline for better practice. On the 27th, I had an opportunity to join an online consultation meeting, hosted by Lausanne Movement Canada 🇨🇦 about their concerns/challenges was a truly unique & educational experience. Although I did not have any formal engagement with a congregation over the past 4 weeks, through my landlords (P+J) I did meet a Christian couple (J+A) from playing pickleball together, and they invited us over for lunch one day, where I had an opportunity to share about my mission. Guess what? They are now one of my biggest financial supporters. Praise the Lord! I've also started playing full-court basketball again on Saturdays (but only until my skeleton 🦴 completely falls apart). Oh, did I mention I have my 8th Covid-19 vaccine shot? My whole body was hurting for a few days afterwards but I'm not sure if it was from playing b-ball or from the Moderna vaccine! Oh well, I survived- 😊

Christmas Worship Night at WBC in North York 🕯️



Sharing my Mission at J+A's House 🌱

Playing Full-Court Basketball 🏀 can be Very Exhausting! 🥵



Pickle Ball is Really Fun! 🥒



what's NEXT

On Dec. 21st, I'll return to our missionary clinic for further check-up & diagnosis. Apparently, my kidney may have suffered some damage over the past one year in South Sudan. On Jan. 4th, I will be going back to Tyndale for taking the official graduation photo. 🎓📷 As most churches are kind of busy with Christmas celebration & conference during this season, I don't really have any formal arrangement to share my mission over the next few weeks. Nonetheless, I'll be working on a few fundraising-related videos while continue to meet people & seek potential support from a couple local churches. 🏠

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

As I had mentioned in my Prayer Letter this past Sept., Pastor Zhang & his wife Ruth are the founders of my home church in Ottawa 28 years ago. After that, they went on and served as missionaries in the Middle East & North Africa for many years. Their testimonies & passion for evangelization have always inspired me deeply. ❤️ Unfortunately, Pastor Z can no longer speak nor walk freely now as he is in the final stage of Parkinson disease. During the 1st weekend of this month, they made a trip back to Ottawa in order to bid farewell and to preach again for one last time. With the help of R and Grace (former church secretary), he was able to put his sermon on paper, and our church pastor Paul read it out for him on the stage. While my heart aches 😞 for the suffering Pastor Z has been going through all these years, I know he has fought the good fight and will eventually be delivered as he enjoys the presence of Christ in His eternal glory! 🙌



2 Timothy 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearing.

If you can, please pray for Pastor Z & his wife, R. May the Lord have mercy, remove the bodily pain, give them the strength, and comfort their hearts. While we enjoy the warmth & comfort in N. America during this winter season, please also remember to keep on praying for those who are living in conflict zones and lonesome despairs. Moreover, please pray for my physical conditions and discipline on diet / exercise so that I can go back & serve in SSD more effectively. Last, but not least, please continue to pray for my fundraising effort & all the preparation work that need to be done before my departure. 🙏 Thank you!

PLEASE PRAY FOR US



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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS

For someone like me, who grew up celebrating CNY (Chinese New Year) every winter, Christmas is really more of a western holiday in a church setting (just being honest here! 😊). But then, as I travel / live in different countries, CNY can become just another event for Chinese churches to do evangelization as well. Ha! So, eventually I realize that: all those celebrations are never about elaborated program/banquet, nor about my cultural/religious preference. It is an opportunity for us to share & cherish our love+hope in Christ with our family & community. After all, it is all about JESUS! Wouldn't you agree? Wish y'all a Merry Christmas & Adventurous 2024! 🎁

INBOUND TEAM PROGRAM

On Nov. 21st, the latest official video for promoting our AIM Inbound Team program has finally been released! It was filmed and compiled by my German teammate, Matza. In the video, you will get to see me being interviewed and hear my broken English as well. Ha! (🤪 just try not to laugh too hard, ok?!)

