

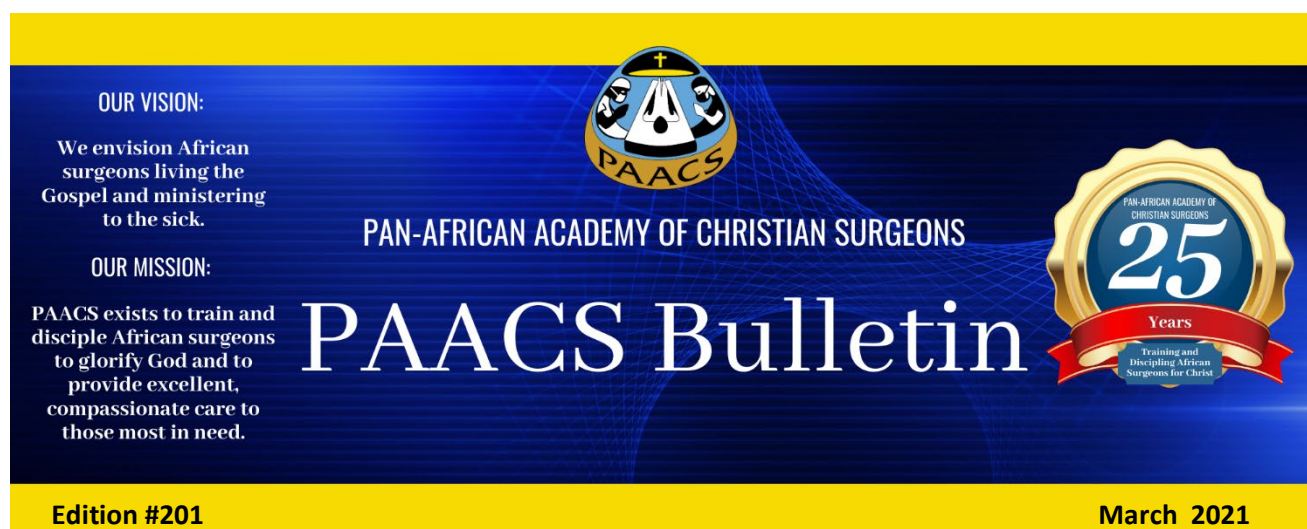
Dear Friends of PAACS:

March is somewhat anticlimactic after the business and joy of the 25th anniversary of the founding of PAACS. You can show your PAACS pride by ordering and wearing one of the new PAACS shirts featuring the 25th anniversary. See the link in the Announcements section.

The COVID19 pandemic is still having repercussions. Some of the medical staff at PAACS hospitals are finally receiving their first vaccinations but the majority of staff members still don't have access to the vaccine. The short-term medical missionaries are beginning to trickle back to the hospitals, but the need is greater than the supply and a few hospitals are rather desperate for help. If you have been vaccinated, please pray about serving again on the mission field.

In a few weeks, the Spring biannual Board of Directors meeting is occurring as a Zoom conference. Sign up if you have not already done so, and attend on-line. The deadline for registration is April 7 and the link is in the Announcements section.

The Editor



OUR VISION:
We envision African surgeons living the Gospel and ministering to the sick.

OUR MISSION:
PAACS exists to train and disciple African surgeons to glorify God and to provide excellent, compassionate care to those most in need.

PAN-AFRICAN ACADEMY OF CHRISTIAN SURGEONS

PAACS Bulletin

25 Years
Training and Disciplining African Surgeons for Christ

Edition #201 **March 2021**

In This Newsletter

[From the Desk of the CEO](#)

[PAACS Team Wins Global Surgery Training](#)

[Challenge Discovery Award](#)

[New Emergency Room Opens at Harpur](#)

[Memorial Hospital](#)

[New Programs Update](#)

[Saline Process Evangelism Training](#)

[Spiritual Growth Assessment Process](#)

[News Shorts:](#)

Two-fold benefit of PAACS Training
COVID Vaccinations Slowly Available
PAACS History Available
Report from New Graduate

Top Scorers on COSECSA Exams

Women Surgeons at Tenwek

[Announcements:](#)

Birth Announcement (2)

