



THE CHURCH AND SUDAN: PARTNERING FOR THE FUTURE
Sixth Annual Conference -- 2011
The American Friends of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
Christ Church Episcopal, Glen Allen, VA

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

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| 2:00 PM | REGISTRATION BEGINS
EXHIBITS OPEN | <i>(Worship Space "Milling Area")
(Youth Center)</i> |
| 3:00 - 5:00 PM | ESPECIALLY FOR NEWCOMERS | <i>(Worship Space)</i> |

UNDERSTANDING SUDAN: A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NATION AND THE CHURCH

- Dr. Randall Fegley, Associate Professor of History and Politics and Coordinator of Global Studies, Pennsylvania State University; President, Sudan Studies Association
- The Rev. Dr. Richard Jones, Professor Emeritus, Virginia Theological Seminary; Faculty, Muslim-Christian Studies, Washington Theological Union
- Moderator: Richard Parkins

Dr. Fegley will provide an overview of Sudan's geography, culture, history and governance, an analysis of Sudan's religions, and the role of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement as a major factor in Sudan's current political context. Professor Jones will discuss the history and role of the Episcopal Church of Sudan as a key institution in Sudan and as a major player in the movement toward independence.

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| 5:00 - 6:00 PM | NETWORKING BREAK | |
| 6:00 - 7:00 PM | DINNER | <i>(Youth Center)</i> |
| 7:15 - 9:00 PM | EVENING PLENARY | <i>(Worship Space)</i> |

SOUTH SUDAN: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Ambassador Alan Goulty, Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center
- Bishop Abraham Nhial, Diocese of Aweil, Episcopal Church of Sudan
- Bishop Andudu Elnail, Diocese of Kadugli and the Nuba Mountains, ECS
- Moderator: Richard Parkins

As South Sudan moves toward independence on July 9, the unfinished business of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement may jeopardize any prospect of peace and stability for the new nation. Ambassador Goulty, who represented the United Kingdom during CPA negotiations and who has maintained an ongoing interest in Sudan, will offer observations on the current political landscape and what challenges are likely to present themselves to the new republic. Ambassador Goulty's remarks will be augmented by reflections from two ECS bishops currently visiting the United States: Bishop Abraham Nhial, Diocese of Aweil, and Bishop Andudu Elnail, Diocese of Kadugli and the Nuba Mountains.

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| 9:00 - 9:15 PM | COMPLINE
The Rev. Hillary West, Assistant Rector, Christ Church | <i>(Worship Space)</i> |
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12:30 - 2:00 PM

WORKSHOPS (2 choices)

EDUCATION AND SUDAN'S FUTURE

(Parlor)

- Jennifer and Darryl Ernst, Founders, Hope for Humanity
- Carol Francis-Rinehart, Executive Director, Project Education Sudan
- Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Ellen Hanckel

The persistent plea for expanding educational opportunities for Sudanese as they face the challenges of a democratic society and economic viability has been met in part by two efforts to extend schooling to Sudanese. Hope for Humanity, Inc., a non-profit based in Richmond, VA, constructed and continues to fund Hope and Resurrection School, a growing secondary school in Atiaba which with the active support of US churches has become an exemplary secondary school for Sudanese young men and women. Project Education Sudan, based in Denver, CO, has developed extensive educational partnerships with South Sudanese throughout Sudan and is a leader in promoting innovative school projects. Both programs/projects suggest ways in which Sudan's need for schools can be met through partnerships.

A COMPANION CONNECTION

(Worship Space)

- Debra Morris Smith and Susan Naylor, Diocese of Missouri
- Moderator: Connie Fegley

The presenters will lead a conversation about the hands-on side of the companion relationship, drawing particularly on their experience with visits between the Diocese of Missouri in The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Lui in The Episcopal Church of Sudan. Susan, a deacon and a registered nurse, has engaged in health care, health education, and health research in Lui as well as pastoral conferences and general team projects. Debbie is the current relationship coordinator on the Missouri side; she has been especially involved in the areas of education, technology, and women's empowerment. Other Missourians will contribute via video, and workshop participants will be invited to consider and discuss the rewards and challenges of hands-on projects and activities carried out by TEC and ECS partners.

