The Uniting Church of Australia
South Sudanese Nuer Faith Community in Queensland

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To: Uniting Church Members

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Re: South Sudanese Villages Crisis

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On 16 May 2020, we were saddened to hear that armed militias had raided Lou Nuer villages in South Sudan. Weeks later the attacks continue and the Lou Nuer community are devastated. There are many casualties and displaced families while COVID-19 continues to spread in South Sudan. The outcry for help from these villages has not stopped and we once again share this heavy news with our friends and servants in Christ.

On top of the COVID-19 outbreak in Southern Sudan, it is with great sadness that we advise of recent attacks on the villages of Pieri, Goakgoak, Payai, Boluong, Paduach and other villages. You have been with us through many challenging times. At this point, we do not know what else to ask of you besides your will to plea to God with us. As always, we seek for your prayer and solidarity.

Help us pray and ask God to give us wisdom, empathy and guidance so that South Sudanese people in the villages do not continue to attack one another in the midst of COVID-19.

Only a few weeks ago, we heard a letter from Rev. John Yor of South Sudan being read by Uniting World National Director, Sureka Goringe. There is very little awareness of the Coronavirus; there is lack of food and access to water. On 27 May South Sudan confirmed more than 994 cases of COVID-19 and these are only the reported cases in Juba, the capital of South Sudan. It is hard to imagine what is happening to the people without access to health service in the country.

The health system is extremely weak in this part of the world. The people are surely living by the grace of God. Crises like COVID-19 will significantly affect the poorest people now and for the long term. It is disappointing to share news of communal conflict while the country just came out of a 7 years civil war, villages are still recovering from detrimental floods and now COVID-19.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Murle community, Lou Nuer community and the people of Southern Sudan. May God give us all wisdom, empathy and guidance. South Sudanese are tired of conflict. May we all apply wisdom.

In Nuer language (Thok Naath) we pray: "**ɛ mal Kuoth te thin**"
English Translation: "May God's peace be within"

Yours Sincerely,

Pastor Moses M. Leth
Nuer Faith Community

GO INTO THE ENTIRE WORLD, SERVE THE LORD

