

People Reaching People

A Ministry of Bishop Todd and Rev. Patsy McGregor

www.PeopleReaching.org

November 2013

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

FUNDING THE FUTURE

Greetings,

We are excited to announce our FUNDING THE FUTURE matching challenge!

First, thank you so much for your tremendous support of our ministry over the years. We are excited about the opportunities God has provided to us to serve the people of Madagascar. Our ministry continues to include evangelism, church planting, support for local students and economic development. Over 3,500 people in Madagascar are developing a relationship with Christ, and their lives are better because of that relationship.

Several of our generous donors have already pledged funds in the form of a matching challenge grant to kick off our FUNDING THE FUTURE campaign. These lead donors have pledged a large amount of money to be used as matching funds for all donations received from now until December 31, 2013. What this means is that for every \$1 that is donated, the ministry will receive \$2. If the match is fully funded, the FUNDING THE FUTURE campaign will greatly increase the support of God's important work in Madagascar.

We could not do the work for Christ in this part of the world without the generous support of people like you. After prayerfully considering this request, if you are able to participate in FUNDING THE FUTURE, please mail your check by December 31, 2013, to SAMS-USA, P.O. Box 399, Ambridge, PA 15003 designating "McGregor Ministry" in the memo section of the check, or go on-line to peoplereaching.org and click the "DONATE ON LINE" button.

Serving Christ Together,

† Bishop Todd and Reverend Patsy

**HEAR BISHOP TODD PREACH AND LEARN
MORE ABOUT FUNDING THE FUTURE GO TO
www.peoplereaching.org**



Todd and Patsy with previous clergy serving in Toliara



Installation of a new Dean in the Toliara District,
Rev. Noely and his wife



Bishop Todd speaking to a new congregation

FIRST DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

Rev. Victor Osoro

The first diocesan youth conference was held August 18-25, 2013, in Andranomena, in Toliara. A total of 140 young people attended the conference.

The diocese of Toliara is the youngest and the largest diocese in Madagascar in terms of the area it covers. Youth from Ft. Dauphin traveled 3 days by truck on very bad roads; youths from Morondava took 17-hours by road to arrive. The desire to be part of what God is doing and having an encounter with God was behind the zeal of those who endured such long journeys.



Rev. Victor with Youth Conference participants

Bishop Todd McGregor presided over the official opening ceremony and celebrated the Eucharist. In his opening message, he clarified that the youth form a greater percentage of the population than others in both the nation and the church; hence they are and hold the future of the church. Citing the call of Jeremiah, he pointed out that the Lord called and appointed Jeremiah for a great task despite his looking down upon himself and claiming that he is young and does not know how to speak. (Jeremiah 1:4-10).

The theme of his year's conference was drawn from Mark 16:15, Preach the gospel to all creation. Some of the topics tackled included the goal of evangelism, the content of the message, the result of evangelism, communicating the gospel effectively, the place of prayer in evangelism, and the tools of evangelism. Alongside our bishop, we were blessed to have Archdeacon Victor, other deans, and our own female theologian, Miss Nolavy. Most evenings were left open for interactions and games that helped the young people to connect to each other despite their coming from different regions in the south.

The youth participated in outdoor evangelism in Mitsinjo, a 1½ hour walk. It is a densely populated area where only a few churches exist. The people were more than ready to receive us. A church plant there was the epitome of the youth camp.

One youth gave a testimony saying, "I have never shared the gospel with anyone in my life and I was not sure I could do it. But today, I bless the Lord because He gave me such courage that I was able to share the gospel with someone and I felt like crying when I saw this elderly man surrendered his life to Christ."



Reading from the Bible in class



Evangelizing in Mitsinjo

REFLECTIONS: MY MINISTRY IN MAURITIUS (2012–2013)

The Rev. Patsy McGregor

This past year in Mauritius has allowed a number of highlights for me and the church of St. Simon's the Fisherman in Tamarin, Mauritius. It has been a joy to go through the liturgical church season as Priest-in Charge. Beginning with the Alpha program, this set a firm foundation for the church which was established only two years ago. In Advent 2012 we prepared ourselves for the coming of the King and the Christmas festivities included Christmas carols on the beach as an outreach to the community, a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Nativity Play, and Christmas Day Eucharist. Members of St. Simon's shared testimonies and Christ-like moments during Epiphany and studied the disciplines at Bible Studies during the Lenten Season. On Good Friday we followed the handmade cross of a parishioner as we viewed the Stations of the Cross, drawn by another parishioner. The Easter service was a true celebration! Beautiful banners have been made for all the church seasons.

Other highlights from Mauritius include:

- Six young people studied for their First Communion.
- Three adults and seven young people were Confirmed by Archbishop Ian; the largest number ever from a church in the Diocese of Mauritius.
- The distribution of food baskets once a month to five single mother families.
- Sending out the first missionary to Madagascar to help with cyclone relief.
- Recognition of the women's ministry in Mauritius and the opportunity for speaking engagements illustrating the importance of women in ministry and the development of leadership skills regardless of gender.
- Release of my third book, Tamana: At Home in Africa.
- The writing of several songs with a fellow guitarist, the cutting of a CD and the story for a musical, "Miaraka, A Time to Dance", which gives glory to God.
- The opportunity for personal renewal both in body and spirit.



Elsa Donat scripture reading



Song: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*



Kneeling prayerfully at the invocation of the Holy Spirit

ANNUAL PRP BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of People Reaching People, Inc. had the privilege of meeting on the beautiful grounds of the Holy Family Episcopal Church in Jasper, GA, September 5-7. The Board is comprised of 14 members from around the world. Much was accomplished: a revision of our strategic plan, a draft of a Resolution to form a union between PRP and the new Diocese of Toliara, officers elected, and chairs of committees established. Most importantly, as Todd said in his closing remarks, “we have become family.”

PRAY WITH US:

Praise for an awesome People Reaching People annual board meeting in Jasper, GA

Praise for the training of 140 youth on evangelism in August.

Praise for the vacation computer school training in Sakaraha and Ft. Dauphin.

Praise for the Mason and Merrick families visitation and partnership.

Praise for the release of Archbishop Kattey, the Diocese of Niger Delta North, Nigeria, with whom we have a diocesan companion link, from his captives.

Praise for Todd's first sabbatical in Jerusalem at St George's College.

Praise for Corbi settling into her dual master's program at Emory, Atlanta, GA.

Praise for Patsy's writing of over 40 songs with a friend in Mauritius which has turned into a musical entitled, “Miaraka, A Time to Dance.”

Praise for the confirmation of ten congregants at St. Simon's the Fisherman, Mauritius, and the training of five young people to be Altar Servers.

Praise for the Mother's Union retreat, Anglican Diocese of Mauritius, Oct. 26-27, of which Patsy was the retreat leader.

Praise for Patsy's return to Madagascar after living in Mauritius for 16 months.

Prayers for the diocese of Toliara's vision, mission and strategic planning meetings on November 26-27, 2013

Prayers for the first diocesan Synod on Nov. 28-Dec. 1.

Prayers for funds for the construction of the new Cathedral in Toliara.

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 or Diocese of Toliara

By credit card or monthly electronic fund transfer at www.peoplereaching.org

WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER BECOMING A MONTHLY GIVER – IT'S EASY:

Just go on the web site at www.peoplereaching.org and click on the Donate on-line button. Follow the prompts and sign up for a reoccurring gift. Thank you so much for your support both financially and spiritually. We could not do our work without you.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS AS IT WILL HELP US ELIMINATE THE COST OF PHYSICALLY MAILING THE PRP NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU!