

PRAY WITH US:

Prayers for Patsy as she begins ministry in August at St. Simon the Fisherman in Tamarind, Mauritius. This 12-month assignment will offer challenges of full-time parish leadership, community building, counseling and instruction, and discipleship in the Diocese of Mauritius.

Prayers regarding finances for the end of the year and 2013.

Praise and thanksgiving for the healing ministry training conference and community healing outreach programs in July led by Rev. Bruce Mason and family from the Diocese of Albany. The conference included clergy, evangelists, and lay leaders from south Madagascar. A special healing service was also held at St. Luke's Church in Toliara.

Praise and thanksgiving for Lisa Gustinelli and Deborah Sewell for organizing and conducting the Vacation Computer School at the Training Center in Ankitrika in July and August. The school offered basic computer skills and literacy to children of the community and more advanced training for the student evangelists and clergy.

Prayers for good health and strength, perseverance, and protection for Todd and Patsy in their daily life and ministry.

Prayers for the continuing efforts to multiply the efforts of evangelism, education, and economic development in southern Madagascar, specifically for the hiring of a Director of Economic Development and a Chief of Staff.

Prayers for the nine student evangelists and four catechists that continue in the training program with Bishop Todd at Ankitrika.

Prayers for Elizabeth, the administrator for the "I Want to Learn English Lab" who is struggling with asthma.

Praise for the blessed gathering with the Cox family for a reunion in May.

Praise for the ground breaking for the school/church in Mahaboboka on June 30th, 2012.

Praise for the evangelistic mission in Vaobasary in July/August.

Thanksgiving for modern technology: for internet at The Gathering Place and for Todd's YouTube sermon and live Skype for the adult forum with St. Gregory's, Deerfield, IL.

Prayers for Charese to find a job in her field and for Corbi's acceptance into a Physician's Assistant/Community Health Master's program which will be a good match for her.

Prayers for Todd's brother Tom who has been diagnosed with lung cancer.

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

People Reaching People

A Ministry of Bishop Todd and Rev. Patsy McGregor

www.PeopleReaching.org

Fall 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.

Changing Lives Through Training

Rolin is a young man aged 22 and is passionate about his faith. He comes from a family of 10 of which he is the fifth born. He became a Christian in 2003 at 15 years old and is the only Christian in his family. He is hoping and praying that his family will one day become Christian. He works as an untrained community teacher.

Rolin hails from Morondava parish, Mangily church which is around 80Km from the main town. His love for the youth got him involved in the service of the church and later on became a catechist to assist the evangelist in charge. He says "I became a catechist because I realized that the evangelist needs help and I was available".

He didn't have any training but he was driven by his desire to serve. When he heard of the opportunity for catechists training he knew that his time had come. After training here for 5 weeks, he is happy returning home having learned how to lead a service, lead small discipleship groups, how to give and more importantly preaching God's word. "I return home with a lot of new experience and knowledge that I did not have before," he notes. It gives him more zeal in taking responsibilities because he understands better what he does. "That is a good step for me. I also realize that I have grown spiritually especially in my involvement of outdoor preaching and daily morning devotions. It was an eye-opener for who I am in Christ," he reckons, "I am looking forward to returning home and beginning to share what I have learned with the Christians at home. I also hope that there will be a follow up training soon!" he says.



Rolin



Evangelists Class



Article written by Victor, Director of Evangelism, Missionary Area of Toliara, Missionary from Kenya

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TODD:

DETOUR: AN OFF ROAD SAFARI

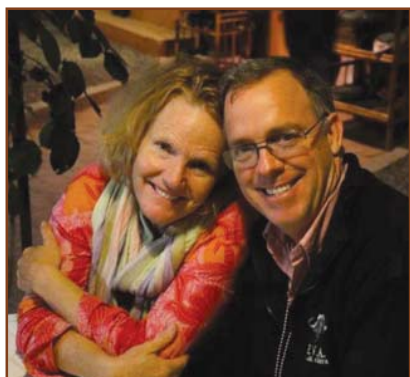
As some of you may or may not be aware, Patsy wrote a book a few years ago called *The Detour: An Off Road Safari* (accessible through Amazon.com or the PRP website). The theme of *The Detour* is the sudden detours which God brings into our lives and how we, as God's children, are able to adjust to these detours spiritually. Specifically, *The Detour* incorporates our life in Kenya and the lessons we learned on our "off-road safari."

