



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Sudanese Reformed Church

General Synod

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Sudanese Reformed Church (SRC) originated in Khartoum, Sudan in February 1992. Progressively, in October 2005 SRC was re-organized and instituted as Reformed denomination. Up to date SRC has two classes (**Khartoum & Juba**) with sixteen (16) congregations plus 18 church plants in different towns and IDPs and refugee camps with a membership of 6000+.

1. Inter-Church Relations

Sudanese Reformed Church (SRC) as a young growing Reformed denomination in the heart of Africa needs connection and linkage with more matured biblical Reformed Churches to realize and unleash her potential in promoting Reformed faith in South Sudan and Sudan.

After COVID19 pandemic, global travels open up again making accessibility to other countries possible which has been an opportunity for SRC to re-connect with like-minded Reformed denominations. With the world being opened and by God's grace, SRC this year 2022 has experienced fraternal ecumenical connections and visits. Here below are some of the connections and visits made:



Meeting of mission agencies delegates during the consultation

a. Mission Consultation

The Mission Consultation was held as from 20rd – 23rd September 2022 in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania USA hosted by Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). It was a joint mission consultation of representatives of International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC) and North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC) mission agencies. During the consultation information on current and planned work of the mission agencies were exchanged and issues of mutual concern were discussed. Sudanese Reformed Church (SRC) was represented by Rev. Patrick Jok Ding.



Rev. Hank L. Belfield OPC GA Stated Clerk with Rev. Patrick Jok on the sideline of the consultation

It was a rare time praying for Reformed missions' labors around the globe, passionately encouraging one another and the fellowship that was a great blessing to all the representatives who made to the consultation.



ICRC Mission Committee members from left to right Mark Bube, Dirk Boersma, Yonson Dethan, Arjan de Visser and Patrick Jok

b. ICRC Meeting

The 10th quadrennial general meeting of the International Conference of Reformed Churches (ICRC) was held between 13th -18th October 2022, at Windhoek Country Club Resort in Windhoek, Namibia. It was hosted by the Reformed Churches in South Africa.

The conference was attended by ICRC members churches, representatives of five new applying churches and invited guests. Progressively, five new churches were admitted and welcome to the body and the fellowship of ICRC bringing the total number of Member Churches to thirty-eight (38). In this conference, SRC was represented by two delegates Rev. Kewy Ismail Geng and Rev. Patrick Jok.

It was a colorful meeting with devotions, presentation of various topics, panel discussion, reports of technical committees, appointment of new committees' members plus field visits to some of South Africa Reformed Churches' mission work in Namibia. It is worth mentioning that member churches had an ample space of bilateral conversations among themselves. It was indeed an encouraging and a blessed time together as globe Reformed family. In HIS grace, ICRC is beefing up her purpose of promoting Reformed witness and presenting a testimony to the world.

God willing, the next ICRC meeting general meeting shall be held on mid-October 2026 and to be hosted by Kosin Presbyterian Church in Korea.



Delegates of ICRC 2022 General Meeting Windhoek, Namibia



Two of SRC delegates with: from left to right Rick Postma, Dr. Brian DeVries and Rev. John Van Dyke during the proceedings of ICRC meeting

c. World Reformed Fellowship (WRF)

The 6th General Assembly of WRF was held between 27th -30th October 2022 in Orlando, USA, under the theme “**Nature and Mission of the Church**”. It was hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Orlando. Various topics and seminars under the general theme were presented. It was a blessed General Assembly. South Sudan was represented by two representatives Rev. James Lagos the Presiding Bishop of African Inland Church (AIC) and Rev. Patrick Jok Pastor of Sudanese Reformed Church (SRC).



The Africa delegates at WRF General Assembly



South Sudan delegates with Rev. Todd Smedley and Rev. Rob Norris at WRF



Rev. David Meredith (FCS) and Rev. Patrick Jok (SRC) during the proceedings of WRF GA



From left to right Rev. Gus Davies, Dr. Josh Laxton Senior Pastor, Rev. Patrick Jok, Matthew Shiles and Tom Horvath at Northland Church, Orlando Florida

After WRF General Assembly Rev. Patrick Jok had an opportunity to visit Northland Church in Orlando, Florida. It is worth stating that Northland Church between 2011-2013 had incredibly empowered SRC to envisage and unleash her potential in planting more churches across Sudan and South Sudan.

d. Orthodox Presbyterian Church

As OPC draws closer in her ecumenical relationship with SRC, OPC in her 88th General Assembly granted SRC a corresponding relation status which has been highly welcome and appreciated by SRC. To boost the relationship, OPC this year made two fraternal visits to Juba, South Sudan. SRC hopes to send a fraternal delegate to the next OPC General Assembly.