Inbound Teams with Africa Inland Mission

<https://youtu.be/e0CSLa7S4A8?si=pLegNduKzuE7O4hk>

👉 To learn more about the Inbound Team program here:

<https://explore.aimint.org/ca/inbound/>

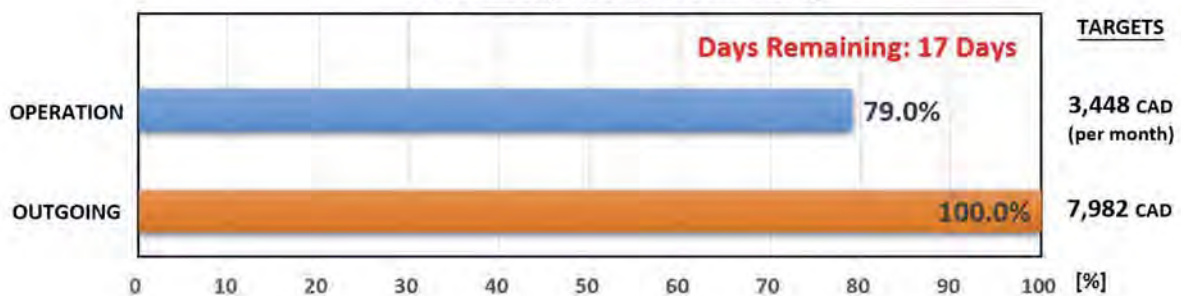


AM I CRAZY?

When I first came back to Canada in July, I was thinking about making a long video (15~20 mins) to talk about my mission and fundraising. But then I read about how it is more important to make face-to-face, personal connections. 🤍 So, that idea got buried in my extended To-Do list later on. After having gone through many sharing sessions, plus Q&A's, I'm starting to see some common concerns that people have. Therefore, I figured it might help to make some shorter videos (3~5 mins) to address them, and here is the 1st of the few that are in the pipeline:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuqCUFU3DiA>

Status of my Mission Fundraising



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Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2023-07-18

@ NAIROBI, KENYA

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

AIM Ignite Short-Term Missionary



“With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa’s peoples.”

My **DEAR** Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

Earlier this month, I was just joking with my team leader about how I would be highly disappointed if South Sudan (SSD) will just let us finish and leave so easily. Indeed, many things have happened during the last 4 weeks of our Inbound Team program. In fact, I was bedridden again for a couple of days due to illness and injury less than 2 weeks ago. But, praise the Lord! I was still able to wrap up everything, and say goodbyes to all my local friends. Now, we are in Nairobi, Kenya, having just finished our end-of-term debrief, which has allowed us to really take some time off, and to reflect, forgive, repent, and affirm on all that have happened during this one-year period. In one of the exercises, we had to describe the theme of our own experience in SSD, and to summarize them in one statement. So, for the theme, I wrote down: *God’s thoughts and His ways are always higher than ours*, and for the summary statement, I put down: *I think I am getting a really good deal out of this internship experience!* Before I came, I thought the team curriculum, on top of my internship requirement, is pretty solid already, and would keep me very busy throughout the year. Nonetheless, this whole year has been nothing but 200% beyond what I had initially anticipated, and for that I can only thank God for His wonderful ways of revealing His will, love, grace to me.

Saying Goodbye To My Military Chaplain Friend, THAI

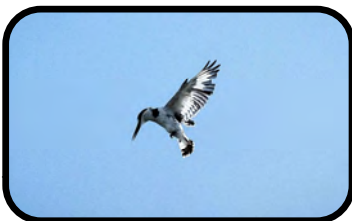


Visiting AIC Merkolong In Juba, SSD

Authentic Chinese Food in Juba, SSD



Session with my Language Learning Helper, Thom



what's NEXT

On July 20th, I will be flying back to Toronto via a flight transfer in Frankfurt, Germany. During the second week of August, I will be meeting with my AIM mobilizers (T+S) for dinner at their house, and be joining the annual retreat at my home church in Ottawa. For the 2nd half of the same month, I am hoping to visit some friends & churches in the States. During the second weekend of September, I will be visiting Ottawa again, and I have been scheduled to preach on that Sunday at my home church.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

With the help of KBS coworkers and our national church partner, AIC, our SSD unit was able to come together under a short-notice, and hosted a 200-people memorial service at our office compound in Torit on June 17th (SAT), in order to cherish the life of Pastor Steve with the local community together. It was a truly remarkable event, being able to hear all the amazing stories of how he has impacted people’s lives...



DO YOU KNOW?

Kenya is among the top 5 African countries with the most universities (i.e. ~130), but also among the top 5 with the most protests! In fact, Nigeria, S. Africa & Tunisia all share the same interesting status. Being a Protestant Christian, I do the value of the right to protest. However, I also believe the Church should try & teach more on a proper theology of protest so that our right in such area will not be misused for political agenda & personal gain.

