

## South Sudan prayer requests for 2024

We asked our friends in Wau Diocese and Northern Bahr El-Ghazal Internal Province to tell us their principal needs: here is a summary to inform your prayers as the New Year begins.

**Refugees and returnees:** the civil war which began in Sudan in April 2023 is causing huge problems for South Sudan. Although this has largely disappeared from the media in Britain, we have kept the news page of our website as up-to-date as we can, with links to news stories we can find, and will continue to do so: <https://www.poolewaupartnership.com/news.html>.

The number of refugees crossing the border exceeded 250,000 by September, many of them returnees who



Bishop Peter meeting returnees at Wedweil

fled from the civil war in South Sudan between 2013 and 2018 and who have now come south again to escape the new war inside Sudan. "Please uphold us in your prayers and those Refugees and Returnees who came from Sudan due to the ongoing civil war in the country," writes **Bishop Peter Garang** of Nyamlel, whose diocese contains a large Refugee Camp at Wedweil. Pray for the peaceful integration of refugees and returnees, as Bishop Peter reports that conflicts have occurred between them and the host community. He also asks us to pray for God's provision of food as the large numbers of new arrivals have put great pressure on supplies.

**Intercommunal Violence:** another major prayer item, writes **Archbishop Moses Deng Bol**, is the continuing intercommunal violence between Twich Ngok communities and between Dinka Apuk and Dinka Wau. Archbishop Moses has worked tirelessly for many years to reduce long-standing tribal rivalries.

**St Paul's Cathedral, Wanjyok:** there is great cause for encouragement in that the congregation worshipping at the cathedral increases month by month, but, as **Bishop Joseph Mamer** writes, "St. Paul's Cathedral has become very, very small. Our congregation increases each month, and we are now planning to build a bigger Cathedral."

**Archbishop Moses & Bishop Joseph during their visit to Poole in 2022**



Please pray for God's provision of the resources to make this project possible.

**St John's College, Wau:** the biggest priority for St John's is the new extension. Principal **Philip Abiel**, asks for prayer for, "completion of the college extension building, which we are working on now." On 8<sup>th</sup> November, PWP sent £15,000 to enable the college to begin fitting the doors, windows and wall, floor and ceiling finishes. PWP applied to the Slavanka Trust on 21<sup>st</sup> November for a £5000 grant to complete this final stage of construction. Please pray that the Trustees will look favourably on our application when they meet in January.

We wish all our supporters a very Happy Christmas and every blessing in 2024!

# The Poole-Wau Partnership

linking Poole Deanery churches with Wau Diocese, South Sudan since 2011

## A tribute to Bob Lloyd

**Bob Lloyd of St John's Church, Heatherlands, in Ashley Road, Parkstone, who has recently died, was truly "a man of many parts", and one of the parts he played was as Secretary of the Poole-Wau Partnership.**

Bob was our second Secretary, following Liz McMillan after she was severely injured in a car crash in 2015. He was already informally involved with PWP and was willing to add the role of PWP Secretary alongside the many other church activities that he took part in, once he heard of the need.

"Quietly efficient" describes how he filled the role, and he stayed with it until ill-health obliged him to cut back some of his commitments.

Even ill-health didn't stop him taking part in most if not all of the annual Holes Bay Walk fundraisers, and on occasions when he couldn't walk on the day he would do it on his own when he felt able to. He started with the second walk in 2016 as part of a group from St Johns (one of whom was a dog!) and continued until very recently. Every time, so many people sponsored him that he personally raised many hundreds of pounds every year towards our Wau and South Sudan projects.

Bob regularly participated in our prayer meetings, both face to face, and after Covid became a problem, via Zoom.

A lovely man, a committed and dedicated man, a man much loved by others, PWP also loved and appreciated him and give thanks for his life and the work he did with us.

Richard Tazewell & Mary Hockey



## January Prayer Meeting

We continue to hold prayer meetings, usually on the first Monday of each month. Our next Prayer Meeting will take place at **St Luke's Church, Parkstone at 1230 on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** (1<sup>st</sup> obviously being New Year's Day). You are most welcome to join us to pray for South Sudan.

We are keen to hold these meetings at different churches around the Deanery. If your church would be willing to host one of these meetings, providing a room for 45 minutes and hot drinks, please do get in touch.

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Acts 2:42*

## The Poole-Wau Partnership

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