Biblical Leadership Training facilitated by OPC, October 2022 at Bethel Sudanese Reformed Church, Mangateen Juba South Sudan



Rev. Clawson Douglas teaching during Leadership Training at Bethel SRC Juba



Rev. James Folkerts teaching during Leadership Training at Bethel SRC Juba



Rev. James Folkerts and Pastor Deng Akol with Rev. Douglas at the background fellowshiping after the Lord's Day Sunday Worship Service, Bethel SRC Juba

The first visit was in February 2022 where Rev. Dr. Charles Jackson, Principal of Knox School of Theology, Mbale Uganda, Rev. James Folkerts OPC missionary in Karamojong area of Northern Uganda, Andrew Ojullo a South Sudanese who teaches at Knox and David Philip Nakhla OPC General Secretary for Diaconal Ministries at OPC Headquarters USA visited Juba, South Sudan to beef up and cement the cooperation and fraternal relationship that has begun through ICRC. In their coming, they visited Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp in Juba, conducted biblical teaching training, preached, worshipped and fellowshiped with Jebel IDPs camp congregations and Bethel Sudanese Reformed Church, Mangateen.



Rev. Hopp Karl preaching at Grace SRC, Khor Wulyang Juba



Dr. Charles Jackson with the team visiting IDPs camp in Juba, South Sudan

The second visit was headed by Rev. Clawson Douglas Blake, the General Secretary of OPC Foreign Mission accompanied by Rev. Dr. Charles Jackson, Principal of Knox School of Theology, Mbale Uganda, Rev. James Folkerts OPC missionary in Karamojong area of Northern Uganda and Rev. Hopp Benjamin Karl, OPC missionary in Haiti. In this visit, they visited Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp in Juba, conducted biblical teaching training, visited, preached and fellowshiped with SRC two congregations (Grace and Bethel) in Juba.

2. 2022 Situational Update of Greater Sudan

SUDAN

Sudan three decades serving President Omar al-Bashir was toppled by popular uprising in 2019. He was replaced by Army General Abdel Fattah Burhan. In 2019 the military and civil leaders signed a power sharing agreement intended to make election in three years. Abdel Fattah became the president of sovereign council meanwhile Abdalla Hamdok the Prime Minister under a power-sharing agreement. Unfortunately, military-civilian relations did not go well that led to the resignation of Hamdok amid political deadlocks.

The deadlocks of the political agreement on returning to a transitional path between the military and civilian has led to political instability, economic collapse, humanitarian crisis, and insecurity in the country.

In the absence of political solution, crime, lawlessness, intercommunal conflicts, looting, burning villages, destruction, displacement, and lands grasping are rising. The risk of a new outbreak of violence all over the country is looming high. The future looks dim.

Sudan Humanitarian Highlights based on UN records, 2022: -

- 11.7 million Sudanese facing severe food insecure.
- 1.3 million refugees.
- 3.3 million internal displaced persons (IDPs) caused by communal conflicts in Dar Fur and Southern Blue Nile.

SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan became independent on July 9, 2011. Renewed conflicts in December 2013 and July 2016 have worsened the economic and humanitarian situations. Living conditions continue to be impacted by violence and displacement. High poverty is being reinforced by high inflation, ongoing intercommunal conflict, displacement, and floods.

The signing of a revitalized peace agreement in 2018 and subsequent formation of Government in 2020 have contributed to relative peacebuilding in Juba and some state capitals. However, the country continues to face risk of these gains being reversed, with increasing incidents of subnational violence throughout the year, flooding, and external shocks.

Thus, South Sudan still suffers from fragility, economic stagnation, and instability.

Humanitarian Snapshots based on UN records 2022

- 8.9 million people need humanitarian assistance.
- 4 million people remain displaced and affected by the humanitarian crisis.
- 1.6 million Internal Displaced persons (IDPs). The IDPs do not have adequate access to safe water and sanitation infrastructure and healthcare services, with a high level of food insecurity.
- 2.2 million refugees in six South Sudan neighboring countries. Women and children continue to be the most affected.

3. SRC Strategic Plan 2018-2028

SRC has Ten (10) Years Strategic Plan 2018-2028. In the strategy SRC hopes to plant **35** new churches, leads **15900** souls to Christ and teaches **1590** believers toward maturity in Reformed faith. It is envisaged that those brought to the light of gospel may impact spiritual, social, educational, economic, and political fabric of communities where they live and serve.