This year we also come to a significant detour in our life. At the appointment of Ian Ernest, the Archbishop of the Indian Ocean, Patsy has been asked to serve as the rector of St. Simon the Fisherman in Tamarind, Mauritius for one year, beginning in August 2012. St. Simon the Fisherman is a new church plant which began one year ago, targeting the multi-ethnic culture which includes Mauritians, South Africans, Zimbabweans, British and Americans. Currently, the church has approximately fifty adult members. A second responsibility for Patsy will be training the first women candidates for ordination in the Diocese of Mauritius. As difficult as the separation will be for Patsy and me, this is an awesome opportunity for Patsy to function as the first woman to work full-time as a parish priest in Mauritius.

The other detour experienced recently was our missionary retreat in the French Alps. At least this was unexpected for me, perhaps not so much for Patsy. Before going to the seminar (called "Refresh!") in France, I was uninterested but agreed to go because Patsy really wanted to attend. Basically, we needed some time alone to process our ministry and marriage/family issues as a couple. In retrospect, I wasn't mentally or spiritually ready for what God did for us. It was very rewarding on one hand, but very exhausting on the other, especially as Patsy and I discussed some difficult issues and processed the way we communicate with one another. One thing we discovered after taking the Myers-Briggs test was that Patsy and I are at extreme opposites in each of the four categories. (This might not come as a surprise to some of you!) As one friend said to us in reference to the book, *Woman are from Venus and Men are from Mars*, "not only are both of you on extreme sides of the solar system, but you, Patsy, are from the opposite end of Venus and you, Todd, are at the opposite end of Mars!" This began the process of helping us to better understand each other so we could communicate more effectively and begin to see from one another's perspective. Even though our new system of communication has been very challenging and even a bit painful at times, in the end it has brought us greater intimacy with one another.

God is using these two detours to shape us into the man and woman Christ has created us to be. Please pray with us that we continue to take advantage of these detours and use them to glorify and honor God.

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



Patsy and Todd



Charese, Todd, Patsy, Corbi and Joe

MINISTRY UPDATES

- Interviews and hiring efforts continue to fill an Administrator position and a Director of Economic Development.
- A generous donation of 11 new computers will greatly assist the clergy and evangelists.
- The cornerstone for a multipurpose school/church building at Mahaboboka was laid in July as the McGregors and the family of Rev. Bruce Mason (Diocese of Albany) participated in the spiritual celebration. The facility will take several months to complete.
- Progress continues on the church at Motombe with a projected dedication in October.



At the laying of the cornerstone



USING SKYPE TO REACH AROUND THE GLOBE

Although separated by thousands of miles, an extraordinary event took place between a Malagasy and American church with the help of a new People Reaching People initiative.

On April 29th, People Reaching People successfully implemented its first interactive session to help bridge the wide gap between Madagascar and those of us who support the ongoing ministry of The Rt. Rev. Dr. Todd and Rev. Dr. Patsy McGregor. During this Sunday, with the tremendous help of St. Gregory's in Deerfield, IL, we experimented with our first YouTube sermon which was taped and projected for all to see during the Deerfield congregation's three Sunday services. In between the services, a LIVE Skype session was held with Bishop McGregor/Madagascar St. Gregory's congregation and the Deerfield St. Gregory's congregation during their education time.

This was a special moment for both churches as Todd was in Ft. Dauphin, Madagascar at St. Gregory's performing baptisms and confirmations at a Sunday service of almost 300 people. This St. Gregory's was built with the generous support of St. Gregory's, Deerfield. The Madagascar congregation was started less than three years ago and shows incredible growth both in numbers and in the Spirit. And so it was that two St. Gregory congregations separated by so many physical obstacles were shown a new path to regain their connection both physically and spiritually.

Find Bishop McGregor's sermon at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-kv27nWDM>

Interested in a Skype experience for your church or study group?

Please contact Syd Verinder, sverinder@hotmail.com