2:00 - 2:15 PM

BREAK

(Worship Space "Milling Area")

2:15 - 3:45 PM

WORKSHOPS (3 choices)

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

(Parlor)

- The Rev. Canon Trevor Stubbs, Interim Administrator, Bishop Gwynne Theological College, Juba
- Dr. Ellen Davis, Professor of Biblical History and Practical Theology, Duke Divinity School
- Dr. Stephen Cook, Professor of Old Testament Language & Literature, Virginia Theological Seminary
- Moderator: The Rev. Frederick Houghton

Participants will be updated on theological education programs of the ECS and learn ways in which American friends are and can be involved. The Ven. Trevor Stubbs will describe his effort to strengthen Bishop Gwynne College during his term as Interim Administrator. Dr. Ellen F. Davis, founder of the Visiting Teachers Program with Renk Theological College, continues to pursue her interest in development of theological education, community health and sustainable agriculture for the ECS. Dr. Cook will reflect on VTS's longstanding work in theological education for Sudanese clergy. The context for the discussion is the increased need for priests as the ECS grows and takes on the added challenges of serving an independent South Sudan.

ADVOCACY: TELLING THE STORY

(Worship Space)

- Russell Randle, Senior Partner, Patton Boggs
- Steven Miles, Senior Partner, Baker Botts
- Moderator: Fritz Gilbert

This session will show how to make the case for U.S. government action for peace and development in Sudan, with particular attention to how one arranges for and appropriately conducts a congressional or senatorial visit, how to present (and how not to present) your concerns, and some of the related requirements and customs for successfully lobbying a member of Congress and his/her staff, as well as key committee staff. Past examples, various pointers,

and appropriate follow-up steps will be offered. The presenters are both Washington lawyers with experience in such efforts and in compliance with rules for lobbying. They will provide the 2011 Congressional Directory to participants. These exercises will be built around current issues facing Sudan in the months ahead and the role of the US Government in supporting a free, independent, and stable Republic of South Sudan.

MICRO-ENTERPRISE: A MEANS OF EMPOWERMENT (Education Building)

- Craig Cole, President and Founder, Five Talents
- Judith Gregory, Business Manager, Diocese of Delaware
- Anne Gordon Curran, Province III representative, United Thank Offering board
- Moderator: Carolyn Mackay

Already there are efforts throughout Sudan to equip Sudanese to undertake businesses which not only provide essential services to communities but also give livelihoods to hundreds who need incomes for themselves and their families. Craig Cole of Five Talents will discuss how such initiatives offer chances for thousands to move from poverty to economic well-being. The United Thank Offering meanwhile has provided grants to sustain various initiatives at the provincial and diocesan level. Anne Gordon Curran will describe the processes whereby our thankful giving can make a substantial difference to projects and institutions launched by the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

4:00 - 5:00 PM **SUMMARY PLENARY** (Youth Center)

COMMITMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

- Moderator: Bishop David Colin Jones, President of AFRECS

This summary session will encourage participants to share what they have learned and how they hope or plan to work for a sustainable peace in Sudan and engage in partnerships and advocacy so as to strengthen the Sudanese church as it enters a new phase of its history. Brief reports from the various workshops and plenary sessions will be offered.

5:00 - 6:00 PM **NETWORKING AND EXHIBITS**

6:30 - 8:30 PM **DINNER AND AWARDS CEREMONY** (Youth Center)

Master of Ceremonies: Bishop David Colin Jones

Presentations to:

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church
Samaritan's Purse, Inc.

Ms. Janette O'Neill, formerly of Episcopal Relief & Development

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

8:00 - 9:00 AM **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** (Youth Center)

9:00 - 10:15 AM **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS** (Youth Center)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Workshop presenters and other church or NGO leaders will host conversations about various subjects. This is a chance to work on next steps, or find out more from those already engaged in projects, issues, or regions of interest.

10:45 AM - NOON **HOLY EUCHARIST** (Worship Space)

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church Preacher and Celebrant

The Rev. Paul A. Johnson, Rector