SRC is focusing on five key strategic goals:

1. To promote Reformed witness by planting churches in IDPs camps, refugee camps, major towns in South Sudan; Khartoum, and Nuba Mountains in Sudan.
2. To teach and equip believers through seminars, workshops, conferences, and formal theological training for pastors, teachers and social workers to fulfil their calling.
3. To initiate developmental projects by establishing schools, medical centers and fund-generating projects and constructing decent churches buildings for congregational worship.
4. To promote public advocacy and social justice through dialogue, reconciliation, trauma healing and peace.
5. To do acts of mercy and compassion to the most vulnerable groups like children, single female headed households, widows, disabled and aging persons (providing life-saving support and supporting people in re-establishing their lives including children).

Special Focus on Juba (the capital city of South Sudan)

- To revitalize and rebuild four SRC church buildings burnt down during 2013/2016 conflicts in Juba and to plant three churches at suburb of Juba.
- To look for more lands and develop some infrastructures at those lands to accommodate SRC current and future activities.
- To establish a network of Reformed congregations with a sense of being a covenantal community with a distinct Reformed identity (DNA).
- To start seven primary and four secondary schools for purpose of providing education to the IDPs children and the inhabitants' children of the areas where SRC is laboring within Juba.

2022 Key Strategic Gain

One of the key milestones' achievements in 2022 SRC Strategic Plan is the establishment and starting of Bethel Secondary School with 93 students. Three class-rooms have been built with assistance from Word and Deed. This is the first historic high school started and own by SRC.



Bethel Secondary School, Mangateen Juba South Sudan, started May, 2022

Assessment Table of SRC Strategic Plan 2018-2028

S/No.	Strategic Objective	Gained	To be gained
1.	Gospel Outreach and church plants	25%	75%
2.	Leadership training and development	15%	85%
3.	Primary, secondary and vocational schools	27%	83%
4.	Local fund generating projects	0%	100%
5.	Health clinics	0%	100%
6.	Africa Redeemer College	0%	100%
7.	Gospel radio ministry	0%	100%
8.	SRC Synod building in Juba	75%	25%

31st December 2022 marked the completion of half of SRC Strategic Plan. Although some of the strategic goals have been achieved, the expected desired results have not been reached. This is due to some factors ranging from lack of called potential leaders, financial scarcity, limited infrastructure and logistical difficulties posed by war and political instabilities in Sudan and South Sudan. In all these SRC has much to thank the GOOD LORD for and the fraternal Reformed churches, Word & Deed that have been praying and supporting SRC in her labor.

4. SRC Synod Office

The construction of SRC Synod building was started early 2017 and because of financial limitation the construction process has been very slow. The building is being used yet not completed.

The building still needs electric wiring, windows, plastering, tiles and painting to be completed.



SRC uncompleted Synod building, Juba South Sudan

5. Pastoral Visits to the Congregations

Between 27th November – 4th December 2022 Rev. Kewy Ismail and Pastor Deng Akol visited two congregations in Greater Bhar El Ghaza Region: Rock of Life Sudanese Reformed Church, Apada Aweil and Mercy Sudanese Reformed Church in Wau. They listened to the stories of their labor, fellowshiped, worshipped and encouraged them to stand firm in promoting Reformed faith.



Rev. Kewy Ismail and Pastor Deng greeting the congregational members after Sunday worship service Rock of Life SRC, Awiel



Rev. Kewy Ismail and Pastor Deng greeting the congregational members after Sunday worship service Rock of Life SRC, Awiel

While there they visited RPCNA mission at Wanjok where they made some pastors of the church.



Rev. Kewy Ismail and Pastor Deng Akol meeting with some pastors of RPCNA mission at Wanjok

6. Prayer Requests

1. For peace to return to South Sudan and Sudan.
2. Promotion of Reformed faith in Sudan and South Sudan.
3. Relief assistance to most vulnerable particularly in IDPs camps in Juba, Malakal, Bor, Bentiu, Aweil and Wau where SRC labors.
4. Leadership development of SRC future leaders and for the Lord to call more labors to HIS vineyard in Sudan/South Sudan.
5. Needed infrastructures: completion of SRC Synod office in Juba, construction of multi training center, Gudele Block IV Juba.
6. Safety of SRC pastors and evangelists laboring in areas of high risk and hostility.
7. Revitalizing and rebuilding of seven churches destroyed during the conflicts of 2013/2016 four in Juba plus Immanuel in Malakal, Hope in Bentiu, and Redeemer in Bor.
8. Building of eight shops in Juba to generate fund for the ministry.
9. SRC Strategic Plan 2018-2028 may come to pass.
10. Provision of one (1) mission vehicle to keep the mission moving forward.
11. Initiating and establishing of Gospel Radio ministry.
12. Two missionaries to serve with SRC in the areas of leadership development and education.

Glory to God