Please keep praying for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Sudan and for all those refugees’ taking shelters among the neighboring countries. Also, pray for the on-going training and development at KBS, despite of Pastor Steve’s absence, and for the food-supply issue at all the prisons across SSD. Last, but not least, please pray for my travel back to Canada as there will be a 3-day protest in Nairobi this week, and potentially a strike across European airports. Please also pray for my heart as I re-enter North America and embrace the reverse cultural shock. Pray that God will anoint my lips as I share and continue to fundraise for my mission in SSD. Thank you!

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



REMEMBERING PASTOR STEVE

Because of my involvement with Kingdom Builder School (KBS) over the past one year, I have gotten to know Pastor Steve and his wife, Gina, a bit more than my other Inbound team members. During the memorial service in Torit, many local community members mourned in tears for his passing, even though they know He is just gone to be with our Father in Heaven 🙏 I believe they felt sad, partly because they miss his presence and partly because his death was quite sudden so that they did not get an opportunity to say goodbye and to express their appreciation for him...

A SHORT VISIT TO JUBA

My trip to Juba, the capital of SSD, for the strategic meeting at the AIC headquarter was delayed again due to the passing of Pastor Steve. Nonetheless, I was able to hitch a ride with our unit leader and our CR leader to go there shortly after we finished the memorial service. Although I had missed the big meeting (and joked about going there mainly for the Chinese food), I was still able to explore the city on my own for two days, connected with several people, learned more about the plan for restarting the Imatong Bible School (IBS), and obtained a better understanding of the overall landscape for theological education in SSD. 📖



ONE LAST DANCE

Our unit leaders, J+A, had served whole-heartedly in this rather challenging position for a decade long. This July, they have officially moved onto their new role as the Church Liaison & passed on the responsibility to Crystal, our new UL. On July 3rd (Mon), we organized a pot-luck get-together to honor this transition and to also celebrate 3 national holidays all at once (CAN: 07/01, USA: 07/04 & SSD: 07/09). We even had our last group dance together! Even though David was clearly out of sync with the rest of the group again, but you know... we still love him 🙏



HOPE OF TORIT

Although I do plan to come back to Torit early next year, it is still important for me to bid our farewell properly with the local communities. This is not only to show that we care about our relationship with them (not just a foreigner who drops by to do works), but also to avoid headaches for the other fellow missionaries who stay behind (as many will approach them, ask questions & request info). When I stopped by Hope of Torit Children's Home (i.e. the orphanage I've worked with), two of the kids stood up & expressed their appreciation on behalf of the group. It was such a heart-warming moment! 😊



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End-of-Term Bonus Photos

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AIC HAI NEEM

As part of the Inbound team curriculum, each one of us had been allocated to engage with one of the AIC congregations, and I was assigned to AIC Hai Neem. However, this is one of the areas that I regret for not having exerted more effort than I had hoped for. While my teammates were able to participate in the youth group, bible study & choir practice/performance at their churches regularly, I had been more pre-occupied with other ministry activities, such as the KBS and prison ministry. Nonetheless, my church still sees me as one of their own church family members, and for that I am very grateful. ❤️

OUR HOST FAMILY

Oh, gosh... 😊 where do I begin? We have had so much laughter but also moments of frustration with our host family! As part of the team curriculum, we had all been allocated to live with a local family (same compound but in our own building), and me & my German teammate were assigned to Utong's family. There were times when we really envy the quietness at our other teammates' compounds, but there are times when we just adore the sounds of kids' singing and giggling in ours. The night before we left Torit, our host family cooked a big meal for us, and I brought candies, sodas & balloons from the market to share too! Before the sunset we all dressed up & took one big happy group photo together! 📸



END-OF-TERM (EOT) DEBRIEF

After saying goodbyes to our SSD unit members & dozens of our friends in Torit, our entire team flew to Nairobi (KE) on July 13th (Thu) for the end-of-term debrief. We're very fortunate to have Troy, one of our senior missionaries, to lead our debrief sessions. He rented a very nice lodge by his house for us. This beautiful riverside property actually belongs to Dick Brogden, another seasoned missionary and the author of *Live Dead Joy* (2016). Given we've been reading his book over this past year for daily devotion, how appropriate it is to also do our EOT debrief at his house! 🏠