Update on Amazon Smile

25th PAACS Anniversary Logo-wear Available

Short and Long-Term Surgeons Needed at SIM-Galmi

Short and Long-Term Surgeons Needed at Bongolo

Short and Long-Term Surgeons Needed at Harpur

Spring 2021 PAACS Board of Directors Meeting

[Prayer Requests](#)

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

Dear PAACS Family:

I want to wish all of you a very Happy Resurrection Day as we celebrate the Easter season in the coming days. The sacrifice and resurrection of Christ has no meaning to those who don't know about it. Many of the patients served by PAACS residents have never heard the Easter story. What a privilege we have at PAACS of mentoring our surgical residents to share Christ's perfect sacrifice and love through the cross. They have the joy of telling patients about the unblemished lamb who forfeited His life and overcame death so that they may have life beyond this earth. God is using these men and women as His glorious instruments to bring the Good News of Christ to those who would otherwise be lost.

Dr. David Thompson, the founder of PAACS, has said "Surgeons don't actually save lives; they only extend them. Only Jesus saves lives." PAACS surgeons are trained to help extend lives on this earth surgically, but more importantly, they are discipled to share the news that Jesus saves lives eternally. It is a privilege to be a part of this ministry that trains and mentors surgical residents in Africa to share the Good News that Jesus Christ is RISEN.

Happy Easter to Everyone!

Blessings,

Susan Koshy, JD, MPH

Chief Executive Officer

Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS)

PAACS TEAM WINS GLOBAL SURGERY TRAINING CHALLENGE DISCOVERY AWARD

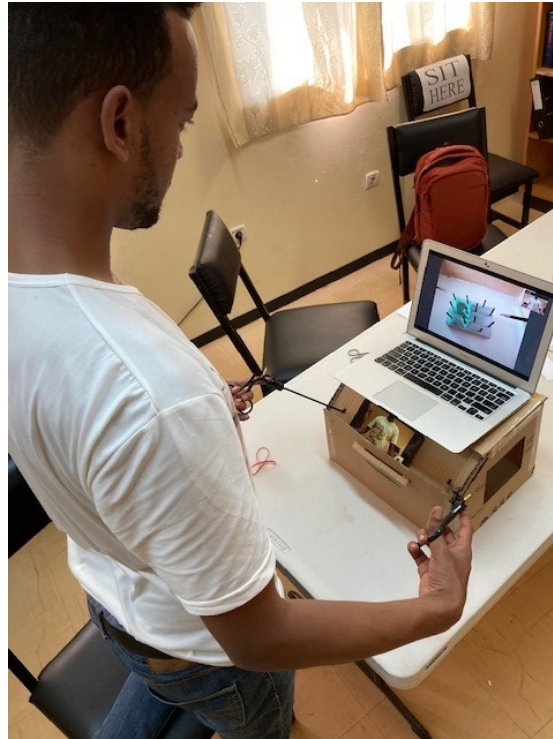
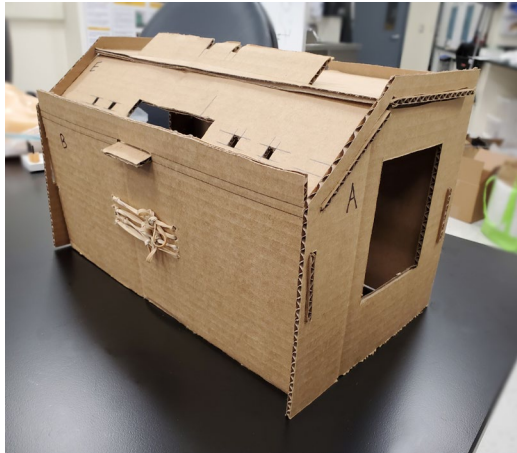
By Grace Kim

The PAACS team led by Dr. Grace Kim, a general surgeon at the University of Michigan, and Dr. David Jeffcoach, the Program Director at Soddo Christian Hospital, won a Discovery Award for its project ALL-SAFE, African Laparoscopic Learners for Safe Ectopic Pregnancy. The goal of the multi-national team consisting of surgeons and researchers from the University of Michigan, Southern Illinois University, as well as from three PAACS sites – Soddo Christian Hospital, Mbingo Baptist Hospital, and AIC Kijabe Hospital - is to create an open-source web-based module that will teach surgeons to perform laparoscopic operations in the resource-constrained setting.

