

DEDICATION OF ST. MICHAEL'S

By John Schoff



Dedication of St. Mikael's

October 7th was a day of dedication, consecration and celebration for the congregation of St. Mikael's Church in Motombe. Because my church, St. Mark's, Geneva, Illinois has enjoyed a long-standing partnership with Bishop Todd and Rev. Patsy McGregor, I was fortunate to be sitting with these fellow believers on that day to celebrate their new church.

The new church building is a testament to God's work through partnerships - the partnership of Bishop Todd and the priests and congregation, the partnership between this church and the community, and of course, the partnership between God and His church. During the dedication service, the local mayor, the president of the construction company who built the church, and other prominent community members participated. Especially touching were the words from one man in the community.

He had been invited to attend the church a number of times over the years. He kept advising the leaders of the congregation, "Build a church and I will come to pray with you." On the day of dedication, that happened, and it was a touching moment to see him join with this congregation.

The church building itself is an important part of the community. In addition to being a place of worship for the people of the congregation, it also represents a strong and permanent presence, and will draw more people to join those already worshipping there.



NOTES FROM THE BISHOP A DREAM COMING TRUE



Bishop Todd dedicating

Toliara will be the newest diocese in the Anglican communion before the end of the year. This is a dream come true. My primary responsibility since arriving back in Madagascar in 2007 was to start the new diocese of Toliara. After starting with a few dedicated Christians, we now have more than 2,000 Christians worshipping in our churches. Sometimes I think it was like the early apostles moving forward out of Jerusalem into Judea, Samaria and other areas with just a handful of supporters. That handful turned into a thousand and then tens of thousands. We are thousands now and anticipate tens of thousands within the decade. May God be glorified not only in the election but also the process. December 5th will be the election of the diocesan bishop of Toliara.

I thank the Lord for all you who have been praying for this without ceasing. I thank the Lord for giving us patience, perseverance and endurance during these last three years. It has only been the Lord who has sustained us during these times. May Lord God be glorified.

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

MINISTRY UPDATES

- Good news continues to come from southern Madagascar as God blesses the work of his church.
- St. Mikael's Church in Motombe was dedicated on Sunday, October 7th and confirmations held during the last week of October.
- Additional churches north of Toliara on Madagascar's western coast will also be dedicated soon.
- The construction of the Dean's House on the grounds of the Cathedral Complex is almost finished.
- We celebrate the recent ordination of Victor as a deacon. Victor has served in Toliara for several years as a missionary from Kenya.
- Regarding the creation of the new diocese of Toliara, a recent meeting of the Anglican Province of the Indian Ocean confirmed overwhelmingly the immediate implementation of the process to elect a diocesan bishop and the formation of the diocese. The process involves receipt of nominations for bishop, a candidate review by the Provincial Bishops, and then a vote by the electoral college made up of clergy and laity of the Toliara region. The election date is set for December 5, 2012.
- Florette, our newly-hired Administrator, has done a tremendous job in Toliara, especially in the area of tracking finances and bookkeeping.
- We are moving forward with the possibility of filling the Economic Development Director position with a missionary. We hope to announce the appointment soon.



Victor's ordination as a deacon



SUMMER COMPUTER CAMP



Students from the summer computer camp

Lisa Gustinelli from Boca Raton, Florida organized and ran four one week long computer training camp sessions in Toliara this summer. The following is an excerpt from her summary:

Many of the children in Toliara have never been to school, most have never seen a computer. They had nothing, yet they had a desire to learn just as any child does.

Deb and I were in awe of the enthusiasm and the decorum of the students in the classroom. They arrived, they looked us in the eye and greeted us with a handshake. A young girl walked an hour from her home to the lab because she had such a desire to learn to use a computer. The students shared their hope of using their new found skill to improve their education and to "get a job quickly".

At the end of the program, we held a little graduation ceremony for each class. As each name was called, I not only gave the completion certificate, but also said one special thing about each student. Being recognized, loved and appreciated is a universal wish, and as I read the certificates, the classmates of the recognized clapped and cheered and were supportive of and genuinely happy for their friends.

PRAY WITH US:

Prayers for Patsy at St. Simon the Fisherman in Tamarin, 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.

Prayers for the formation of the new diocese and the election of the diocesan bishop on December 5 by an electoral college made up of clergy and laity.

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 .

Prayers for the nine student evangelists and four catechists that continue in the training program with Bishop Todd in Andranomena. The students are currently on internships until January 2013.

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



JOIN TODD AND PATSY FOR A MORNING OF PRAYER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 8:30 AM –11:30 AM
ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH, BOCA RATON

Not in Florida? We invite special prayers during this time.

\$60,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

The needs in Madagascar continue to be great. Political unrest, famine and drought make our work more important and more difficult. With your help, we continue to make great strides in all three of our mission areas: Evangelism, Education and Economic Development.

Recent accomplishments include:

- The number of permanent churches has increased to nine
- Ground has been broken on a new school/church north of Toliara
- Educational support continues

PRP supporters are challenged to meet a \$30,000 match before the end of the year. The total collected funds will go to the McGregor's "Ministry Support" account at SAMS-USA for 2013 ministry expenses.

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

Winter 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.

MY TIME TO DANCE

After twenty plus years of following my husband on the mission field, there is now a time for me to lead. In August 2012, at the invitation of The Most Rt. Rev. Ian Ernest, Archbishop of the Indian Ocean, I packed my suitcases and went to Mauritius, leaving my husband to cope with his miter in Toliara. My assignment is to lead a church, St. Simon the Fisherman, in Tamarin, Mauritius and mentor others discerning their own calling in church leadership.

I never realized my working in Mauritius would have such an impact on the church and country in general. I was just once again being obedient to the Lord, counting it a blessing to have a year break from the poverty and hardship in Madagascar and replacing it by working in a tropical paradise. Mark Twain is quoted as stating, "Before God created heaven, he created Mauritius."

History pages were turned for the church at my Induction Service on September 23, 2012, as priest for St. Simon's the Fisherman in Tamarin, Mauritius as I was the first woman priest to serve in the Anglican Diocese of Mauritius. Segments of the service and a personal interview were televised on national TV. Interviews with several different papers took place and my picture appeared in papers and even on the front page of a national magazine. One of the articles includes thoughts on women's leadership in other religious institutions, including Islam and Hinduism. The Vicar General of the Catholic Church, when questioned about women's ordination, is quoted as stating there is no "doctrinal, theological or biblical reason that women should not be allowed to become priests."

Here I am. The follower has become a leader. I am urged to live a life worthy of the calling I have received (Eph 4:1) and God is going to continue to show me how to do that.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 writes, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven."

This is my time to dance.

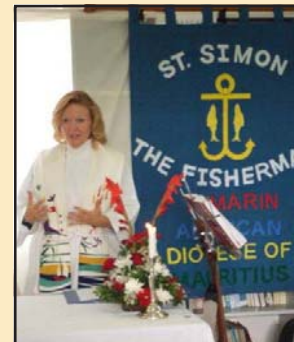
The Rev. Dr. Patsy McGregor



Rev. Patsy with Archbishop



Signing the parish register



Preaching at St. Simon