



# HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

# NEWS

2011 Issue 2

PC(USA) International Health and Development  
[www.pcusa.org/internationalhealth](http://www.pcusa.org/internationalhealth)



The Akobo area of South Sudan has a new community clinic (left) replacing the hut (right) that previously housed basic health services. GAMC Executive Director Linda Valentine is pictured at the far right while on a visit to the new facility with mission co-worker Nancy McGaughey. Efforts continue to raise funds for staff housing at Akobo Hospital, where the victims of recent violence are coming for care.

## HAITI RESTORATION PROJECTS MAKE PROGRESS

Several important pieces of the long-term restoration plan for earthquake-damaged Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane are well under way. A new roof and new wiring, plumbing, windows, doors, and painting are nearing completion, and a new water tank and generators are in place. Funding for these essential improvements was provided through PC(USA)'s Haiti Response Team with money from the Haiti earthquake disaster assistance appeal.

Holy Cross Hospital continues to serve patients during renovations. International Health & Development made a grant of \$80,000 to the hospital to help it provide care to patients who cannot pay for health services.

Several members of the six-person Haiti Response Team traveled to Haiti in May. Among the issues they explored was how the PC(USA) can help provide housing for thousands of displaced persons in the Leogane area. Meetings are being held with the leadership of PC(USA)'s partner, the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti, to determine the best way to proceed. Many people are still living in tents on the grounds of the PC(USA)-supported FSIL Nursing School in Leogane.

PC(USA) will also be engaged in the reconstruction of St. Croix School in Leogane, which prior to the earthquake

*continued on page 2*

## PRAY FOR PEACE IN SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan's impending independence has triggered outbreaks of violence at the same time that interethnic clashes are flaring up. Official recognition of South Sudan as an independent nation is set for July 9. Plans are in place to safeguard the security of PC(USA) mission personnel including Nancy McGaughey in Adol, and Rev. Jacob and Aliamma George, who are in Malakal. Health facilities in Akobo are currently dealing with an upsurge of wounded patients due to interethnic violence. Dr. Michael Tut Pur, medical director at the PC(USA)-supported Akobo Hospital, reported that over a dozen injured patients were treated in mid-May, some with serious gunshot

### How You Can Help

E862759: Health Work of the Presbyterian Church in Sudan

wounds or head injuries.

A Season of Prayer has been called for by a number of faith communities, asking that people pray throughout the month of June for Sudan. Prayer resources for Sudan are available through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program at <http://presbyterian.typepad.com/peacemaking/2011/05/pray-with-the-people-of-sudan-as-south-sudan-prepares-for-independence.html>.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- CHE Training
- Ethiopia Mission Network
- Missionary News

## CONTACT

IHM Staff at 1-888-728-7228  
 Bob Ellis, Coordinator, ext. 5277  
 JoAnn Saunders, Associate for Institutional Finance, ext. 5276

Gail Bingham, Associate for Constituency Relations, ext. 5573  
 Joy Raatz, HIV/AIDS Initiative Facilitator, ext. 5415  
 Toni Roppel, Administrative Assistant, ext. 5279

## REGISTER NOW FOR BIG TENT

Plan now to join Presbyterians from across the country at Big Tent, a celebration of mission and ministry to be held in Indianapolis June 30–July 2. Nine partner conferences will be held concurrently at Big Tent, each offering rich opportunities for learning and fellowship, plus inspiring worship and plenary presentations.

The World Mission conference, “World Mission Matters,” will highlight three critical global issues: Justice—addressing the root causes of poverty, particularly as they impact women and children; Witness—sharing the good news of God’s love; and Reconciliation—working for reconciliation in cultures plagued by violence, including our own. An array of speakers and workshops will help equip participants for faithful and effective mission service. Joy Raatz, the PC(USA)’s HIV/AIDS initiative facilitator, will present a workshop with Phyllis Wezeman, a leader of the Malawi Mission Network, on creative methods for HIV/AIDS education currently being used in Malawi. Bob Ellis and Gail Bingham from the International Health & Development office will also be present.

Visit <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/big-tent/> for more information and to register.



*Youngsters from a Child to Child Health Club in northern Malawi perform a skit to educate other children and their parents about healthy sanitation and personal hygiene practices. At another Child to Child Health Club project, mothers learn how to grow and prepare more nutritious foods. The Child to Child Health Clubs received funding in 2010 from the annual Healthy Women Healthy Families Mother’s Day Project.*

## THOUSANDS PARTICIPATE IN MOTHER’S DAY PROJECT

Presbyterians sent over 25,000 Healthy Women Healthy Families Mother’s Day cards to loved ones this spring, each one representing a donation to health projects for African women and children. Gifts made to Healthy Women Healthy Families in exchange for the Mother’s Day cards support the health ministries of PC(USA) partner churches in Malawi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. Your donations support health services such as cervical cancer screening, prenatal care, fistula surgery,

health education, children’s immunizations, and malaria prevention.

If you, your church, or Presbyterian Women group participated in the Mother’s Day Project but haven’t yet sent in your donations, you may direct gifts to Healthy Women Healthy Families by mailing a check—made out to PC(USA) with E052095 on the memo line—to PC(USA) P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. In 2010, more than \$135,000 was contributed to Healthy Women Healthy Families.