ALL-SAFE won funding from the Global Surgical Training Challenge sponsored by the Intuitive Foundation, MIT Solve, and Nesta. As a winner of a Discovery Award, the ALL-SAFE team has received a grant up to \$200,000 to support their prototype development and has been enrolled in the next leg of the Challenge. The Discovery Award teams all compete with the ultimate goal of winning the \$1,000,000 Grand Prize which will be decided in 2023.

In the ALL-SAFE module, users will learn the necessary skills to be competent to care for a patient with an ectopic pregnancy from initial encounter through the operating room. The module consists of a web-based component that targets knowledge and decision-making skills in the initial management of ectopic pregnancy followed by a task module that simulates the actual operation in an innovative box trainer with pelvic anatomy to allow the acquisition of psychomotor skills. The box trainer and ectopic simulation can be built for less than \$10.

The knowledge and psychomotor skills gained in this skillset are generalizable to other common surgical pathologies such as appendicitis, perforated viscus, cholecystitis, and bowel obstruction. However, the team also hopes to create additional discrete modules to cover other general surgical pathologies and procedures in the next phase of the project.



Top Left: The ALL-SAFE laparoscopic box trainer

Bottom Left: Ectopic simulation (as viewed from scope)

Right: Mussie Freneh, resident at Soddo Christian Hospital, performing a training exercise on the ALL-SAFE laparoscopic box trainer

The team will implement the module prototype at Soddo, Mbingo, and Kijabe in the summer of 2021. A successful prototype will help the ALL-SAFE team in their bid to advance to the next stage of the Global Surgery Training Challenge. Winning aside, however, the ALL-SAFE team is thrilled to be able develop a platform that can be used in PAACS programs by residents and learners this summer and to provide a means for providers in rural Africa to learn laparoscopy.

Dr. Jeffcoach states that “this is something that our residents will use right away. All of the residents are excited to learn laparoscopy, and I have been teaching other surgeons outside of Soddo as well. This will make things much easier.”

“The wider adoption of laparoscopy in Africa has the potential to make a tremendous impact in the care of patients where the proven benefits of laparoscopy can directly translate into meaningful and scalable gains in health outcomes and economies” says Dr. Kim. “We are all privileged to be a part of the process.”

NEW EMERGENCY ROOM OPENS AT HARPUR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

By Sherif Hanna

On November 16, 2020, one of our dreams for Harpur Hospital in Menouf, Egypt, was realized as a brand-new Emergency Room (ER) was inaugurated.

This new ER is part of the new Master Plan for the redevelopment of Harpur Memorial Hospital (HMH). After a two-year period of consultation and preparation, the groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 16, 2016. The Master Plan for this development called for at least 4 phases. Two of those phases have now been completed and the second phase included this new ER.

When we first arrived at Harpur Memorial Hospital (HMH) in January 2014, the ER consisted of one poorly equipped room in the back of the hospital within the outpatient clinic. After the first phase of the new hospital development plan started; the ER was transferred to the inpatient building of the hospital in January 2018. It was still one room but at least it was a bigger room and better equipped.

By November 16, 2020, when the new ER opened its doors; it was a vastly improved physical space. The current new ER is much bigger and better and contains seven examination cubicles in addition to a separate trauma room which can accommodate treating two patients simultaneously. It also has an isolation room, as well as a storage area and two bathrooms. There is also a large waiting room for the patients' relatives. There is also a small office for the ER doctor as well as an on-call room for the ER doc on call to sleep in, if needed. The new ER is very conveniently located; it is close to the hospital's Biochemistry Lab and the Radiology department that now houses a brand-new Siemens CT scanner that was recently acquired by the hospital.



Entrance to new facility



Examination cubicle

With the opening of this new ER, the hospital is beginning to recruit dedicated and ER doctors; something which could not be done before. There is now a new emphasis by the hospital on improving the entire system of emergency care. We are grateful to God for His provision that has allowed the hospital to build this ER.