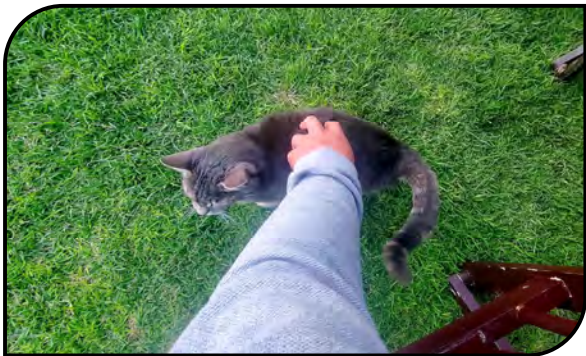
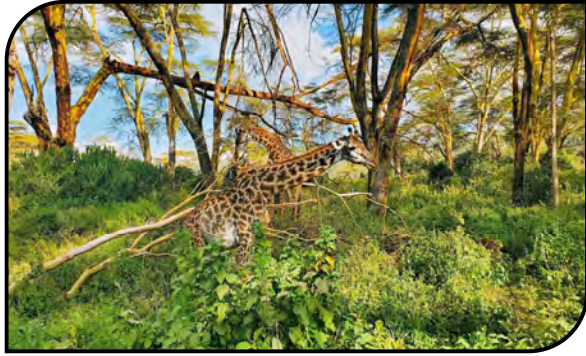
AIM INBOUND SURVIVORS

Starting with a total of six team members last July, now we are left with only 3 at the end (for some personal reasons, our teammate N decided to depart & head home one week before our EOT debrief started). To celebrate our little modest achievement, we went on a boat safari trip, and been given a T-shirt that says "AIM Inbound Survivor", which is definitely not easy to earn, I'd say! Now, I can "officially" say that we are ready to take on further ministry challenge in Africa! GO~ 🍀 *INBOUND SURVIVORSSS !!*



Major Animal Distractions

Photo Credits: Matthias S. + Jeffrey W.



SPECIAL THANKS

On July 17th, my application to graduate from my M.Div. program at Tyndale Seminary has finally been approved. It has been a long journey for me to pursue this degree since 2016, and it is also the reason why I had signed up to this Inbound Team and come to Africa from the very beginning. I want to take this opportunity to thank God, and express my sincere appreciation for AIM, Tyndale, OMAC, MTL (former employer), my family, unit/team, supporters, and everyone who have prayed for me and helped me along the way! This past one year has been such a remarkable journey, and truly opened my eyes to a whole new level of vision & understanding toward the Mission of God! 🙌 All glory to the King! 🙌 Amen...

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Mission to South Sudan:

Last Updated: 2023-03-15

@ TORIT, SOUTH SUDAN

Prayer Letter

From: Jeffrey T. Wu

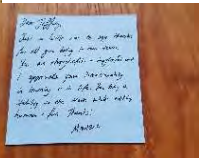
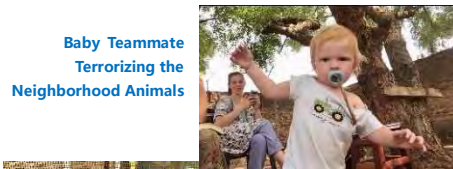
AIM Ignite Short-Term Missionary



“With priority to unreached people groups, our passion is to see Christ-centered churches established and thriving among all of Africa’s peoples.”

My **DEAR** Friends & Brothers / Sisters in Christ,

After having sorted out some misunderstandings with the prison chaplain, we have finally been able to launch 🚀 this TEE (Theological Education by Extension) program on March 4th. However, due to the delay, I have shortened the length from 15 weeks to now only 12 weeks. Nonetheless, I believe it’d still be a very meaningful learning experience, both for me and the participants. On the lighter side of things, our team leader Marlene 🧑🏻💡 was gone for the second half of February as she had to go and attend an on-campus course for this Master degree program that she is pursuing in Netherlands. When returning to SSD, she brought us some goodies, 📦 and gave each one of our team members a handwritten card, filled with words of encouragement. 😊 How nice and thoughtful of her! Over the past month, our baby teammate Elias has learnt how to walk very well now. In fact, one proud father (his dad) told us that he has been exploring the neighborhood on his feet, and known to terrorize the smaller animals (e.g. grabbing the t*sticl*s of a goat 🐐 with both hands!). Last, but not least, I was able to finish the last online seminar for my internship curriculum today (Mar. 15th), despite of the power shortage as we had a series of rainy days. ☁️ Praise the Lord~



