

## PRAY WITH US:

**Prayers** for Ryan, from Downline Ministries (Memphis, TN) who is in Madagascar for a 9-month mission trip (see Ryan's article in this newsletter). For William, from Boca Raton, FL, who will arrive in Madagascar in late November and work with the McGregors for 1-2 months. For the mission team from the UK who arrive November 28.

**Prayers** for good health and strength, perseverance, and protection for Todd and Patsy in their daily life and ministry. Special prayer request for Patsy, who continues to suffer with ciguatera.

**Prayers** for raising up a holy and righteous team of Malagasy leaders in the church to multiply the efforts of evangelism, education, and economic development in southern Madagascar. Specifically pray for a Director of Economic Development.

**Prayers** for more clergy. Rev. Kingsley has returned to Nigeria after 5 1/2 years of service in Madagascar. Pray for two clergy to replace him and lead the ten churches in Morondava.

**Prayers** for the completion of the Bishop's Gathering Place, a permanent home for the McGregors after 5 years in Toliara. They plan on Christmas in their new home!

**Prayers and Praise** for the mission teams traveling to southern Madagascar in 2011. We also lift up those who are in the planning stages for mission trips in 2012.

**Praise** for all who have been touched and those who have touched us during the past 20 years.

**Praise and thanksgiving** to all from St. David's, Glenview, IL, who helped host the PRP Board of Directors meeting and our 20th anniversary celebration!

**Praise and thanksgiving** for Joe and Corbi's new home, their jobs and their new life together.

**Prayers** for new church partners in Ireland and Scotland and thanksgiving for Todd and Patsy's vacation in the UK.



Rev. Patsy at the Youth Conference



Praise the Lord!



Bishop Todd leading a Bible study at the Youth Conference

## HOW CAN YOU HELP? • PRAY! • PARTICIPATE! • DONATE!

Partner with us by donating to our work:

Mail checks to SAMS-USA

Attn: Denise Cox, PO BOX 399, Ambridge, PA 15003

MEMO: McGregor Ministry, McGregor Special Projects,  
or Toliara Missionary Area (major projects)

By credit card or monthly electronic fund transfer at [www.sams-usa.org](http://www.sams-usa.org)

# People Reaching People

A Ministry of Bishop Todd and Rev. Patsy McGregor

[www.PeopleReaching.org](http://www.PeopleReaching.org)

Winter 2011-2012

*Transforming Lives and Making Disciples of Jesus Christ by  
Serving the Poorest of the Poor in Eastern Africa through  
Evangelism, Education and Economic Development.*

*Transforming A Community*

## TRAVELING TO THE VILLAGE MAHABOAKA

*A Note from Bishop Todd McGregor*

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

When I arrived in Mahaboboka with three of our other workers from Toliara, the leaders asked if we could drive to a nearby village where they had started *another* church. Unfortunately, our guide and I had slightly different understandings of "road". The "road" we were on led us across a wide but shallow river, and then down a perilously narrow ox cart path. I tried squeezing my truck through this path for about ten minutes but decided to give up driving when the "road" took a nose dive into a muddy ditch.

About fifty adults had gathered in the village's largest mud hut, and I could see that this was a group of believers hungry for God. After a time of worship, we discussed the needs of the church there and in Mahaboboka. The desires of the villagers were obvious. They wanted a real church building and a school. After the meeting, they took me to where they have already started a "school" with over forty children. Their current meeting place is another dark mud hut. Their only teaching tool is a dilapidated blackboard. I could see, they are eager to learn.

We want to serve these villages holistically, and my proposal at the end of the day, was that we work on constructing a multi-purpose facility, that could serve both as a church and as a school. Driving back to Toliara that evening, I had to thank God for what he had been doing in the lives of the villagers. I am amazed that God gives me the privilege to play a part in the work He is doing.



Trekking to Mahaboboka



Village meeting to greet Bishop

Serving Christ Together,  
† Todd (*The Rt. Rev. Dr. Todd McGregor*)

## THREE MONTHS IN MADAGASCAR

Have you ever ridden on a *taxi-busse*? No! Why not?! It's the best and only way to get around Madagascar! You, and a hundred of your closest friends that you just met hop in a military truck that has been modified for mass-human transportation. Now, you might not realize this, but if you squeeze enough people, suitcases, babies, rice-bags, chickens, babies, cassava-baskets, tires, babies, gas cans, and octopi into a vehicle, there is no longer any reason to have seat-belts. No one will be moving anywhere. If you don't know your new closest friends before getting on the *taxi-busse*, you will have plenty of time to develop friendships! It takes about 12 hours to cover 100 miles.