NEW PROGRAMS UPDATE

By Keir Thelander

As the Scottish poet Robbie Burns pointed out in his poem "To a Mouse", "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men / Gang aft a-gley"

The pandemic of 2020 certainly caused things to go awry, not only in our daily routines, but also by causing delays in what was to come. The hoped-for January 2021 beginning of programs in Anesthesia, Ob/gyn, Plastic Surgery and General Surgery at Kibuye Hope Hospital in Burundi, was not to be. Plastic Surgery at Kijabe and General Surgery at Kibuye Hope Hospital (KHH) have both been delayed awaiting government approvals. KHH has taken a large step forward by receiving very positive reviews from the internal assessment by Hope Africa University, which oversees the hospital work. We look forward to a decision by the governmental authorities before the end of the year. KHH looks toward January 2022 to receive its first residents. Plastic Surgery received verbal approval and now awaits official documentation of the approval. Unfortunately, it will soon lose the post-graduate resident in plastics. However, the program may begin at any time.

Anesthesia at Kijabe Hospital had a combination of factors delaying the start, including loss of faculty members, government assessment and approval, some of which were caused by the pandemic. Ob/gyn at Tenwek was hampered by a trickle-down effect of delays from Covid, which delayed the arrival of some faculty members, as well as the loss of a faculty member. Additionally, the ob/gyn program is awaiting Kenyan governmental approval. A start of September 2021 is being considered for both ob/gyn and anesthesia.

Finally, Surgical Endoscopy starting has been delayed to possibly January 2022, as the lead endoscopist, Dr. Michael Mwachiro, has taken the role of General Surgery Program director.

May the Lord open the doors for each of these programs to accept trainees in the coming months.

SALINE PROCESS EVANGELISM TRAINING

By Ed Searce, PAACS Spiritual Dean

For the past several years the Spiritual Development Committee of PAACS has been in the process of revising the five books of its Spiritual Curriculum. An often-heard request from residents and faculty was to include more training in personal evangelism. So, as a part of this revision, the decision was made to strengthen access to training in personal evangelism. Especially as it relates to sharing the Gospel with one's patients.

After much consideration and investigation, the decision was made to incorporate *The Saline Process®* into the already existing spiritual training program. *The Saline Process* is a tool developed by IHS (International Health Services) for equipping and mobilizing Christian healthcare workers as witnesses, of the love and reality of Jesus at the bedsides and in the clinics where they work.

Some of the key features of the Saline Process are:

- Recognizes that the transformation of a skeptic to a believer is a ***journey***.
- Focuses on guiding ***principles and tools***, not a methodology.
- Becomes an ***overflow*** of God's work through us, not personally overwhelming.
- Transforms believers into intentional witnesses—to ***be*** a witness rather than ***to*** witness.
- Celebrates people taking even the ***smallest step*** toward Jesus.
- Cultivates a ***vision & an identity*** as a witness for Jesus which, in turn, inspires living as a witness.

A working association has been established with ICMDA (International Christian Medical Dental Association). ICMDA will provide the initial certified trainers who will lead in training PAACS residents, faculty and staff.

The training can take place in one of two ways. First, onsite training that is particular to each PAACS location. Second, training via Zoom meetings. Both are done with a certified trainer from ICMDA. Training involves nine hours of classroom instruction. This can take place either with one 9-hour training session, two 4^{1/2}-hour sessions or six 90-minute sessions spread out over several weeks.

The goal is to incorporate this training at the next Brackenhurst Conference. However, due to the challenges of COVID-19, a specific date has yet to be determined. It is hoped that possibly in late October 2021 this could take place. If this is not doable then steps will be taken to provide training either via Zoom or onsite visit by a Saline Process trainer. This is not intended as a once and done type of event. Rather, ongoing/onsite training will become a normal part of our spiritual discipleship training.

The funding for the initial training has been provided by a grant from Howard's Heart Ministries.

If you would like more information, please contact PAACS Spiritual Dean, Ed Searce, at ed.searce@paacs.net.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ASSESSMENT PROCESS

By Ed Searce, PAACS Spiritual Dean

God expects His children to grow in faith and obedience. In other words, God desires for each of us to become a **fully devoted follower of Christ**. Paul states it this way in the second letter to Timothy: *"Be diligent to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth". 2 Ti 2:15 (CSB)*

How is one able to discern if indeed they are being diligent to grow in grace? It is through the process of examination, not unlike the process of proving one has gained the medical and surgical skill to be a good surgeon. Paul urged the members of the church at Corinth to look in the mirror and examine themselves:

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed the test. (II Corinthians 13:5–6)

Elsewhere we are exhorted to be accountable in assisting each other to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus.