## HAITI RESTORATION PROJECTS MAKE PROGRESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



*The waiting area is crowded with patients at Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane.*

had a student body of 750 in primary grades through high school. IHD Coordinator Bob Ellis, a member of the Haiti Response Team, and Pix Mahler, the (PC(USA)’s Haiti Partnership Facilitator, will travel to Haiti in the fall to help facilitate work on the school, to see the hospital improvements that are expected to be completed by then, and to continue development of a new housing initiative.

### How You Can Help

Holy Cross Hospital—E343302  
 FSIL Nursing School—E052113



# DEVELOPMENT NEWS

## CHE TRAINING EXPANDED

Church leaders in Ethiopia will be introduced to Community Health Evangelism (CHE) in June at a training session in Addis Ababa. Church officers and directors of the Development and Social Services Committee from all five of the PC(USA)-affiliated Bethel Synods of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) will attend the five-day session, which was funded by International Health & Development. They will learn ways in which they can implement CHE principals to help communities solve their own problems.

Former PC(USA) mission co-worker Nathaniel Veltman laid the groundwork for the CHE workshop during his service with EECMY's development office. "This is our first experience in implementing a training program for all five Bethel synods," said Bob Ellis, coordinator of International

Health & Development. "CHE is a new model of mission, empowering congregations and communities to plan and implement their own programs." Community Health Evangelism is a program of biblically based teaching modules that have been used for over 30 years to present practical steps for improving the health and well-being of communities. CHE trains volunteers to work within their own communities to address specific needs such as clean water, improved sanitation, agricultural diversification, and literacy. CHE empowers church leaders to share a holistic gospel of health and wholeness for all members of the community.

Mission co-worker Rachel Weller will follow up on the CHE training when she



*Over two dozen men and women participated in a CHE training session in Pibor, South Sudan, with a focus on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. Nancy McGaughey, health coordinator for Across, PC(USA)'s partner organization in South Sudan, was one of the leaders of the training. During the four-day program, participants learned more about causes and prevention of HIV/AIDS and STDS, voluntary counseling, and testing, and then identified and prioritized related issues in their home communities and considered possible solutions they could implement.*

returns to Ethiopia in August to serve as health coordinator for the five EECMY Bethel synods. Mission co-worker Gwen Haspels is developing a proposal for a CHE workshop for Southwest Bethel Synod that will include some of the Suri people of that region.

## NEWS OF OUR MISSIONARIES

**Jim and Jodi McGill** and their family of six have returned from Malawi to the United States on furlough assignment. The family is living at Mission Haven in Decatur, GA. Jim and Jodi will be available for limited speaking engagements at churches in the U.S.



**Paul and Darlene Heller** are back in upstate New York after a term of mission service in Malawi. Paul served as director and Darlene as matron at the Ministry of Hope Crisis Nursery in Mzuzu.

**Denise England**, who served as a nurse in Egypt, has left her position because of political turmoil in the region. She is now living in Iowa.

**Elizabeth and Dan Turk** and their two children are also living at Mission Haven. They've returned from service in Madagascar due to ongoing political violence.



**Nathaniel Veltman** has returned from Ethiopia where he served in the community development office of the PC(USA)-affiliated Bethel Synods of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. "Than" is itinerating to U.S. churches around the country from his home in Pittsburgh.

**Ruth Brown** is continuing language study in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in preparation for her service

as a community development specialist assigned to the Presbyterian Community of Congo. Ruth is living in Kananga.

**Michael Weller**, who has been serving as regional liaison for the Horn of Africa, and **Rachel Weller** will return



to Ethiopia in August. Michael has been based in Pennsylvania for the past two years, while Rachel completed her bachelor's degree in nursing. The Wellers will be living in Gambella, where Michael will be based for work in Ethiopia and Sudan and Rachel will coordinate health activities for the five Bethel synods of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus.



**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**  
International Health Ministries  
100 Witherspoon Street  
Louisville, KY 40202-1396

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LOUISVILLE, KY  
PERMIT NO. 1215

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## MBF CONTINUES HAITI PROJECTS AMID LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Leadership has changed at the Medical Benevolence Foundation, the Houston-based Validated Mission Support Group that works in support of PC(USA) health programs worldwide. The Rev. Dr. Will Browne resigned as director of MBF in April. Former president of the board Dr. Maria Zack is serving as interim director. Bill Simmons, a former World Mission staff member, continues to guide MBF as chief operating officer. Dr. Amy McAuley, a member of First Presbyterian Church of Evanston, Illinois, is president of the board.

MBF is currently engaged with World Mission's Haiti Reponse Team in several long-term initiatives to rebuild earthquake-damaged institutions in Leogane. MBF is facilitating construction contracts to restore Holy Cross Hospital and make improvements to the Beval campus in Leogane, which includes the FSIL Nursing School.



### ETHIOPIA MISSION NETWORK

*Among the more than 50 people who participated in the Ethiopia Mission Network Meeting in April were (from left) guest speaker Girma Borishie Bati from PC(USA)'s mission partner, the Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), and former mission co-workers Than Veltman and Jane Reynolds. Rev. Debbie Braaksma, World Mission's Africa coordinator, Rob Weingartner, executive director of The Outreach Foundation, and Tom LePage of the Chalmers Center for Economic Development at Covenant College were also featured speakers. The three-day event in Atlanta was the eighth annual meeting of the Network, which brings together people from throughout the United States who are interested in or engaged in ministry in Ethiopia.*