

# STTC Newsletter - June 2022

Solidarity Teacher Training College, Yambio, South Sudan



## Trauma Healing Workshop

One of the programmes held during the mid-semester break was a trauma healing workshop. The organisation Adeesa Support Group along with Sr Bakhita Francis MFIC conducted the week-long workshop using a biblical approach. Most of the students who come to STTC for a teacher training course have already gone through bitter experiences in life. Common experiences are displacement, abduction, killing of close family, loss of property including livestock, forced marriage, rape, and child soldiering. The college conducts workshops frequently in order to help students heal from trauma and start a new life. The recent workshop focused on understanding trauma, causes and effects of trauma, and how to deal with traumatized persons. The students found the programme extremely useful.



## Holiday Program – June 2022

The month of June was declared a mid-year break. Tutors and several of the Solidarity community members left for their respective countries for holidays. About 90% of the students remained in the college residence since they are from far off places and traveling is very expensive. They used their holidays in a productive manner. They took up some voluntary work such as painting the compound wall, repairing the wooden and metal furniture, and gardening. Painting the lengthy compound wall, inside and outside, was a major project. Under student leadership, and with an excellent team spirit, they accomplished excellent work that is the admiration of all.

## Welcome Ngaluku and Justin

Ngaluku Lukulu and Justin Agaallah completed the Certificate course at STTC in 2018 and were selected for Solidarity scholarships to do their Degree at Tangaza University, Nairobi, Kenya. STTC is proud to welcome the first university-completed graduates of STTC to join the STTC teaching faculty in the role of tutors. Ngaluku has completed his Bachelor's degree in English Literature with Education, and Agaallah holds his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics & Computer with Education. It is great to see these two young new professionals excel in their career as teachers. Welcome, Ngaluku and Justin.



Ngaluku

Justin



## Certificate Course Subjects

The two-year Certificate program offers extensive knowledge and skills in three key areas, weighted equally in the final award. The Professional Studies courses focus on Supporting the Learner, Behaviour and Classroom Management, Language and Literacy, Role of the Teacher. The School Practice element is built around Early Childhood and Primary School. It is through School Practice in nearby schools that students develop their classroom skills and strengthen their identity as teachers. The third element is Subject Knowledge, covering all the Primary School curriculum subjects. Students gain rich experience and knowledge from the STTC tutors who come from various countries to train teachers for South Sudan.

## Diploma in Education

STTC is proud to start a Diploma in Education for the first time. There is a strong demand for the one-year Diploma programme. The three key areas, weighted equally in the final Diploma award, are Professional Studies, School Practice, and Subject Knowledge. Under Professional Studies there are three courses: Teaching Strategies & Assessment, Curriculum Design, and Leadership: Managing the Inclusive School. The School Practice component is made up of a Classroom-based Action Research Project (including Information Technology) and 'Master Teacher' or peer training. For the first intake, the Subject electives will be English, Early Childhood Development Education, and Mathematics & Science for the Primary School. This is an exciting new venture for all involved, students and teachers; we wish them well.

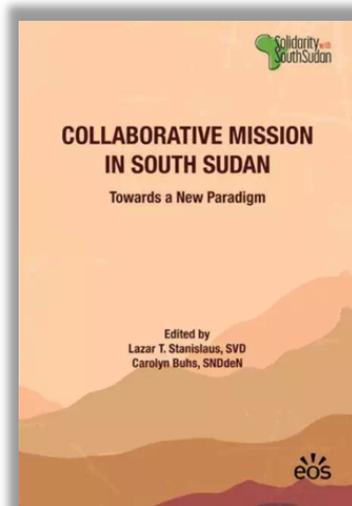


## Management Committee

The annual Management Committee meeting of Solidarity with South Sudan, involving all the projects, was attended recently by Br Chris on behalf of STTC in Juba. Discussions were centered around principals' reports such as key issues and challenges in the institutions, finance matters, assuring quality and standard in the projects, the need for strategic and annual planning, improving collaboration with the local church, HR issues in the projects, Child safeguarding and codes of conduct issues, increasing the number of new members from congregations to join Solidarity, and reaching out to more beneficiaries.

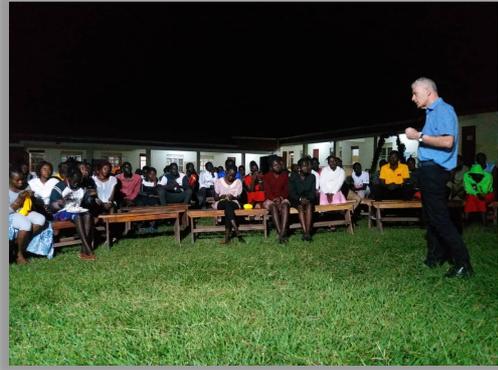
## Book Launch by Solidarity

An online launch of the Solidarity book entitled "Collaborative Mission in South Sudan" was held on 21 April. There was great participation from religious congregations, lay volunteers, missionaries, and donors from all over the world. Br Emili Turu Rofes FMS, the current President of Solidarity with South Sudan, moderated the event. Sr. Carolyn Buhs SNDdeN, Fr. José Cristo Rey Paredes CMF, Sr. Maria Cimperman RSCJ, and Sr. Teresa Okure SHCJ, all of whom contributed to the book, were on the panel. The launch was held under the auspices of the Unions of the Superior Generals of both men and women religious congregations. This is the body that responded to the call of the Sudanese Bishops' Conference and started Solidarity with South Sudan. The teacher training college in Yambio (STTC) is one of its projects; others are a health training institute (CHTI, Wau), a sustainable farm with an outreach program (Riimenze), and pastoral services (Kit).



## Fr Jim Green's Visit to STTC

Fr Jim, the executive director of Solidarity with South Sudan, made a recent visit to Yambio. His visit was encouraging to the students, staff, and the community members. Apart from holding various official meetings, he had the chance to interact with the students, which he always loves to do. He appreciated the students' commitment to their studies and the good spirit among them. He commended in particular the hard work undertaken by the students during their vacation, especially their painting of the compound wall, gardening and maintenance work. They contribute year-round to maintaining the compound, but this recent holiday effort is of special note.



## From Br Methodius Kusoru

Greetings from Ghana. I am well and I pray and wish you the same. As usual I am writing to acknowledge with gratitude receipt of all the Newsletters. I can never thank you enough for linking me up with the college through this medium. It is a joy for me to still feel part of the project that I have given my time, energy and knowledge for eight years. Indeed, my life story cannot be complete if it is not linked up with STTC, Yambio. Thanks to you and your team for continuing the spirit which was initiated by those of us who have taken part to shape the college in its infant years. God bless you and the entire college community.

## Success story - Simon Salah

"My name is Simon Salah, a 25 years old recent graduate of STTC (class of 2022). I joined STTC in August 2019 after completing my Senior Secondary in 2017 at Somali-Bantu Secondary School in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya. The chance to enroll into STTC came as a golden opportunity at a time when I had no school fees for further studies. My mother is a widow and survived by three children, and who struggles to make ends meet. Quality education at STTC was a luxury of which few can afford. STTC is unique. As a college, it focuses on holistic education, thus, fostering peace and unity among students and the surrounding community of Yambio. I have managed to create life-long relationships with both the colleagues and tutors, who have been instrumental in my professional, spiritual and mental growth. With the skills I have gained, I will go back to Nuba Mountains, Sudan and help teach in schools."