And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, (Heb. 10:24, CSB)

In the summer of 2020, Drs. John Chae, Dave Thompson and Ed Searce were charged with the responsibility of developing an assessment tool which surgical residents and faculty could use to ascertain their spiritual growth, provide spiritual accountability and encouragement to each other. The result was a tool that enables the process without being judgmental. The Spiritual Development Committee felt it was good to make it a part of each of the spiritual curriculum books.

The assessment helps one think carefully about their spiritual development related to six specific spiritual disciplines.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Abiding in Christ | 4. Fellowshiping with Believers |
| 2. Living in the Word | 5. Witnessing to the World |
| 3. Praying in Faith | 6. Ministering to Others |

As part of the assessment process each resident would develop a **Spiritual Growth Plan** which would then be shared with the Program Director or Spiritual Curriculum Leader for their input. Then, two thirds of the way

through the year, the resident and the Program Director or Spiritual Curriculum Leader will sit together for the sole purpose of discussing the growth that is taking place.

The ultimate goal of completing the Spiritual Growth Assessment is to encourage continuing growth as we seek to become fully devoted followers of Christ. If you would like to review the assessment tool, you can find it by [clicking here](#).

NEWS SHORTS:

- **Two-Fold Benefit of PAACS Training!**



Top 2 rows: PAACS residents practice their skills.

Bottom row: The ladies prepare the meat for the tibs (left) and the wonderful meal is served (right). Of course, the Ethiopian coffee ceremony was observed and appreciated.



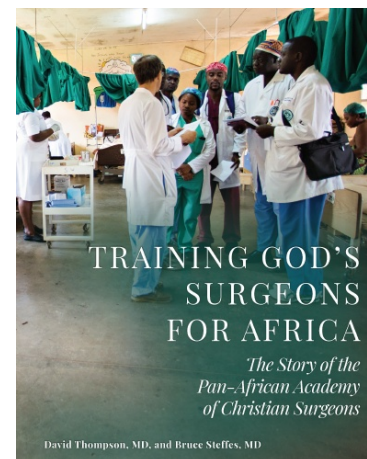
Laura Vick Love, wife of PAACS faculty member at Soddo Christian Hospital, Tim, extolled on Facebook on March 28 the double benefits of PAACS's training in surgical skills. She wrote, "This is one of my

favorite events in the PAACS program, if only because the concept is so brilliant...the surgery residents need to learn/practice new skills, so we buy goats. The goats get slaughtered first thing in the morning...and the residents get to work practicing on some parts of the goat while amazing ladies take the meat from the goats and make a delicious lunch. The residents finish their training, the tibs finish cooking in the biggest pan I've ever seen, and we feast. And we drink strong Ethiopian coffee that was roasted and ground on the spot. Practice on the goat, eat the goat, drink coffee...like I said—brilliant!"

- **COVID Vaccinations Slowly Available:** Vaccination opportunities against the SARS-Cov-2 pandemic have finally reached some of the PAACS training sites so the healthcare workers can be vaccinated. Vaccinations have begun at Soddo Christian Hospital in Ethiopia, Tenwek Hospital and Kijabe Hospital in Kenya and Malamulo Adventist Hospital in Malawi. Vaccinations are available in Egypt (with the vaccine from China) but are not generally available in Menouf. The PAACS programs in Niger, Gabon, and Cameroon are still waiting arrival of the vaccine.
- **PAACS History Available:** In celebration of the 25th birthday of PAACS, Dr. David Thompson and Dr. Bruce Steffes have written a 92-page book that outlines the history of our ministry called, Training God's Surgeons for Africa: The Story of the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons.

This full color book is rich with inspiring testimonies of God's hand on our ministry. It also includes historic pictures and stories that beautifully commemorate a quarter century of God's faithfulness and the hard work of those who have poured themselves out to help the sick and the suffering in Africa. Purchase one for yourself and get extras – it is a great way to share the PAACS story with others.

This book is now available for purchase online in softcover, hardcover, and E-book (.pdf) versions. You can order a copy for yourself through the links given. The book is available in softcover (\$17.33, [Purchase Softcover](#)), hardcover (\$24.39, [Purchase Hardcover](#)) or PDF (\$0.99, [Purchase E-Book](#)). Prices do not include taxes or shipping and handling.

