



# Newsletter

## Hilde van der Draai

*Assist South Sudan In Strengthening Teachers in Christ*

April, 2014.

### Thanksgiving!

- \* Thank God for the mangoes!
- \* Thank God for the graduated students who have found good jobs.
- \* Thank God for the education programs in ECC and for the 2nd year students who are doing their internships.

### Prayerpoints:

- \*Pray for the students who are still hiding and can't come to the college.
- \* At the end of April our students will go for their 4 weeks holiday. Pray for God's protection while they are out of the campus.
- \*Pray for our students with an Islamic background.
- \* Pray for the leaders of ECC.
- \*Pray for the leaders of the country and for peace in the whole nation.

## Thank you!

In the last newsletter I wrote about the students who are in need of financial support to pay their schoolfees. Your response was overwhelming. We have received enough money to help at least two students with their fees. Thank you very much!

### It's Mango-Time!

Every time when I travel from Goli to Yei I look at the trees which are full with mango's. They are fascinating to me. The fruits are not yet ripe but already functional, because they give hope! Each fruit gives hope for a sweet taste and for an income. If the mango-tree is next to your house, you are blessed with many mangoes! The first mangoes are worth a lot of money, because in that time there are not so many yet. When all the mangoes are ripe, there are enough for everyone! Even the children in the villages who normally lack good feeding will enjoy them! During that time they are for free, they are for everyone. That is grace. That is a blessing.

I would love to compare the first mangoes with our first graduated students, because they are still few and people love to have them in their schools. Despite the challenges in the country, most of the students have found good jobs. James Garang has become the headteacher of a Secondary school, James Lemeriga is a teacher in one of our partner primary schools. Betty has become the deputy principal of a primary and nursery school and Abas is combining his job in our education department with teaching in the secondary school at the campus. Their successful stories give us hope. And when I look at the potential students in our department, I realize that this hope is not in vain! South Sudan will enjoy more fruits in the future!

(The picture below is made at one of our partnerschool.)

Our second years education students have started their teaching practice period. Some experience for the first time in their lives to teach a class of children. While I am observing their lessons, I can see again the mango-tree in the overcrowded classes. The children in these classrooms are the fruits for the future of South Sudan. They are in need of a good teacher in order to develop and to 'ripen' well. I am dreaming about that moment in which every child in South Sudan can enjoy good education, likewise all children will enjoy the taste of a sweet mango this season!

(On the picture below I am evaluating the lesson taught by one of our students.)



## Students with Islamic Background.

In our department we are having students from an Islamic background. Some of these students have decided to follow Jesus and others are curious about the bible and are asking questions. These students are in need of prayers, their relatives and community-members back home discourage them in their faith and some are even threatened because of the change they have seen in their lives.



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