Oh wait, I'm so silly! I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Ryan. I'm from America, and I'm twenty-four years old. For the past three months, I have been here in Madagascar helping Todd and Patsy with all sorts of things, some of which involve riding on *taxi-busses*! It has been an incredible and life changing experience, and I can't wait to see what my final six months here will have in store.

I tell you about the *taxi-busses* because one of my favorite moments here happened while riding a *taxi-busse* up the coast. *Taxi-busses* offer many hours for prayer and reflection, and as I was praying I suddenly wondered, "God, why am I enjoying this so much? A few weeks ago I would have been miserable next to the dead octopus. *Taxi-busses* should not be this enjoyable, but I am honestly having a great time right now. Why God?" I realized Madagascar is transforming my joy. I can find pleasure and happiness in lots of little things. And I realized, it is because Christ is here. We are serving him. That will make any *taxi-busse* ride enjoyable.



Ryan and his chicken for dinner



A taxi-busse ride



For more interesting stories of Ryan's time in Toliara, check out his blog:  
<http://rbrazile.wordpress.com/>



Mission trips always prove to be transformational not only for those served but also for those who are serving. Thinking about planning a mission trip? We would love to help you! We are beginning plans for 2012 and would be glad to advise your team or place you on another team. For additional information, please email Cheryl Harman at Cmh103@aol.com.

- Churches were dedicated in Fort Dauphin, Ambohitsabo, Tsimahavoakely, and Andranovory. We are looking to start construction on new churches in Morombe, Motombe, Mahaboboka and another outside Ft. Dauphin.
- We performed 45 baptisms and 4 marriages at the new church in Morandava in August.
- A new dormitory building was completed and will be dedicated in December on the Cathedral complex grounds in Toliara. The facility will house students enrolled in the evangelist training program and other temporary visitors.
- We were honored to welcome Bishop Trevor Willmott and his wife, Margaret, and a team from the Diocese of Canterbury. The group spent four days teaching the clergy, evangelists and lay leaders on topics of leadership, spiritual formation and discipleship.
- PRP's Board of Directors met in November at St. David's Episcopal Church, Glenview, IL, for the 2011 annual meeting. Major discussion topics included an update on the ministry, committee reports, election of new members and officers, and plans for 2012-2013. We welcome new Board members Terry Davidson (Kenya), Heather Loftus (USA), and Rev. Jackie Cray (United Kingdom). We give thanks to retiring Board members Scott Purdy, Rev. Graham Smith, and Cindy Fay for their spirit-filled efforts to aid and support PRP's work in Eastern Africa.
- "I Want to Learn English" Lab — enrollment in the software-based English learning lab at Ankilifaly has swelled to 30 students — at full capacity! In the photo, the Lab's administrator, Elisabeth, inspects a progress board maintained in the classroom. Patsy tells the story, "Zefa is an evangelist from Andranovory with 7 children. He leaves his home at 6:00 am every Wednesday morning and rides his bike over 60 km to the IWLE lab in Toliara to be there by 10:00 am. He studies faithfully every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (staying overnight with his children who live in town for schooling) and then rides his bike the 60 km back home. Now there is a dedicated student. Thank you, IWLE, for making this happen."
- We look forward to Dr. Alison Morgan and the "Rooted in Jesus" team from the UK coming to train our leaders in the beginning of December. We also look forward to the return of a Downline Ministry team coming in February, 2012, for a week of training for our clergy, evangelists and lay leaders.
- Listen online to Todd's sermon on the Great Commission given in Belfast, Ireland:  
[http://www.redeemercentral.com/the\\_collective/article/bishop\\_todd\\_mcgregor\\_at\\_redeemer\\_central/](http://www.redeemercentral.com/the_collective/article/bishop_todd_mcgregor_at_redeemer_central/)
- Patsy's book "The Detour" is available on Amazon.com! What a great Christmas present for someone who is on the journey.



New dormitory



Elisabeth with her scheduling board