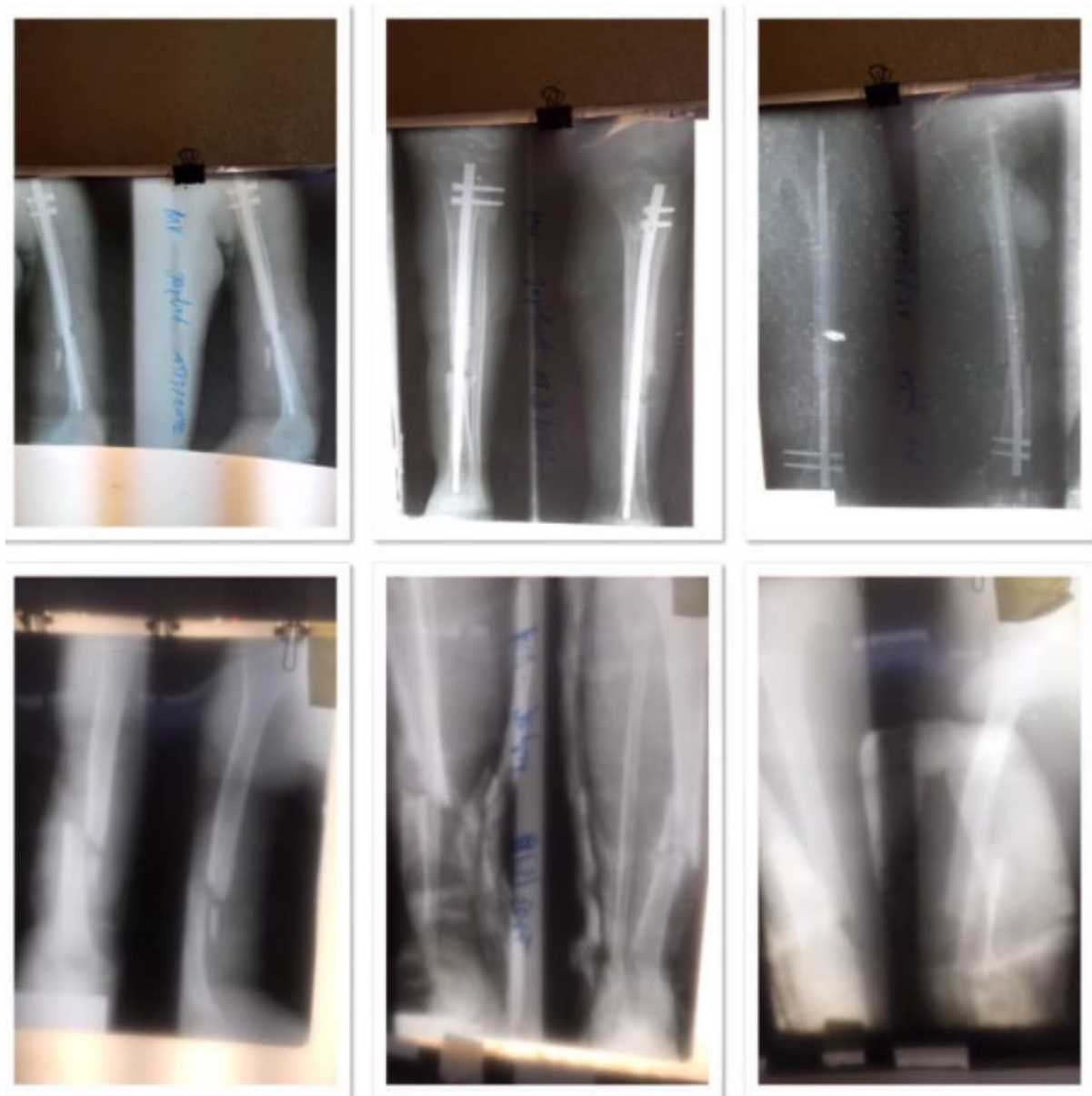


- **Report from a New Graduate:** Lijalem T. Garba is a recent graduate from Malamulo Adventist Hospital and is now serving at Kibuye Hope Hospital in Burundi. He posted in Facebook about a patient who had suffered a road-traffic accident last October. He has suffered with a broken right humerus, right femur, right tibia and right fibula since that time. A Tanzanian, he was unable to find someplace close to him to receive the care he needed at a price he could afford. He was essentially crippled, unable to use his arm or walk on his leg.

