



FLYING FOR LIFE

in South Sudan

Newsletter Hobo family

"I have but one candle of life to burn, and i would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light." - John Keith Falconer



Dear Friends and family,

Warm regards from South Sudan! First of all we would like to wish everyone a blessed 2020! This time we have written something about the people we fly, a new friend for Yenthe, sadness at the orphanage and funny cultural differences. We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter! Wim & Marlies and Yenthe

Thank you, pilot!

A small hand taps my shoulder during flight. The little girl in row one looks at me with a smile and hands me a self-made drawing with large letters: Thank you Pilot! Her parents, both doctors, are running a missionary hospital in one of the remote villages. In the past year, more than ten thousand (!) patients were treated and many of them heard the Gospel. I regularly fly materials and food to this hospital. It gives me great satisfaction to safely fly this family to Juba today for their well-deserved leave.



A new friend

After almost all my girlfriends had moved to Austria and Australia, I was very happy to get a new girlfriend again. We do not live on the same compound, but I see her every day, because she is in my class. Her name is Gelila and she is from Ethiopia. I'm really looking forward to visit The Netherlands soon.

Greetings, Yenthe





Pregnant for 12 months...

Because the household in South Sudan takes a lot more time and Marlies has different tasks outside the house, Sarah helps us a few mornings a week at home. She was expecting her third baby in the beginning of November, but one month later the baby was still not there. Eventually the baby was born about six weeks "too late". A South Sudanese colleague told us that she had also been pregnant for ten months and that some pregnancies last 12 months! Calculation error?



Thank for:

- A relatively peaceful time in the country
- A new friend for Yenthe
- No ebola in South Sudan till now
- Many and safe flights in 2019

Pray for:

- Lasting peace and stability in South Sudan
- More kids on the MAF compound
- Sufficient resources for the orphanage to provide all kids with sufficient care and schooling



Twins

South Sudan ... one of the most risky environments to give birth. This is Mary, her mother recently died during delivery. Mary was recently brought to the orphanage together with her twin brother (both were very weak). After two days, her brother also passed away. I realized again what professional medical care could mean for many mothers and children. Thankfully, Mary is doing well now that she is getting relatively good food and care. Without the care in the orphanage, Mary would not have been the baby who now smiles cheerfully at me every week.

Floodings

Drought, cattle raids, instability, but also recent (exceptional) floodings do not make the situation in South Sudan very easy. There is even quite a chance that the huge locust plague will move from Kenya to South Sudan. Therefore, prayer and support do remain indispensable !!

Too lazy...

While shaking her head in surprise, the South Sudanese woman looks at Wim .. "Why are you cooking after a day of work while your wife is just at home? That's wrong, she will get too lazy! You should sit on the couch now and your wife should prepare tea for you!" Sometimes quite funny, these cultural differences..

Home Assignment 2020

A few months and then it will be time for our next Home Assignment! We have been in South Sudan for almost 4 years now. It feels shorter, but on the other hand also much longer. We're looking forward to seeing our families and friends! We also like to meet with all our supporters and inform them about our work through presentations. We expect to arrive in The Netherlands on Thursday the 9th of April.

Meeting Day

Saturday, 16th of May 2020

See you!

(details will follow)

Presentations

Would you like to invite Wim and Marlies for a presentation in your church or school: please contact us as soon as possible.
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