what's NEXT

On March 20th, we will be flying to the Laarim tribal area, and then stay at two villages there, namely Kimatong and Cawua, for two weeks. On April 10th, I'll need to submit 📄 the final integrative reflection report for my internship, along with two evaluation forms and a summary report with compilation of all the ministry working hours and 1-on-1 meetings that I have logged over the past 8 months. On April 13th, we will be taking our mandatory vacation again as we fly to Nairobi together as a team first. Then I plan to visit Rwanda between April 17th to 24th. If everything goes well, we will return to Torit, SSD again on April 28th.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

During our Team Day on Feb. 15th, I joined with my teammate Danielle to present this book called *Cross-Cultural Conflict* (1993), and we decided to do it in a format similar to this famous 📺 TV show *Jeopardy!* The competitive nature of the game has made the participants to really pay attention to our content. We prepared great prizes but also punishments, 🙄 and one of them to walk around the compound as chickens!

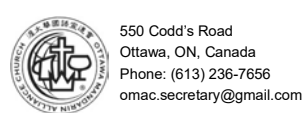
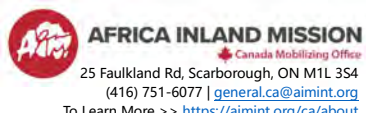


DO YOU KNOW?

In SSD, there are different types of *purification ritual* among the many tribal cultures. Some of the practices may seem a bit similar to the Jewish tradition for *atonement* in the OT. For example, in the Azande tribe of Western Equatoria, a baby purification ritual is known to take place 3 days after the birth, where they would hold the new born on top of a smoking fire-pit 🍌🍌 for an extended period of time as a form of purification.

Please pray for our 2-week trip to the Laarim tribal villages, ✨ and pray that I can better focus and utilize my time so that I can finish all the reports for my seminary by April 10th. Please also for this 12-week TEE program that I am leading in the prison. Pray that God will give me the wisdom to fit my schedule around it, and that the five participants will take it seriously and realize that they do need more training. Last, but not least, please continue to pray for the peace in SSD. Recently there have been some political changes that could potentially raise the tension again!

PLEASE PRAY FOR US



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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



An Ordination in Prison

On Feb. 25th, a huge ordination event took place in the local prison here in Torit. The five brothers in Christ, who have been loyally serving from inside the prison as coworkers, are now ordained as *non-denominational* pastors. There have been some debates on whether they are ready to serve as pastors or not. But, in any case, it is an encouraging turn of event for themselves and for the community. This is also why I have been tasked by our Unit Leader to go in weekly and provide more theological training for them! 📖

Greatest in the Kingdom

Sometimes the local kids on the streets can be a little bit annoying with their repetitive greeting, shameless begging, and foolish mocking. They remind me of the fact that there are still much works to be done here in this war-torn nation.

But whenever I go to the local church and see how adorable and well-behaved the kids are there, I can immediately see the difference that the Gospel has made in their lives and in the surrounding community. They remind me of our Lord Jesus' teaching in Matthew 18:1-5, where he talked about who is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. 🙏



Meeting Under a Big Mango Tree

This 6-month Kingdom Builder School (KBS) program that I have been participating since last Sept. has now come to an end, and I will definitely miss all the fun conversations we had under this big mango tree. 🌳 Although our demonstration farm is not yet operational, and conducting DBS in community is still a struggle. Nonetheless, we have finished going through those 60 lessons and 180 case studies in the training material together. On top of the friendship, I have also gained this priceless opportunity to observe discipleship taking place in a local context, and to learn more about the challenges behind such ministry development!

An Unforgettable Trip

As I have mentioned in my Prayer Letter last month, I've learned how to make short videos on my cell phone. 📱

In addition to the previous "Life in Torit" video, which I have posted here last time, here is another one that highlights those unforgettable moments from our Lopit trip back in November 2022. Below is the link. Enjoy!

<https://youtu.be/VphFOxLTk8M>

To find out more, please feel free to visit:

<https://web.facebook.com/aimcanada>