In mid-March, Doctor Lijalem was able to place [SIGN intramedullary nails](#) and at last communication, he had begun physiotherapy and things were going well. He was very grateful for the care he obtained. Lijalem wrote that he was home in Addis Ababa a few weeks ago and the taxi driver observed while they were discussing about God. "A doctor gets the payment but it is God who cures the patient." Lijalem affirmed that "Surely, we care but God cures."

Most of the PAACS graduates are very competent with the use of SIGN nails but the new trays at their place of employment cost approximately \$20,000. Long bone fractures are frequent and good treatment

hard to come by. The provision of a SIGN nail tray to a hospital is a great way for an individual, a family or a church or social group to make a big impact and encourage our new graduates.



The bottom row are the pre-operative pictures; the top row are the post-operative x-rays.

- **Top Scorers on COSECSA Exams:** Two of the four top COSECSA surgeons this year were from PAACS. Dr. Fridah Bosire (Tenwek) was the highest scorer for the general surgery fellowship exam. Dr. Nathala Umugwaneza, from Rwanda, was the highest scorer for the general surgery membership exam. Dr. Arega Leta (Tenwek) was the high scorer for the cardiothoracic surgery fellowship exam. Dr. Gerald Mayaya (from Tanzania but training at Aga Khan in Nairobi) was the high scorer for the neurosurgery fellowship exam.

- **Women Surgeons at Tenwek**



Dr. Keir Thelander (center) and the women surgeons at Tenwek celebrate the graduation of Dr. Bosire.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



- **Birth Announcement:** Dr John Tanyi, a first-year resident at Mbingo, and his wife, Elizabeth, welcomed their second child, Samuel Tanyi, in the wee hours of the morning of March 12th, weighing in at 3.1 kg. Samuel joins his older brother, Josiah.

- **Birth Announcement:** Shigute Shuke and his wife, Roman Tesfaye, welcomed their son, Enock, on February 19, 2021. He weighed 4.1 kg. This is their fourth child, joining Ruhama (14), Naomi (10) and Eldina (7). Shigute was a resident at Soddo Christian Hospital from 2012 to 2015 and finished his surgical training at St. Paul Hospital in Addis Ababa in 2019. He is presently working at the government hospital in Soddo.



- **Update on AmazonSmile:** Thank you to those who are currently supporting PAACS by using AmazonSmile. As a reminder, if you shop online with Amazon a portion of your purchases can be donated to PAACS when you start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. You will find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion back to PAACS. Register your existing Amazon account to our charity link and start shopping today: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-2569391>

- **25th Anniversary PAACS Logo-wear Available:** If you would like to commemorate the 25th anniversary of PAACS this year, you can find a variety of apparel available for purchase in our online store. <https://merch.undergroundshirts.com/collections/paacs-25th-birthday>

Here, you can find polo shirts, ¼ zip sweatshirts, and long sleeve shirts with a special 25th anniversary logo. All are a unisex cut and available in multiple colors and sizes S – 3XL. They are priced from \$17 – \$30 plus S/H. You can order at any time and your items will be ready to ship directly to you approximately 48 hours after placing your order.

Shipping is ONLY available within the United States.



PAACS Embroidered Unisex RacerMesh Polo - Navy
\$30.00



PAACS Embroidered Classic 1/4 Zip Sweatshirt - Sport Grey
\$30.00



PAACS Screen Print Long-Sleeve Unisex T-Shirt - Royal
\$17.00

- **Short-term and Long-term Surgeons Needed at SIM-Galmi:** Beginning in April when Katherine Shafer goes on home assignment, there will be a critical need for general surgeons at SIM-Galmi. The faculty there

will consist only of Yakoubou Sanoussi (GS) and Nathan Peterson (ENT, Head and Neck). Please contact World Medical Mission or Yakoubou Sanoussi at Yakoubou.Sanoussi@sim.org

- **Short-term and Long-term Surgeons Needed at Bongolo:** The Bongolo Hospital general surgery residency program needs a general surgeon who is able to serve under a sending agency for at least 2 years starting in 2021. Please contact bongolopd@gmail.com if you are interested and able to serve in that time frame.
- **Short-term and Long-term Surgeons Needed at Harpur:** Dr. Sherif Hanna will soon retire from service at Harpur Memorial Hospital in Egypt. The PAACS program at Harpur Memorial Hospital in Menouf, Egypt needs a General Surgeon for long term (preferably) or short term (several months) service starting in April 2021. For further information please contact Sherif Hanna via email: dr.sherif.hanna@gmail.com
- **Mark Your Calendar**
 - **Spring 2021 PAACS Board of Directors Meeting** Friday, April 23, 2021. The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) invites you to participate by videoconference in the Open Session PAACS Spring 2021 Board of Directors Meeting. This meeting will be held on Friday, April 23, 2021. The Open Session will have a time of prayer, PAACS update, speaker presentations, PAACS faculty updates, and Committee reports. The Open Session of the meeting will be in the beginning portion of the videoconference. We welcome everyone interested in PAACS to participate in this part of the meeting.

The PAACS Board of Directors will meet immediately after the Open Session for a Closed Session to discuss formal PAACS business, budgets, and policies. The Closed Session will be attended only by members of the PAACS Board of Directors and Administration.

The Spring PAACS Board of Directors videoconference meeting will start at 8:45 am ET; 7:45 am CT; 5:45 am PT on Friday, April 23, 2021. We are still working on the Spring PAACS Board of as videoconference login information, as soon as possible. Please register by [Clicking Here](#) and we will make certain that you have all of the information to participate. The deadline for registering for the video conference is **Wednesday, April 7, 2021**. Only registered participants will be admitted into the videoconference for security purposes.
 - **Fall 2021 Board of Directors Meeting** will be held as an in-person meeting on October 15-16, 2021, in Chicago. We plan to hold the preliminary council and committee meetings on Zoom ahead of time.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray now for the upcoming PAACS Board of Directors meeting on April 23.
- Peace and stability in the PAACS countries. Pray especially for the ongoing tribal unrest in Ethiopia and the recurrent civil unrest in Cameroon.
- Pray for those programs who have seen a rise in Covid cases lately, including Soddo, the Kenya programs and others.

- Pray that PAACS will glorify God and be used to impact Africa for His Kingdom. Plead that many lives will be saved through surgery and many people will come to know the love of Jesus.
- Pray that God will bring His chosen long and short-term missionary and national surgeons to help train African residents in the PAACS training programs.
- Pray for wisdom regarding the planning and preparation for the possible Brackenhurst PAACS Basic Science Course the last 2 weeks of October. Additionally, for a possible Brackenhurst PAACS Basic Science Course next year (2022) transitioning to an all 1st year conference. Also, pray for wisdom for the CMDE group that prepares for and hosts the CMDE Conference in Greece every 2 years.
- Pray for the new program in neurosurgery which has started at Tenwek. Pray for Dr. Copeland and for the new trainees.
- Pray for PAACS graduates that are serving God's people. Pray for God's grace, protection, provision, strength, and blessings to cover the PAACS graduates.
- Pray for approval from the government of Kenya for the anesthesia, plastics, ob/gyn, and surgical endoscopy programs.
- Pray for wisdom and removal of barriers to begin training in Burundi, Malawi, Madagascar and Togo.
- Pray that God will make it possible soon for the short-term missionaries to return to service in the mission hospitals.
- Pray for all the PAACS faculty members and the hospitals – for personal health and safety and for financial viability of the charity hospitals in this tough time.
- Pray for Galmi Hospital which has an immense need for General Surgery help beginning April of this year for 3-6 months. Pray also for the needs at Bongolo Hospital, Harpur and Kijabe Hospital.
- Pray for the Tenwek Orthopedic training program which has a great need for additional faculty members.
- Pray for those faculty members on home assignment – the Birds, Andersons, and the Loves – for their rest, for the times of medical work and for the meeting with their supporters and raising funds. Pray for the faculty members that must cover their absence.
- Pray for the Jeffcoach family, currently in the US for health concerns. Improvements are being made, praise the Lord. They are now making plans to return to Soddo in the coming weeks.
- Pray for the Ganey family who have returned to the US to handle some health issues. Pray for healing.
- Pray for the Love family as they have a time of furlough after their first term which included an evacuation among other stressors.
- Pray for those surgeons who are planning to join PAACS in the next few years – as they complete their residencies or fellowships, as they find a sending agency, as they raise the necessary money and as they prepare for the major cultural shifts.

Editor: Bruce C. Steffes, MD